

CURRICULUM VITAE

Martha Ann **SELBY**, Professor
Department of Asian Studies
The University of Texas at Austin
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Education:

The University of Chicago: Ph.D. August 1994, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. Dissertation: *Toward a Grammar of Love: A Comparative Study of Interpretive Modes in Classical Indian Poetry*.

The University of Iowa: B.A. July 1982, Program in Asian Studies (with emphasis in Sanskrit and Indian Studies).

Research Specializations:

Old Tamil, Prākṛit, and Sanskrit poetry and poetics; modern Tamil fiction; Sanskrit medical literature; textual and cultural semiotics; gender and women's studies in South Asia.

Teaching Specializations:

South Asian literature and religion; gender and women's studies; literary criticism; translation theory and history; history of Indian medicine.

Professional Experience:

2012-: Professor, Department of Asian Studies, The University of Texas at Austin

2011-16, 2017-2019: Chair, Department of Asian Studies, The University of Texas at Austin.

2010-11: NEH Fellow, National Humanities Center.

2002-2012: Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Asian Studies, The University of Texas at Austin.

2004-05: Walter Jackson Bate Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University.

1999-2002: Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Studies, The University of Texas at Austin.

1997-98: Hinduja Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Religion, Columbia University.

1994-99: Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University.

1993-94: Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University.

1991: Lecturer in Sanskrit, Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations, The University of Chicago.

Publications:

Books:

Tamil Love Poetry: The Five Hundred Short Poems of the Aṅkuraṇūru. New York: Columbia University Press, 2011, 200 pp.

A Circle of Six Seasons: A Selection from Old Tamil, Prākṛit and Sanskrit Verse. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2003, 163 pp.

Grow Long, Blessed Night: Love Poems from Classical India. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000, 265 pp.

Edited Volume:

Tamil Geographies: Cultural Constructions of Space and Place in South India. Albany, N.Y.: SUNY Press, 2008 (co-edited with Indira Viswanathan Peterson), 326 pp.

Chapters in Books:

“Women as Patients and Practitioners in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature.” In *Looking Within/Looking Without: Exploring Households in the Subcontinent through Time*, Kumkum Roy, editor. New Delhi: Primus Books, 2014, pp. 49-73.

“Thirst.” In *The Oxford Anthology of the Modern Indian City*, Vinay Lal, editor. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2013, pp. 102-109.

“Representations of the Foreign in Classical Tamil Literature.” In *Ancient India in its Wider World*, Carla Sinopoli and Grant Parker, editors. Ann Arbor: Centers for South and Southeast Asian Studies, The University of Michigan, 2008, pp. 79-90.

“The Poetics of Anesthesia: Representations of Pain in the Literatures of Classical India.” In *Pain and its Transformations*, Sarah Coakely and Kay Shelamay, editors. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2007, pp. 317-330.

“Sanskrit Gynecologies in Postmodernity: The Commoditization of Indian Medicine in Alternative Medical and New Age Discourses on Women’s Health.” In *Asian Medicine and Globalization*, Joseph S. Alter, editor. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005, pp. 120-131.

Articles:

“The Ecology of Friendship: Early Tamil Landscapes of Irony and Voice.” In *Studies in History*, Volume 33, Number 1, 2017, pp. 26-35 (refereed).

“Between Medicine and Religion: Discursive Shifts in Early *Āyurvedic* Narratives of Conception and Gestation.” In *Divins Remèdes: Médecine et Religion en Asie du Sud*, Ines G. Zupanov and Caterina Guenzi, editors (*Puruṣārtha* 27). Paris: Éditions de l’École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, 2008, pp. 41-63 (refereed).

“Narratives of Conception, Gestation, and Labour in Sanskrit *Āyurvedic* Texts.” In *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*, Volume 1, Number 2, December 2005, pp. 254-75 (refereed).

“Classical Tamil.” Survey article in *The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation*, Peter France, editor. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000, pp. 455-56.

“*Rasa* and *Mey-p-pāṭu* in Sanskrit and Tamil.” In *The Journal of Oriental Research*, Volumes LXVI-LXVII, 1998. Madras: The Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute, pp. 15-37.

