

# DAVID M. DiVALERIO

Department of History  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee  
P.O. Box 413  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413  
divaleri@uwm.edu  
daviddivalerio.com

## C.V. FOR DEPARTMENTAL WEBSITE (SEPTEMBER 2020)

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Religious Studies, Indo-Tibetan Buddhism, University of Virginia, 2011  
M.A., Religious Studies, University of Virginia, 2005  
B.A., English, Wesleyan University, 2003

### EMPLOYMENT

University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, dual appointment in History and Religious Studies  
Associate Professor, 2017–present  
Assistant Professor, 2011–2017

### PUBLICATIONS

#### BOOKS

*Mountain Dharma: The Culture of Meditation in Tibet.* Monograph in preparation

*Making Modern Lamas: Three-Year Retreat in the Contemporary Tibetan Buddhism.* Monograph in preparation

*The Life of the Madman of Ü.* Oxford University Press, 2016. Translation of the yogin's biography, written in 1494 and 1537

**Reviewed:** Stefan Larsson, *History of Religions* (2018) 58:2, 209–214 (a joint review of both books); Christopher Bell, *Reading Religion*, February 2017

*The Holy Madmen of Tibet.* Oxford University Press, 2015. Winner of the 2017 Robert A. Jones and Mary B. Jones Award for Research in the Humanities, UW–Milwaukee

**Reviewed:** Matthew Kapstein, *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* (2018) 80:2, 391–92; Kai Chen, *Journal of Religious History* (2018) 41:1, 123–24; Patrick Dowd, *Religious Studies Review* (2016) 42:2, 138

## ARTICLES

- “The Long and Short History of the Tibetan Buddhist Three-year Retreat.” Article in preparation.
- “The Monk–Hermit Dichotomy and the Charisma of Unsettled Spaces: Toward a Theory of Eremitism.” Under review.
- “Tibetan Buddhist Hagiography and the Madman of Ü,” in *Encyclopedia of the Global Middle Ages*. ARC-Humanities Press, 2021
- “Conclusion” to the edited volume, *Hagiography and Patronage*. Amsterdam University Press, 2021
- “Buddhist Monasticism,” chapter in *Buddhism: The Basics*. Bloomsbury, 2021
- “A Preliminary Controlled Vocabulary for the Description of Hagiographic Texts.” *Religions* (10)10, 2019. Special issue titled *Comparative Hagiology: Issues in Theory and Method*
- “Ünyon Künga Zangpo.” *The Treasury of Lives* (treasuryoflives.org), 2018
- “Re-animating the Great Yogin: On the Composition of the Hagiographies of the Madman of Tsang.” *Revue d’Etudes Tibétaines* 30 (April 2015): 25–49
- “Buddhism and Hinduism,” entry for the *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Culture and Intellectual History*, 2013

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Review of *Thomas Merton’s Encounter with Buddhism and Beyond*, by Jaechan Anselmo Park. *Journal of Buddhist Christian Studies*. Projected 2020.
- Review of *Envisioning a Tibetan Luminary: The Life of a Modern Bönpo Saint*, by William M. Gorvine. *The Journal of Religion*, accepted for publication; forthcoming, 2020
- Review of *Making Sense of Tantric Buddhism: History, Semiology, and Transgression in the Indian Traditions*, by Christian K. Wedemeyer. *Religions of South Asia* 8.3 (2014): 369–71
- Review of *Theos Bernard, The White Lama: Tibet, Yoga, and American Religious Life*, by Paul Hackett. *Journal of Buddhist Ethics* 20 (2013): 654–61
- “Chasing Tibet’s Demons: A Review,” discussing five Tibetological books. *Religious Studies Review* 38.2 (2012): 61–8

## AWARDS

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2020–2021 | Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Research Fellowship (administered by ACLS). Research leave to be taken in the 2021–2022 academic year |
| 2020–2021 | Center for Twenty-first Century Studies Research Fellowship, UWM  |
| 2020      | Advancing Research and Creativity grant, UWM. To be used for fieldwork in France, summer 2022   |
| 2019      | Bruce Fetter Faculty Research Award, Department of History, UWM. For fieldwork in France  |
| 2017      | Robert A. Jones and Mary B. Jones Award for Research in the Humanities at UWM, for <i>The Holy Madmen of Tibet</i>                      |

