

## LISA N. OWEN

### EMPLOYMENT

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2023-2027	Chair, Department of Art History, College of Visual Arts and Design (CVAD), University of North Texas (UNT), Denton TX; <a href="mailto:lisa.owen@unt.edu">lisa.owen@unt.edu</a>
2022-2023	Interim Chair, Department of Art History, CVAD, UNT
2012-present	Associate Professor of Art History, CVAD, UNT
2006-2012	Assistant Professor of Art History, CVAD, UNT
2005	Adjunct Instructor, Concordia University, Department of Religion, Montreal, Canada. Undergraduate course: <i>Religion and the Arts in South and SE Asia</i>
2002-03	Assistant Instructor, UT Austin, Department of Art & Art History, Austin, TX
1995-2002	Teaching Assistant, UT Austin, Department of Art & Art History, Austin, TX
1994	Curatorial Assistant, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Indian and Southeast Asian Art Department, Los Angeles, CA

### EDUCATION

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2006	Ph.D., Art History, UT Austin. Dissertation: <i>Beyond Buddhist and Brahmanical Activity: The Place of the Jain Rock-Cut Excavations at Ellora.</i>
1997	M.A., Art History, UT Austin. Thesis: <i>Locating the Buddha: Ajanta's Place in Western India's Rock-Cut Excavations.</i>
1991	B.A., Art History, California State University Long Beach, CA

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### **Books**

In progress	<i>Rocks, Caves, and the Power of Place in Early Medieval Southern India</i> (under contract with Routledge, <i>Archaeology and Religion in South Asia</i> series)
2012	<i>Carving Devotion in the Jain Caves at Ellora.</i> Leiden: Brill

#### **Contributions to Edited Volumes**

In press	"Through a Jain Lens: Artistic Agency and Exchange at Ellora," in Deepanjana Klein, ed. <i>Ellora: Cross-Fertilization of Style in Buddhist, Brahmanical and Jain Cave Temples.</i> Ahmedabad: Mapin Publishing
2022	"Mountain and Cave: Hindu Rock-Cut Architecture and its Symbolisms," in Cathleen A. Cummings, ed., <i>A History of Hindu Architecture in India,</i> Berlin: EB Verlag, 123-139
2021	"Neither Cave nor Temple: Creating and Commemorating 'Place' in the Ritual Landscapes at Badami," in Henry Alberly, Jens-Uwe Hartmann and Himanshu Prabha Ray, eds., <i>Power, Presence, and Space: South Asian Rituals in Archaeological Context,</i> New Delhi: Routledge, 215-232
2016	"Local Bhakti or Monastic Advertising? The Functions of Medieval Jain Rock-Reliefs in Tamil Nadu," in Emmanuel Francis and Charlotte Schmid, eds. <i>The Archaeology of Bhakti II: Royal Bhakti, Local Bhakti.</i> Pondicherry: École française d'Extrême-Orient, 2016, 423-442

- 2015 “Transforming the Landscape: Questions of Medieval Reuse and Worship at Ancient Jain Rock-Cut Sites near Madurai,” in Himanshu Prabha Ray, ed. *Negotiating Cultural Identity: Landscapes in Early Medieval South Asian History*. New Delhi: Routledge, 2015, 110-138
- 2013 “Relationships between Art, Architecture, and Devotional Practices at Ellora,” in Pia Brancaccio, ed. *Living Rock: Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain Cave Temples in the Western Deccan*. Mumbai: Marg Publications, 2013, 126-137
- 2011 “Text and Image: Identifying Ellora’s Jain Deities,” in Steven E. Lindquist, ed. *Religion and Identity in South Asia and Beyond: Essays in Honor of Patrick Olivelle*. New York, London, Delhi: Anthem Press, 2011, 225-247
- 2010 “Absence and Presence: Worshipping the Jina at Ellora,” in Himanshu Prabha Ray, ed. *Archaeology and Text: The Temple in South Asia*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010, 96-123

