

**Jonathan K. Skaff**  
Professor Emeritus of History  
Shippensburg University  
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## **EDUCATION**

- University of Michigan, Ph.D., History
  - Dissertation: “Straddling Steppe and Sown: Tang China’s Relations with the Nomads of Inner Asia (640-756),” Committee Chair: Chun-shu Chang
  - Research at Peking University, 1995-6, advisers: Rong Xinjiang & Wang Xiaofu
  - Preliminary examination fields: premodern China, modern China, medieval Near East and Inner Asia, and premodern Japan
- University of Michigan, M.A., History
- Hobart College, Geneva, NY, B.A., History, cum laude

## **ACADEMIC HONORS**

### **National/International**

- Seventh Annual M. I. Rostovtzeff Lecture Series and Visiting Research Scholar, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University, 2015-2016
- Royal Numismatic Society Research Grant, Lowick and Kreitman Funds, 2015
- Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies, Felix Gilbert Membership, Fall 2007
- National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2007-2008
- Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sabbatical Fellowship, American Philosophical Society, 2006-2007
- Project Member, “The Silk Road Project: Reuniting Turfan’s Scattered Treasures,” a Luce Foundation US-China Cooperative Research Program, 1995-1998
- Graduate Fellowship for Research in China, Committee on Scholarly Communication with China, 1995-1996
- Tuition Scholarship, Peking University, 1995-1996
- Jacob J. Javits Graduate Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education, 1991-1995
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Arabic (Declined), 1991-1992

### **University**

- Academic Mentorship Award, Shippensburg University Athletic Department, 2019
- Provost’s Award for Extraordinary Service, Shippensburg University, 2013
- Center for Chinese Studies Endowment Award, University of Michigan, 1996-1998
- Bockman-Mayer Fellowship, History Department, University of Michigan, 1995-1996
- Rackham Dissertation Grant, University of Michigan, 1995-1996
- Rackham Non-Traditional Fellowship, University of Michigan, 1990-1991

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

- *The An Lushan Rebellion and the Tang Northern Frontier*, under contract with Oxford University Press for delivery in 2032.

- *Silk Roads, Steppe Roads: History Unearthed from the Tombs of Medieval China*. **Princeton University Press, Rostovtzeff Series**, in press, forthcoming, July 2026.
- *Sui-Tang China and Its Turko-Mongol Neighbors: Culture, Power and Connections, 580-800*. New York: **Oxford University Press**, Oxford Studies in Early Empires, 2012.
  - **Oxford Scholarship Online**, Oxford University Press, Sept. 20, 2012.
  - **Paperback edition**, Oxford University Press, 2018.
  - **Chinese translation**, Beijing: **Social Sciences Academic Press**, forthcoming.
  - Reviews:
    - CHIA Ning, Review Article, *Monumenta Serica* 61 (2013): 301-16.
    - Michael Drompp, *Archivum Eurasiae medii aevi* 20 (2013): 239-44
    - Ruth Dunnell, *The Historian*, 76, no. 3, (2013): 613-14.
    - David A. Graff, *The Journal of Asian Studies* 72, no. 4 (2013): 985-86.
    - Michael Hoeckelmann, *Journal of World History* 27, no. 1, (2016): 121-30.
    - Hang LIN, *Journal of Asian History* 48, no. 1, (2014): 115-18.
    - Yihong PAN, *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 73, no. 2 (2013): 423-29.
    - WANG Zhenping, *American Historical Review* 118, no. 4 (2013): 1157-8.
    - Don J. Wyatt, *Journal of Chinese Military History* 2 (2013): 201-3.

#### Articles and Book Chapters

- “The Early Medieval Tradition of Eurasian Diplomacy (Sixth to Tenth Centuries),” in the *Cambridge History of International Law, Volume 2, International Law in Asia*, Maria Adele Carrai and Surabhi Ranganathan, eds. **Cambridge University Press**, in press, forthcoming, 2025.
- "Slaves of Merchants and Mandarins in Tang Dynasty Caravans." In *Sichou zhi lu shang de Zhonghua wenming*, Rong Xinjiang, ed., **Beijing: Shangwu Press**, 2022, 277-305.
- “Early Medieval China’s Rulers, Retainers, and Harem” in *The Cambridge World History of Violence, Volume 2: AD 500-AD 1500*, Matthew S. Gordon, Richard W. Kaeuper and Harriet Zurndorfer, eds. **Cambridge University Press**, 2020, 123-142.
- “Slavery and Foreign Slaves at Turfan during the Gaochang Kingdom (442–640)” in *Early Medieval North China: Archaeological and Textual Evidence*, Shing Müller and Sonja Filip, eds. **Harrassowitz**, 2019, 283-300.
- “The Tomb of Pugu Yitu (635-678) in Mongolia: Tang-Turkic Diplomacy and Ritual” in *Competing Narratives between Nomadic People and Their Sedentary Neighbours: Papers of the 7th International Conference on the Medieval History of the Eurasian Steppe, November 9-12, 2018, Shanghai University, China*, edited by Chen Hao. Szeged, Hungary: **University of Szeged, Department of Altaic Studies**, 2019, 295-307.
  - **Chinese translation** in *Ou-Ya caoyuan lishi yanjiu* {Eurasian Steppe Historical Studies}, Chen Hao ed. Beijing: Commercial Press, 2022, 75-92
- “Ideological Interweaving in Eastern Eurasia: Simultaneous Kingship and Its Origins” in *Empires and Exchanges in Eurasian Late Antiquity: Rome, China, Iran, and the Steppe, ca. 250–750*, Nicola Di Cosmo and Michael Maas, eds. **Cambridge University Press**, 2018, 386-399.
- “Tang China’s Horse Power: The Borderland Breeding Ranch System.” In *Eurasian Empires in Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages: Contact and Exchange between the Graeco-Roman World, Inner Asia and China*, Hyun Jin Kim and Frederik Vervaeke, eds. **Cambridge University Press**, 2017, 34-59.

