

CURRICULUM VITAE (Summary)

(updated March 2021)

Distinguished University Scholar
Professor, Department of Philosophy
Associate Member, Departments of Asian Studies and Psychology
Director, Database of Religious History (DRH; <http://religiondatabase.org/>)
Co-Director, Centre for Human Evolution, Cognition and Culture (HECC)

Director, Cultural Evolution of Religion Research Consortium (CERC) (2012-2018)

Professor, Department of Asian Studies (2005-2020)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University (2015-16)

Early Career Scholar (Senior), Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies (2008-2009)

Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in Chinese Thought and Embodied Cognition (2005-2015)

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EDUCATION

09/94–08/98 Ph.D., Religious Studies, Stanford University (1998)

Area of Specialization: Early Chinese thought

Fields: Virtue ethics, hermeneutics

09/91–06/94 M.A., East Asian Languages (classical Chinese), UC Berkeley

09/88–06/91 B.A., with Distinction, Stanford University, Asian Languages (Chinese)

Phi Beta Kappa

12/88–12/89 Chinese Language Center, Tunghai University, Taichung, Taiwan, ROC

09/86–06/88 Princeton University, biology and Chinese language

Additional summer language training sessions at Goethe-Institut (Goettingen, Berlin) and Alliance Française (Paris)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Warring States (5th-3rd c. B.C.E.) Chinese thought, religious studies (comparative religion, cognitive science and evolution of religion), cognitive linguistics (blending and conceptual metaphor theory), ethics (virtue ethics, moral psychology), cognitive science, evolutionary psychology, the relationship between the humanities and the natural sciences, and the classical Chinese language.

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

Daniel M. Wegner Theoretical Innovation Prize, Society for Personality and Social Psychology, 2017, for Norenzayan, Ara, Azim Shariff, Aiyana Willard, Will Gervais, Rita McNamara, Edward Slingerland and Joseph Henrich. "The Cultural Evolution of Prosocial Religions," *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* Vol. 39 (published online March 2016; doi:10.1017/S0140525X14001356, e1; 19 pages.

Annual Best Essay Award for “Metaphor and Meaning in Early China,” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* (2012)

UBC, Killam Faculty Research Fellowship, 2012-2013

American Academy of Religion, Best First Book in the History of Religions award, for *Effortless Action: Wu-wei as Conceptual Metaphor and Spiritual Ideal in Early China*

USC General Education Teaching Award, “Religions of Asia,” 2002

Phi Beta Kappa, Stanford University, June 1991

\$4,792,151: PI (w/ Co-PI M. Willis Monroe), “Exploring the Cultural Evolution of Religion Employing a Large-Scale, Quantitative-Qualitative Historical Database,” John Templeton Foundation, June 1 2021 – May 31 2024.

\$2,342,841: PI (w/ Co-PI Michael Muthukrishna, LSE), “The Database of Religious History: A Digital Humanities Approach to Religious Cultural History,” Templeton Religious Trust, September 1 2017 – June 30 2020.

\$2,999,280 + approx. \$3 million in partner matching funds: PI, “The Evolution of Religion and Morality,” SSHRC Partnership Grant, April 2012-April 2018.

BOOKS AND EDITED VOLUMES (asterisks indicate refereed publication; sole-authored unless otherwise indicated)

Drunk: How We Sipped, Danced and Stumbled Our Way to Civilization (Little, Brown Spark, forthcoming June 2021).

Huang, Kevin and Edward Slingerland (editors), *Guoji Hanxue luncong 國際漢學論叢 Special Issue on Chinese Philosophy and Cognitive Science*, Jao Tsung-I Academy of Sinology in Hong Kong, in preparation.

* *Mind and Body in Early China: Beyond Orientalism and the Myth of Holism*. New York: Oxford University Press, January 2019 (385 + xi pages).

* Tappenden, Frederick, and Edward Slingerland (eds.), *Religion, Digital Humanities, and Cognitive Historiography*, a special issue of the *Journal of Cognitive Historiography* 3:1-2 (2018).

Trying Not to Try: Ancient China, Modern Science and the Power of Spontaneity. New York: Crown (Random House), March 2014 (295 + vi pages), paperback March 2015.

* Slingerland, Edward and Mark Collard (edited), *Creating Consilience: Integrating the Sciences and the Humanities*, Oxford University Press, New Directions in Cognitive Science series, 2012 (472 + xv pages)

* Bulbulia, Joseph and Edward Slingerland (edited), *Evolutionary Science and the Study of Religion*, a special issue of the journal *Religion* 41.3 (September 2011).

