

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Department of Anthropology
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Heidelberg 69115
GERMANY
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PERSONAL

Born 1957 in Colville, Washington
Separated
Two daughters: Lila (1983) and Sarah (1988)

EDUCATION

Hindi Diploma, Benares Hindu University, Varanasi, India, 1978
B. A. (High Honors), South Asian Studies, University of Washington (Seattle), 1980
B. A. (High Honors), Asian Langs. and Literatures, University of Washington (Seattle), 1980
M.A., Anthropology, The University of Chicago, 1982 (Thesis: *The Ramnagar Ramlila: a theatre of pilgrimage*; advisors Ralph Nicholas (chairperson), Bernard Cohn, R. T. Smith.
Ph.D., Anthropology, The University of Chicago, 1987 (Dissertation: *Chaya Maya: the songs and journeys of Nandadevi*; advisors Ralph Nicholas (co-chairperson), McKim Marriott (co-chairperson), Paul Friedrich, Wendy Doniger (ne O'Flaherty).

EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Assistant, The University of Chicago, 1985-86
Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, 1987-89
Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, 1988-89
Senior Lecturer, Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Canterbury, 1989-2000
Professor and Head, Department of Anthropology, South Asia Institute, 2000-

BOOKS

1991. *Mountain Goddess: Gender and Politics in a Central Himalayan Pilgrimage*. New York: Oxford University Press. (monograph).

1995. *The Gods at Play: Lila in South Asia*. New York: OUP. (edited volume) 2002.
Dancing the Self: personhood and performance in the pandav lila of Garhwal. New York: OUP. (monograph)

2009. *God of Justice: ritual healing in the central Himalaya*. New York: Oxford University Press. (monograph)

2010. *The Problem of Ritual Efficacy*. New York: Oxford University Press. (edited with Johannes Quack and Jan Weinhold).

2014. *Asymmetrical Conversations: Contestations, Circumventions and the Blurring of Therapeutic Boundaries*. (edited with Harish Naraindas and Johannes Quack). New York: Berghahn. (Epistemologies of Healing Series)

2015. *Himalaya ki Nanda Devi* (Hindi translation of *Mountain Goddess: Gender and Politics in a Central Himalayan Pilgrimage*. Dehra Dun, India: Winsar.

2015. *The Law of Possession: ritual, healing, and the secular state*. (Edited with Heléne Basu.) New York: OUP.

PLAYS

2001. (with Data Ram Purohit.) *Shri Nanda Devi Raj Jat* (in Hindi).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

1990. Village Daughter, Village Goddess: Residence, Gender, and Politics in a Himalayan Pilgrimage. *American Ethnologist* 17 (3):491-512.

1990. The Ramnagar Ramlila: Text, Performance, Pilgrimage. *History of Religions* 30 (2): 129-53. (Reprinted in Singh Rana P. B., ed. 1993. *Banaras (Varanasi) Cosmic Order, Sacred City, Hindu Traditions*. Varanasi: Tara Book Agency, p. 257-73.)

1993. Goddess or goddesses? Politics and Theology in the Study of Hinduism. *Sites: a journal for radical perspectives on culture* 25:105-117.

1995. Introduction. In W. S. Sax, ed, *The Gods at Play: Lila in South Asia*. New York: OUP.

1995. Who's Who in Pandav Lila? In W. S. Sax, ed, *The Gods at Play: Lila in South Asia*. New York: OUP, pp. 131-55.

1997. Fathers, Sons, and Rhinoceroses: Masculinity and Violence in the Pandav Lila. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 117 (2): 278-94.

1998. The Hall of Mirrors: Orientalism, Anthropology, and the Other. *American Anthropologist* 100 (2): 22-31.

1999. State Sovereignty vs. Human Rights: a Reply to Paul Morris. *Asia Quarterly* July-September 1999: 8-9.

2000. In Karna's Realm: an ontology of action. *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 28 (3): 295-324.

2000. Conquering the Quarters: Religion and Politics in Hinduism. *International Journal of Hindu Studies* 4(1): 39-60.

2004. Healing Rituals: a critical performative approach. *Anthropology and Medicine* 11 (3): 293-306.

2004. Reply to Reviewers. Review Forum, (Review of W. S. Sax, *Dancing the Self: Personhood and Performance in the Pandav Lila of Garhwal*.) *Journal of Ritual Studies* 18 (3): 000 - 000

2005. Introduction (with Stefan Ecks). In Ecks, Stefan and William S. Sax, eds. *The Ills of Marginality: new perspectives on subaltern health*. Special Issue of *Anthropology and Medicine*, Nov. 2005.

2005. Hindu Pilgrimage. In Lindsay Jones, et al, eds. *The Encyclopedia of Religion*, Second Edition. New York: Macmillan.

2006. Agency. In Kreinath, Jens and Jan Snoek and Michael Stausberg, eds., *Theorizing Rituals: Vol. I: Issues, Topics, Approaches, Concepts*. (Numen Book Series: Studies in the History of Religions 114-1). Leiden: Brill.

2006. Divine Kingship in the Western Himalayas. In William S. Sax, ed., *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 29-30: 7-13.

2006. Rituals of the Warrior *khund*. In William S. Sax, ed., *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research* 29-30: 120-134.