- “Tang Military Culture and Its Inner Asian Influences.” In *Military Culture in Imperial China*. Nicola Di Cosmo, ed. Cambridge: **Harvard University Press**, 2009, 165-191.
- “Empire Building before the Mongols: Legacies of the Türks and Uyghurs.” Co-author with William Honeychurch in *Genghis Khan and the Mongol Empire*, William Fitzhugh, Morris Rossabi and William Honeychurch, eds. Seattle: Dino Don Inc./Genghis Khan Exhibits, **University of Washington Press**, 2009, 84-89.
- “Loyalties Divided: The Question of Ethnicity in the Tang-Türgish Conflict of 708-9.” *Early Medieval China*, 13-14 (2008): 171-190.
- “Documenting Sogdian Society at Turfan in the Seventh and Eighth Centuries: Tang Dynasty Census Records as a Window on Cultural Distinction and Change.” In *Les Sogdiens en Chine*. Étienne de la Vaissière and Éric Trombert, eds. Paris: **École française d’Extrême-Orient**, 2005, 311-342.
  - **Chinese translation** in *Suteren zai Zhongguo: lishi, kaogu, yuyan de xin tansuo* {Sogdians in China: New Examinations of History, Archaeology, and Language}. Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 2005, 141-177.
- “Survival in the Frontier Zone: Comparative Perspectives on Identity and Political Allegiance in China’s Inner Asian Borderlands during the Sui-Tang Dynastic Transition (617-630).” *Journal of World History* 15 (June 2004): 117-153.
- “The Sogdian Trade Diaspora in East Turkestan during the Seventh and Eighth Centuries.” *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 46 (2003): 475-524.
- “Western Turk Rule of Turkestan’s Oases in the Sixth through Eighth Centuries.” In *The Turks*. Ankara: **Yeni Türkiye**, 2002, 364-72.
  - **Turkish translation** in *Türkler*. Ankara: **Yeni Türkiye**, 2002, 2: 97-106.
- “Barbarians at the Gates? The Tang Frontier Military and the An Lushan Rebellion.” *War and Society* 18, no. 2 (2000): 23-35.
  - **Reprinted** in *Warfare in China to 1600*. Peter Lorge, ed. International Library of Essays in Military History, Jeremy Black, General Editor. Aldershot, UK: **Ashgate Publishing**, 2005.
- “The Sasanian and Arab-Sasanian Silver Coins from Turfan: Their Relationship to International Trade and the Local Economy.” *Asia Major* 11 (1998): 67-115
  - **Reprinted** in *The Silk Road: Key Papers, Volume 1*. Valerie Hansen, ed., Leiden: **Brill**, 2012.
  - **Chinese translation** in *Dunhuang Tulufan yanjiu* {Dunhuang and Turfan Studies (Beijing)} 4 (1999): 419-63.
  - **Chinese translation reprinted** in Yin Qing, ed. *Tulufanxue xin lun* {New Approaches to Turfanology}. Urumqi: Xinjiang renmin chubanshe, 2006.

#### Translation

- “The Turfan Documents at Princeton’s Gest Library” by Chen Guocan. *Early Medieval China* 6 (2000): 74-103, Translated from Chinese.

#### Original Publications in Chinese

- “Zuowei Ou-Ya liyi de Sui-Tang waijiao lijie” {Sui-Tang Diplomatic Protocol as Eurasian Ritual} in *Tang yanjiu* {**Tang Studies (Beijing)**} 16 (2010): 77-90
- “He de ‘bianshi jiebao’?--Tangdai xibei 648, 655, 657 nian zhu zhanyi zhihuiguan de junshi wenhua xingdong” {The Culture of Frontier Victory: Commanders of the Tang Northwestern Campaigns of 648, 655, and 657} in *Bianchen yu jiangli* {*Les*

*fonctionnaires des frontières*}, P. Calanca and F. Jagou, eds. **Faguo Hanxue {Sinologie française}** 12, Beijing: Zhonghua shuju, 2007, 11-30

#### **Non-Peer Reviewed Publications**

- "Norman Harry Rothschild: An Appreciation of the Man and Scholar," *Tang Studies* 40 (2022): 155-171.
- "Albert E. Dien: A Short Biography of a Scholarly Explorer," *Early Medieval China* 25 (2019): 2-13.

#### **Editorial Work**

- **Guest Co-Editor**, *Tang Studies*, Volume 44, Special Issue on the Tang Empire and Its World in Honor of Michael Drompp, 2026.
- **Guest Co-Editor**, *Early Medieval China*, Volume 25, Essays in Honor of Albert E. Dien's Scholarly Contributions to the Study of the Northern Dynasties on the Occasion of his 90th Birthday, 2019.