* *What Science Offers the Humanities: Integrating Body & Culture*. New York: Cambridge University Press, February 2008 (370 + xvi pages)

Confucius: The Essential Analects (abridged version of the *Analects*, with traditional commentary, for use in survey courses). New York: Hackett Publishing Company, March 2006 (164 + xxvi pages)

* *Confucius: Analects* (full translation with running traditional commentary, glossary, and extensive introduction). Cambridge, MA: Hackett Publishing Company, 2003 (279 + xxix pages)

* *Effortless Action: Wu-wei as Conceptual Metaphor and Spiritual Ideal in Early China*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003 (352 + xi pages) (paperback edition, May 2007)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

44 journal articles (21 single authored), 18 book chapters (14 single authored), 10 book reviews, 3 translations (including one book manuscript), multiple popular publications. My work has been translated into Chinese, Korean, German, Russian and Dutch, and many of my journal articles have been reprinted in edited volumes or academic handbooks. Selected publications:

* Beheim, Bret, Quentin Atkinson, Joseph Bulbulia, Will Gervais, Russell Gray, Joseph Henrich, Martin Lang, M. Willis Monroe, Michael Muthukrishna, Ara Norenzayan, Benjamin Purzycki, Azim Shariff, Edward Slingerland, Rachel Spicer, Aiyana Willard. "Treatment of missing data determines timing of moralizing gods in world history," *Nature* (forthcoming, <https://psyarxiv.com/jwa2n/>).

* Muthukrishna, Michael, Joseph Henrich and Edward Slingerland. "Psychology as a Historical Science," *Annual Review of Psychology* 72 (January 2021, published on-line October 2020).

* Slingerland, Edward, Quentin D. Atkinson, Carol Ember, Oliver Sheehan, Michael Muthukrishna, Joseph Bulbulia, and Russell D. Gray, "Coding Culture: Challenges and Recommendations for Comparative Cultural Databases," *Evolutionary Human Sciences* (published online June 2020; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/ehs.2020.30>).

* Slingerland, Edward, Ryan Nichols, Kristoffer Nielbo and Carson Logan. "The Distant Reading of Religious Texts: A 'Big Data' Approach to Mind-Body Concepts in Early China" *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 85.4: 985–1016 (2017).

* Slingerland, Edward and Brenton Sullivan. "Durkheim With Data: The Database of Religious History (DRH)," *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 85.2: 312-347 (2017).

* Norenzayan, Ara, Azim Shariff, Aiyana Willard, Will Gervais, Rita McNamara, Edward Slingerland and Joseph Henrich. "The Cultural Evolution of Prosocial Religions," *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* Vol. 39 (published online March 2016; doi:10.1017/S0140525X14001356, e1; 19 pages).

Winner, Daniel M. Wegner Theoretical Innovation Prize, Society for Personality and Social Psychology, 2017

* Bulbulia, Joseph and Edward Slingerland. "Religious Studies as a Life Science," *Numen* 59.5: 564–613 (2012).

* Slingerland, Edward and Mark Collard. "Creating Consilience: Toward a Second Wave," in *Creating Consilience, Integrating the Sciences and the Humanities*, ed. Edward Slingerland and Mark Collard, 3-40. New York: Oxford University Press (2012).

* Slingerland, Edward and Maciej Chudek. "The Prevalence of Folk Dualism in Early China," *Cognitive Science* 35: 997-1007 (Summer 2011).

Revised, expanded version with new introduction reprinted as "Folk Dualism in Early China: New Ways of Reading in the Digital Age," in Slone, Jason and William McCorkle (eds.), *The Cognitive Science of Religion*, Bloomsbury (forthcoming).

* "The Situationist Critique and Early Confucian Virtue Ethics," *Ethics* 121.2 (January 2011): 390-419.
Selected as a target article for discussion on the Philosophy blog "Pea Soup": <http://peasoup.typepad.com/>

Revised and reprinted in *Cultivating Virtue: Perspectives From Psychology, Theology and Philosophy* (ed. Nancy Snow), 135-170. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Ranked #119 out of 13,768 on Web of Science “Ethics” category (November 2017)

* “Metaphor and Meaning in Early China,” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 10.1 (Winter 2011): 1-30.

Winner: *Dao*, Annual Best Essay Award (2012)

Followed by “Reply to Prof. Moeller’s Response,” *Dao: A Journal of Comparative Philosophy* 10.4 (Fall 2011): 537-539.