### **Journal Articles and Reference Works**

- In progress “Material Cultures, Arts and Design (300-950 CE),” in Daud Ali and Abhishek Amar, eds. *A Cultural History of South Asia*, vol. II Late Antiquity. New York: Bloomsbury
- 2021 “Khandagiri/Udayagiri,” *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History: Asia and Africa*. Edited by Ethan Harkness, Roderick McIntosh, Jason Neelis, Daniel Potts, and Akira Shimada, Wiley
- 2021 “Shravanabelagola,” *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History: Asia and Africa*. Edited by Ethan Harkness, Roderick McIntosh, Jason Neelis, Daniel Potts, and Akira Shimada, Wiley
- 2021 “The Multireligious Caves at Ellora,” in Smarthistory, July 29, 2021, <https://smarthistory.org/the-multireligious-caves-at-ellora/>
- 2019 “Sculpture,” *Brill’s Encyclopedia of Jainism*. Edited by Knut Jacobsen, John Cort, Paul Dundas, and Kristi Wiley, Leiden, 667-696
- 2019 “Rock-Cut Caves,” *Brill’s Encyclopedia of Jainism*. Edited by Knut Jacobsen, John Cort, Paul Dundas, and Kristi Wiley, Leiden, 697-705
- 2010 “Kings or Ascetics? Evidence of Patronage in Ellora’s Jain Caves.” *Artibus Asiae* 70/2 (2010): 181-225
- 2010 “Demarcating Sacred Space: The Jina Images at Kalugumalai.” *International Journal of Jaina Studies* (Online) 6/4 (2010): 1-28
- 2009-10 “The Jaina Rock-Cut Caves at Ankai-Tankai.” *Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal* XIII (2009-10): 16-24 + plates
- 2009-10 “Rock-Cut Pillars at Ellora: Interpreting Form and Function.” *Kalā: The Journal of Indian Art History Congress* XV (2009-10): 35-55 + plates
- 2006 “Depicting a Jain Assembly: Representations of the *Samavasarana* at Ellora.” *Jinamāñjari* 34/2 (2006): 44-60
- 2001 “Constructing Another Perspective for Ajanta’s Fifth-Century Excavations.” *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies* 24/1 (2001): 27-59

### **Book Notes and Reviews**

- 2021 Book Review of Padma Kaimal, *Opening Kailasanatha: The Temple in Kanchipuram Revealed in Time and Space*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2021. *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 80/4 (Dec 2021): 477-478
- 2020 Book Note on Kimberly Masteller, *Masterworks from India and Southeast Asia*. Kansas City, MO: The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art with University of

