

Prof Kenneth DEAN

Education

- PhD, Asian Languages, Stanford University, 1988
 - MA, Asian Languages, Stanford University, 1981
 - BA, Chinese Studies, Brown University, 1979.
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Professional Experience

2023-24 Director, Wan Boo Sow Research Centre for Chinese Culture
2022-24 Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Professor, Yale-NUS
2016-2022 Raffles Professor of Humanities, FASS, NUS
2015-22 Researcher Cluster Leader, Religion and Globalisation, ARI,
2015-2021 Head, Chinese Studies Department, NUS
2015 Lee Chair and James McGill Professor Emeritus, McGill University
2010-2011 Chair, Department of East Asian Studies. McGill University
2005-2007 Canada Council Killam Research Fellowship
2004-2015 James C. McGill Professor (equivalent to Canada Research Chair Tier 1) 2004-2015
Full Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, McGill University
1999-2015 Dr. Richard Charles and Esther Yewpick Lee Chair of Chinese Cultural Studies
1998-2001 Director, Centre for East Asian Research, McGill University
1998-2001 Chair, Department of East Asian Studies, McGill University
1996-1997 Acting Chair, Department of East Asian Studies, McGill University
1993-2000 Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, McGill University 1989-
1994 Director, McGill Summer Study in China (MSSC) Program.
1992-2003 Director, (McGill-CASS) Xinghua Popular Culture Research Centre.
1989-1993 Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Cross-
appointed in the Comparative Literature Program

Research Area/Topic/Discipline

Chinese popular religion – Taoist studies – Chinese temple networks in Southeast Asia

Short Biography

Professor Kenneth Dean is Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Professor of Humanities, Yale-NUS and Professor of Chinese Studies, NUS. He is the Research Leader for the Religion and Globalisation Cluster at ARI and Director of the Wan Boo Sow Research Centre for Chinese Culture. His recent publications include several volumes on Chinese epigraphy collected in Fujian and Singapore, surveys of ritual activities in Putian villages, and historical and ethnographic studies of Taoism, popular religion and sectarian religious movements in Fujian. He directed *Bored in Heaven: A Film about Ritual Sensation* (2010). His current project is the construction of an interactive, multi-media Singapore Historical GIS (SHGIS) and Singapore Bibliographical Database (SBDB) database shgis.nus.edu.sg and sbdb.nus.edu.sg.

Publications (selected)

Books

Kenneth Dean and Zheng Zhenman, *Epigraphical Materials on the History of Religion in Fujian: Zhangzhou region*, 4 volumes, 1670 pages, Fuzhou: Fujian People's Press, 2020.

Kenneth Dean and Peter van der Veer, eds., *The Secular in South, East, and Southeast Asia*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

Kenneth Dean and Hue Guan Thye, *Chinese Epigraphy in Singapore: 1819-1911*, 2 vols., Singapore: NUS Press, 2017.

Kenneth Dean and Zheng Zhenman, *Ritual Alliances of the Putian Plains: Vol. 1: Historical Introduction to the Return of the Gods, Vol. 2: A survey of village temples and ritual activities*, Leiden: Brill, 2010.

Kenneth Dean and Zheng Zhenman, *Epigraphical Materials on the History of Religion in Fujian: The Quanzhou region*, 3 vols. Fuzhou: Fujian Peoples' Publishing House Press, 2004.

Kenneth Dean, *Lord of the Three in One: The Spread of a Cult in Southeast China*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998.

Kenneth Dean and Zheng Zhenman, *Epigraphical Materials on the History of Religion in Fujian: The Xinghua region*, Fuzhou: Fujian Peoples' Publishing House Press, 1995.

Kenneth Dean, *Taoist Ritual and Popular Cults of Southeast China*, Princeton University Press, 1993.

Kenneth Dean and Brian Massumi, *First and Last Emperors: The Absolute State and the Body of the Despot*, Autonomedia, New York, 1992.

Refereed Articles (last 3 years)

Kenneth Dean, Chen Ningning, Khun Eng Kuah, "Beyond Migration? Alternative Articulations of Transnational Religious Networks," *Global Networks* (2023) 23.3: 1-9.

Kenneth Dean, Guan Thye Hue, Ruo Lin, et al. "The Malaysian Historical Geographical Information System (MHGIS): The Case of Chinese Temples in Johor," *Religions* 2023, 14, 336. (24 pgs)

Kenneth Dean, "Digital Humanities approaches to the study of Chinese communities in Malaysia: introducing the Malaysian Historical GIS (MHGIS)," *Journal of the Malaysian Chinese Studies Centre* 28: 1-45, 2022.

Kenneth Dean, "One Sea, One Temple; alternative networks in Southeast Asia," *Global Networks: A Journal of Transnational Affairs*, 2022:1-13.

Kenneth Dean, Hue Guan Thye, Ruo Lin, et al., "A Study of United Temple in Singapore—Analysis of Union from the Perspective of Sub-Temple," *Religions* 2022, 13 (7), 602; (37 pgs)

Kenneth Dean, Hue Guan Thye, Ruo Lin, Yiran Xue, Yingwei Yan et al., "The Development and Changes of Singaporean Chinese Society in 19-20th Century – An Analysis from the Perspective of Dialect Group Cemetery Hills," *Histories* 2022, 2.3: 288-314.

Kenneth Dean, Ningning Chen, Jinwen Chen. "Religion in times of crisis: Innovative lay responses and temporal-spatial reconfigurations of temple rituals in COVID-19 China" *Cultural Geographies in Practice*, 1-8 (2021).

"Opium for the Gods: Cheang Hong Lim (1841-1893), Headman and Ritual Libationer of the Hokkien Community, and Leader of the Singapore Great Opium Syndicate (1870-1882)," *Archives de sciences sociales des religions* 193 (2021): 107-129.

Kenneth Dean "Chinese religion in Southeast Asia," *Review of Religion and Chinese Society* 7 (2020): 220-249.

Yan Yingwei, Kenneth Dean, Feng Chen-chieh, Hue Yuan Thye, Koh Khee-heong, Lily Kong, Ong Chang Woei, Arthur Tay, Wang Yi-chen, Xue Yiran. "Chinese Temple Networks in Southeast Asia: A Web-GIS Digital Humanities platforms for the collaborative study of the Chinese diaspora in Southeast Asia," *Religions: Special Issue on Chinese Temples in Southeast Asia* edited by Kenneth Dean, 2020: 1-23. (open access)

Edited Journal Special Issues

Kenneth Dean, Chen Ningning, Special Issue: "Beyond Migration? Alternative Articulations of Transnational Religious Networks," *Global Networks* (2023) 23.3.

Kenneth Dean, ed., Special Issue on Chinese Temples in Southeast Asia, *Religions* (online MPI journal), 2020.

Edited Book

Kenneth Dean and Peter van der Veer, eds., *The Secular in South, East, and Southeast Asia*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

Awards/Grants and Distinctions

2019-21 Research Prize: Kenneth Dean and Zheng Zhenman, *Epigraphical Materials on the History of Religion in Fujian: Zhangzhou region*, 4 volumes, 1670 pages, Fuzhou: Fujian People's Press, 2020) (Winner of Top 100 Publications in Classical Chinese Texts for 2019 and Best Contribution to Social Sciences for 2020 (Fujian Academy of Social Sciences – announced in Nov. 2021)

2023-25 MOE Tier 2 grant: CVA in SEA

2021-23 MCCY funded research project on religious leadership under the pandemic