“Desire for Meaning: Providing Contexts for Prākṛit *Gāthās*.” In *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Volume 55, Number 1, February 1996, pp. 81-93 (refereed).

“*Narriṇai* or ‘Good Landscape’: Poems from the Old Tamil” (translations with an accompanying essay). In *Comparative Criticism*, Volume 16, 1994. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 95-104.

“On the Translatability of Intention in Indian Poetry.” In *Journal of South Asian Literature*, Volume 26, Numbers 1 and 2, May, 1993, pp. 111-124. Also in *Indian Literature*, Volume 32, Number 1, January/February 1989. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi (Indian National Academy of Arts and Letters), pp. 128-40.

“Towards a Poetics of Absence: The Place of Prākṛit Poetry in Early Indian Literature.” Published as an afterword to *The Absent Traveller: Prākṛit Love Poetry from the Gāthāsaptasatī of Sātavāhana Hāla*, selected and translated by Arvind Krishna Mehrotra.

New Delhi: Ravi Dayal, 1991, pp. 71-82. Reprinted by Penguin Classics, New Delhi, 2008.

“Desire in the Language of Desire.” In *Indian Literature*, Volume 34, Number 1, January/February 1991. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, pp. 99-108.

Translations:

Translations from the Tamil anthology *Aiṅkurunūru* appear in *Mantis 6: Geographies*. Palo Alto: Division of Languages, Cultures, and Literatures, Stanford University, 2007, pp. 88-95.

Poems from Prākṛit and modern Tamil appear in *World Poetry: An Anthology of Verse from Antiquity to our Time*. Katherine Washburn, John S. Major, and Clifton Fadiman, editors. New York: W. W. Norton and Company/Book-of-the-Month Club, 1998, pp. 185; 1100-01.

Selections from my translations of the Sanskrit *Amaruśataka* appear in *The Norton Anthology of World Masterpieces*, expanded sixth edition. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 1995, pp. 1269-71.

“From Hāla’s *Gāthāsaptasatī*.” In *Sulfur Magazine*, Volume 33, Fall 1993. Ypsilanti, Michigan: Eastern Michigan University Press, pp. 54-57.

“Contemporary Poetry by Tamil Women.” In *In Their Own Voice: Contemporary Poetry by Indian Women*. Arlene R. K. Zide, editor. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 1993, pp. 28, 85-87, 127-128, and 233-235. A few selections from this set also appear in *The Oxford Anthology of Indian Poetry*, A. K. Ramanujan and Vinay Dharwadker, editors. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 39-40 and 66-68; and in *The Chicago Review*, June, 1992, pp. 31-33 and 189-191. (The last item was reprinted by Penguin Books, New Delhi under the title *The Penguin New Writing in India*, Aditya Behl and David Nicholls, editors, 1994.)

“Selections from the *Kuruntokai*.” In *The Gift of Tamil: Translations from Tamil Literature in Honor of K. Paramasivam*. Norman J. Cutler and Paula Richman, editors. Manohar/American Institute of Indian Studies, 1992, pp. 11-22.

“Selections from the *Amaruśataka*.” In *Indian Literature*, Volume 34, Number 5, September/October 1991. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, pp. 129-136.

“Prākṛit Verses from the *Gāthāsaptasatī* and Sanskrit Poems from Vidyākara’s *Subhāṣitaratnakośa*.” In *Nimrod*, Volume 31, Number 2, Spring/Summer 1988 (Special issue: *India: A Wealth of Diversity*). Tulsa, Oklahoma: Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa, pp. 16 and 18.

“From Hāla’s *Gāthāsaptasatī*.” In *Indian Literature*, Volume 30, Number 1, January/February 1987. New Delhi: Sahitya Akademi, pp. 23-26.

Book Reviews:

Charlotte Schmid and Emmanuel Francis. *The Archaeology of Bhakti II: Royal Bhakti, Local Bhakti*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 139/2, 2019.

David Shulman. *Tamil: A Biography*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 139/1, 2019.

Guillermo Rodríguez. *When Mirrors are Windows: A View of A. K. Ramanujan’s Poetics*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 77/2, May 2018.

