

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education

- Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1989. Dissertation title: "Hanging without a Rope: The Politics of Representation in Colonial and Postcolonial Karoland." Received H. H. Rackham Distinguished Dissertation award.
- M.A. Folklore, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1979. Thesis title: "'The Evidence of Things Not Seen': Faith and Tradition in a Lumbee Healing Practice."
- B.S.S.A. Business Education, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 1968.

Teaching and Other Professional Experience

- 1998- Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University
- 1995-98 John and Ruth Hazel Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University.
- 1990-95 Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University.
- 1989-90 Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Emory University.
- 1988-89 Research Assistant, The Institute for Advanced Study (for Professor Clifford Geertz).
- 1983-85 Special Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Universitas Sumatra Utara (Medan, Indonesia).

Books and Articles

- In prep. "Transparency and apparition: Media ghosts of post-reform Indonesia." In Spyer and Steedly (eds.), *Images that Move*.

- In prep. (ed., with Patricia Spyer) *Images that Move*. Santa Fe: SAR Press. Est. publication date 2010.
- In prep. (with Patricia Spyer) "Introduction," in Spyer and Steedly (eds.), *Images that Move*.
- 2006 On Indonesia in the Satellite Age. *Current Anthropology* 47(1):151-152. (Commentary on J. Barker, "Engineers and Political Dreams: Indonesia in the Satellite Age." *CA* 46(5):703-727.
- 2000a Modernity and the Memory Artist: The Work of Imagination in Highland Sumatra, 1947-1995. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.
- 2000b "Surrogates, Slips and Incidental Intrusions: The Tale of Raja Bakaléwat's Dog." *Anthropology and Humanism*.
- 2000c "Virtual Enigma: Why We Can't Understand Indonesia." *Harvard Asia Quarterly*.
- 1999 "The State of Culture Theory in the Anthropology of Southeast Asia." *Annual Reviews in Anthropology*.
- 1996a "The Importance of Proper Names: Language and 'National' Identity in Colonial East Sumatra." *American Ethnologist* 23(3):447-475.
- 1996b "What Is Culture? Does It Matter?" In M. Garber, P. Franklin and R. Walkowitz (eds.), *Field Work: Sites in Literary and Cultural Studies*. New York: Routledge. Pp. 18-25.
- 1993 *Hanging without a Rope: Narrative Experience in Colonial and Postcolonial Karoland*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- 1989 "Innocence as Authority: Shifting Gender Roles in Karo Curing Practice." In S. Russell and C. Cunningham (eds.), *Changing Lives, Changing Rites: Ritual and Social Dynamics in Philippine and Indonesian Upland Societies*. University of Michigan Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies: Michigan Studies of South and Southeast Asia Series I: 133-166.
- 1988 "Severing the Bonds of Love: A Case Study in Soul Loss." *Social Science and Medicine* 27(8):841-856.
- 1993 "Structuralism and Oral Literature," *Buletin Insan* 4(2):44-58.

Other Major Works in Progress

Rifle Reports: Gender, Nationalism and Peasant Resistance in the Karo Area, 1945-50. Book manuscript (under contract, University of California Press).

Citadel Culture: Educating Citizen-Soldiers for a New World Order. Book manuscript in preparation.

Book Reviews

- 2004 D. Rutherford, *Raiding the Land of the Foreigners.* In *Indonesia.*
- 1997a S. Amin, *Event, Metaphor, Memory.* In *American Ethnologist.*
- 1997b H. Geertz, *Images of Power: Balinese Paintings Made for Gregory Bateson and Margaret Mead.* In *Museum Anthropology*, December 1997.
- 1996 J. Pemberton, *On the Subject of "Java".* In *American Ethnologist.*
- 1995a G. Appel and V. Sutlive (eds.), *Female and Male in Borneo.* In *American Ethnologist.*
- 1995b J. Kahn, *Constituting the Minangkabau.* In *Man.*
- 1995c S. Rae, *Breath Becomes the Wind.* In *Antara Kita.*
- 1993 J. Bowen, *Sumatran Politics and Poetics.* In *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 35(3).
- 1992 J. Atkinson and S. Errington (eds.), *Power and Difference: Gender in Island Southeast Asia.* In *Journal of Anthropological Research.*
- 1991 R. Kipp, *The Early Years of a Dutch Colonial Mission.* In *Antara Kita.*

Selected Papers and Presentations

- 2008 "Transparency and Apparition." Paper presented at the conference "Images without Borders," School for Advanced Research, May 4-8, 2008; and Cornell University Graduate Seminar on Southeast Asia, April 2008.
- 2007 (with Patricia Spyer) "Image." Paper presented in the panel "Keywords in the Anthropology of the 21st Century," at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C. November 2007.
- 2006 "Too-Small Shirt or the Emperor's New Clothes: Southeast Asian Studies in the 21st Century." Keynote address, 50th Anniversary

Congress, Department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology, Leiden University, Dec. 15, 2006.