- 2013 Graduate School Research Committee Award, UWM. For summer research in Nepal and Mongolia
- 2010 Dissertation Acceleration Fellowship, University of Virginia
- 2009 Junior Fellowship, American Institute for Indian Studies, for dissertation fieldwork in India
- 2003, 2004–2006, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Grant, for Tibetan and Sanskrit language study at the University of Virginia, the University of Chicago, and Tibet University
- 2003–2004, 2006–2008, 2010, Presidential Fellowship, University of Virginia, for master's and doctoral coursework

### INVITED LECTURES

- TBA "The Making and Unmaking of Meditative Space," Colgate University
- 2020 "Food will roll uphill": Meditative Retreat and the Problem of Sustenance, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Center for South Asia lecture series, February 13
- 2019 "Le soi ascétique: approches de la subsistance dans la retraite de méditation à long terme," École Pratique des Hautes Études, May 27
- 2018 A Conversation with Geshe Gedun Sherab on meditative retreat, sponsored by the UVA Tibet Center and the Contemplative Sciences Center, September 27
- 2018 "Meditative Retreat in Tibetan Buddhism: Questions and Sources," University of Virginia, April 18
- 2016 "Sacred Persistence: Toward a Redescription of Yogism," University of Chicago, South Asia Seminar Series, April 14
- 2016 "Mandalas: Portals to Enlightenment," Carroll University, lecture accompanying the building of a sand mandala by Tibetan monks of Drepung Loseling monastery, March 28
- 2015 "Who Was Drukpa Künlé?," Georgetown University, February 10
- 2013 "Tibetan 'Madmen' in the Marketplace" (short version), Leipzig University, international conference titled Challenging Consensus: Religious Non-conformism and Cultural Dynamics, February 1–3
- 2012 "Tibetan 'Madmen' in the Marketplace," University of Wisconsin–Madison, Center for South Asia lecture series, October 25; also delivered at Rubin Museum of Art/Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center, New York, April 26, 2011
- 2011 "China and Tibet: A History of Exploitation," Greater Milwaukee United Nations Association, October 8
- 2009 "*grub thob smyon pa'i skor* [On Holy Madmen]," lecture given in Tibetan to the Advanced Tibetan Studies Seminar, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala, India, June 9; and to the annual Intensive Translation Training Workshop, LTWA, August 7

### CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- 2020 "Becoming a New You through Mindfulness (A Critique)," New Paths in Teaching Buddhist Studies workshop, University of Toronto, February 21-22
- 2019 "'At Least You Meet People': Meditative Retreat and Community Formation," paper given at the Fifteenth Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies, Paris, July 7-13
- 2019 "The Second Renunciation: Meditative Retreat in Medieval Tibet," paper given at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds, July 1-4
- 2018 "Yanggönpa's *Mountain Dharma*: An Enchanted, Tantric, Renunciatory Technology of the Selfless Self," paper given at the meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, November 17-20
- 2018 Respondent, panel titled "Hagiography and Patronage," Comparative Studies in Religions Unit, at the meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Denver, November 17-20
- 2016 "On The Life of the Madman of Ü," paper given at the Fourteenth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, Bergen, Norway, June 19-25
- 2014 Response to Christian K. Wedemeyer's *Making Sense of Tantric Buddhism*, as part of a panel discussion of the book, at the meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Diego, November 22-25
- 2013 "How to Become a Siddha in Tibet: A Case Study," paper given at the meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, November 23-26
- 2013 "Who was Drukpa Künlé?" paper given at the Thirteenth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, July 21-27
- 2010 "'Holy Madness' as Self-Representation: Tsangnyön Heruka and Chögyam Trungpa," paper given at the meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, October 30-November 1
- 2010 "The Mad Saint of Tsang: A Tibetan Iconoclast and Icon," paper given at the Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue, Jefferson Scholars Foundation, University of Virginia, September 23-24
- 2010 "The Madman of Tsang (1452-1507): Eater of Brains, Fundamentalist, Saint," paper given at the Twelfth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, Vancouver, August 15-21
- 2008 "A New Direction in the Study of Tibet's Holy Madmen," paper given at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, New Brunswick, NJ, March 12-15