Projit Bihari Mukharji. *Doctoring Traditions: Ayurveda, Small Technologies, and Braided Sciences*. In *Social History of Medicine*, October 2017.

George L. Hart, translator. *The Four Hundred Songs of Love: An Anthology of Poems from Classical Tamil: The Akanānūru*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 137/3, 2017.

Dagmar Wujastyk. *Well-Mannered Medicine: Medical Ethics and Etiquette in Classical Āyurveda*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 137/1, 2017.

Emmanuel Francis and Charlotte Schmid, editors. *The Archaeology of Bhakti I: Mathurā and Maturai, Back and Forth*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 137/1, 2017.

Anthony Cerulli. *Somatic Lessons: Narrating Patienthood and Illness in Indian Medical Literature*. In *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*, 10/1-2, 2015.

James McHugh. *Sandalwood and Carrion: Smell in Indian Religion and Culture*. In *The American Historical Review*, April 2014.

Kaṇnan M. and Jennifer Clare, editors. *Passages: Relationships between Tamil and Sanskrit*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 133/4, 2013.

Wilden, Eva, editor. *Between Preservation and Recreation: Tamil Traditions of Commentary*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 133/4, 2013.

Gros, François. *Deep Rivers: Selected Writings on Tamil Literature*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 133/1, July 2013.

Bate, Bernard. *Tamil Oratory and the Dravidian Aesthetic: Democratic Practice in South India*. In *American Anthropologist* 113/3, September 2011.

Bronner, Yigal. *Extreme Poetry: The South Asian Movement of Simultaneous Narration*. In *Journal of Asian Studies* 70/2, May 2011.

Wujastyk, Dagmar, and Frederick M. Smith, editors. *Modern and Global Āyurveda: Pluralism and Paradigms*. In *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 84/2, Summer 2010.

Kannan M., Carlos Mena, and George L. Hart, editors. *Negotiations with the Past: Classical Tamil in Contemporary Tamil*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 129/2, April 2009.

Véronique Bouillier and Gilles Tarabout, editors. *Images du Corps dans le Monde Hindou*. In *Medical History*, 53/1, January 2009.

Kavita Sivaramakrishnan. *Old Potions, New Bottles: Recasting Indigenous Medicine in Colonial Punjab 1850-1945*. In *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*, 3, 2007.

Susan L. Schwartz. *Rasa: Performing the Divine in India*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 65/2, May 2006.

George L. Hart and Hank Heifetz, translators and editors. *The Four Hundred Songs of War and Wisdom*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 64/4, November 2005.

Rahul Peter Das. *The Origin of the Life of a Human Being: Conception and the Female According to Ancient Indian Medical and Sexological Literature*. In *Medical History*, 49/4, October 2005.

M. S. Valiathan. *The Legacy of Caraka*. In *Medical History*, 49/2, April 2005.

David Shulman and V. Narayana Rao, translators and editors. *A Poem at the Right Moment: Remembered Verses from Premodern South India*. In *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 124/1, January-March 2005.

Isabelle Nabokov. *Religion Against the Self: An Ethnography of Tamil Rituals*. In *History of Religions*, 43/3, February 2004.

Sumathi Ramaswamy. *Passions of the Tongue: Language Devotion in Tamil India, 1891-1970*. In *International Journal of Hindu Studies*, 2003.

Catherine Weinberger-Thomas. *Ashes of Immortality: Widow-Burning in India*. In *American Anthropologist*, 103/4, December 2001.

Paula Richman. *Extraordinary Child: Poems from a South Indian Devotional Genre*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 60/1, February 2001.

David C. Buck and K. Paramasivam, translators. *The Study of Stolen Love: A Translation of Kaḷaviyal enra Iraiyaṇār Akapporuḷ with Commentary by Nākkīraṇār*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 57/1, August 1998.

Takanobu Takahashi. *Literary Conventions of Tamil Poetry*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 56/3, August 1997.

Patrick Colm Hogan and Lalita Pandit, editors. *Literary India: Comparative Studies in Aesthetics, Colonialism, and Culture*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 56/2, May 1997.

