**Donald L. Baker**

Professor of Korean Civilization in the Department of Asian Studies, UBC, since 1987.

Co-director UBC Centre for Korean Research 2016-2018

Director, Centre for Korean Research, Institute of Asian Research 2001-- 2007

1983 Ph.D. in History awarded by the University of Washington

Dissertation topic: Confucians Confront Catholicism in 18th-century Korea

1971-74 Peace Corps Volunteer in Gwangju, Jeonnam.

**Visiting Lecturer**

Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan Sept. 2015—February, 2016.

University of California at Los Angeles April-June, 2004.

University of Maryland, in Japan (Okinawa) 1995-96 academic year

University of Washington spring, 1995

University of California, Berkeley, spring, 1994

**Research Grants:**

Ricci Institute, University of San Francisco, 2018.

Academy of Korean Studies 2007-2013

Korea Foundation 2005-06

Korea Research Foundation 2001

Korean-American Educational Commission (Fulbright) 1992-95.

**Books Published:**

*Catholics and Anti-Catholicism in Chosŏn Dynasty Korea (*University of Hawaii Press) with Franklin Rausch. May, 2017.

*Korean Spirituality* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2008)

*Han’gugin ŭi Yŏngsŏng* [Korean Spirituality], translated by Pak Sojŏng. Published in Seoul in 2012 by Tosŏ ch’ulp’an mosinŭn sarmadŭl

*Chosŏn Hugi Yugyo wa Ch'ŏnjugyo ŭi Taerip* [The Confucian Confrontation with Catholicism in the Latter Half of the Chosŏn Dynasty] Translated into Korean by Kim Seyun (Seoul: Iljogak Publishing Co., 1997).

**Translations:**

Heo Gyun, *Korean Gardens: Harmony with Intellect and Nature* (London, UK: Saffron Book, 2005)

**Edited books**

*Critical Readings on Christianity in Korea*. Four-volume collection of selected articles. (Leiden: Koninklijke Brill NV 2014.) October, 2014. I was the sole editor.

Don Baker, Larry DeVries, and Dan Overmyer, co-editors, *Asian Religions in British Columbia* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2010). I contributed one chapter and also wrote much of the introduction.

Don Baker, Chang Yun-shik and Seok Hyun-ho, co-editors, *Korea Confronts Globalization,* (Routledge, 2008).

Don Baker and Kim Han-kyo, ed. *Sourcebook of Korean Civilization*, Volume II (New York: Columbia University Press, 1996)

**Recent Articles:**

“Religious Diversity in Korea” *Education About Asia.* Spring, 2020. 3,500 words. pp. 5-10.

“The Korean Dilemma: Assuming Perfectibility but Recognizing Moral Frailty” *Acta Koreana 22:2 (*Dec. 2019), 287-304.

“*Kaebyŏk*: The Concept of a “Great Transformation” in Korea’s New Religions” with Heo Seok, a visiting grad student at UBC. *Alternative Spirituality and Religion* *Review* 9:1 (Fall, 2018), 31-53.

“Between Heaven and Earth: Tasan Chŏng Yakyong’s Understanding of Human Nature,” *Acta Koreana*20: 1 (JUNE 2017), pp. 73-90, plus guest-editor’s introduction, 1-8.

“The Emergence of a Religious Market in Twentieth-Century Korea” *Review of Korean Studies*. 19:1 (June, 2016), 7-39

“The impact of Christianity on Korea: An Overview” *Acta Koreana* 19:1 (June, 2016), 45-67.

“Confucianism and Civilization: Tasan Chŏng Yagyong’s views of Japan, the Ryūkyūs, and Tsushima” *Korean Studies* vol. 40 (2016): 43--57.

“Early Visions of Reform and Modernity: Sirhak and Religious Movements in Chosŏn Korea,” *Education About Asia* 19:1 (Spring, 2014), pp. 52-55.

“Privatization of Buddhism in the Chosŏn Dynasty” *Sungkyun Journal of East Asian Studies* 14:2 (October, 2014), pp. 1-17.

“Rhetoric, Ritual, and Political Legitimacy: Justifying Yi Seong-gye’s Ascension to the Throne.” *Korea Journal*, 53:4 (winter 2013): 141-167.