- Washington Press, Seattle and London, 2016. *Religious Studies Review* 46/3 (2020): 434-435
- 2018 Book Review of Vidya Dehejia and Peter Rockwell, *The Unfinished: Stone Carvers at Work on the Indian Subcontinent*. New Delhi: Roli Books, 2016. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 138.1 (2018): 172-174
- 2016 Book Note on Cathleen Cummings, *Decoding a Hindu Temple: Royalty and Religion in the Iconographic Program of the Virupaksha Temple, Pattadakal*. Woodland Hills, CA: SASA Books, 2014. *Religious Studies Review* 42/4 (2016): 307-308
- 2016 Book Review of *Sacred Objects in Secular Spaces: Exhibiting Asian Religions in Museums*. Edited by Bruce M. Sullivan. Bloomsbury, 2015. *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (May 2016; online: <http://readingreligion.org>)
- 2016 Book Note on Tiziana Lorenzetti, *Understanding the Hindu Temple: History, Symbols and Forms*. Berlin: EB-Verlag, 2015. *Religious Studies Review* 42/1 (2016): 54-55
- 2015 Book Note on Vinayak Bharne and Krupali Krusche, *Rediscovering the Hindu Temple: The Sacred Architecture and Urbanism of India*. Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012. *Religious Studies Review* 41/1 (2015): 33-34
- 2014 Book Note on James Bennett, ed. *Realms of Wonder: Jain, Hindu, and Islamic Art of India, including Nepal and Pakistan*. Adelaide, S.A.: Art Gallery of South Australia, 2013. *Religious Studies Review* 40/4 (2014): 230
- 2014 Book Note on Debra Diamond, ed. *Yoga: The Art of Transformation*. Washington DC: Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, 2013. *Religious Studies Review* 40/3 (2014): 170
- 2013 Book Note on Piotr Balcerowicz, ed. *Art, Myths and Visual Culture of South Asia*. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, 2011. *Religious Studies Review* 39/3 (2013): 191
- 2011 Book Review of John E. Cort, *Framing the Jina: Narratives of Icons and Idols in Jain History*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2010. *Journal of Asian Studies* 70/1 (2011): 271-73
- 2010 Book Review of Vidya Dehejia, *The Body Adorned: Dissolving Boundaries Between Sacred and Profane in India's Art*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2009. *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 130/1 (2010): 99-101
- 2010 Book Review of Walter Spink, *Ajanta: History and Development, Volume Four - Painting, Sculpture, Architecture - Year by Year*. Leiden: Brill, 2009. *Journal of Asian Studies* 69/1 (2010): 317-19

## **SELECTED GRANTS**

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- 2019-20 Scholarly and Creative Activity Award, CVAD, UNT
- 2013-14 Howard Foundation Fellowship (History of Art and Architecture)
- 2013-14 Fulbright-Nehru Research Scholar Award
- 2011-12 American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Senior Fellowship (Short-Term)
- 2008-09 Faculty Research Grant (UNT) for fieldwork in India, summer 2009
- 2008-09 Charn Uswachoke International Development Fund Grant (UNT) for two graduate students to assist me in fieldwork in India, summer 2009
- 2008 Jr. Faculty Summer Research Fellowship (UNT)
- 2007 Jr. Faculty Summer Research Fellowship and Faculty Research Grant (UNT)

## RESIDENCIES

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- 2019 One-week residency during the fall quarter at UC Davis at the invitation of the Department of Religious Studies and the Mohini Jain Presidential Chair in Jain Studies

## SELECTED ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND LECTURES

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- 2023 “Patronage and Process: Creating the Caves at Ellora,” Jnanapravaha, Mumbai, India. Invited two-hour Zoom lecture as part of their semester-long certificate course titled *The Indian Temple*
- 2023 “The Afterlives of Jain Monuments in Early Medieval Tamil Nadu.” Invited public one-hour Zoom lecture as part of the series *History and Heritage: The Afterlife of Monuments*. India International Centre, Delhi.
- 2022 Presenter on the panel *Devotion, Aesthetics, Emotion. Beyond Boundaries: A Celebration of the Work of John E. Cort*; UC Davis. Paper title: “Aesthetics of Asceticism” [video recording and Zoom due to COVID]
- 2022 Presenter on the panel *New Research on Rock-Cut Architecture: The Legacy of Walter M. Spink*. American Council for Southern Asian Art (ACSAA) XXth biennial symposium; University of Georgia and Emory University. Paper title: “*Shubb Yatra*: Return Trip to Ellora”
- 2020 Presenter and workshop participant in the Chicago Tamil Forum, *Tamil Images*, University of Chicago. Paper title: “Icon/ic Jain Landscapes in Early Medieval Tamil Nadu” [virtual workshop due to COVID]
- 2020 Co-chair and organizer of the panel *Constructions of ‘Place’ in South and Southeast Asia*, College Art Association, Chicago, IL
- 2020 Presenter on the panel *Material Translations in the Art of South and Southeast Asia*, College Art Association, Chicago, IL. Paper title: “The Power of Rock at Badami”
- 2019 “The Jina Image as ‘Lord of the Hill’ in Early Medieval Tamil Nadu.” Public lecture for the Mohini Jain Presidential Chair in Jain Studies at UC Davis
- 2019 Chair of the panel *Space, Place, and Sovereignty in South Asia after 1919*, Imperial Legacies of 1919 Conference, Dept. of History, UNT, Denton, TX
- 2018 Presenter at the symposium TRACE: Artisanal Intelligence, Material Agency, and Ritual Technology in South Asian Art, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. Paper title: “Carving as an Additive Process? How Southern Indian Rock-Reliefs Make Meaning”
- 2018 Presenter at *Tombs, Shrines, Samādhis and Relics* Symposium, Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin – Madison, WI. Paper title: “Carved Landscapes: Imagery as Place in Medieval Southern India”
- 2018 Presenter at *Rituals for Power/Rituals for Prosperity*, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany. Paper title: “Neither Cave nor Temple: Expressions of Power and Divinity in the Rock-Reliefs at Badami”
- 2017 Co-chair and co-organizer of the panel *Region and Identity in the Study of Jains*, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
- 2016 Respondent on the panel *Jains and Jainism in South India*, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX

