

LEAH KALMANSON

DRAKE UNIVERSITY • DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy** December 2010. Department of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i.

Dissertation: *The Politics of Emptiness: Alterity, Autonomy, and the Radical Subjectivity of No-Self.*
- Master of Arts** August 2005. Department of Philosophy, University of Hawai'i.
- Bachelor of Liberal Arts** May 2000 (Suma Cum Laude). Department of Philosophy, Oglethorpe University.

SCHOLARSHIP

- Areas of Specialization** Asian and Comparative Philosophy, Continental Philosophy
- Areas of Competence** Ethics, Aesthetics, Feminist Philosophy, Postcolonial Theory
- Languages** Japanese and German (textual proficiency)

EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor** 2011 to present. Department of Philosophy and Religion. Drake University.
- Visiting Assistant Professor** 2010–2011. Department of Philosophy and Religion. Drake University.
- Lecturer** 2010. Department of Religious Studies and Philosophy. Chaminade University.
- Lecturer** 2007–2009. Department of Philosophy. University of Hawai'i.
- Teaching Assistant** 2004–2005. Department of Education. East-West Center.

TEACHING

- Regular Offerings** *Adult Films* (FYS 035), *Introduction to Buddhism* (REL 064), *Introduction to Philosophy* (PHIL 020), *Phenomenology and Existentialism* (PHIL 110/HONR 138), *Philosophy and Religion in China* (PHIL/REL 103), *Philosophy of Art* (PHIL 110/HONR 138), *Symbolic Logic* (PHIL 120/COMP 123), *World Religions* (REL 088)
- Special Topics** *Aesthetics of Care* (FYS 035) Fall 2010, *Care Ethics and the Human Right to Health* (PHIL 151/LPS 035) Spring 2012, *Confucianism and Human Rights* (PHIL 151) Fall 2011, *Contemporary Japanese Philosophy* (PHIL 151) Fall 2012, *The Liberal Agenda* (FYS 034) Fall 2011, *Philosophy and Postcolonialism* (PHIL 151) Fall 2015, *Reading and Creating Comics* (PHIL 034/ENG 080) Spring 2015, *Religions of Des Moines: Buddhism* (REL 064/HONR 064) Fall 2014

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Books

- 2017 *Comparative Studies of Asian and Latin American Philosophies*. Co-edited with Stephanie Rivera-Berruz. (Bloomsbury, under contract).
- 2016 *Ineffability: An Exercise in Comparative Philosophy of Religion*. Co-edited with Tim Knepper (Springer, under contract).
- 2014 *Buddhist Responses to Globalization*. Co-edited with James Mark Shields (Lexington Press, 2014).
- 2013 *Levinas and Asian Thought*. Co-edited with Frank Garrett and Sarah Mattice (Duchesne University Press, 2013).
- 2010 *Confucianism in Context: Classic Philosophy and Contemporary Issues, East Asia and Beyond*. Co-edited, and introduction co-written, with Wonsuk Chang. (SUNY Press, 2010).

Edited Special Issues

- 2015 Guest Editor with Sarah Mattice and Aaron Creller. *ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts* (forthcoming, Spring 2016).
- 2014 Guest Editor. *APA Newsletter on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies* 13, No. 2 (Spring 2014).

Journal Articles (Refereed)

- 2017 “Annotating the Self: The Ritual Methods of Comparative Philosophy.” *Philosophy East and West* 67, No. 3 (July 2017).
- 2015 “If You Show Me Yours: Reading all ‘Difference’ as ‘Colonial Difference’ in Comparative Philosophy.” *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* Vol. 7, No. 2 (Fall 2015).
- “The De of Levinas: Cultivating the Heart-Mind of Radical Passivity.” Co-written with Sarah Mattice. *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* Vol. 10, No. 1 (Spring 2015): 113–129.
- 2012 “Buddhism and bell hooks: Liberatory Aesthetics and the Radical Subjectivity of No-Self.” *Hypatia* Vol. 27, No. 4 (2012): 810–827.
- “The Messiah and the Bodhisattva: Anti-Utopianism Re-Revisited.” *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* Vol. 30, No. 4 (2012): 113–125.
- 2010 “Levinas in Japan: The Ethics of Alterity and the Philosophy of No-Self.” *Continental Philosophy Review* Vol. 43, No. 2 (2010): 193–206.