- 2005a "Gray Matters: Negotiating Race, Gender and Region at a Southern Military College." Public lecture, Radcliffe Institute, May 2005. Versions of this talk have been presented at the Harvard Club, New York, 2004; and the Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia, January 2009.
- 2005b "The Spectral Face." Presented at "Faces of Crisis" Workshop, Leiden University, February 2005.
- 2004b "Supernatural Realism: Modern Horror in Post-New Order Indonesia." Presented at the Radcliffe Exploratory Seminar, "After Images," June 2004, and in a slightly different versions at the International Conference for Asian Scholars (ICAS IV) in Shanghai, August 2005; and for Anthropology Day, Harvard University, September 2005.
- 2003 "Revolution Time, Karoland: Internal violence and state disorder in the first phase of the Indonesian war of Independence." To be presented at a conference at the Radcliffe Institute, "Law and Disorder in the Postcolony" organized by Jean and John Comaroff, May 2003; and in a somewhat different version at a conference "Changing regimes and shifting loyalties: Identity and violence in the early revolution of Indonesia," Institute for War Documentation, Amsterdam. June 26-27, 2003, and the Southeast Asia brown bag lunch series, Cornell University, 2004.
- 2002a "Imagining Independence: East Sumatra 1945-47." Presented at the conference, "Anthropological Futures for a 21st Century Indonesia," Leiden University, November 2002.
- 2002b "On Seeing (Not Witnessing) Violence." Presented at the workshop "Art, Media and Violence in Southeast Asia," Harvard University Asia Center, May 2002.
- 2002c "The Uses of Illiteracy." Presented at the conference "Reading Literacy," Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 2002.
- 2001 "From the interpretation of culture to the banality of power: Anthropology in the postcolony." Presented at a workshop in honor of Heather Sutherland, entitled "Locating Southeast Asia." Sponsored by the University of Amsterdam, the International Institute for Asian Studies, and the Institute for War Documentation. March 28-April 1, 2001, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 1999a "Public and private violence in Indonesia." East Asian Legal Studies Bag Lunch Series, Harvard Law School, April 1999.

- 1999b "The spirit of the story." Inaugural lecture, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, May 1999.
- 1998a "Border violations: Sexual misconduct and state formation on the Van Mook Line. North Sumatra, 1949." Seminar on Democracy and Democratization, University Center for International Studies, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, February 1998.
- 1998b "The limits of tolerance: National unity, cultural diversity and vernacular Christianity in Indonesia." Center for International Studies, University of Washington, May 1998.
- 1997a "Imagining independence: East Sumatra, 1945-47." Presented in the UCLA Anthropology Department lecture series, April 1997; NYU Anthropology Department, September 1997; University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill Anthropology Department, February 1998; Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Oregon, May 1998; Department of Anthropology, Haverford College, March 1999, University of Chicago, 2003.
- 1997b "Modernity and the memory artist: The work of imagination in highland Sumatra (1947-1995)." Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, October 1997; University of Minnesota Department of Anthropology, May 1998; Haverford College Faculty Workshop, March 1999.
- 1997c "Surrogates, slips and incidental intrusions: Raja Bakaléwat's dog." Paper presented in the panel "Subject to Writing: The Victor Turner Prize and the Anthropological Text." SHA invited panel, AAA annual meeting, November 1997.
- 1996 "Border violations: A case of sexual misconduct on the Van Mook Line. North Sumatra, 1949." Presented in the panel "Border Incidents" (co-chairs Lindsay Cole French and Mary Steedly), AAA meetings, November 1996.
- 1995a "Celebrations of Indonesia's independence: Fifty years later." Presented to the Peabody Museum Lecture Series, Harvard University.
- 1995b "'Exodus in the Physical Revolution of 1947': A fragmentary history of Indonesian independence." Presented to the Social Anthropology Wing Seminar Series, Harvard University; Department of Anthropology, Cornell University; Department of Anthropology, University of Texas, Austin; Yale University Southeast Asia Lecture Series.
- 1995c "Gender in a time of revolution: Placing Karo women in the struggle for Indonesian independence, 1945-50." Presented to the Women's Studies Program, Yale University; Center for the Study of Endangered

Cultures, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, Netherlands; Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College.