2009. "I have no one!" Ritual Healing and Family Relationships in Garhwal. In Caterina

Guenzi and Ines Zupanov, eds., Purusartha 27, *Divins remèdes. Médecine et religion en Inde.*

2010. Introduction. *In* The Problem of Ritual Efficacy, ed Johannes Quack, William Sax, and Jan Weinhold. New York: Oxford University Press.

2010. Village Agency. *In* Mines, Diana P. and Nicolas Yazgi, Village Matters: Relocating Villages in the Contemporary Anthropology of India, p. 89-196. Delhi: OUP.

2010 (with Johannes Quack). Introduction: The Efficacy of Rituals. *The Journal of Ritual Studies* 24 (1): 5-12.

2010 (with Jan Weinhold and Jochen Schweitzer), Ritual Healing East and West: a comparison of ritual healing in the Garhwal Himalayas and family constellation in Germany. *The Journal of Ritual Studies* 24 (1): 61-77.

2011. Healers. *In* Knut Jacobsen and Helene Basu, eds., Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism.

2011. From Soft Discipline to Hard Pleasure: "hegemonic body images" in north India. *In* Sylvie Fainzang & Claudie Haxaire (eds.), *Of Bodies and Symptoms: Anthropological Perspectives on their Social and Medical Treatment*. Tarragona: URV Pulicaciones. (Electronic version available at: <http://www.publicacionsurv.cat/lilibres-digital/antropologia-medica/item/214-of-bodies-and-symptoms>)

2011 (with Christoph Bergmann, Martin Gerwin, and Marcus Nüsser). Politics of Scale in a High Mountain Border Region: Being Mobile among the Bhotiyas of the Kumaon Himalaya, India. *In* *Nomadic Peoples* 15 (2).

2013. The Reality of 21st Century Islamic Healing – an Interview with a Muslim Healer. *Curare* 36 (3): 168-71.

2014. Ritual Healing and Mental Health in India. *Transcultural Psychiatry* 51 (3): 829-49.

2017 (with Axel Michaels). "Performance and Religion". *In* *The Oxford Handbook of Religion*, ed. Michael Stausberg and Steven Engler. Oxford: Oxford University Press

OTHER ARTICLES

1987. Kumbha Mela. *In* Mircea Eliade, et al, eds., *Encyclopedia of Religion*. New York: Macmillan & Co.

1991. Ritual and Performance in the Pandavalila of Uttarakhand. *In* Arvind Sharma, ed., *Essays on the Mahabharata*, p. 274-95. Leiden: E. J. Brill.

1992. Pilgrimage Unto Death. *In* Jim Veitch, ed., *To Strive and Not to Yield: Essays in Honour of Colin Brown*. Wellington, New Zealand: Victoria University Press.

1993. Lila. *In* William Scott Green, ed., *Harper's Dictionary of Religion*. 1994. Gender and Politics in Garhwal. *In* Nita Kumar, ed., *Women as Subjects: South Asian Histories*, pp. 172-210. Calcutta: Stree.

1996. Draupadi and Kunti in the Pandav Lila. *In* *The Wild Goddess in South Asia*, ed. Axel Michaels and Cornelia Vogelsanger. Zurich: Studia Religiosa Helvetica, Vol. 1, pp. 355-81.

1996. Hinduism: Reverence for the Natural Environment. *In* James Veitch, ed., *Can Humanity Survive? The World's Religions and the Environment*, p. 51-68. Auckland: Awareness Book Company.

1999. Worshiping Epic Villains: A Kaurava Cult in the Central Himalayas. *In* Beissinger, Margaret, et al, eds. *Epic Traditions in the Contemporary World: the Poetics of Community*. Berkeley: UCB Press, pp. 169-186.