Chapters in Books (Refereed)

- 2015 “Comparative Philosophical Conclusions.” In *Ineffability: An Exercise in Comparative Philosophy of Religion*. Co-edited with Tim Knepper (Springer, under contract).
- “Pure Land Ecology: Taking the Supernatural Seriously in Environmental Philosophy.” In *Japanese Environmental Philosophy*. Edited by J. Baird Callicott and James McRae (Oxford University Press, under contract).
- “Like You Mean It: Buddhist Teachings on Selflessness, Sincerity, and the Performative Practice of Liberation.” In *Self/No-Self: Claremont Studies in Philosophy of Religion*. Edited by Ingolf Dalferth and Marelene Block (Mohr Siebeck, forthcoming).
- “Commentary on Giving.” In *A Commentary on Dōgen’s Shushōgi: The Meaning of Practice and Verification*. Edited by Jason Wirth, Kosho Itagaki, Bret Davis, and Brian Schroeder (Wisdom Publications, forthcoming).
- 2014 “Raichō: Zen and the Female Body in the Development of Japanese Feminist Philosophy.” Co-written with Michiko Yusa. In *The Oxford Handbook of Japanese Philosophy*. Edited by Bret Davis (Oxford University Press, 2014).
- “An Inexhaustible Storehouse for an Insurmountable Debt: A Buddhist Reading of Reparations.” In *Buddhist Responses to Globalization*. Edited by Leah Kalmanson and James Mark Shields (Lexington Press, 2014).

- 2009 “The Ethics of Emptiness: A Comparative Study of Watsuji Tetsurō and Emmanuel Levinas.” In *Comparative Philosophy Today and Tomorrow*. Edited by Sarah Mattice, et al. (Cambridge Scholars’ Press, 2009).

Review Articles (Refereed)

- 2015 “Have We Got a Method for You! Recent Developments in Comparative and Cross-Cultural Methodologies.” *Confluence: Online Journal of World Philosophies* (forthcoming).
- 2013 “‘The Bottomless Brightness of the Open Expanse’: Reflections on *Japanese and Continental Philosophy*.” *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* Vol. 4, No. 2 (2013), 283–293.

Articles (Non-Refereed)

- 2015 “Introduction: The Rewards and Challenges of Comparative Philosophy in the Undergraduate Classroom.” *ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal for Asian Studies in the Liberal Arts* (forthcoming, Spring 2016).
- 2014 “The CAAAPP Year in Review: New Trends in Asian Philosophy and Postcolonial Theory.” *APA Newsletter on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies* 13, No. 2 (Spring 2014), 1–3.

Book Reviews (Refereed)

- 2016 *Nothingness in Asian Philosophy*. Edited by Jeeloo Liu and Douglas Berger. *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* (forthcoming).
- Asian and Feminist Philosophies in Dialogue: Liberating Traditions*. Edited Ashby Butnor and Jen McWeeney. *Hypatia Reviews Online* (2016).
- 2015 *Collecting Objects/Excluding People: Chinese Subjects and American Visual Culture, 1890–1900*. By Lenore Metrick-Chen. *Comparative and Continental Philosophy* Vol. 7, No. 1 (Spring).
- 2013 *Facing Nature: Levinas and Environmental Thought*. Edited by William Edelglass, James Hatley, and Christian Diehm. *Environmental Ethics* Vol. 35 (2013).
- Ethics Embodied: Rethinking Selfhood through Continental, Japanese, and Feminist Philosophies*. By Erin McCarthy. *Journal of Japanese Philosophy* Vol. 1, Issue 1 (2013)
- 2011 *Nishida and Western Philosophy*. By Robert Wilkinson. *Sophia: International Journal for Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysical Theology and Ethics* Vol. 50, Issue 3 (2011), 505–507.
- 2005 *The Pristine Dao: Metaphysics in Early Daoist Discourse*. By Thomas Michael. *China Review International* Vol. 12, No. 2 (Fall 2005), 520–524.