#### **Public Outreach**

- "China's Tang Dynasty Golden Age," interviewed by James Wiener, *Ancient History et cetera*, December 22, 2014: <http://etc.ancient.eu/2014/12/22/tang-dynasty-golden-age/>
- "Visiting Research Scholar Spotlight: Jonathan Skaff," Institute for the Study of the Ancient World News Blog, 7/20/16: <https://isaw.nyu.edu/news/visiting-research-scholar-spotlight-jonathan-skaff>

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Lectures and Keynote Speeches**

- "Climate, Ecology and Weather in Tang-Türk Relations," **Macintyre Society, Oxford University**, lecture, May 17, 2025.
- "Sogdians or Borderlanders? Identity in Tombs and Epitaphs at Guyuan, China," **The Institute of Fine Arts, New York University**, Graduate seminar on Chang'an and the Art of a Golden Age, March 10, 2025.
- "Tang China's Horsepower: The China-Inner Asian Borderland Breeding Ranch System," Animals and Human Society in the Sinitic World Seminar, **Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University**, Jerusalem, virtual lecture, June 7, 2021.
- Keynote, "The Tomb of Pugu Yitu (635-678) in Mongolia: Tang-Turkic Diplomacy and Ritual," Seventh International Conference on the Medieval History of the Eurasian Steppe, **Shanghai University**, November 10, 2018
- "Slavery on the Silk Road of the Tang Empire," **University of Virginia, East Asia Center**, April 20, 2018.
- "The Silk Road Slave Trade during the Tang Dynasty," **New York University Shanghai, Center for Global Asia Lecture Series**, October 17, 2016.
- Keynote, "Forerunners of the Mongols: Diplomacy in the Age of the Turks and Tang," Diplomacy in the Age of Mongol Globalization Conference, **The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, May 30, 2016.
- Seventh Annual M. I. Rostovtzeff Lecture Series, **Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University**, 2016:
  - "A Slave Road? Sogdian Merchants and Foreign Slaves at Turfan," March 29
  - "Sogdians or Borderlanders? Part I: Lives Revealed in Epitaphs," April 5
  - "Sogdians or Borderlanders? Part II: Death Rituals Revealed in Tombs," April 12

- “A Tang Dynasty Ally in War and Ritual: The Tomb of Pugu Yitu (635-678) in Mongolia,” April 19
- “Climate, Ecology and Weather in Tang-Türk Relations,” **Pomona College**, November 14, 2014
- “Tang China's Horse Power: The China-Inner Asian Borderlands,” **Stanford University**, Dept. of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Silk Road Lecture Series, March 20, 2013
- “Tang Heavenly Qaghans and Türk Sons of Heaven: The Origins of Simultaneous Kingship in Eastern Eurasia,” **Yale University**, China Colloquium Series, Sept. 27, 2012
- “Climate, Ecology and Weather in Tang-Türk Relations,” **Dickinson College**, September 20, 2012
- “Political Integration through Patronage: Inner Asians in Tang Dynasty (618-907) China’s Military,” **Harvard University**, Inner Asia and Altaic Studies Program Lunchtime Lecture Series, March 9, 2011
- “Power through Patronage: Interethnic Political Networking in Tang China,” **Institute for Advanced Study**, East Asian Studies Seminar, December 11, 2007
- “Tang China’s Northern Borderlands: Historical and Ecological Perspectives on Interactions with Inner Asia,” **Institute for Advanced Study**, School of Historical Studies, Lunchtime Colloquia Series, November 12, 2007
- “Beyond the Silk Roads: Cultural Interaction and Exchange along Tang China's Northern Borderlands,” **University of Pennsylvania**, East Asia Humanities Colloquium, October 11, 2007
- “Tang China’s Northern Borderlands: Historical and Ecological Perspectives on Interactions with Inner Asia,” **Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History**, Department of Anthropology, May 24, 2007
- **NEH Summer Institute for College and University Teachers**, *The Silk Road: Early Globalization and Chinese Cultural Identity*, sponsored by the Asian Studies Development Program of the East-West Center and the University of Hawai’i, Honolulu, delivered 4 lectures and participated on 2 panel discussions, July 13-21, 2006
- “Iran, China and Central Asia in Medieval Times,” **NEH Summer Institute for School Teachers**, *China and the Islamic World*, sponsored by the China Institute of America, Columbia University, July 26, 2005
- “Silver, Silk, and Sogdians: The Silk Road in Asia from the Fifth to the Eighth Century,” **Stetson University**, Phi Alpha Theta Annual Lecture, DeLand, FL, Nov. 19, 1998
- “China and Tibet Vie for Control of the Western Himalayas: A Chapter in the Eighth Century Struggle for Inner Asia,” presented at the **University of Michigan**, Center for Chinese Studies Brown Bag Lecture Series, November 22, 1994

#### **Invited National and International Conferences**

- “Borderland Cosmopolitanism: A Case Study of Early Medieval Guyuan, Ningxia,” Cosmopolitan Pasts of China and the Eurasian World Virtual Conference hosted by **Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich**, Germany, June 12, 2021.
- “Sui-Tang Diplomatic Protocol as Eurasian Ritual Performance,” PAIXUE Symposium on Classicising Learning, Performance, and Power: Eurasian Perspectives from Antiquity to the Early Modern Period,” **University of Edinburgh**, Dec. 14, 2019
- “Slaves of Merchants and Mandarins in Tang Dynasty Caravans,” Workshop on Chinese Civilization on the Silk Road, **Peking University**, Beijing, China, November 10, 2019