Topic of panel discussion, American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, December 2012

Chinese translation by Bao Yongling 鮑永玲 to be published in 《中西哲學論衡》 [*Comparative Philosophy: China and West*], Vol 3 (2014), Shanghai: Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences.

Subject of review article, “The Distinction between the ‘Abstract West’ and the ‘Concrete East’ from a Linguistic Perspective,” *Kritike* 21.1: 201-214 (Tang, M.T.)

Ranked #71 out of 5,561 in Web of Science “Asian Studies” category (November 2017)

* “‘Of What Use Are the *Odes*?’ Cognitive Science, Virtue Ethics, and Early Confucian Ethics,” *Philosophy East & West* 61.1 (January 2011): 80-109.

Reprinted in *New Directions in Chinese Philosophy* (ed. Cheng Chung-yi and Cheung Chan-fai), Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 2014, pp. 69-102.

Chinese translation by Ai Chenyi 艾宸伊, “誦《詩》三百，亦奚以為？身體性的思維和早期儒家的修身”，published in 中國儒學 [*Chinese Confucian Studies*] 10, October 2015, 212-243.

* “Who’s Afraid of Reductionism? The Study of Religion in the Age of Cognitive Science,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 76.2 (June 2008): 375-411.

Accompanied by “Reply to Cho & Squier” (418-419) and “Response to Cho & Squier” (449-454).

As of December 2012, this article was listed by *JAAR* as its #1 most cited article

As of February 2016, it was still listed at the #6 most cited

Reprinted in revised, updated form in Blum, Jason (ed.), *The Question of Methodological Naturalism* (Brill) (2019)

* Slingerland, Edward, Eric Blanchard and Lyn Boyd-Judson. “Collision with China: Conceptual Metaphor Analysis, Somatic Marking, and the EP-3 Incident,” *International Studies Quarterly* 51.1 (March 2007): 53-77.

* “Conceptual Blending, Somatic Marking, and Normativity: A Case Example from Ancient Chinese,” *Cognitive Linguistics* 16.3 (September 2005): 557-584.

* “Conceptual Metaphor Theory as Methodology for Comparative Religion,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 72.1 (March 2004): 1-31.

To be reprinted in *Religious Language, Metaphor and the Mind*, ed. Monika Kopytowska and Paul Chilton, Oxford: Oxford University Press (in press).

As of February 1 2014, this piece was listed by *JAAR* as its #29 most cited article (<http://jaar.oxfordjournals.org/reports/most-cited>)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

87 conference presentations and 126 invited talks or keynotes throughout North America and also in mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Denmark, Israel, Australia and New Zealand. These have included the Tang Junyi Lecture (University of Michigan), the Hall Peebles Lecture (Wabash College), the Walter Powell Distinguished Lectures in Philosophy (Linfield College), the Jacob Marschak Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Mathematics in the Behavioral Sciences (UCLA), and the James & David Orr Memorial Lecture on Culture & Religion (Dartmouth), as well as invited lectures at TEDx (Maastricht), Collège de France (Paris), the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (Institute for Advanced Studies, Berlin), Università Ca’Foscari (Venice, Italy), The Vancouver Institute, Harvard, Oxford, Princeton, Stanford,

Brown, Columbia, Yale, Tokyo University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Fudan University and Renmin University.

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

My first trade book, *Trying Not to Try* (2014), has been translated into 5 languages and featured in the *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Huffington Post*, *LA Review of Books*, *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, NPR, BBC, CBC and many other newspapers, websites, radio shows and TV spots around the world. My research more generally, as well as our work at the Database of Religious History (DRH) and the Cultural Evolution of Religion Research Consortium (CERC), has been featured in *Science*, *The National Post*, the *Vancouver Sun* and *The Edge* website. My second trade book, *Drunk* (2021), will be released in June 2021, and is already slated for coverage in *The Atlantic*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Time*.

I also teach two “Massive Open Online Courses” (MOOCs) on the edX platform, “Chinese Thought: Ancient Wisdom Meets Modern Science,” and “The Science of Religion” (w/ Azim Shariff), that have enrolled tens of thousands of students from almost every country in the world.

GRANTS

Cumulative as PI: CAD 10,501,301 + USD 40,000 + £25,687

Cumulative as Co-PI: CAD 151,203 + USD 430,050

Cumulative as Collaborator or Consultant: CAD 785,099