



Position: Core Faculty, open rank, in support of the program in Buddhist chaplaincy

January 2021

The Institute of Buddhist Studies invites applications for a full-time faculty position to support the Institute's program in Buddhist chaplaincy. Candidates should hold a PhD in Buddhist Studies, Asian studies, or related and relevant disciplines by the starting date of the appointment. The appointee will teach and advise at the graduate level. Area of expertise is open; the appointee will be expected to teach courses in support of the Buddhist chaplaincy and ministerial programs, such as Buddhist pastoral care, Buddhist chaplaincy, Buddhist psychology, or related topics as well as develop and teach courses in their own area of expertise. In their teaching and advising, the ideal candidate should be able to draw connections between Buddhist history and thought and praxis-oriented engagements in real world contexts. The successful candidate should have some familiarity with Japanese or East Asian Buddhist traditions, and have some demonstrated academic administrative experience (assessment, program review and development, and the like). Candidates should have a demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching and a desire to work in a collaborative and practitioner-friendly academic environment. Full-time faculty are required to teach two courses per semester (with a possible reduction in teaching load dependent on administrative responsibilities), advise students, serve on institutional and faculty committees, pursue their own research agenda, and have the opportunity to participate in the doctoral program at the Graduate Theological Union. Faculty report directly to the Dean of the Institute of Buddhist Studies.

This is an open-rank appointment, depending on the successful candidate's prior experience, and will begin August 1, 2021. Faculty are eligible for health insurance and annual professional travel and research funds. Owing to the ongoing pandemic, all IBS courses are currently being offered in remote modalities. Whereas IBS intends to return to onsite instruction when it is safe to do so, the Institute maintains a number of online programs that the successful candidate will be expected to support.

Application materials — including CV, a cover letter introducing the candidate and their background relevant to the position, and a teaching statement — are due by March 1. Candidates should be prepared for Zoom interviews during the last two weeks of March. Prior to appointment, letters of reference, published or in-progress work, or other materials may be requested. Application materials should be submitted directly to Scott Mitchell, Dean, via email at scott@shin-ibs.edu.

About the Institute of Buddhist Studies: founded by Nisei Japanese American Buddhists in 1949 and incorporated as the Institute of Buddhists Studies in 1966, IBS is a Buddhist seminary and graduate school that prepares students for careers in Buddhist ministry, chaplaincy, and further academic study at the doctoral level. With our foundations in the Japanese Buddhist tradition, IBS has programs devoted to Jōdo Shinshū and Sōtō Zen Buddhism, as well as Theravada Buddhism and Buddhism and psychology. Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA, IBS is grounded in the critical academic study of Buddhism. The Institute is thus located at the intersection of the scholarly and practitioner communities with a commitment to racial, gender, academic, and Buddhist diversity.