- “Silk Roads or Slave Roads? Slavery in Tang Dynasty Caravans,” Dunhuang Passages: The Silk Roads as Matrices of Space and Place, **Keimyung University Center for Silk Road and Central Asian Studies**, Daegu, South Korea, October 18, 2019
- “The Medieval Practice of Eurasian Diplomacy and Its Codification in Tang China (618-907),” Legal Pluralism in Asia and Global Histories of International Law(s) Conference, **Harvard University**, September 6, 2019
- “Two Tang-Style Tombs of Turkic Allies in Mongolia: The Value of Textual and Material Analysis,” New Frontiers in the Study of Medieval China Workshop on Commemorative Inscriptions, **Reed College**, Portland, Oregon, May 17, 2018
- “Slavery and Foreign Slaves at Turfan during the Gaochang Kingdom (442-640),” International Workshop on Culture and Cultural Diversity in Medieval China (4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Century), Institute for Sinology, **Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich**, Germany, January 13, 2017
- “Ideological Interweaving in Eastern Eurasia: Simultaneous Kingship and its Origins,” University of Melbourne-Nanjing University Forum on Comparative Studies of Ancient and Medieval Eurasian Empires, **University of Melbourne**, Australia, August 22, 2014
- “The Patrimonial Political Cultures of the Medieval Tang and Turkic Empires,” Worlds in Motion: Rome, China, and the Eurasian Steppe in Late Antiquity, ca. 250-650, **Institute for Advanced Study**, Princeton, NJ, June 1, 2013
- “Horse Procurement during the Tang Dynasty,” Workshop on Sedentary Answers to Nomadic Policies in Central Asia, 1st Millennium AD, **Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University**, December 16, 2011
- “Sui-Tang and Türk Propaganda Wars: A Case Study of the Circulation of Ideas in Medieval Eastern Eurasia,” Global Asias Conference, **Pennsylvania State University**, October 23, 2009
- “Tang Dynasty (618-907) China’s Northern Borderlands: Evidence from the Horse System,” **American Philosophical Society Sabbatical Fellowship Conference**, Philadelphia, May 19, 2007
- “The Culture of Frontier Victory: A Comparison of the Commanders of the Tang Northwestern Campaigns of 648, 655, and 657,” Officials on the Chinese Borders Colloquium, **Academia Sinica**, Taipei, Taiwan, October 2, 2006
- “A Preliminary Study of the Demographic Structure of Sogdian Households at Turfan,” Sogdians in China: New Research in History, Archaeology, and Philology, **National Library of China**, Beijing, China, April 24, 2004
- “Tang Military Culture and its Inner Asian Influences,” Military Culture in Imperial Chinese History Conference, supported by the Marsden Fund of the Royal Society of New Zealand, **University of Canterbury**, Christchurch, New Zealand, January 11, 2003
- “Crossing Frontiers along Medieval Asia’s Silk Roads,” presented at the Teaching of History Conference, **University of North Texas**, Denton, TX, September 14, 2002
- “The Silver Sasanian and Arab-Sasanian Coins Found at Turfan: Their Relationship to International Trade and the Local Economy,” Second and Third Silk Road Conferences, **Yale University**, June 21, 1997 and July 12, 1998

#### **Professional Meetings and Conferences**

- “It Was Not Easy Being a Prince: Violence at Six Dynasties, Sui and Tang Courts,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Honolulu, March 25, 2022

- “Silk Road Slavery in Medieval Chinese Documents,” *Medieval Unfreedoms: Slavery, Servitude, and Trafficking in Humans before the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade*, **Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Binghamton University**, October 20, 2018
- “Slaves and Slavers on the Tang Empire’s Silk Road,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Washington, D.C., March 22, 2018
- “The Recently Discovered Tang Tomb and Epitaph of Pugu Yitu (635-678) in Mongolia: New Light on the Tang-Tiele (Uighur) Alliance,” **T’ang Studies Society**, Eide Library, Sarasota, Florida, November 11, 2016
- “Silver Sasanian and Arab-Sasanian Coins Circulating at Turfan in the 6th and 7th Centuries,” **Oriental Numismatic Society Meeting**, British Museum, July 25, 2015
- “Horsemen of the Tang Borderland Ranches,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Chicago, March 27, 2015
- “The Geo-Strategic Significance of Inner Mongolia: A Case Study of the Sui-Tang and Türk Empires,” **Annual Conference of the Chinese Military History Society**, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., May 10, 2012
- “Monarchs, Martial Clients and Power in the Medieval Tang and Turkic Empires,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Toronto, March 18, 2012
- “Politics of the Fictive Family: Tang Surname Bestowal, Fosterage and Adoption,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Honolulu, April 1, 2011
- “Sui-Tang Diplomatic Protocol as Eurasian Ritual,” **T’ang Studies: The Next Twenty-five Years**, **T’ang Studies Society**, University of Albany, Albany, NY, May 8, 2009
- “Heavenly Qaghans, Propaganda Wars, and the Origins of Simultaneous Kingship in Eastern Eurasia,” **12th Annual Southeast Early China Roundtable Conference**, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL, November 16, 2008
- “Steppe-Sown Borderlands as Avenues of Eurasian Cultural Exchange: The Case of China and Mongolia (4th-8th centuries),” **Andre Gunder Frank's Legacy of Critical Social Science**, University of Pittsburgh, April 13, 2008
- “Sogdian Settlers and Merchants at Tang Dynasty Turfan (7th-8th Centuries): A Documentary Tour,” **Asian Merchant Cultures Conference**, **Hofstra University**, Hempstead, NY, March 10, 2006
- “Loyalties Divided: The Question of Ethnicity in the Tang-Türgish Conflict of 708-9,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Washington, April 6, 2002
- “Altered Loyalties and Identities on the Sui and Tang Frontier (7th and 8th Centuries),” **American Historical Association Annual Meeting**, San Francisco, January 5, 2002
- “The Sogdian Trade Diaspora in East Turkestan during the Seventh and Eighth Centuries According to Chinese Sources,” **36th International Congress of Asian and North African Studies**, Montreal, August 29, 2000
- “Barbarians at the Gates? The Tang Frontier Military and the An Lushan Rebellion,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Boston, March 11, 1999
- “Nomadic Rule of Turkestan’s Oases in the Sixth through Eighth Centuries,” the **Fifth Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference**, **Indiana University** on Feb. 21, 1998
- “With Bridle, Reins and Halter: Tang Attempts to Locally Administer the Nomadic Tribes on its Northwestern Frontier during the Reign of Xuanzong (712-56),” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Chicago, March 15, 1997