Translations

- 2010 Kuki Shuzō. *The Philosophy of Heidegger*. Unpublished manuscript.
- Kuki Shuzō. “Regarding the Japanese Character.” Unpublished manuscript.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

Keynotes and Plenaries

- 2015 “What is *Tetsugaku*?: Japanese Negotiations with Western Colonialism” (plenary panel). Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Monterey, California. October 1–4.
- “The Question of Methodology in Comparative Philosophy” (plenary panel). Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Monterey, California. October 1–4.
- 2014 “If You Show Me Yours: Reading all ‘Difference’ as ‘Colonial Difference’ in Comparative Philosophy” (plenary panel). Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Santa Barbara, California. March 20–23.
- 2013 “There’s No Getting Beyond: Buddhism, Batailles, and the Economics of Decline” (plenary address). Ninth Annual Religion, Literature, and the Arts Conference. University of Iowa. September 27.
- “Levinas by Any Other Name: Translation, Dialogue, and the Invention of Religion in East Asia” (keynote). Eighth Annual Conference and Meeting of the North American Levinas Society. Duquesne University. July 28.

Conference Presentations (Refereed)

- 2016 “Be the Change that You Want to See? Feminism, Qi-Cosmology, and Structural Change.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. Washington, D.C. January 4–7.
- “The Personal, the Political: Zen Practice and Feminist Critique.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. Washington, D.C. January 4–7.
- 2014 “The Power of Giving: Sanjie and Sōtō Teachings on *Dāna* and the Ethical Efficacy of Ritual.” International Association of Buddhist Studies. Vienna, Austria. August 18–23.
- “Health, Human Rights, and Care Ethics.” Law and Society Association. Minneapolis, Minnesota. May 29–June 1.
- 2013 “Reflections on Womanist-Buddhist Dialogue and the Future of Comparative Philosophy.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. Baltimore, Maryland. December 27–30.

- 2012 “Now I Get It!: Thinking Slowly about Sudden Enlightenment for Ethics Today.” Annual Conference of the American Academy of Religion. Chicago. November 18.
- “Restorative Justice and the Question of Ritual Efficacy: Buddhist Perspectives.” Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Southern Illinois University. October 11–13.
- “Ritual Enlightenment: Judith Butler, *Zazen*, and the Performance of Liberation.” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. University of San Diego. March 8–10.
- 2011 “Systemic Suffering: Buddhism, Global Power, and the Question of Reparations.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. Washington, D.C. December 27–31.
- “Unsayings the Said: Dōgen and the Question of Original Enlightenment.” Annual conference of the American Academy of Religion. San Francisco. November 19–22.
- 2010 “The Bodhisattva Paradox: A Buddhist Argument for Levinas’s Anti-Utopianism.” International Conference of the Société internationale des recherches Emmanuel Levinas and the North American Lévinas Society. Toulouse, France. July 4–9.
- “Buddhism and bell hooks: Liberatory Aesthetics and the Radical Subjectivity of No-Self.” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. Tokai University, Honolulu. April 8–10.
- 2009 “Identity Politics and the Relationally Constituted Self.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association. New York City. December 27–30.
- “Levinas and Buddhism: The ‘Other’ Philosophy.” North American Levinas Society. University of Toronto. June 28–30.
- 2008 “The Ethics of Emptiness: A Comparative Study of Watsuji Tetsurō and Emmanuel Levinas.” Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. East-West Center, Honolulu. April 12.
- 2007 “The Ethics of Emptiness: A Comparative Study of Watsuji Tetsurō and Emmanuel Levinas.” Fortieth Anniversary Conference of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Pacific Grove, California. June 10–13.

Invited Lectures

- 2016 “The Economics of Money and Merit: Levinas, Shinran, and the Currency of Compassion.” Symposium on Shinran and Continental Philosophy. Institute for Buddhist Studies. Berkeley, California. April 15–16.
- 2015 “Reading All ‘Difference’ as ‘Colonial Difference’ in Comparative Philosophy.” Asian Philosophy and the Decolonial Project. University of San Francisco. August 13, 2015.
- “Philosophizing Ineffability: Comparative Reflections on Our 2013–2015 Themes and Events,” with Tim Knepper. The Comparison Project. Drake University. April 30.