1999. Gender and the Representation of Violence in Pandav Lila. Chapter 10 in I. Julia Leslie, ed., *Gender Constructs in Indian Religion and Society*. Delhi: Motilal.
2000. Residence and Ritual in the Garhwal Himalayas. *In* Maheshwar P. Joshi and Allen C. Fanger and Charles W. Brown, eds., *Himalaya: Past and Present, Volume IV*, pp. 79-114. Almora, India: Shree Almora Book Depot.
2001. The Pandav Lila of Uttarakhand. In Molly Kaushal, ed., *Chanted Narratives: the Living "Katha-Vachana" Tradition*. Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, pp. 165-174.
2002. Heilungsrituale: Ein kritischer performativer Ansatz. *Paragrana* 12.1-2: 385-404.
2002. Pandav Lila. *In* Peter J. Claus and Margaret A. Mills, eds. *South Asian Folklore: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Routledge.
2002. Ram Lila. *In* Peter J. Claus and Margaret A. Mills, eds. *South Asian Folklore: An Encyclopedia*. New York: Routledge.
2003. Divine Kingdoms in the Central Himalayas. *In* Niels Gutschow, et al, eds., *Sacred Landscapes of the Himalaya*. Vienna: Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.
2004. Heilrituale der Dalits im indischen Zentral-Himalaya. In Dietrich Harth und Gerrit Jasper Schenk, Hrg., *Ritualdynamik: Kulturübergreifende Studien zur Theorie und Geschichte rituellen Handelns*. Heidelberg: Synchron 2004, 363-380.
2004. Addicted to Justice, Ecstatic in Union. *Paragrana* 13: 62-77.
2006. A Divine Identity-Crisis. *In* Köpping, Klaus-Peter and Bernhard Leistle and Michael Rudolph eds. *Ritual and Identity: Performative Practices as Effective Transformations of Social Reality?* Hamburg / Münster / London: LIT.
2006. At the Borders of Morality: Rituals of Aggression. *In* Henrik Jungaberle and Rolf Verres, eds. *Jungaberle, Henrik and Rolf Verres and Fletcher DuBois, eds., Rituale erneuern: Ritualdynamik und Grenzerfahrung aus interdisziplinärer Perspektive*, pp. 297-14. Gießen: Psychosozial Verlag.
2007. Heilen Rituale? *In* Axel Michaels, ed., *Die neue Kraft der Rituale*. Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter, pp. 213-236.
2007. Healing. *In* Cush, Denise and Catherine Robinson and Michael York, eds., *RoutledgeCurzon Encyclopedia of Hinduism*
2007. The Himalayas. *In* Cush, Denise and Catherine Robinson and Michael York, eds., *Routledge Curzon Encyclopedia of Hinduism*
2007. The Royal Procession of the Goddess Nanda. In *Prozessionen, Wallfahrten, Aufmärsche: Bewegung zwischen Religion und Politik in Europa und Asien seit dem Mittelalter . . . Menschen und Kulturen*. Gengnagel, Jörg and Monika Horstmann and Gerald Schwedler, eds. *Beihefte zum Saeculum (Band 3, 4 od. 5)*. Böhlau: Koeln: Weimar , pp. 277-87.
2007. Pandav Lila. *In* Samuel Leiter, ed., *Encyclopedia of Asian Theatre*. 2007. Religion and Traditional South Asian Theatre. *In* Samuel Leiter, ed., *Encyclopedia of Asian Theatre*.
2008. (with Christoph Bergmann, Martin Gerwin, and Marcus Nüsser.) Living in a High Mountain Border Region: the Case of the 'Bhotiyas' of the Indo-Chinese Border Region. *Journal of Mountain Science* 5: 1220179

2009. Ritual and Theatre in Hinduism. *In* Nielsen, Bent Flemming and Bent Holm and Karen Vedel, eds., *Religion, Ritual, Theatre*, pp. 79 - 105. Frankfurt: Peter Lang.
2009. Performing God's Body. *Paragrana* 18 (1): 165-187.
2009. Religion, Possession, and the "hysteresis effect": a case study from India. *In* Elfriede Hermann, Karin Klenke, Michael Dickhardt, eds., *Form, Macht, Differenz: Motive und Felder ethnologischen Forschens*. Goettingen: Universitätsverlag Goettingen, pp. 181-189.
- 2010 (with Jan Weinhold). Rituals of Possession. *In* Brosius, Christiane and Ute Husken, eds. *Ritual Matters: the Dynamics of Change and Stability*, pp. 236-252. Delhi: Routledge.
2010. The Royal Pilgrimage of the Goddess Nanda. *In* Tore Ahlbäck, ed., *Pilgrimages Today*. Abo, Finland: Donner Institute for Research in Religious and Cultural History, pp. 334-352.
2010. Besessenheit, Geste und Ritual: der Fall des muslimischen Dämonen Sayyid. *In* Wulf, C. & E. Fischer-Lichte, eds., *Gesten: Inszenierung, Aufführung, Praxis*. William Fink
2011. Medical Anthropology at Heidelberg. *Viennese Ethnomedicine Newsletter* 13 (2-3):1-4.
2011. A Himalayan Exorcism. *In* Hillary Rodrigues (ed.), *Studying Hinduism in Practice*. London and New York: Routledge, pp 146-57.
2011. (with Christoph Bergmann, Martin Gerwin and Marcus Nüsser). Politics of Scale in a High Mountain Border Region: Being Mobile among the Bhotiyas of the Kumaon Himalaya, India. *Nomadic Peoples* 15(2): 104-129.
2011. Religion, rituals, and symbols of belonging: the case of Uttarakhand. *In* Joanna Pfaff-Czarnecka and Gerard Toffin, eds., *The politics of belonging in the Himalayas: local attachments and boundary dynamics*. Los Angeles: Sage, pp.167-181.
2012. (with Christoph Bergmann, Martin Gerwin and Marcus Nüsser). Living in a High Mountain Border Region: The Case of the 'Bhotiyas' of the Indo-Chinese Border Region. *Journal of Mountain Science* 5(3): 122-129.
2012. A Himalayan Healer's Reports. *In* Carsten Zelle, et al, eds., *Der ärztliche Fallbericht: Epistemische Grundlagen und textuelle Strukturen dargestellter Beobachtung*, pp. 287-304. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- 2012 (with Karin Polit). Moved by God. *In* Koch, Sabine et al, eds, *Body Memory, Metaphor and Movement*. Vadrina, Frankfurt (Oder): John Benjamins.
2012. Rituals of Emotion in Garhwali Possession Rituals. MICHAELS, Axel; WULF, Christoph (Hg.). *Emotions in rituals and performances*. London: Routledge, 2012.
2015. Oracular Possession, Authenticity, and the Ideology of Absence. *In* Helene Basu and William Sax, eds., *The Law of Possession*.
2017. Futures of Indigenous Medicine: networks, contexts, freedom. (The Kilian Lecture, 2014). *In* Uddin, Nasir and Eva Gerharz and Pradeep Chakkarath (eds.), *Futures of Indigeneity: Spatiality, Identity Politics and Belongings*. Oxford and New York: Berghahn Books. (Preface by Adam Kuper and Afterword by Willem van Schendel).
2017. Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Ritual Healing. Frank Heidemann, ed., *The Modern Anthropology of India: Ethnography, Themes and Theory*,
- Forthcoming. "We are like the river water, always flowing": some urban nomads of Delhi. *In* Ursula Münster et al, eds., *essays in honor of Frank Heidemann*.