- “Issues in Traditional Chinese Historiography: The Rise of Islam According to Official Tang History,” **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, October 24, 1992

#### **Roundtable Discussion**

- “Silk Road Roundtable: A Dialogue between Archaeologists and Historians,” **American Historical Association Annual Meeting**, Atlanta, January 9, 2016

#### **Commentator/Discussant**

- “Sweeping the Dust Off History: New Approaches to Incorporating Archaeological Finds and Rare Documents in East Asia and Beyond,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, PA, March 27, 2014
- “Legitimizing Power and Constructing Identity: Cultural Crossovers in Mortuary Art in Sixth Century Northern China Workshop,” **Fairbanks Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University**, October 29, 2011
- “Textiles in this World: Taxes, the Military, Government Spending,” Textiles as Money Workshop, **Yale University**, October 3, 2009

#### **Chair of Panel**

- “Beyond Sinicization: Statecraft and Ethnic Identity Formation in Middle Period Asia,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Seattle, March 15, 2024
- “Barbarians and Slaves,” The Margins of the Human in Medieval China, **Harvard-Yale Symposium Series on Middle Period China** (Virtual), June 3, 2022
- “Transculturation between Medieval China and Central Asia: Politics and Communications Represented through the Adapted Mediums of Artifacts, Images, and Humans,” **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Denver, March 24, 2019
- “Empires of the Plains: A World Historical Perspective,” **American Historical Association Annual Meeting**, Denver, January 6, 2017
- “The Southwest,” Officials on the Chinese Borders Colloquium, **Academia Sinica**, Taipei, Taiwan, October 3, 2006

#### **Colloquia**

- Co-presenter with Richard Abels of U.S. Naval Academy, “Conceptualizing Culture with Attention to the Patron-Client Relationship in Early Medieval Europe and China,” **Institute for Advanced Study, Medieval Table Colloquium**, October 17, 2007
- “What’s New on the Chinese Frontier?” **Shippensburg University, History/Philosophy Faculty Research Seminar**, October 10, 2002
- “The Tang Military on the Northwestern Frontier,” presented to the **University of Michigan Military Studies Group** on February 28, 1997

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP**

#### **Professional Society Leadership**

- **Secretary**, T’ang Studies Society, board appointment, 2019-present
- **Board of Directors**, T’ang Studies Society, elected, 2016-2019
- **Executive Committee**, Early Medieval China Group, elected, 2016-2021
- **Chair, Nominating Committee**, T’ang Studies Society, presidential appointment, 2017
- **Nominating Committee**, Early Medieval China Group, presidential appointment, 2020
- **Program Committee**, 131<sup>st</sup> American Historical Association Annual Meeting in Denver, presidential appointment, 2015-2017

### Journal Editorial Duties

- **Co-editor**, *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi*, 2013-present
- **Guest Co-Editor with Scott Pearce**, *Early Medieval China*, Volume 25, Essays in Honor of Albert E. Dien's Scholarly Contributions to the Study of the Northern Dynasties on the Occasion of his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, 2019
- **Editorial Board**, *Early Medieval China*, 2016-2020
- **Editorial Board**, *Tang Studies*, 2016-present

### Fellowship/Grant Evaluations

- **Research Grants Council**, Hong Kong SAR, 2023
- **Institute for Advanced Study**, School of Historical Studies member applications, 2017-present.
- **American Philosophical Society**, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sabbatical Fellowship, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 grant cycles
- **American Philosophical Society**, Franklin Research Grant, 2010-2012, 2015

### Dissertation/Preliminary Examination Committee External Member

- New York University Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, Yukina Z. Zhang, "Crafting Marriage in Afterlife: Art, Gender, and Power in Tang China, 618-907 C.E.," April 2024
- University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Anthropology-Field Museum of Natural History, Joint Ph.D. Program, Rory Dennison, Northwest China Archaeology, 2009

### Tenure and Promotion Evaluations

- Rutgers University, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, 2017
- Kansas State University, Department of History, 2016
- New York University, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, 2008
- University of North Florida, Department of History, 2007
- Hofstra University, Department of Fine Arts, 2004

### Publication Organizer

- "Civil Military Relations in Imperial China," *War and Society* 18, no. 2 (2000).

### Panel Organizer

- "Slaves And/or Servants: Human Bondage in China's States and Societies over the Longue Durée," **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Washington, 2018
- "Monarchs, Martial Clients and Power in the Medieval Tang and Turkic Empires," **Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**, Toronto, 2012
- "Cracking the Barbarian Mold: Shifting Identities on Imperial China's Northern Frontier," **American Historical Association Annual Meeting**, San Francisco, 2002.