- 2015 Co-chair and co-organizer of the panel *Jain Modernities*, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 Co-organizer and presenter on the panel *Dialogues in Stone: Rock as Medium and Message in South and SE Asian Art*, College Art Association, New York. Paper title: “Carving a Canon: Constructing Knowledge from India’s Rock-Cut Monuments”
- 2014 Presenter at *Landscape and Sacred Architecture in South Asia Colloquium*, Dumbarton Oaks, Garden & Landscape Studies, Washington DC. Paper title: “Articulating Jain ‘Place’ in Early Medieval Tamilnadu”
- 2014 “Caves, Monks, and *Brahmacarins*: Seeing Ellora through its Jain Monuments,” Annual Religions of India Lecture, Department of Religious Studies, UC Davis
- 2013 Co-chair and co-organizer of the panel *On the Margins of Jainism*, American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD
- 2013 Presenter at the Archaeology of Bhakti Conference: *Royal Bhakti, Local Bhakti*, EFEO Centre, Pondicherry, India. Paper title: “Local Bhakti or Monastic Advertising? The Functions of Medieval Jain Rock-Reliefs in Tamil Nadu”
- 2012 “Constructing Sacred Space and Identity through Imagery: A Study of Medieval Jain Rock-Cut Sites in Tamil Nadu,” Jawaharlal Nehru Museum & Library, Delhi
- 2012 Invited lecture “Art, Devotion, and Patronage in the Caves at Ellora,” India International Centre, Delhi
- 2012 Co-chair and co-organizer for a roundtable on Manisha Sethi’s book *Escaping the World: Women Renouncers among Jains*, American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2012 Presenter at the workshop *Monastery, Mosque & Temple: Jains, Muslims, and Hindus in the Medieval Deccan (c. 700-1700)*, University of Pennsylvania, South Asia Studies Department. Paper title: “Transforming Ellora: Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain Interactions in the 8th and 9th Centuries”
- 2012 Presenter at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada. Paper title: “Commemorating Ritual Death: Jain Memorials (*nisidhi*) in Medieval South India”
- 2012 Chair and organizer of the panel *Interpreting Buddhism in the Visual Arts*, Southwest Conference for Asian Studies, Dallas, TX
- 2011 Chair and organizer of the panel *Portraying the Power of Ascetic Practice in Indian Art*, Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI
- 2011 Chair and organizer of the panel *Viewing, Constructing, and Interpreting: New Perspectives on Mughal Art under Shah Jahan*, Southwest Conference on Asian Studies, San Antonio, TX
- 2010 Presenter at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. Paper title: “Monastic Bodies: The Roles of Portraiture in Ellora’s Jain Caves”
- 2010 Discussant for the panel *Architectural Negotiations: Monuments, Audience and Reception in Pre-Modern and Early Modern India*, Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin - Madison, WI