V. K. Chari. *Sanskrit Criticism*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 53/4, November 1994.

John T. Roberts, translator. *The Seasons: Kālidāsa's Ṛtusamhāra*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 53/2, May 1994.

K. S. Srinivasan. *Love Poems of Ancient India*. In *Indian Literature*, 35/1, January/February 1992.

Gabriella Eichinger Ferro-Luzzi. *Cool Fire: Culture-Specific Themes in Tamil Short Stories*. In *Journal of Asian Studies*, 46/2, May 1988.

Forthcoming Publications:

Books: *Cat in the Agraharam and Other Stories* (A translation of D. Dilip Kumar's short fiction from Tamil into English, plus introduction). In press, Northwestern University Press (expected publication May 2020).

Four Hundred Short Love Poems (a full translation of *Kuruntokai*, an Old Tamil anthology). Under contract, Murty Library of Classical India, Harvard University Press.

Chapter in Book:

Is there a *Caṅkam* Way of Feeling? Body, Landscape, Voice, and Affect in Old Tamil Poetry. Forthcoming in *The Bloomsbury Research Handbook of Classical Indian Emotions*, Maria Heim, Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad, and Roy Tzohar, editors. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2020.

Article:

"On Anatomical Enumeration and Difference in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature." Forthcoming in *Asian Medicine: Tradition and Modernity*, 2020.

Book Reviews:

Eva Wilden. *A Critical Edition and an Annotated Translation of the Akanānūru*. Submitted and forthcoming in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Çhakravarthi Ram-Prasad. *Human Being/Bodily Being: Phenomonology from Classical India*. Forthcoming in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*.

Fellowships and Awards:

For Post-Doctoral Work:

[for translation of *Kuruntokai*, a third-century Tamil anthology of love poetry]

2019-20: American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Long-Term Research Fellowship.

[for translation of Tamil contemporary writer D. Dilip Kumar's short stories]

2013-14: Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship.

[for translation and critical analysis of *Aiñkurunūru*, a third-century Tamil anthology of love poetry]

2014: A. K. Ramanujan Book Prize for Translation, awarded by the South Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies.

2005-06: Literature Fellowship (for translation of poetry), National Endowment for the Arts.

2005-06: Faculty Research Assignment, The University of Texas at Austin.

2004-05: Research Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University.

2004-05: John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (deferred to the 2005-06 academic year).

2003 (summer): Research Grant, Office of the Vice President for Research, The University of Texas at Austin.

2001 (summer): American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship.

1997 (summer): Translator-in-Residence, British Centre for Literary Translation, University of East Anglia, Norwich, U. K.

[for research on medical literature in Sanskrit]

2010-11: NEH Fellow, National Humanities Center.

2010 (fall): Faculty Research Assignment, The University of Texas at Austin

2008 (May-June): Directeur d'Études, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and Institut d'Études Avancées de Paris Ile de France.

2001-02: National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship.

2001-02: American Council of Learned Societies Research Fellowship.

1997-98: Dharam Hinduja Postdoctoral Fellowship, Dharam Hinduja Indic Research Center/Columbia Society of Fellows in the Humanities, Columbia University.

[miscellaneous grants and awards]

2009 (fall): Distinguished Alumni Fellow, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, The University of Iowa.

2004 (spring): Fellow, Humanities Institute, The University of Texas at Austin.

2002: Robert W. Hamilton Faculty Book Award, University Cooperative Society, The University of Texas at Austin (for *Grow Long, Blessed Night: Love Poems from Classical India*).

2000 (summer): Summer Research Assignment, Office of the Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies, The University of Texas at Austin (for research for the introduction to *The Circle of Six Seasons: A Selection from Old Tamil, Prākṛit and Sanskrit Verse*).

1999-: Junior Fellow, British Studies, The University of Texas at Austin.

1996 (summer): American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Research Fellowship (funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities Award for Superior Scholars/Indologists in the Humanities, for close textual work on an eighth-century anthology of Prākṛit poetry, *Chappaññaya-gāhāo*).