## COURSES TAUGHT

### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

Buddhism Across Asia (F2011, F2012, F2013, F2015, F2016, F2018, S2019)  
 Tibetan Buddhism (S2012, S2013, S2014, S2016, S2017)  
 World History to 1500 (F2018, F2019, F2020)  
 Saints and the Making of Sainthood (S2012, S2013, S2014, S2015, S2016)  
 Theories of Religion (F2011, F2012, F2013, F2014, F2015, S2019, S2020)  
 Introduction to World Religions (F2016, F2018, F2019)  
 Marx and Religion in Tibet (graduate-level) (S2015)  
 Technologies of the Self (graduate-level) (S2020)

## **UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA**

Tibetan Buddhism (F2008, S2011)  
Tantric Buddhism (F2008)

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

Reviewer of book manuscripts for Oxford University Press and the University of Virginia Press  
Reviewer of article manuscripts for Oxford University Press, *Critical Research on Religion*,  
*Religions*, *Studies in Chinese Religions*, and *Sustainability*  
Member of the UWM Critical East Asian Humanities Reading Group, 2018–present  
Organized panel titled “Buddhist Cultures of Meditation” for the 2018 meeting of the American  
Academy of Religion in Denver (November 17–20)  
Co-organized with John Nemecek a panel discussion of Christian Wedemeyer’s *Making Sense of  
Tantric Buddhism: History, Semiology, and Transgression in the Indian Traditions* at the 2014  
meeting of the American Academy of Religion in San Diego (November 22–25).  
Organized panel titled “‘Holy Madmen’ (*grub thob smyon pa*) from a Variety of Perspectives” at  
the Twelfth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies, Vancouver, August  
15–21

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

### **COLLEGE- AND UNIVERSITY-LEVEL SERVICE**

Graduate Program Review Committee, 2018–2021 (Chair, 2019–present)  
Graduate Faculty Committee, 2019–2021  
Research Policy and Advisory Committee, 2019–2020  
Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee, 2018–2021  
Admissions and Records Policy Committee, 2018–2019

### **DEPARTMENT- AND PROGRAM-LEVEL SERVICE**

Director, Religious Studies Program, 2020–present  
Religious Studies Advisory Committee, 2011–present (Chair, 2014–2017, 2020–present)  
Assessment Coordinator for Religious Studies Program, 2014–present  
  
Department of History, Graduate Affairs Committee, 2013–2015, 2018–present (Chair, 2018–  
present)  
Department of History, Undergraduate Affairs Committee, 2012–2013, 2015–2017  
Department of History, Faculty Affairs Committee, 2011–2012  
  
Asian Studies Advisory Committee, 2014–present  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Executive Committee (augmenting), 2019–2020

## **LANGUAGES**

Classical Tibetan, Colloquial Tibetan, Sanskrit, French

### **FIELDWORK**

- 2019, 2022 Fieldwork on the practice of long-term Tibetan Buddhist meditative retreat in contemporary France, including interviews with practitioners; in Saint-Léon sur Vézère, Dordogne; Biollet, Auvergne; and Isère, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes
- 2017 Tibet, 2 weeks. Travel in Tibetan cultural areas of Sichuan and Qinghai provinces, time spent with Lama Ngadrup and other lamas of Bengen monastery, for the purpose of research on contemporary practice of meditative retreat
- 2013 Nepal and Mongolia, 6 weeks. Examined the Tibetan literature collections of the national archives of Nepal and Mongolia, and interviewed Tibetan lamas in Kathmandu, as exploratory research for research project on the practice of long-term meditative retreat; supported by UWM Graduate School Research Committee Award
- 2009 India, 9 months. Fieldwork for dissertation; read extensive materials in classical Tibetan and conducted interviews with many Tibetan lamas and laypeople; supported by American Institute for Indian Studies Junior Fellowship
- 2005–2006, Tibet, 9 months. Intensive language study and pre-dissertation fieldwork at Tibet University (Lhasa); studied advanced Tibetan literature and conversation; ethnographic research expedition to Kham, eastern Tibet; lived and studied in Bengen monastery; supported by Foreign Language and Area Studies Grant
- 2001 India, Nepal and Tibet, 4 months. The School for International Training's Tibetan Studies program, undergraduate semester abroad, focused on engaging with local culture; independent research project titled "The Legacy of Jamgön Kongtrul," which evaluated the influence of a groundbreaking nineteenth century Tibetan scholar on the practices of a Buddhist monastery today