Forthcoming. The Birth of the (Exorcism) Clinic: media, modernity, and the *jinn*. In Michaels, Axel and Christoph Wulf, eds.

BOOK REVIEWS (numerous).

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa (Alpha of Washington)
A. I. I. S. Dissertation Research Fellowship, 1983-84 (declined)
IIE Fulbright-Hays Fellowship 1983-1984 (declined)
Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Graduate Research Fellow, 1983-86
N.S.F. Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellow, 1984-86
S. S. R. C. Doctoral Research Fellow, 1986-87
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellow, 1986-87
Ira Kucin Scholar, Harvard University, 1987-89
Visiting Scholar, Center for the Study of World Religions, 1987-1989
A. I. I. S. Senior Research Fellowship, 1989-1990
University of Canterbury Research Grant-in-Aid 1989-90
University of Canterbury Research Grant 1992-95
Honorable Mention, Hans Rosenhaupt Memorial Book Award for 1993
(for Mountain Goddess)
MacMillan Brown Lecturer, University of Canterbury, 1995
N.E. H. Fellow (A.I.I.S.), 1998
Visiting Professor, EHESS (Paris) March-April 2006
Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study, JNU, New Delhi, India, 2009-2010
Guest Professor, Indian Institute for Advanced Study, Simla, 2012
Kilian Lecture, "The Futures of Indigenous Medicines: networks, contexts, freedom,"
Bochum University, 2013

RESEARCH

Doctoral research in India, 1983-1986, funded by Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Grant Number G00-83-00-851.

National Science Foundation Grant Number 8313107 to McKim Marriott \$7,525.00).

Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard University, 1987-89

American Institute for Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship 1990-91
University of Canterbury Grant-in-Aid 1990-91

University of Canterbury Research Grant 1992-95 NZ\$12,000

ASIA 2000 Foundation grant for conference of New Zealand Specialists on South, on "Religion and Politics in South Asia" 1995 NZ \$9253

University of Canterbury Research Grant 1995-96 NZ\$10,000

American Institute for Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship 1997-98
N.E.H. Senior Research Fellow 1997-98 US\$12,000

University of Canterbury Research Grant 1997-98 NZ\$10,000

DFG - Projekt Ko 1264/6-1 1999-2003 ca. € 137,000

DFG 4850/40/02 Kongress-Zuschuss 2002 € 10,700
"Gender, Health and Politics in South Asia"

SFB 619 Teilprojekt A4 2002-2005 € 141,392
"Handlungspotential (*agency*) und territoriale Rituale in Indien"

DFG-Projekt SA 930/1-1 & 930/1-2 2001-2005 ca. € 212,391
"Umstrittene Zentren: Konstruktion und Wandel sozio-kultureller Identitäten
in der indischen Region Orissa"

DFG-Projekt SA 930/4-1 + 930/4-2 2001-2005 ca. €190,309
"Dokumentation eines Heilkultes im Zentral-Himalaya und dessen Analyse im Rahmen der
"kritisch-interpretativen Medizinethnologie" und der "Performanz-Theorie"

DFG 4850/92-04 Kongress-Zuschuss 2004 € 10,300
"The Ills of Marginality: New Perspectives on Subaltern Health in South Asia"

SFB 619 Sub-Project A5, *Ritual Healing and its critics*, July 2005 - June 2009, EU 165.700

Cluster of Excellence Project C3 (DFG), 2009-2011, *Asymmetrical Translations: Mind and
Body in European and Indian Medicine*, EUR 387,200

SFB 619 Teilprojekt A8 2009-2013 € 298.300
"Border Rituals"

Cluster of Excellence Project (DFG), 2009-2011 (with Prof. Dr. Joachim Fischer), *The
concept of stress and stress-relief in a transcultural perspective: an ethno-epidemiological
study*. EUR 245.500,00

Cluster of Excellence Project B7 (DFG), 2009-2011 (with Prof. Dr. Axel Michaels),
Performing Religion. EUR 128.500,00

DFG Project NU 102/10-1 (with Marcus Nuesser) *Changing Strategies of Resource Use: The
"Bhotiyas" in the High Mountain Border Region of Uttarakhand, India*. (131.782 €)

Cluster of Excellence Mini-Cluster MC-11, 2012-2017, "Changing Minds: the transcultural
production of human kinds" (a study of ritual, history, and the sciences of mind) EUR
829,250.00