- “Like You Mean It: Selflessness and Sincerity in Moral Action.” Claremont Philosophy of Religion Conference. Claremont Graduate University. February 20–21.
- “‘I Am More Responsible than All the Others’: Jewish Perspectives on Charity.” Annual Maurice Amado Foundation Lecture. California State University, Northridge. February 10.
- 2014 “The Radical Subjectivity of No-Self.” Department of Philosophy. University of San Francisco. November 27.
- 2013 “The Question of Transcendence: Translation, Dialogue, and the Invention of Religion in East Asia.” Annual Invited Lecture in Philosophy. University of South Florida. November 7.
- “The Temple of the Absolute: Inoue and the Ethics of Practicing the Impracticable.” Workshop on Inoue Enro. Toyo University and Luther College. Decorah, Iowa. May 24.
- “What is Buddhism?” Saint Mark’s Supper Program and Lecture Series. Saint Mark’s United Methodist Church. Atlanta, Georgia. March 20.
- 2012 “Engaged Buddhism.” Humanities Center Colloquium Series. Drake University. November 30.
- “An Introduction to Buddhism.” LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Survivor Program. West Des Moines, Iowa. September 5.
- “Zen Master Dōgen Is Not a Zen Master: Philosophy, Ritual Studies, and the Image of Zen in America.” John C. Maraldo Lecture Series in Comparative Philosophy. University of North Florida. April 5.
- “Rethinking Reparations: Buddhist Perspectives on Restorative Justice.” Mike Ryan Lecture Series. Kennesaw State University. March 14.
- 2011 “An Introduction to Hinduism and Buddhism.” LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Survivor Program. West Des Moines. March 16.
- 2005 “The Impermanent Environment: Consumerism, Buddhism, and the Economics of Georges Bataille.” Philosophy Department Colloquium Series. University of Hawai‘i. April 8.

Invited Conference Presentations

- 2016 Peter Park’s *Africa, Asia, and the History of Philosophy: Racism in the Formation of the Philosophical Canon* (author-meets-reader panel). Central Division of the APA. Chicago, Illinois. March 2–5.
- 2015 Steven Shankman’s *Other Others: Levinas. Literature, and Transcultural Studies* (author-meets-reader panel). North American Levinas Society. Purdue University. July 27–30.
- 2014 “What is *Tetsugaku*?: Japanese Negotiations with the Philosophy-Religion-Pagan Paradigm via Western Colonialism.” Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. December 27–30.

“Levinas and Asian Philosophy” (author-meets-reader panel). North American Levinas Society. Ocean City, Maryland. May 21–23.

“What’s in a Name? Contextualizing the Colonial History of Comparative Philosophy for Students.” Society for Teaching Comparative Philosophy. Jacksonville, Florida. February 28–March 1.

- 2013 “Philosophers, Comparativists, Activists: New Work in Womanist-Buddhist Dialogue.” Satellite session of the SACP at the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy. Eugene, Oregon. October 24-26.
- 2012 “Can We Internationalize ‘Ethics’ in the Curriculum? Roundtable of Faculty Teaching Ethics in an International Context.” Inaugural Herb and Karen Baum Symposium on Ethics and the Professions. Drake University. October 2.
- 2011 “Erin McCarthy’s *Ethics Embodied*” (author-meets-reader panel). Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle. University College Cork. Ireland. March 3–5.
- 2005 “Integrating Mental Health Care into Disaster Relief.” What After the Tent?: A Workshop on Development of Plans for Risk Reduction in Tsunami-Affected and Other Areas of Human Insecurity. Peace and Conflict Resolution Workgroup in conjunction with the East-West Center. April 24.
- 2002 “Michael Ignatieff’s *Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*” (roundtable panel). Georgia Continental Philosophy Society. Georgia College and State University. Millidgeville. April.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Drake University

- 2015 Board of Directors. Center for the Humanities (three-year term to Spring 2018).
Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (three-year term to Spring 2018).
- 2014 Associate Director. The Comparison Project (ongoing).
Colloquium Series Director. Center for the Humanities (two-year term to Spring 2016).
Search Committee. Department of History.
- 2013 Arts and Sciences Council (two-year term to 2015).
Search Committee. Department of English.

