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Assistant Professor of Sanskrit Literature

University of Michigan
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EDUCATION

**Ph.D. | 2009 | University of Texas at Austin | Asian Cultures and Languages
(South Asia/Sanskrit)**

Dissertation: *The Dānakāṇḍa (Book on Gifting) of the Kṛtyakalpataru: A
Critical Edition and Annotated Translation.*

Advisor: Prof. Patrick Olivelle, UT-Austin.

**M.A. | 2003 | University of Texas at Austin | Asian Cultures and Languages
(South Asia/Sanskrit)**

Thesis: "The Origin and Early Development of *Smṛti*."

**B.A. | 2000 | University of Washington | Asian Languages and Literature (South
Asia/Sanskrit)**

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Sanskrit Literature, Department of Asian Languages and
Cultures, University of Michigan, 2018-present

Senior Lecturer of Sanskrit, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, 2014–2018.

Lecturer of Sanskrit, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, 2009–2014.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

*Brahmanical Theories of the Gift: A Critical Edition and Annotated Translation of the
Dānakāṇḍa of the Kṛtyakalpataru.* Harvard Oriental Series 77. Cambridge, Mass.:
Harvard University Press. 751 pages. 2015.

Associate editor with Patrick Olivelle (editor) and Mark McClish (associate editor). *A
Sanskrit Dictionary of Law and Statecraft.* Delhi, India: Primus Books. 448 pages.
2015.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

"The Incorporation of Devotional Theism into Purāṇic Gifting Rites." *Journal of
Indian Philosophy* (2017) 45: 191–205.

- “*Bhoḥ* as a Linguistic Marker of Brahmanical Identity.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2016) 136.3: 567–90.
- “The Widow-Ascetic under Hindu Law.” *Indo-Iranian Journal* (2014) 57.4: 352–83.
- “The Origin of the *Khaṭvāṅga* Staff.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2012) 132.1: 31–39.
- “The Dharmaśāstric Debate on Widow-Burning.” *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2010) 130.2: 203–23.
- “The Court of Public Opinion and the Practice of Restorative Ordeals in Pre-Modern India.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (2010) 38: 25–38.
- “Transforming Tradition into Texts: The Early Development of *smṛti*.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy* (2006) 34: 287–302.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Social and Soteriological Aspects of Sin and Penance in Medieval Hindu Law.” In *Sins and Sinners: Perspectives from Asian Religions*, ed. by Phyllis Granoff and Koichi Shinohara, pp. 9–30. Numen Book Series 139. Leiden: Brill, 2012.
- With Donald Davis, Jr. “Chapter 2: Social and Literary History of Dharmaśāstra: Commentaries and Legal Digests.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 30–45. Oxford University Press, 2018.
- “Chapter 15: Gifting: *Dāna*.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 197–207. Oxford University Press, 2018.
- “Chapter 24: Penance: *Prāyaścitta*.” In *The Oxford History of Hinduism: Hindu Law*, ed. by Patrick Olivelle and Donald Davis, Jr., pp. 313–24. Oxford University Press, 2018.
- “Sati.” In *Martyrdom, Self-Sacrifice, and Self-Annihilation: Religious Perspectives on Suicide*, ed. by Margo Kitts, pp. 162–81. Oxford University Press, 2018.

BOOK REVIEWS

- R. Sathyanarayanan, ed. and tr. with an introduction by Dominic Goodall, *Śaiva Rites of Expiation: A First Edition and Translation of Trilocanaśiva’s Twelfth-century Prāyaścittasamuccaya (with transcription of Hṛdayaśiva’s Prāyaścittasamuccaya)*, in *Indo-Iranian Journal* (2017): 182–86.
- Ishvarachandra Vidyasagar, *Hindu Widow Marriage*, tr. with an introduction by Brian A. Hatcher, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2012) 132.3: 519–20.
- Timothy Lubin, Donald R. Davis, Jr., and Jayanth K. Krishnan, eds., *Hinduism and Law: An Introduction*, in *Journal of the American Oriental Society* (2011) 131.4: 655–57.
- Donald R. Davis, Jr., *The Spirit of Hindu Law*, in *Journal of Hindu Studies* (2010) 3 (3): 373–75.

COURSES TAUGHT

Introductory Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present)
Intermediate Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present)
Advanced Sanskrit (Fall 2009–present, alternating semesters)
Law and Religion in Ancient India (Spring 2009, Spring 2010)
Sanskrit Classics in Translation (Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)
History of Ancient India (Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

LANGUAGES

Modern: English, Hindi, Urdu, and German.
Classical: Sanskrit, Pali, and Prakrit.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sanskrit language and literature, ancient and medieval India, classical Indian law, systems of sin and penance, canonization, theories of gifting, women in pre-modern India.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

2009–present. Invited reviewer for the following journals:

- *Journal of Indian Philosophy*
- *Journal of Hindu Studies*
- *Journal of the South Asian Studies Association of Australia*
- *International Journal of Hindu Studies*

2013–14. Organizer. Annual Workshop on South Asian Language Pedagogy, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

2010–12. Assistant organizer w/ Blake Wentworth (Lector of Tamil). Annual Workshop on South Asian Language Pedagogy, South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

2011–present. Member of the committee in charge of distributing summer awards to students studying South Asia. South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

2013–present. Member of the committee in charge of distributing Directed Independent Language Study (DILS) awards to students intending to study South Asian languages not taught at Yale. South Asian Studies Council, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

2013–14. Member of the Nominations Committee of the American Oriental Society, in charge of organizing the ballot for the election of various AOS offices.

2014–15. Chair of the Nominations Committee of the American Oriental Society, in charge of organizing the ballot for the election of various AOS offices.

2014–present. Member of the Yale University Language Study Committee (LSC).

2015. Member of the Yale University Advisory Committee on Library Policy (ACLP).

REFERENCES

Donald Davis, Jr., Associate Professor, Dept. of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin. Email: drdj@austin.utexas.edu. Phone: 512-232-7921 Address: 1 University Station G9300, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712.

Phyllis Granoff, Lex Hixon Professor of World Religions, Dept. of Religion, Yale University. Email: phyllis.granoff@yale.edu. Phone: 203-432-0837. Address: 451 College Street, Room 306, New Haven, CT 06511.

Stephanie Jamison, Professor, Dept. of Asian Languages and Cultures. Email: jamison@humnet.ucla.edu. Phone: 310-206-7736. Address: 222C Royce Hall, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095.

Patrick Olivelle, Professor, Dept. of Asian Studies, University of Texas at Austin. Email: jpo@uts.cc.utexas.edu. Phone: 512-475-6032. Address: 1 University Station G9300, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712.