“Tasan’s Pragmatic Approach to the Confucian Classics,” *Tasanhak* 22 (June, 2013), pp.107-142

“Constructing Korea’s Won Buddhism as a New Religion: Self-Differentiation and Inter-religious Dialogue,” *International Journal for the Study of New Religions* 3:1 (2012), pp. 47-70.

"Monks, Medicine, and Miracles: Health and Healing in the History of Korean Buddhism," *Korean Studies*, 18 (1994), pp. 50-75.

**Recent Book Chapters:**

*“*The *Zhongyong* through a Theistic Lens: Tasan Chŏng Yagyong on How to be Moral.” Michael R. Slater, Erin M. Cline, and Philip J. Ivanhoe, ed. *Confucianism and Catholicism*: *Reinvigorating the dialogue* (Notre Dame Press June, 2020), 61-83

“The Contours of Korea’s Cultural history” *A Companion to Korean Art* edited by J.P. Park, Burglind Jungmann, and Juhyung Rhi (Wiley-Blackwell, 2020), 1-25.

“Kwangju, Trauma, and the Problem of Objectivity in History-Writing” in Michael Robinson and Seung-kyung Kim, ed. *Peace Corps Volunteers and the Making of Korean Studies in the United Studies* (University of Washington Press, 1920)

“Zhu Xi and Korean Philosophy” pp. 739-761, and “Zhu Xi and Western Philosophy,” pp. 785-806. In Kai-chiu Ng and Yong Huang, ed. *Dao Companion to Zhu Xi’s Philosophy* Springer*,* March 2020.

“What is Korean about Korean Confucianism?” pp. 47-71, and “Western Learning and New Directions in Korean Neo-Confucianism,” pp. 337-361, *Dao Companion to Korean Confucianism*, edited by Young-chan Roh. Springer, 2019

“Religious Diversity in Korea” in Jørn Borup, etc. *Religious Diversity in Asia* Brill, October, 2019, pp. 23-47

“Dahn Wŏltŭ,” in Lukas Pokorny, ed. *Handbook of East Asian New Religious Movements* Leiden: Brill, 2018 pp 382-400.

“Buddhist-Christian Relations in Korea: An Overview,” in Perry Schmidt-Leukel, ed. B*uddhist-Christian Relations in Asia* (Germany: EOS-Verlag, 2017)

“Religion in Twenty-first Century Korean Lives” Youna Kim, ed. *The Routledge Handbook of Korean Culture and Society* (New York: Rutledge, 2017), 91-104.

“Catholic God and Confucian Morality: A Look at the Theology and Ethics of Korea’s First Catholics” *Korean Religions in Relation: Buddhism, Confucianism, Christianity: Essays in Honor of Professor Wi Jo Kang,* Anselm Min, ed. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 2016), 89--118.

“Memory Wars and Prospects for Reconciliation in South Korea” in Mikyoung Kim ed, *Routledge Handbook of Memory and Reconciliation in East Asia*. Published Oct. 2015. pp. 111-127.

“Korea’s Path of Secularization,” Ranjan Ghosh, ed. *Making Sense of the Secular: Critical Perspectives from Europe to Asia* (New York: Routledge, 2012), pp. 182-194

“Writing History in Korea, 1400-1800,” *Oxford History of Global History Writing*,( New York: Oxford University Press, 2012) pp. 103-118

“Exacerbated Politics: The Legacy of Political Trauma in South Korea” in Barry Schwartz and Mikyoung Kim, ed. *Northeast Asia’s Difficult Past: essays in Collective Memory* (New York: Palgrave-McMillan, 2010), pp. 193-212

**Recent Lectures**:

April 18, 2019 Distinguished Speaker for “The Two Koreas: A Historian’s Perspective on What the Future Holds,” sponsored by the Department of Global Humanities and Religion, Center for East Asian Studies, and College of Humanities and Social Sciences of Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.

Nov. 12, 2018 **“**Korea Before Nationalism: Judging and Misjudging the Silk Letter of Hwang Sayŏng,” invited lecture at UCLA sponsored by the UCLA Center for the Study of Religion and the UCLA Center for Korean Studies.