AROGYAM (Indian-European Research Networking Programme in the Social Sciences
(ANR-DFG-ESRC-NOW) €225,600

PhDs supervised since 2012

2012

Kunz, Martin. *Schaubühnen der Öffentlichkeit. Das Jatra-Theater in Westbengalen*

2013

Sieler, Roman. *ethal spots – vital secrets: Varmakkalai, a South Indian
healing/martial art*

Zhu, Yujie Zhu. *Performing Heritage in Tourism: A Story of the Naxi Wedding Courtyard in
Lijiang, China*

2014

Bergmann, Christoph. *Living in a High Mountain Border Region:
Politics and Poetics of Central Himalayan Pastoralism*

Schaflechner, Jürgen. *Hinglaj Devi: Identity, Change, and Solidification at a Hindu Temple
in Pakistan*

2015

Ambos, Eva. *Dancing at the Edge: Ritual, Heritage and Politics in Post-war Sri Lanka*

Baernreuther, Sandra.Re-) Production: An Ethnography of In Vitro Fertilization in India

2016

Cyranski, Christoph. Oil Massages, Purges and Beach Holidays: Ayurvedic Health Tourism in Kerala, South India

Kotanyi, Sophie. Ancestral paradigms and modern lives: Relational living in Mozambique and DR Congo

2017

Ohri, Lokesh. The Kingdom Comes: Ritual Politics and Reflexivity in Mahasu's Himalayan Realm

2018

Mukherjee, Sinjini. Transplanted Bodies: Intercorporeality as Experience and the Politics of Kidney Transplants in India

CURRENT RESEARCH

Street Healers, History and Ethnography of Western Himalayas, Anthropology and Mental Health, Ritual Healing, Historical/Cultural Comparison of South and Southeast Asia

LANGUAGES

Hindi (R, W, S)

German (R, W, S)

Medieval Hindi (R, W)

Bengali (R, W, S)

Pahari (R, W, S)

Sanskrit (R)

TEACHING

Religions of South Asia, Ethnography of South Asia, Ritual Theory, Medical Anthropology, Social Theory, Performance Theory

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Consultant and translator, The Wages of Action: Hinduism in a North Indian Village, a BBC Open University/University of Wisconsin film by David Thompson, 1979

Taught English as a Second Language in Varanasi, India 1978-79.

Consultant, Ajuba Dance and Drama Company, a film by Ron Hess, 1978

Executive Committee, New Zealand Association of Social Anthropologists, 1990-present

Executive Committee, New Zealand India Society 1991-present

Library Liaison Officer, Religious Studies, University of Canterbury, 1991-93

President, Amnesty International, University of Canterbury Group No. 44, 1992-94

Secretary, New Zealand Asian Studies Association, 1992-94

Chief Instigator, Committee for Asian Studies at the University of Canterbury, 1993

Religious Studies Subject Coordinator, 1994-96

Committee on Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Canterbury, 1994

Editorial Board, The Society of Pilgrimage Studies, Allahabad, India

Invited Participant in the Informal Asian Studies Workshop sponsored by the Asia 2000 foundation, Wellington, November 28-29, 1994.

Executive Council, New Zealand Asian Studies Association, 1995-

Elected Member, Asian Studies Review Committee, University of Canterbury, 1995

International Advisory Board, Journal of *Vaiṣṇava* Studies

Editorial Board, Association of Studies on Himalayas

Editorial Board, American Academy of Religion, "Religion" Series

Elected Member, Working Party on Anthropology, University of Canterbury, 1996

Course Co-ordinator, Anthropology 101, University of Canterbury, 1998

Elected Member, Board of Studies in Anthropology, University of Canterbury, 1998

Ensom Prize Examiner, University of Canterbury, 1998

Steering Committee, Sonderforschungsbereich Ritualdynamik (SFB 619), 2002 - present

Steering Committee, Tropical Medicine Heidelberg, 2004-

Editor, *European Bulletin of Himalayan Research*, 2003-05; 2015-2017
Managing Director, South Asia Institute, 2006-08.
Steering Committee, Graduate School in Public Health, Heidelberg University
Wissenschaftliche Beirat (Advisory Board), *Trauma und Gewalt. Forschung und Praxisfelder*
Editorial Board, Vienna Ethnomedicine Newsletter
Deputy Director, Heidelberg Centre for the Environment
Member, Committee for Doctoral Studies, Faculty for Empirical and Cultural Sciences
Editorial Board, *Asian Ethnology*
Steering Committee, Cluster of Excellence Asia and Europe, 2011 –
Board of Governors, Centre for Development Studies, Shimla
Editorial Board, *Asian Man*
Editorial Board, *Performance, Religion, and Spirituality*

PUBLIC SERVICE

University Representative, *Ausländer- und Migrations-Rat* (Foreigners' - and Immigration Commission), City of Heidelberg, 2015-2020

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Anthropological Association
American Academy of Religion
American Ethnological Society
Amnesty International
Association of University Staff of New Zealand
Association for Asian Studies
Association for Asian Studies in New Zealand (National Secretary)
Center for the Study of World Religions
Deutscher Hochschulverband
New Zealand Association of Social Anthropologists (National Executive)
New Zealand India Society
Phi Beta Kappa (Alpha of Washington)
Society for Tantrik Studies