- 1995d "Peranan wanita dalam Perang Kemerdekaan R.I. di Karo Area." Presented at Sarasehan Pejuang Kemerdekaan R.I. Karo Area dengan Generasi Penerus, dalam rangka Peringatan Setengah Abad Kemerdekaan Republic Indonesia, with the theme: "Meningkatkan Wawasan Kebangsaan dan Profesionalisme dalam Mengisi Kemerdekaan," Jakarta, Indonesia, August 5, 1995.
- 1994a "The case of the vanishing veteran." Paper presented in the panel "Purity and Preservation" (co-chairs Joan Fujimura and Mary Steedly) at the 1994 American Anthropological Association Meeting.
- 1994b "Beyond religious tolerance: Religious conversion and the margins of the state." Paper presented at Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation conference on "Peripheral Societies and the State," Istanbul, Turkey.
- 1993 "On the importance of proper names: Language and cultural identity in colonial East Sumatra." Paper presented at conference on "Other Indonesians: Regional Fates of the Language of State," Yale University (also presented for the Southeast Asia Lecture Series, Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, January 1994).
- 1992a "Don Juan in Java: From rape to redemption in *Tuanku Rao*, Appendix XXV." Paper presented in the panel "Displaced Temporalities" (John Pemberton and Marilyn Ivy, co-chairs) at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.
- 1992b "Exodus and alienation: A Karo woman's song of revolutionary exile." Paper presented in the panel "Song, Authority and Social History" (Ken George, chair) at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies.
- 1991a "'Modern travellers': Curing and commodification in a Sumatran society." Southeast Asia Colloquium Series, Harvard University.
- 1991b "Someone else speaking: Stories of an Indonesian spirit medium." Public lecture, Women's History Week, Harvard University.
- 1991c "Spirits of the past: Religious pluralism and the negotiation of cultural identity in Indonesia." Peabody Museum Association Lecture Series.
- 1991d "The uses of illiteracy: Finding a voice in New Order Indonesia." Paper presented in the panel "Literacies, Identities and Authenticities" (Ken George and Janice Nuckolls, co-chairs) at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association.

- 1989a "The play of pretext: A love song for Workers' Day, 1963." Paper presented in the panel "Shifting the Ethnographic Ground" (Susan Harding and Kathleen Stewart, co-chairs) at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Society.
- 1989b "Money and modernity: On the effectiveness of curing in contemporary Karo curing practice." Paper presented in the Department of Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School.
- 1988 "Money and the decline of efficacy in Karo curing practice." Paper presented in the panel "Cultural Dimensions of Healing in Southeast Asia" (Carol Laderman and Penny van Esterik, co-chairs). Association for Asian Studies.
- 1987 "Religious tolerance and the image of the pagan past." Paper presented in the panel "Constructing and Contesting Tradition: The Politics of Identity in Outer Indonesia" (Mary Steedly and Oyvind Sandbukt, co-chairs), Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute Conference.

Workshops and Conferences Organized (selected)

- 2002 Art, Media and Violence in Southeast Asia (with Byron Good and Mary-Jo Good). Funded by the Asia Center, Harvard University.
- 2004 After Images: Media, Politics and the Work of Imagination in Southern Asia (with Patricia Spyer), Radcliffe Institute Exploratory Seminar.
- 2005a Tsunami Roundtable Discussion, Social Anthropology Wing, Harvard University.
- 2005b Inadvertent Documents: New (and Old) Forms of Political and Historical Mediation in Southern Asia (with Karen Strassler), Peabody Museum of Ethnology and Archaeology, Harvard University. Supported by the Peabody Museum and the Asia Center, Harvard University.
- 2007 *Transparansi*: New Documentary Films from Indonesia (A workshop held at Harvard in conjunction with the "Signs of Crisis in Southern Asia" documentary film festival at NYU, May 2007)
- 2008 Images without Borders. (with Patricia Spyer), School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, May 2008.

Honors and Awards

Radcliffe Junior Faculty Fellowship at the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute, 1995-96.

Victor Turner Award for ethnographic writing, 1994, for *Hanging without a Rope*. (co-winner).

Second Prize (co-winner), Chicago Folklore Society, 1994, for *Hanging without a Rope*.