June 28, 2018 “The Trials and Triumphs of Catholicism in Korea.” at the Ricci Institute at the University of San Francisco.

“Religious Persecution in Chosŏn,” Studies in Chosŏn Korea, a conference honoring the legacy of Edward Wagner, the founder of Korean Studies at Harvard. Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. March 27-28, 2018.

March 8, 2018 Invited lecture at the University of Prince Edward Island to celebrate the establishment of their Korean Studies Program. “The Transformation of Korean Buddhism in the 20th Century.”

March 6, 2018. Guest lecture at Western Washington University on “The Impact of Christianity on Non-Christian Religions in Twentieth-century Korea

Dec. 13, 2017. “Confucianism, Catholicism, and Chŏng Yagyong: Was Tasan the ‘secret Catholic’ Hwang Sayŏng said he was?” invited lecture at the Kyujanggak Center for International Studies at Seoul National University. This is a lecture series to which foreign authors of recently published monographs on Korea are invited to talk about their recent book.

Nov. 9, 2017 “Modern History and Contemporary Politics in the Republic of Korea,”keynote address at the 5th Philippine Korean Studies Symposium, Manila.

June 7, 2017 “Korea’s Pluralistic Religious Culture,” at Hartford Seminary, Conn. as part of a program for graduate students on religion in East Asia.

 June 27, 2017 “Conceptual Chasm: Fundamental differences in the pre-modern natural philosophies of Korea and the West,” Korea University BK21 Forum for international scholars in the College of Liberal Arts.

Feb. 21, 2017 “Art in Korea’s Religious Mosaic,” Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.  invited lecture.

Feb. 14, 2017 “Translating Key Terms in the Zhongyong,” Invited lecture at Chungnam National University, Taejŏn, Korea.

Feb. 13, 2017 “Tasan and the Zhongyong: Between East and West,” Invited Lecture at Chungnam National University, Taejŏn, Korea

Nov. 16, 2016 “A-theism and the Absolute in the Philosophies of Zhu Xi, T’oegye, and Tasan: Straddling the Secular-Religious Divide by Focusing on the heart-and-mind.” keynote speech at the 26th International Conference for T’oegye Studies, held in Fukuoka, Japan.

Nov. 10, 2016 “Five Important Things to Know about Religion in Korea,” invited lecture for the Center for Korean Studies, University of Southern California, LA.

Nov. 4, 2016.  “Between Heaven and Earth: Tasan’s Understanding of Human Nature” invited lecture presented at Keimyung University International Conference on Korean Studies, held at Keimyung University in Daegu, Korea.

Nov. 2, 2016 Keynote address: “The Globalization of Korea’s History: The Past, Present and Future of Writing the History of Korea,” presented at Jeonju International Bienelle of Korean Studies” in Jeonju, Korea

Sept. 9, 2016 “Kwangju, Trauma, and the Problem of Objectivity in History-Writing” invited lecture presented at a conference on Peace Corps Volunteers: The Making of Korean Studies in the US, held at Indiana University.

July 20, 2016 “Religious Diversity in Traditional Korea” and “Religious Change in 20th-century Korea,” Invited lectures at a workshop on Korea for teachers held at USC, Los Angeles.

July 6, 2016 “Prioritizing Ki: The Shift toward Energy and Transformation in 19th Century Korea,” keynote address at International Conference of the International Society for the Study of New Religions and the Center for the Study of New Religions, held at Daejin University in Korea.

April 27, 2016 “The Buddhist Image in North America” invited Lecture at Won Institute of Graduate Studies, Iksan, Korea

March 17, 2016 “The Dramatic History of Catholicism in Korea: From Persecution to Respectability” at the University of Asia and the Pacific, Manila.

March 8, 2016 “From the Mountains into the Cities: The Transformation of Buddhism in Korea,” at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. invited lecture.

July 7, 2013 biannual conference of the Association for Korean Studies in Europe, “The Rise of Neo-Confucianism and the Privatization of Buddhism”

June 21, 2011. “Korea’s Won Buddhism: Is it a new religion or not?” International Conference of the Centre for the Study of New Religions, held at Aletheia University, Danshui, Taiwan.