PUBLIC LECTURES (English)

"The Songs and Journeys of the Goddess Nanda": University of Rochester 2/88, Harvard University (Dept. of Anthropology) 3/88, University of Iowa 4/88, Harvard University (Divinity School) 4/88, University of Canterbury 10/89
"A Central Himalayan Folk Drama," University of Rochester 2/88, Williams College 3/88, University of Iowa 4/88
"Ritual and Politics in the Central Himalayas": Harvard University (Center for the Study of World Religions) 10/88, University of North Carolina 2/89, University of Virginia 2/89, University of Washington 3/89, University of Canterbury 4/90, University of Arizona 11/90
"Women in Hinduism," Villa Maria School 3/90, St. Barnabas Church 8/90
"Religion and Politics in India," Workers' Educational Association, Christchurch, 6/90
"Performing the Mahabharata," Religious Studies Society, University of Canterbury, 3/92
"Hindu Goddesses and Hindu Women," The University of Waikato, 8/92
"Pilgrims, Priests, and Politicians in the Central Himalayas," The University of Waikato, 8/92
"Human Rights in India," Amnesty International (Christchurch) 8/90, 5/92, Amnesty International University Group, Christchurch, 6/92
"500 Years On: Human Rights and the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas," Amnesty International Group, Nelson, New Zealand 10/92
"Hindu-Muslim Conflict in India," Windows, Christchurch, 4/93; Centre for Continuing Education, University of Canterbury, 6/93
"Playing the Villains: Good Guys and Bad Guys in a Central Himalayan Epic", University of Chicago 4/94, Emory University 4/94, University of Wisconsin 4/94; University of Canterbury 6/94
"Flashpoints in India and Pakistan", Christchurch WEA, 11/94
"Kali is Draupadi," University of Bern, 11/94
"The Current Scene in India," CHch Downtown Rotary, 11/94, CHch breakfast club 1/95

"Ethnography Without Apology, or First Past the Postcolonial Postmodern Postethnographic Anthropology" Lincoln University 3/95

"A Divine King in the Western Himalaya," Religious Studies Society, University of Canterbury, 4/95; University of Washington, 11/95; University of Chicago 11/95; University of Rochester 11/95; University of Bern, 1/96

"Religion and Drama," New Zealand India Society, 18/95; Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, 4/97.

"The Gods at Play: Art, Religion, Politics." The MacMillan Brown lectures for 1995

"Fathers, Sons, and Rhinoceroses," University of Washington, 11/95; University of Chicago 11/95; University of Rochester 11/95; SOAS (London), 1/96

"Dalit Religion in Garhwal," IGNCA, New Delhi, 4/97.

"The Pandav Nrtya of Uttarakhand," IGNCA, New Delhi, 2/97

"Divine Kingdoms in the Western Himalaya," IGNCA, New Delhi, 12/97; Department of Anthropology, Auckland University, 8/98

"Oracular Therapy in the Garhwal Himalaya," Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences," Delhi, 1/98; Okeover Centre for Continuing Education 4/98

"Divine Kingdoms in the Central Himalayas," University of Heidelberg, 5/98; Auckland University 8/99

"Nuclear India," Christchurch Rotary Club 6/98

"Dominance and Hegemony Reconsidered: a case study in performance," University of Heidelberg, 7/98, Centre for South Asian Studies (Melbourne) 8/98

"Recapturing Ethnography," University of Tasmania 9/98,

"Dancing the Self," Melbourne South Asia Group 8/98

"The Epics Today," Christchurch Indian Association 7/98

"How can the Subaltern be? Consciousness and the "Problem" of Dalit Consciousness" Heidelberg University, 6/99

"The End of Life", U3A Christchurch, 7/99

"Spirit Possession and the 'Problem' of Dalit Consciousness"; Heidelberg University, 6/99

"Performance and Healing," Berlin, 12/01

"An "Untouchable" Healing Cult, Salzau, 05/01

"The Pilgrimage to Hinglaj," Wellington and Christchurch, 06/01
Vienna, 10-12 May 2002

"God of Small People," Madison Wisconsin, 10/03

"The Intoxication of Poverty and the Addiction to Justice", Berlin, 06/03

"Magical Warfare," Heidelberg, 06/04

"Villages as Agents," University of Lund, Sweden, 07/04

"A Cult of Ritual Healing," University of Köln, 12/04

"The Pilgrimage of Nanda Devi Revisited," Harvard University, 03/05

"New Questions in Ritual Healing," University of Arizona, 03/05

"Divine Kingship in the Central Himalayas," University of California at Berkeley, 03.05

"Living the Mahabharata," University of London, 07/05

"Possession and Healing," University of Berlin, 05/05

"Healing and Modernity," Istanbul, 08/05

"Critiques of Ritual Healing," Kassell, 10/05

"Healing and Agency," Max Planck Institute for Ethnology, Halle, 10/05

"The Cult of Mahasu," Berlin, 11/05

"Building Bridges to South Asia," Hamburg, 11/05

"Fieldwork Amongst the Dalits," EHESS (Paris), 03/06, Yale University 03/06

"Landscape, History and Society," EHESS (Paris), 03/06

"God of Small Persons," EHESS (Paris), 03/06; SAI Research Colloq. 06/06

"A New Approach to Ritual Healing," EHESS (Paris), 03/06, LSE 05/06

"Health and Environment in South Asia," SAI Students Assn. 05/06

"Religion, Ritual, and Symbols of Belonging: the case of Uttarkhand" Franco-German Conference, Delhi, 03/07