Rackham Distinguished Dissertation Award, 1990.

Grants Received

School of American Research and Wenner-Gren Foundation. Conference grant for "Images without Borders," May 2008. In collaboration with Patricia Spyer, Leiden University.

Harvard University Asia Center Faculty Grant for *Transparansi* and Signs of Crisis conferences, May 2007.

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Benjamin Whitney White Scholar, 2004-05.

Harvard University Asia Center seminar series grant, "Signs of Crisis: Media and Politics in Southern Asia" (with Engseong Ho and Karen Strassler), 2003-04.

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, exploratory seminar, "After Images: Media, Politics and the Work of Imagination in Southern Asia" (with Patricia Spyer, Leiden University), to be held June 2004.

Peabody Museum of Ethnology and Archaeology, Harvard University, "After Images: Media, Politics and the Work of Imagination in Southern Asia" (with Patricia Spyer, Leiden University). Support for two-year postdoctoral fellow (2003-2005) and workshop (2004).

Harvard University Asia Center workshop/seminar grant, "Discourses of Culture, Violence and Political Reform in Southeast Asia," 2001-02. (with Byron Good and Mary-Jo Good); continuation 2002-2003.

Cooke Fund, Harvard University, November 2001, November 2005.

John D. and Katherine T. MacArthur Foundation Program on Security and Sustainability, 2000, for "Citadel Culture" research.

The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, 1994 (renewed 1995), for "Rifle Reports"

Social Science Research Council Postdoctoral Research Grant, 1993-94, for "Rifle Reports"

Clark Fund, Harvard University, 1993

Clark Fund, Harvard University, 1992

Tozier Fund, Harvard University, 1992

Werner L. Rice Grant for Research in the Humanities, University of Michigan, 1986 (with Karl Hutterer)

Fulbright-Hays Fellow, Doctoral Research Abroad Program, 1982

Social Science Research Council Doctoral Research Grant, 1982

Rackham Dissertation Grant, University of Michigan, 1982

Research Projects

- 2006-08 "Images without Borders." A collaborative project with Patricia Spyer, Leiden University. Part II of "Signs of Crisis in Southern Asia."
- 2005-- "Supernatural realism: Media and modern horror in Indonesia." Preliminary research underway.
- 2003-06 "Signs of Crisis in Southern Asia." A collaborative project with Patricia Spyer, Leiden University. Part I: After images: Politics, media and the work of imagination in southern Asia." Partially funded by the Peabody Museum of Ethnology and Archaeology, Harvard University and the Harvard Asia Center.
- 1998-- "Citadel Culture: Educating Citizen-Soldiers for the New World Order." (Funded by the MacArthur Foundation Program on Security and Sustainability).
- 1993-95 "*Gender in a time of revolution: Placing Karo women in the Indonesian struggle for national independence, 1945-50.*" (Funded by the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, the Social Science Research Council and the Harvard University Clark Fund.)
- 1992 "*Indonesian social landscapes.: A comparative visual study of public aspects of social life in Java and Sumatra.*" (Funded by the Harvard University Tozier Fund.)
- 1986-87 Transcription and translation of Batak bark manuscripts in the H. H. Bartlett Collection, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. (Funded by a Werner L. Rice Grant, University of Michigan.)
- 1983-85 "*Curing and social change among the Karo Bataks of Sumatra, Indonesia.*" Dissertation field research, North Sumatra. (Funded by the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Research Abroad Program, the Social Science Research Council and a University of Michigan Rackham Dissertation Grant.)
- 1979 Research on Lumbee Indian Pentacostalism, as part of the Conversion, Healing and Testimony Project (Principal Investigators: James L. Peacock and Ruel W. Tyson).
- 1978-79 "*The Evidence of Things Not Seen": Faith and Tradition in a Lumbee Curing Practice.*" M.A. thesis field work on Lumbee Indian faith healing.
- 1978 "A Comparative study of traditional curing practices in a tri-racial community (Robeson County, North Carolina)."