For Graduate and Undergraduate Work:

1992-93: Whiting Fellowship, Division of the Humanities, The University of Chicago.

1992: First Prize, British Comparative Literature Association Annual Translation Competition.

1989-90: American Institute of Indian Studies Junior Research Fellowship.

1988-89: Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Abroad Fellowship.

1985-86 and 1987-88: NDEA Title VI Fellowship for the study of Tamil, The University of Chicago.

1986-87: American Institute of Indian Studies Language Program Fellowship for the study of Tamil in Madurai, Tamilnadu, India.

1981-82: Member, Iowa Writers' Workshop (in poetry, undergraduate section), University of Iowa.

1979-80: Helen K. Fairall Scholar, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, University of Iowa.

1976-82: State of Iowa Scholar, University of Iowa.

For Teaching:

1998: Council on General Education Course Development Grant, Southern Methodist University.

1997: Maguire Teaching Fellow, Maguire Center for Ethics and Public Responsibility, Southern Methodist University.

1997: Course Development Grant, Women's Studies Program, Southern Methodist University.

1996: *Rotunda* Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award (awarded by the student body), Southern Methodist University.

Papers Delivered:

"The Cipher of the Gene: Narratives of Sex Determination, Twinning, and Heredity in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature." Presented at the AAS-in-Asia Conference, New Delhi, India, July 2018. (I also organized and chaired the panel, titled "Heredity, Taxonomy, and Notions of 'the Gene' from Āyurveda to ĀyurGenomics.")

"On Anatomical Enumeration and Difference in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature." Presented at a workshop titled "Multiple Secularities: Religion and Medicine in Premodern Asian and Islamicate cultures," University of Leipzig, Germany, March 2018.

"Being There: Translating from the Ground Up." Presented at the 46th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2017. (I also organized and moderated the Thursday symposium section in which this paper was a part, titled "Problems of Literary Translation: Voices from the Trenches.")

"Voice, Language, and Spatial Dystopias in the Short Fiction of D. Dilip Kumar." Presented at the Chicago Tamil Forum, The University of Chicago, May 2017.

“The Egg and I: On Ova, Genes, Alleles, and Blastocysts in Sanskrit Medical Literature.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Toronto, March 2017.

“The Figure of the Poet and the Place of Poetry in D. Dilip Kumar’s Short Fiction.” Presented as the Inaugural Lecture of the U. Vē. Cāminātaiyar Lecture Series, The University of Toronto, October 2016 and as an invited lecture for the South Asian Studies Program, California State University-Long Beach, November 2016. Also presented in a short format at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2016.

“The Starving Flaneur: On Abjection and the Everyday in D. Dilip Kumar’s Short Fiction.” Presented at the 44th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2015.

“On Anatomical Enumeration and Difference in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature.” Presented at the 41st Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2012.

“The Ecology of Friendship: Early Tamil Landscapes of Irony and Voice.” Presented at a workshop titled “The History and Cultures of Friendship in Pre-colonial South Asia” at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, November/December 2011. Also presented at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, California, November 2012.

“Women as Patients and Practitioners in Early Sanskrit Medical Literature.” Presented at a conference titled “Looking Within/Looking Without: Exploring Households in the Subcontinent through Time” at the Centre for Historical Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, February 2011. Also presented at a meeting of the Triangle South Asia Colloquium, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 2011 and at the South Asia Seminar, University of Texas at Austin, September 2012.

“Emotional Registers in the Short Fiction of D. Dilip Kumar.” Presented at a workshop titled “Creative Presents: Tamil Literature Today” at the Franke Institute for the Humanities at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, October 2010.

“Form, Style, and Rhetoric in an Early Fourth-Century Tamil Anthology.” Presented at a workshop titled “Tamil Literary Culture: Past and Present” at Yale University, April 2009. Also presented at the South Asia Seminar, The University of Texas at Austin, September 2009.

“The Zoomorphic Impulse: Selfhood, Romance, and Borderland Identities in Tamil *Caṅkam* Poetry.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, April 2009.

“The Color of Gender: On Substance, Sex Determination, and Anatomical Difference in the Medical Texts of Ancient India.” Presented at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, May 2008.