### Peer reviews

- *War in History*, manuscript review, 2026
- *Medieval Encounters*, manuscript review, 2024
- *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, manuscript review, 2024
- *Asia Major*, manuscript reviews, 2008, 2024
- *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, manuscript reviews, 2022, 2026
- *Journal of the History of Ideas*, manuscript review, 2021
- *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, manuscript review, 2019
- *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, manuscript review, 2019
- *Artibus Asiae*, manuscript review, 2018

- *Tang Studies*, manuscript reviews, 2013, 2016, 2018
- *Journal of Chinese Studies*, manuscript reviews, 2012, 2015, 2018
- Oxford University Press, book proposal review, 2018
- *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History*, manuscript review, 2017
- *Journal of Asian Studies*, manuscript review, 2016
- *Journal of Chinese History*, manuscript review, 2016
- *The History of the Family*, manuscript review, 2016
- *Journal of Arid Environments*, manuscript review, 2013
- Cambridge University Press, book proposal review, 2012
- *Sino-Platonic Papers*, manuscript review, 2011
- *Journal of World History*, manuscript review, 2010
- Norton, *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of the World*, chapter review, 2005
- Longman Publishers, *Patterns of World History*, chapter review, 2004
- Greenwood Publishing Group, manuscript review, 2003
- Houghton Mifflin, *The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History*, chapter review, 2001
- McGraw Hill, *Traditions and Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*, chapter review, 2000

#### Book Reviews

- *The King's Road: Diplomacy and the Remaking of the Silk Road*, by Xin Wen, ***Journal of Asian Studies***, 83 (August 2024): 763-5.
- *The Way of the Barbarians: Redrawing Ethnic Boundaries in Tang and Song China* by Shaoyun Yang, ***Journal of Song-Yuan Studies***, 51 (2022).
- *The Avars: A Steppe Empire in Central Europe, 567-822* by Walter Pohl, ***Studies in Late Antiquity***, 4 (2020): 529-34.
- *Empire of Style: Silk and Fashion in Tang China* by BuYun Chen, ***Journal of Chinese Studies***, 71 (July 2020): 199-204.
- **Featured Review:** *In the Wake of the Mongols: The Making of a New Social Order in North China, 1200-1600*, by Jinping Wang, ***The American Historical Review*** 124 (December 2019): 1817-20.
- *Reading Sima Qian from Han to Song: The Father of History in Pre-modern China*, by Esther Sunkyoung Klein, ***Choice*** (June 2019).
- *The Eurasian Way of War: Military Practice in Seventh-Century China and Byzantium*, by David A. Graff, ***The Journal of Chinese Military History*** 6 (2017): 226-8.
- *Nomads as Agents of Cultural Change: The Mongols and their Eurasian Predecessors*, ed. by Reuven Amitai and Michal Biran, ***The American Historical Review*** 120 (2015): 1870-71.
- *China's Encounters on the South and Southwest: Reforging the Fiery Frontier over Two Millennia*, ed. by James A. Anderson and John K. Whitmore, ***Choice*** 53 (Sept. 2015)
- *Destruction of the Medieval Chinese Aristocracy*, by Nicolas Tackett, ***Journal of Chinese Studies*** 61 (July 2015): 365-9.
- *China and Beyond in the Mediaeval Period, Cultural Crossings and Inter-Regional Connections*, ed. by Dorothy C. Wong and Gustav Heldt, ***Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*** 78 (June 2015): 415-6.
- *Shifting Stories: History, Gossip, and Lore in Narratives from Tang Dynasty China*, by Sarah M. Allen, ***Choice*** 52 (May 2015).

- *Tang China in Multi-Polar Asia: A History of Diplomacy and War*, by Wang Zhenping, *Journal of Asian Studies* 73 (2014): 799-801.
- *Strategies for the Human Realm: Crux of the T'ai-pai Yin-ching*, by Ralph D. Sawyer, *The Journal of Chinese Military History* 3 (2014): 80-2.
- *The Silk Road: A New History*, by Valerie Hansen, *Choice* 50 (March 2013)
- *The Journey of Maps and Images on the Silk Road*, ed. by Philippe Forêt and Andreas Klapyon, *Archivum Eurasiae medii aevi* 19 (2012): 307-10.
- *The Great Wall: A Cultural History*, by Carlos Rojas, *Choice* 49 (September 2011).
- *The Blacks of Premodern China*, by Don J. Wyatt, *Choice* 48 (September 2010).
- *China's Cosmopolitan Empire: The Tang Dynasty*, by Mark Edward Lewis, *Choice* 47 (May 2010).
- *Ethnic Identity in Tang China*, by Marc Samuel Abramson, *Archivum Eurasiae medii aevi* 16 (2008/2009): 289-92.
- *Bureaucracy and the State in Early China: Governing the Western Zhou*, by Li Feng, *Choice* 47 (February 2010).
- *Subjects and Masters: Uyghurs in the Mongol Empire*, by Michael C. Brose, *Journal of Asian Studies*, 68 (2009): 287-9.
- *Trade and Contemporary Society along the Silk Road: An Ethno-History of Ladakh*, by Jacqueline H. Fewkes, *Choice* 47 (December 2009).
- *Kingship in Early Medieval China*, by Andrew Eisenberg, *Choice* 46 (January 2009).
- *Unbounded Loyalty: Frontier Crossings in Liao China*, by Naomi Standen *Choice* 45 (December 2008).
- *Emperor Yang of the Sui Dynasty: His Life, Times, and Legacy*, by Victor Cunrui Xiong, *Choice* 44 (October 2006).
- *Politics and Conservatism in North China: The Career and Thought of Sima Guang (A.D. 1019-1086)*, by Ji Xiao-bin, *Choice* 43 (April 2006).
- *Ambassadors from the Islands of Immortals: China-Japan Relations in the Han-Tang Period*, Wang Zhenping, *Choice* 43 (March 2006).
- *Mongols, Turks, and Others: Eurasian Nomads and the Sedentary World*, ed. by Reuven Amitai and Michal Biran, *Archivum Eurasiae medii aevi* 14 (2005): 303-7.
- *T'ang China: The Rise of the East in World History*, by S.A.M. Adshead, *Choice*, 42 (February 2005).
- *Genghis Khan: Conqueror of the World*, by Leo de Hartog, *Middle East Studies Association Bulletin* 35 (2001): 92-3.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Professor**, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg, PA, August 2010-2025