### **SELECTED MUSEUM LECTURES, CLASSES, AND WORKSHOPS**

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- 2023 “Frameworks for Interpreting Premodern Art from India,” Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX. Invited 1-hour docent-training session and Q and A in the galleries

- 2023 “The Buddha Image in Ancient India: New Contexts,” invited lecture for ART 2350 Art History Survey I, CVAD, UNT
- 2023 “Monks as Artistic Movers and Shakers: The Kimbell’s *Seated Buddha with Two Attendants* Reconsidered,” Kimbell Art Museum, Ft. Worth, TX. Invited public lecture as part of the museum’s *Art in Context* series
- 2023 “Carved Interiors: Designed Space at Ellora,” invited lecture for ARTH 4841 History of Interiors and Furniture I, CVAD, UNT
- 2023 “Exhibiting Shiva: Politics of Interpreting and Collecting,” invited lecture for ART 1301 Honors Art Appreciation, UNT
- 2022 “Jina as Spiritual King: An Introduction to the Jina Image,” Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. Invited lecture for Maymester course *Introduction to Asian Religions*
- 2022 “Exploring Shiva’s Dance” and “Interpreting Shared Elements in Ancient Indian Sculpture,” Invited 2-hour docent training for the Dallas Museum of Art [virtual lecture and discussion due to COVID]
- 2021 “On and Beyond Temple Walls: A Close Look at 3 Indian Sculptures at the DMA,” Invited 2-hour docent training for the Dallas Museum of Art [virtual lecture and discussion due to COVID]
- 2021 *Landscape and Buddhist Art*, UT Austin, invitation to present research in this graduate seminar for the Department of Art and Art History [zoom seminar due to COVID]
- 2020 “The Buddhist *Sangha* through Art Historical Evidence,” Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. Invited lecture for fall course *Intro to Asian Religions* [virtual lecture due to COVID]
- 2020 “Rhythmic Form: Shiva as Lord of the Dance in Indian Sculpture,” Osher Lifelong Learning Center, Denton, TX. Invited lecture as part of their Lifelong Learning and Community Engagement Class
- 2019 “Human or Divine? Celebrating the Female Form in Indian Sculpture,” Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX. Invited lecture as part of the museum’s *Late Night* series
- 2018 “Encountering the Divine on Temple Walls,” Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX. Invited lecture as part of the museum’s public gallery talks
- 2017 “Artistic Patronage and Devotional Practices Across South Asia,” Kimbell Art Museum, Ft. Worth, TX. Invited lecture as part of the museum’s docent training program
- 2017 “Faces of Durga—Ancient and Medieval,” Ramakrishna Vedanta Society of North Texas, Irving, TX. Invited public lecture
- 2016 Co-organizer for the exhibition *Blue Like Me: Siona Benjamin 2004-2015*. UNT Art Gallery, March 3-April 2, 2016
- 2016 Seminar: *Exhibiting India: Explorations of South Asian Art in the Crow Collection*, Trammell and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, TX. 15-week seminar for the museum’s education staff
- 2015 “Asian Art 101: India,” Trammell and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, TX. Invited public lecture
- 2013 “Buddhist Art and Devotion in Ancient India,” Trammell and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, TX. Invited public lecture
- 2012 “Articulations of the Divine through Bodily Form and Ornamentation,” Kimbell Art Museum, Ft. Worth, TX. Invited lecture as part of the museum’s docent training program