- 1976-77 Project administrator, Hypertension Education Project, Department of Health Education, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Principal Investigator: Joanne Earp).
- 1975-76 Field office manager, Rural Hypertension Compliance Survey Project, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Current Research and Theoretical Interests

- (1) Military culture - US
- (2) Ethnography of Southeast Asia (Indonesia)
- (3) Southern U. S. culture and history
- (4) Memory, experience and evidence
- (5) Gender and feminist theory
- (6) Media and politics
- (7) Colonial history, decolonization and the postcolony
- (8) Popular supernaturalism
- (9) Narrative and culture theory
- (10) Visual studies

Courses and Seminars

- (1) Undergraduate lecture courses and seminars

Ethnography as Practice and Genre
 Colonial Departures
 Anthropology at Home: Doing Fieldwork in Familiar Places
 Writing "Gender"
 Island Southeast Asia: Circulating Cultures
 Colonial Encounters
 Critical Differences: Gender, Experience and Cultural Criticism
 Gender and Citizenship
 Anthropology of Religion
 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

- (2) Graduate seminars

Image/Media/Publics
 Current Topics in the Anthropology of Gender
 Other Others: New Ethnographic Orientations
 Spirit Possession and Representation
 History, Structure, Experience
 "Culture"
 Re-Orienting Southeast Asia (with Smita Lahiri)
 Proseminar: History and Theory in Social Anthropology 1 and 2

- (3) Advanced seminars and workshops

Anthropology and Cultural Studies Seminar (co-chair, with Anthony Appiah), Harvard Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Spring 1995; 1995-96; 1996-97

Ethnicity and Nationalism Seminar (co-chair, with Mary Waters and Michael Jones-Correa), Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 1999-2000.

Discourses of Culture, Violence and Political Reform (co-convener, with Byron Good and Mary-Jo Good, Harvard Medical School), Harvard University Asia Center, 2001-2003.

Signs of Crisis in Southern Asia (co-organizer with Karen Strassler and Engseng Ho), 2003-06.

GSAS Workshop on Culture, Society and History in Southeast Asia (Faculty Sponsor), 2005-present

Languages

Indonesian - Advanced reading, writing and speaking competence
 Karo Batak - Advanced reading, writing and speaking competence
 Dutch - Good reading competence
 German - Fair reading competence
 French - Fair reading competence

Professional Activities

Member, Stevens Prize Committee of the AES, 2001
 Vice-Chair, AAS Program Committee, 2002
 Board of Directors, AAS, 2001-2002
 Chair, AAS Program Committee, 2003
 Acting Chair, AAS Program Committee, 2004
 Member, Victor Turner Prize Committee of the Society for Humanistic Anthropology, 2004
 Member, American Anthropological Association
 Member, American Ethnological Society
 Member, Association for Asian Studies
 Member, Southeast Asia Council, Association for Asian Studies, 1999-2002
 Southeast Asia representative, Program Committee, Association for Asian Studies 1998-99 annual meetings
 Member, Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde
 Member, Society for Cultural Anthropology
 Working group, "New Approaches to Area Studies," Ford Foundation
 Editorial board, *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*
 Consultant, "Libraries on Fire" Project, The Asia Society

University Service

Chair, Social Anthropology Wing, Anthropology Department, 2002-2004, 2006-07

Member, Committee on Degrees in Women's Studies, 1995-2006

Member, Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, 2001-

Member, Committee on Degrees in Folklore and Mythology, 1992-2001

Member, Committee on the Status of Women at Harvard, 1999, 2001-present

Member, Advisory Committee, Office for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response, 2003-04, 2006-07

Member, Special Committee on Faculty Diversity, 2001-2002

Member, Fay Prize Committee, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 2001

Reviewer, Social Science applications, Bunting Institute, 1999

Reviewer, Social Science applications, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 2002, 2003

Member, Hoopes Prize Committee (repeated)

Member, Peabody Museum Curatorial Board, 1999-2003

Member, Asia Center Executive Committee, 2001-present

Member, Foreign Cultures Subcommittee of the Core Curriculum Committee, 2001-present

Member, Weatherhead Initiative Selection Committee, 2000-2002

Associate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

Senior Fellow, The Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, 2005-present

Co-Chair, Senior Search Committee, Anthropology and Women's Studies

Member, various search junior and senior-level search and promotion committees, Anthropology Department

Director of Graduate Studies, Social Anthropology Wing, 1998-2002

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Social Anthropology Wing, 1992-94, 2005-08, 2009-.

Manuscript and Grant Reviewer

Social Science Research Council

MacArthur Foundation

ACLS/Social Science Research Council

National Humanities Center, Research Triangle, NC

Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek

Princeton University Press

University of California Press

Duke University Press

University of Arizona Press

University of Michigan Press

American Ethnologist

Cultural Anthropology

Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry

Current Anthropology

Social Science and Medicine
Comparative Studies in Society and History
Anthropological Forum
Crossroads
Critical Asian Studies