Search Committee. Department of Graphic Design.

2012 Advisory Board for The Comparison Project (ongoing).

2011 Asian Studies Program Working Group (ongoing).

Diversity Committee (two-year term to Spring 2013).

External

Blind Reviewer (ongoing): *China Media Research*, *Comparative and Continental Philosophy*, Fordham Press, *Frontiers of Philosophy in China*, Institute of Buddhist Studies, *Journal of Japanese Philosophy*, *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*, *Journal of Buddhist Philosophy*, *Journal of Communication and Religion*, *Parrhesia*, *Philosophy East and West*, Rowman and Littlefield.

2015 Steering Committee of the Buddhist Philosophy Group. American Academy of Religion (three-year term to December 2018)

Steering Committee of the Global-Critical Philosophy of Religion Seminar. American Academy of Religion (five-year term to December 2019)

Series Editor (with Tim Knepper). *Comparative Philosophy of Religion*. Springer International Publishing.

2014 Editorial Board. *Journal of Communication and Religion* (ongoing).

Secretary. International Association of Japanese Philosophy (ongoing).

Assistant Editor. *Journal of Japanese Philosophy* (ongoing).

2013 Committee on Asian and Asian-American Philosophers and Philosophies. American Philosophical Association (three-year term to June 30, 2016).

Co-founder and Secretary. Society for Teaching Comparative Philosophy (ongoing).

2012 Program Director. For the annual satellite session of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy at the conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (ongoing).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2014 Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. 2014–15 Teaching and Learning Workshop for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty at Colleges and Universities. Wabash College.

- Writing Workshop. Staff Development Workshops. Drake University. May session.
- CHIN 001: Beginning Chinese I. Instructor Cyndi Chen. Drake University. January Term.
- 2013 Drake University Learning Symposium: Creating Exceptional Learning Environments for 21st-Century Learners. Sheraton West Des Moines. August 16.
- Digital Storytelling Workshop. Drake University. May 29–31 and August 12–16.
- 2012 J-Conference. The J-Center of the U.S. Center for Citizen Diplomacy. Drake University. September 10–11.
- Internationalization of Majors and Minors Workshop. Drake University. August 15.
- Institute on Infusing Chinese and Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum. Asia Studies Development Program. East-West Center, Honolulu. July 22 to August 11.
- 2010 Collegium Phaenomenologicum. Città di Castello, Italy. July 12–30.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2015 Small Projects Grant (\$2500). Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Philosophy and Religion. Lilly Endowment Inc.
- Summer Fellowship Program (\$5000). Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Philosophy and Religion. Lilly Endowment Inc.
- Small Conference Grant (\$5000). Center for the Humanities. Drake University.
- 2014 Faculty Development Grant. College of Arts and Sciences. Drake University.
- Humanities Leadership Grant. Center for the Humanities. Drake University.
- 2013 Faculty Development and Enrichment Grant. Office of the Provost. Drake University.
- Humanities Leadership Grant. Center for the Humanities. Drake University.
- 2008 Tasuku Harada Graduate Scholarship. Center for Japanese Studies, University of Hawai'i. (Declined due to teaching commitments.)
- 2007 Uehiro East Asian Essay Award. Department of Philosophy. University of Hawai'i.
- Center for Japanese Studies Fellowship. Center for Japanese Studies. University of Hawai'i. (Declined due to teaching commitments.)

- 2006 Graduate Assistantship. Department of Philosophy. University of Hawai'i. Renewed until Spring 2009.
- 2005 Peace and Conflict Resolution Workgroup Award for Best Presentation. Peace and Conflict Resolution Workgroup in conjunction with the East-West Center.
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship. School of Pacific and Asian Studies. University of Hawai'i. Renewed until Spring 2008.
- 2003 East-West Center Degree Fellowship. East-West Center. Two-year term.
- 1996 James Edward Oglethorpe Scholarship. Oglethorpe University. Four-year term.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
American Philosophical Association
American Society for Aesthetics
Asian Studies Development Program (Alumni Chapter)
Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle
East-West Center Association
International Association for Inoue Enryō Research
International Association for Japanese Philosophy
North American Levinas Society
Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy
Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy
Society for Teaching Comparative Philosophy