“Between Medicine and Religion: Discursive Shifts in Early *Āyurvedic* Narratives of Conception and Gestation.” Presented at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, May 2008.

“On Wind and its Vagaries: Biomorality and Gendered Taxonomies of Disease in Sanskrit Medical Literature.” Presented at the 34th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2005 (I also served as panel organizer). Also presented as an invited lecture at Colgate University, September 2005 and at Rutgers University, April 2009.

“The Poetics of Prognosis in the *Caraka-saṃhitā*.” Presented for the Medical Texts in Translation Series, sponsored by the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College, London, January 2005.

“Color, Complexion, and Prognosis in an Early Sanskrit Medical Manual.” Presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, April-May 2004.

“Genre and Ambiguity in Prākṛit Poetry.” Presented at the 32nd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2003.

“Where Screw-pines Bloom in Salt Pans: Love, Landscape, and Allegory in a Late Old Tamil Anthology.” Presented at Hampshire College as a part of its *Studies in the Humanities* lecture series, February 2003.

“Sanskrit Gynecologies in Postmodernity: The Commoditization of Indian Medicine in Alternative Medical and New Age Discourses on Women’s Health.” Presented at a conference organized by the Departments of Anthropology and Asian Studies, University of Pittsburgh, titled “Asian Medicine: Nationalism, Transnationalism, and the Politics of Culture,” November 2002.

“Feminine Desire, Sexual Pleasure, and Bodily Comportment in the *Caraka* and *Suśruta-saṃhitās*.” Presented at the 5th International Congress on Traditional Asian Medicine, Halle, Germany, August 2002 (also presented at the 32nd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2003).

“The Seasons, Sexuality, and Aesthetic Representation in Early Indian Poetry.” Presented at the 29th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2000 (also presented at a symposium at The University of Texas at Austin, titled “The Body in Indian Medicine,” February 2001 and for the Transliterations Project at Rutgers University, February 2002).

“The Poetics of Anesthesia: Representations of Pain in the Literatures of Classical India.” Presented at a conference organized by the Houghton Mind/Brain/Behavior Institute, Harvard University, titled “Pain and its Transformations: The Interface of Biology and Culture,” May 2000.

“On Representing the ‘Foreign’ in Tamil *Caṅkam* Literature.” Presented as an invited lecture at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, March 2000.

“A Crane is a Crane is a Crane: Issues of Form, History, and Meaning in Prākṛit and Old Tamil Short Verse.” Presented at the 28th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 1999.

“Constant Craving: Listening to the Voice of the *Garbha* in the *Caraka* and *Suśruta-saṃhitās*.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, March 1999. (I also served as panel organizer and chair; also presented at a symposium at The University of Texas at Austin, titled “The Body in Indian Medicine,” February 2001 and at the South Asia Seminar, Syracuse University, October 2001.)

“Feminine Virtue and Religious Change in Tamil Commentarial Literature.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Orlando, November 1998.

“The Sign of the Bangle: On the Symbolic Life of an Object in Early Indian Poetry.” Presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series titled “Issues of Material Culture and Trade in South Asia Before 1500” at The University of Texas at Austin, October 1998. (Also presented in shorter form at the 26th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, October 1997.)

“Poems of War in Love: On Longing and Lamentation in Tamil *Caṅkam* Literature.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Washington, D.C., March 1998.

“Like a Pot Brimming with Oil: The Care and Feeding of the Pregnant Body in Sanskrit *Āyurvedic* Texts.” Annual Hinduja Fellow Lecture, Columbia University, March 1998.

“The Color of Gender: On Sex Determination and Embryological Development in the *Caraka* and *Suśruta-saṃhitās*.” Presented at the Society of Fellows in the Humanities Brown Bag Lunch Series, Columbia University, November 1997. Also presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series at Syracuse University, April 1998.

“*Rasa* and *Mey-p-pāṭu* in Classical Sanskrit and Tamil Poetics.” Presented as a part of the “Seminar on Sanskrit and South Indian Languages” held at the Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute, Madras, India, August 1996.