"From Royal Goddess to Heritage Goddess: a journey" Heidelberg 07/06

"Healing Rituals," University of Washington, 08/07

"God of Small People," University of British Columbia, University of Alaska, 08/07

"Sradha in the Pandav Lila," Siena, Italy, 10/07

"The Appearance of Bhairav," Berlin, 12/07; Munich 2008

"Sifarish and South Asian Health Systems" (with Sylvia Sax), Kolkata, 02/08

"Ritual Healing and Family Unity," Pondicherry, India, 03/08

"Divine Transhumance," Nainital, 11/08
 "The Pandav Lila" University of Oslo, 05/08
 "Ritual Healing," University of Oslo, 05/08
 "For a Sociology of India," London, 07/08
 "Affliction, Possession, and Morality in the Central Himalayas," Manchester, 07/08
 "Rituals of Science," SFB Jahrestagung, Heidelberg, 09/08
 "The Gestures of Possession," Berlin, 12/08
 "Ritual Healing," a one-week seminar at Lubjana University in Slovenia, 03/09
 "Shamanic Nosologies", University of Bochum, 06/09 and University of Arizona, 12/09
 "Divine Kingship in the Western Himalayas", Cardiff, 05/09
 "God of Justice," Warwick University, 03/09
 "The Royal Pilgrimage of the Goddess Shri Nanda," Turku, Finland, 08/09
 "Demonic Justice: a case from the court of Pokkhu Devta," Muenster, 05/09
 "Mind, body and sex: The Majmawale of Delhi" CSDS, New Delhi, 02/10
 "Transculturalism in South Asian Studies," Christchurch, New Zealand, 03/10
 "Asymmetrical Translations: Mind and Body in South Asia and Europe," Christchurch, New Zealand, 03/10.
 "A Non-Modern Healing Practice", University of Iowa, 04/10
 "Religion, Possession, and the "hysteresis effect": a case study from India", University of Iowa, 04/10
 "Mental Health in Developing Countries", Munich, 12/10
 "Power, Control, and Emotion in Garhwali Possession Rituals, Goa, 01/10
 "German Research on Poverty in South Asia," Warwick University, 03/10
 "From Soft Pleasure to Hard Discipline: changing male bodies in India," Paris, 03/10
 "Mit Ritualen Heilen," 05/10, Berlin
 "Oracular Possession and the 'ideology of absence'," Vienna, 11/11; Paris, 02/12; Harvard, 08/12
 "Border Rituals in South Asia," 10/10, Chaing Mai, Thailand; 02/11, University of Arizona and Arizona State University; 05/11, Toulouse and Paris; 02/12, Vienna 06/12
 "The Valley of the Kauravas," 02/11, India International Centre, New Delhi;
 "Transcultural Psychiatry," Paris, 05/11; Ketchikan, Alaska, 08/12
 "Discipline and Ecstasy: The Kandy and Kataragama Festivals in Sri Lanka, Oslo, 06/11
 "Orientalism, Anthropology, and the South Asia Institute," IIC Delhi, 08/11
 "Epistemic Effects of Development," Rishikesh, 09/11
 "Therapeutic Possession as an Expression of Holism," Heidelberg, 11/11
 "Ritual Healing and Psychiatry in India," Muenster, 02/12; McGill University 07/12; Harvard University 08/12
 "Medical Anthropology in Heidelberg," Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 02/12
 "Urban Nomads of Delhi," JNU, New Delhi, 03/12
 "From Subject to Citizen," IIAS Shimla, 04/12; Emory University, Atlanta, 04/14
 "Divine Kingship and Distributed Agency," IIAS Shimla, 04/12
 "From Kautilya to Latour: land and people in the Divine Kingdoms of Rawain," IIAS Shimla, 04/12
 "Performing God's Body," Zadar, Croatia, 05/12
 "An Alternative Modernity in the Western Himalayas," Vienna, 06/12
 "Footpath Pharmacists and "Semen-Loss Anxiety": re-evaluating the Dhat syndrome," Heidelberg, 06/12; Durham University 2/16
 "Transcultural Studies: a viewpoint from cultural anthropology," Heidelberg, 06/12
 "Forgetting how to be Possessed," Paris, 07/12
 "Family Unity and Ritual Healing," Lisbon, 07/12
 "A Treasury of Honor," Boston University, 8/12
 "Religion, Healing, and Resistance in the Western Himalayas," Oxford, 02/13
 "Divine Kingdoms in the Western Himalayas: Oracular Authority and Distributed Agency," Oxford, 02/13; Stanford 09/15
 "The Futures of Indigenous Medicines: networks, contexts, freedom," The Kilian Lecture, Bochum, 10/13
 "Global Mental Health-Promises and Pitfalls: the view from Ethnology," Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, 11/13.
 "Anthropology meets Psychiatry: the cultural epidemiology of ritual healing" Emory University, Northern Arizona State University University of California at Santa Barbara,