**Associate Professor**, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, August 2004-2010

**Assistant Professor**, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, August 1999-2004

- **Sabbaticals**, Spring 2007, 2015-2016
- **Educational Leave of Absence without Pay**, Fall 2007-Spring 2008

### Courses taught at Shippensburg University:

HIS 105: World History I

HIS 106: World History II

HON 123: Honors World History II

INT 200: Intro to International Studies

HIS 350: Modern Japan

HIS 354: Traditional China

HIS 355: Modern China

HIS 383: Silk Road Warriors, Monks and Merchants (Select topics, Fall 2019)

PLS 391: International Studies Seminar

HIS 397: Seminar in Comparative History

HIS 454: China and the Outside World

HIS 558: Seminar in East Asia

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Stetson University, DeLand, FL, 1998-99

**Courses taught:** Modern China, Modern Japan, World History

**Visiting Instructor in History**, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI, Winter and Spring, 1997

**Courses taught:** East Asian Civilization, Modern China

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Specialist**, Roxbury Community College, Workers' Educational Assistance Center, Boston, MA, 1989-90

**ESL Instructor**, Cardinal Cushing Center, Boston, MA, 1986-1989

**Foreign Expert**, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Shanghai, China, 1985-86.

**Foreign Teacher**, Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade, Shanghai, China, 1984-85

- Taught oral and written English to teachers and students. Lectured on American life.

**Tutor**, Center for Language and Orientation Programs, Boston University, 1983-84.

## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

**Director of International Studies**, 2004-06, 2010-17 (quarter time), 2017-2025 (half time)

- Administrative position overseeing the International Studies Program advising, budget and assessment; chairing the International Education Council; circulating annual newsletter; preparing year-end reports; and organizing internationally-related events on campus; Fulbright scholar and student grant adviser; Peace Corps Prep and Peace Corps Coverdell Fellows Program Co-director.
- **Established Peace Corps Coverdell Fellows Program at Shippensburg, 2019**
  - Co-wrote proposal and co-direct program with Master of Social Work director
  - Coverdell Fellow is a returned Peace Corps volunteer in MSW program with graduate assistant duties to recruit and mentor Peace Corps Prep students
- **Established Peace Corps Prep Program at Shippensburg, 2018, renewed 2023**
  - Co-wrote proposal and co-direct program with the Career Services director
  - Includes academic, experiential, career and leadership requirements to prepare students to become Peace Corps volunteers
- **Developed International Development minor, 2017-2018**
  - Wrote University Curriculum Committee proposal
  - Fulfills Peace Corps Prep interdisciplinary academic requirements in a work sector, foreign language, and intercultural competence
- **Developed International Studies major (39 credit-hours), established in Fall 2013**
  - Wrote University Curriculum Committee and PA State System of Higher Education proposals
  - Major requires interdisciplinary global studies, areas studies (including Asian Studies), foreign language (including Chinese), and study abroad/internship
- **Revised International Studies minor and developed new courses, 2004-2005**
  - Wrote University Curriculum Committee proposal
  - Revised 21 credit-hour minor adding clear learning outcomes
  - Developed 3 International Studies courses (Introduction, Seminar, Internship)
- **Developed Area Studies Certificates (12 credit-hours), established in 2004-2005**
  - African & Middle East, Asia, Europe, and Latin American fields