“Classical Tamil Landscapes and the Psychology of Place.” Presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series titled “Reconsidering ‘Boundaries’ in South Asian Studies” at The University of Texas at Austin, March 1995.

“What a Mother Said: Familial Landscapes in Tamil *Caṅkam* Literature.” Presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series titled “Family Matters: South Asian Articulations of Gender, Community, and Self” at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, February 1995.

“Dialogues of Desire in the Formation of *Caṅkam* Rhetoric.” Presented at the 23rd Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, November 1994. (I also served as panel organizer and chair.)

“The Classical Indian Body.” Presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series titled “National Bodies: Desires, Afflictions, and Responses” at the University of California-Berkeley, April 1994.

“Sanskrit Gynecologies: The Semiotics of Femininity in the *Caraka* and *Suśruta-saṃhitās*.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston, Massachusetts, March 1994. (I also served as panel chair.)

“Metaphorical Constructions of Masculine Sexuality in Jayavallabha’s Prākṛit *Vajjālagga*.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Los Angeles, California, March 1993. (I also served as panel organizer and chair.)

“Beyond the Body: Reflections on Gender and Ambiguity in the Sanskrit *Amaruśataka*.” Presented at the 21st Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, November 1992.

“On Reconstructing the Feminine in Early Indian Poetry.” Presented at the “Workshop on Post-Orientalist Strategies for the Study of South Asian Texts” at the University of Chicago, February 1992. (Also presented as an invited lecture for the South Asia Seminar Series at The University of Texas at Austin, September 1992.)

“What is ‘Erotic’? The Assignment and Appropriation of Meaning in Prākṛit *Gāthās*.” Presented at the 20th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, November 1991. (I also served as panel organizer and chair; also presented at “Workshop on Poetry and Poetics Across Cultures” at the University of Chicago, February 1992.)

“Desire in the Language of Desire: Reflections on the *Amaruśataka* and its Commentators.” Presented at Rasodaya, Madras Sanskrit College, Madras, India, June 1990.

Work in Progress:

My current research is focused on constructions of gender and femininity in Sanskrit *Āyurvedic* texts. My book manuscript related to that research is titled *Sanskrit Gynecologies: The Semiotics of Gender and Femininity in Sanskrit Medical Texts*. I am also currently working on a volume of translations of Prākṛit couplets, and I have just

finished my translation of the short fiction by D. Dilip Kumar, a Tamil writer in Chennai (under contract and in press, Northwestern University Press). I also recently received a contract from Harvard University Press to prepare and publish a translation of the Old Tamil anthology *Kuruntokai* for the Murty Classical Library of India.

Languages:

French: Excellent reading comprehension, near fluency in spoken language.

Sanskrit and literary Prākṛits: Excellent reading comprehension in most genres. I understand spoken Sanskrit and can speak it haltingly.

Tamil: Excellent reading comprehension in classical and modern Tamil, near fluency in spoken language.

German: Good reading comprehension.

Professional Associations:

Association for Asian Studies.

History of Science Society.

International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine.

American Anthropological Association.

Society for Medical Anthropology.

Service to the Profession:

2017-18: Member, A. K. Ramanujan Translation Prize Committee, Association for Asian Studies.

2016-present: Chair, Board of Trustees, South Asia Summer Language Institute, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2015-present: Delegate, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2011-2015: Member, Board of Trustees, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2010-12: Chair, Language Program Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2010-12: Executive Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2006-08: Fellowship Selection Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2005-12: Chair, Editorial Board, Association for Asian Studies.

2004-06. Chair, Anand Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize Committee, Association for Asian Studies.

2002-04: Board of Directors, Association for Asian Studies.

2002-10: Publications Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

2002-11. Governing Council, International Association for the Study of Traditional Asian Medicine.

2001-04: South Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies (Chair, 2002-04).

1999-2002: Editorial Advisor, *Persimmon: Asian Literature, Arts, and Culture*.

1998-. Language Program Committee, American Institute of Indian Studies.

1991-2007: Poetry Editor, *Primavera Magazine*.

1989-90: Consulting Editor, Tamil Dictionary Project, Cre-A Publishers, Madras, India.