April 2014; Freie Universität Berlin and Münster University, May 2014; Tallinn, Estonia, July 2014; Stanford, California 09/15;
 Keynote Speech, "The Efficacy of Ritual," at INTAR conference, Liverpool, June 2014
 "Ritual Healing in the Himalayas," Budapest, July 2014
 "Do Rituals Heal?," Budapest, July 2014, Robert Bosch College (Freiburg), January 2016
 "An anthropological critique of psychiatric epidemiology," Zürich, July 2014
 "The Birth of the (Exorcism) Clinic: media, modernity and the *Jinn*" Tübingen 07/15; UC San Diego 10/15"
 "Outsourcing Possession: media, modernity, and the jinn", JNU (Delhi) 11/15; Durham University 2/16, Columbia University 3/18, Harvard University 3/18
 "In Defense of the Culture-Bound Syndrome: footpath pharmacists, semen loss and all dhat" Edinburgh 3/16;
 "The Ontology of the Gods of the Western Himalayas" IUAES conference, Dubrovnik, 5/16
 "Diagnosis by Ritual Healers," MAAH conference Norway, 6/15
 "The Medicalization of Medical Anthropology," Keynote address to the Association of Social Anthropologists, UK, Durham, 6/15
 "Global Mental Health and the Death of the Gods," Malta, 12/16
 "Songs of the Gods from the Western Himalayas," Tel Aviv, 6/16
 "In Defense of the "Culture-Bound Syndrome": footpath pharmacists, semen loss and all dhat," Edinburgh, 3/16
 "Ontology of the Devtas," Dubrovnik, 5/16
 "The Efficacy of Ritual Healing," Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 6/16; LEEA-CCH, Campos dos Goytacazes, Brasil, 7/13
 "Scales of Research: social anthropology meets epidemiology," Durham University Institute of Advanced Study, February 2016
 "Traditional Healing and Mental Health: an Anthropologists View," Keynote Address, Global Mental Health Symposium, Munich, 10/17, The Gods of the Western Himalaya as Agents and as Intentional Beings, Marcay, France, 12/17, Harvard University 3/18, City University of New York 3/18
 "Divine Kingship in the Western Himalaya," University of Arizona, 4/17

PUBLIC LECTURES (Hindi)

"Gadhwal mem Devi ki Puja" (Goddess Worship in Garhwal), Kumaon University (Almora Campus) 11/93, Garhwal University (Srinagar) 12/93, Archaeological Institute (Delhi) 1/94.
 "Paschchim Himalaya mem Divya Raya" (A Divine King in the Western Himalaya)"; H.N.B. Garhwal University, India 1/96
 "Pandav Lila mem Gainda ka Mahtva (The Importance of the Rhinoceros in Pandav Lila)"; H.N.B. Garhwal University, India, 1/96
 "Kshetrakarya ka Mahattva (The Importance of Fieldwork)", Department of Anthropology, H.N.B. Garhwal University, India; 2/97
 "Gadhwal ka Pandav Nrtya (The Pandava Dance of Garhwal)"; SPIC MACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Culture and Music Among Youth; Dehra Dun; 4/97
 "Postmodernism and Ethnography"; Department of Anthropology, H.N.B. Garhwal University, India; 1/00
 "Nyaya ka Devata," The 5th annual Gopi Mohan lecture, University of Kumaon, Nainital, February 2003

PUBLIC LECTURES (German)

"Die Notwendigkeit des Rituals," Foundation Lecture, Heidelberg, 2001
 "Heilung and Sprache," Medizinische Psychologie Heidelberg, 6/03
 "Heilen Rituale?," Studium Generale, Heidelberg, 12/05
 "Volkskrankheiten als Medizin-Ethnologischer Sicht", 8/08, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Cadenabbia, Italy
 „Die Erscheinung von Kachya“, Munich Januar 2008
 "Rituelles Heilen in Hinduismus," Deutsche-Indische Gesellschaft, München, 10/08
 "Von Untertanen zu Staatsbürgern: wechselnde Identitäten im westlichen Himalaya," Heidelberg, June 2012

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

"The Concept of Lila in South Asia," Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard

University, 4/89

"Religion and Politics in South Asia," Raetihi Lodge, Marlborough Sounds, New Zealand

"Gender, Health and Politics in South Asia" South Asia Institute, Department of Anthropology, July 2002.

"The Ills of Marginality: New Perspectives on Subaltern Health in South Asia" South Asia Institute, Dept. of Anthropology, July 2004.

"Divine Kingship in the Himalayas," Heidelberg, 12/04

"Ritual Efficacy," Heidelberg, June 2007

"Workshop on Asymmetrical Translations," Heidelberg, June 2009

"Therapeutic Uses of Possession," Heidelberg, November 2011

'Between Global Aspirations and Local Realities: India's cities in interdisciplinary perspective," March 2012, Delhi

"The future of social science research in Sri Lanka," Kandy and Colombo, Sri Lanka, February/March 2012

"Mind and Body in Indian and European Medicine," Heidelberg, June 2012

"Global Mental Health," Heidelberg, June 2014, Istanbul December 2015, Malta December 2016

Mind and Body 1 and II

CONFERENCE PAPERS

numerous

REFERENCES

Available on request