- Wrote University Curriculum Committee and PA State System of Higher Education proposals
- **Sigma Iota Rho International Studies Honor Society**, Beta Omega Chapter, Spring 2006
  - Founder and Faculty adviser, 2006, 2010-present
- **Established Global Education Center**, 2012
  - Combined International Studies, Study Abroad and International Students offices
- **Shippensburg Representative**, International Education Council, PA State System of Higher Education, 2010-2015
- **Organized or co-organized International Studies events:**
  - 15 speakers or panels and 13 films (Fall 2004-Fall 2006)
  - 17 speakers or panels and 18 films (Fall 2010-Spring 2014)
  - 17 speakers or panels and 15 films (2014-2019)
  - 18 speakers or panels and 10 films (2019-2024)
- **Fulbright Leadership**
  - **Top Producer in the PA State System of Higher Education**, 2013-present
    - 19 Fulbright grants: 11 scholars (1 declined) and 8 students
  - Fulbright Student Program Adviser (FPA), 2004-2006, 2010-present
  - Fulbright Scholar Campus Liaison, 2004-2006, 2010-present
  - Chair, Fulbright Student Campus Committee, 2004-2006, 2010-present
  - Author, Fulbright Visiting Specialists Program: Direct Access to the Muslim World, Dr. Omaima Abou-Bakr, Egyptian scholar, Oct. 30-Nov. 17, 2006, \$7291
- **Fulbright Grant Workshops Organized**
  - Student Fulbright Grant Workshops, annually in April: 2011-present
  - Scholar Grant Workshops with grantee co-presenters, annually in April: 2017-present
  - Ms. Alina Hamden, Regional Lead, Fulbright Scholar Program, campus visit with individual meetings, lunch meeting and workshop, Feb. 2015
  - Ms. Jessica Kuntz, Fulbright Ambassador, “Student Fulbright Grants: Tips on Navigating the Application Process from a Former Fulbrighter,” April 4, 2013
  - Scholar Fulbright Grant Workshop, Penn State Videoconference, Feb. 2012
- **Fulbright Student and Scholar Grant Awardees Advised**
  - Dr. Christine Royce, Teacher Education, Egypt, 2025
  - Dr. Matthew Shupp, Counseling, Fulbright Visiting Specialist, Egypt, 2025
  - Isabel Weaver, Taiwan, English Teaching Assistantship, 2024
  - Erika Otthofer, Argentina, English Teaching Assistantship, 2023
  - Suphawat Nambuppha, Germany, English Teaching assistantship, 2021
  - Dr. Timothy Hawkins, Geography and Earth Science, Barbados, 2021
  - Reece Dolbin, Colombia, English Teaching Assistantship, 2019
  - Dr. M. Blake Hargrove, Management, Spain, 2019
  - Dr. Agnes Ragone, Linguistics, Benin, 2018 (declined)
  - Mary Burnett, Germany, International Education Administrators Seminar, 2018
  - Shelby Coghill, Colombia, English Teaching Assistantship, 2018
  - Hannah Lougheed, Brazil, English Teaching Assistantship, 2018
  - Curtis Rabe, Germany, English Teaching Assistantship, 2016
  - Dr. Richard Zumkhawala-Cook, Literature, India, 2016-2017

- Dr. Margaret Lucia, Music, Spain, 2016-2017
- Dr. Luis Melara, Mathematics, India, 2015-2016
- Ethan Goldbach, Malaysia, English Teaching Assistantship, 2014
- **Study Abroad Scholarship Awardees Advised**
  - Kayla Dalhouse, Gilman, Costa Rica, Summer 2023
  - Rangeline DeJesus, Gilman, Argentina, Summer 2023
  - Ezra Epperly, Gilman, South Korea, 2022-2023
  - Isabel Weaver, Freeman-Asia, China, 2020-2021
  - Samantha Smith, Freeman-Asia, China, 2019
  - Jiciana Knight, Gilman, Spain, Fall 2019
  - Gary Burkett, Gilman, Japan, 2019 (declined)
- **Fulbright and Other Grant Training Events Attended**
  - Fulbright Institutional Training Workshop, Washington, DC May 30, 2023
  - Gilman and Critical Language Scholarship Advisor Workshop, Towson University, Towson, MD, July 19, 2019.
  - Fulbright Institutional Training, Smithsonian Ripley Center, Washington, DC, May 30, 2019
  - Observer, Fulbright U.S. Student Program National Screening Committee, Taiwan, English Teaching Assistant, IIE, Washington, Nov. 20, 2018
  - Fulbright Winter Scholar Liaison Workshop, IIE, Washington, DC, Feb. 16, 2018
  - Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Regional Enhancement Seminar, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 11-12, 2017
  - Fulbright U.S. Student Program Workshop with World Area Managers and Fulbright Commission Directors, IIE, New York, March 18, 2016
  - Observer, Fulbright U.S. Student Program National Screening Committee, Venezuela/Uruguay, English Teaching Assistant, IIE, New York, Dec. 16, 2015
  - Ms. Hilary Watts, “Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Workshop,” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego, March 23, 2013

## **MAJOR GRANTS**

- **IDEAS GRANT, U.S. Department of State**, co-author, “Increasing and Diversifying Study Abroad Opportunities for Shippensburg University Students,” 2024, \$35,000
- **Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Technology Grant**, lead author on behalf of History/Philosophy to purchase JSTOR Arts & Sciences Collections IX and X, journal databases, 2013, \$12,700
- **PASSHE Technology Grant**, lead author on behalf of Economics, English, History/Philosophy, and Human Communication Studies to install computers and presentation units in 1 classroom in Dauphin Humanities Center, 2008-9, \$12,342
- **PASSHE Technology Grant**, lead author on behalf of Economics, English, History/Philosophy, and Human Communication Studies to install computers and presentation units in 5 classrooms in Dauphin Humanities Center, 2007-8, \$49,886
- **PASSHE Technology Renewal Grant**, lead author on behalf of English, History/Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology/Anthropology, and Speech/Theatre Arts to replace computers and projectors and install new document cameras in 9 classrooms in Dauphin Humanities Center, 2004-5, \$76,868

- **PASSHE Technology Grant**, lead author on behalf of English, History/Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology/Anthropology, and Speech/Theatre Arts to install computers and presentation units in 9 classrooms in Dauphin Humanities Center, 2002-3, \$97,125.

## **LANGUAGES**

### **Research proficiency:**

- Modern and Classical Chinese
- Classical Arabic
- Numismatic Middle Iranian
- Japanese
- French

### **Speaking proficiency:**

- Modern Chinese

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Historical Association
- Association for Asian Studies
- Early Medieval China Group
- T'ang Studies Society
- World History Association