- 2011 “Echoes of Belief and Practice: Buddhist Monastic Architecture in Ancient India and China,” Meadows Museum, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX. Invited public lecture on the museum’s temporary exhibition *Echoes of the Past: The Buddhist Cave Temples of Xiangtangshen*
- 2009 “Expressions of Divinity and Liberation in Jain Art,” Norton Simon Museum of Art, Pasadena, CA. Invited public lecture on the museum’s permanent collection of Jain art
- 2009 “Seeing the Goddess in Motion: A Processional Image of Parvati,” Kimbell Art Museum, Ft. Worth, TX. Invited public lecture as part of the museum’s *Art in Context* series
- 2008 Scholar’s panel: *Texas Collects Asia: Indian and Southeast Asian Art*. Trammell and Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas, TX. Invited panelist to discuss select sculptures in the museum’s collection
- 2007 “Articulating Space and Time in Indian Painting,” Dallas Museum of Art, TX. Invited public lecture on the museum’s temporary exhibition *Domains of Wonder: Selected Masterworks of Indian Painting*

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT UNT**

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- Undergraduate Art Appreciation | Art History Survey I | Art History Senior Seminar | Art of Ancient India | Art of Medieval India | Cave Temples of India | Mughal Art of India | Asian Art | Buddhist Art of Asia | On the Study of Indian Art | Modern Art of India: 1780s-1980s | Exhibiting Indian Art in Texas | The Taj Mahal: Epistemological Frameworks
- Graduate Representing the Body in South Asian Art | Constructions of Knowledge in South Asian Art History | Traveling the Path to Enlightenment: Buddhist Pilgrimage Sites in South Asia | The Hindu Temple | Biographies of South Asian Art | Cave Temples of India | Constructing and Deconstructing the Taj Mahal | Buddhist Art of India | Modernism in South and Southeast Asia (co-taught with Jennifer Way) | Architecture of Asceticism | The Portrait in South Asian Art

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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- 2021-2024 Board of Trustees, American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS)
- 2021-2024 Committee member, The Center for Art & Archaeology, American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS)
- 2020 External reviewer, tenure and promotion case at a peer institution
- 2017-2018 Chair, Nominating Committee, American Council for Southern Asian Art (ACSAA)
- 2017-2018 Howard Foundation Fellowship Selection Committee (History of Art and Architecture)
- 2015-2017 American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Fellowship Selection Committee

2012-2017	Co-Chair, Jain Studies Group, Program Unit for the American Academy of Religion
2011-2016	Board of Directors, American Council for Southern Asian Art (ACSAA)

### **SELECTED UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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2022-2023	Chair, Search committee, Department of Art History (Assistant Professor position for Design History), UNT
2020-2021	Committee Member, Search committee, Department of Art History (Chair position), UNT
2020-2021	Committee Member, Full-time Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Reappointment and Promotion Committee, CVAD, UNT
2020-2021	Committee Member, Scholarly and Creative Activity Award, CVAD, UNT
2019-2020	Executive Committee, CVAD, UNT
2018-2020	Program Coordinator, AEAH Department, Art History program, UNT
2019-2020	Member, Search committee, AEAH Department (Assistant Professor position for pre-1500 Art History), UNT
2019	Member, Search committee, AEAH Department (Lecturer position), UNT
2018-2019	Chair, Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee, AEAH Department, UNT
2017-2018	Committee member, Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee, AEAH Department, UNT
2017-2018	Chair, Search committee, AEAH Department (Lecturer position), UNT
2017-2018	Committee member, Jain Working Group, Department of Religion and Philosophy, UNT
2017-2018	Committee member, Search committee, History Department (Assistant Professor position for Medieval History), UNT
2015-present	Member, India Initiatives Group, UNT

### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

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2009-present	Board of Directors, Indian Cultural Heritage Foundation, Dallas, TX
2012-2019	Founding Advisory Board member, Shraman Foundation, Dallas, TX
2011-2013	Advisory Board member, <i>Jainism Heritage Preservation Initiative</i> , Jiv Daya Foundation, Dallas, TX

### **PEER-REVIEWER ACTIVITIES**

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*Archives of Asian Art, Ars Orientalis, Journal of the American Academy of Religion, Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Medieval History Journal, Religious Studies Review, South Asian Studies*, Routledge (Delhi), Oxford University Press

### **ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Academy of Religion, American Council for Southern Asian Art, Association for Asian Studies, College Art Association