



Register of Post Graduate Students

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Institution	Australian National University
Area(s) of Academic Interest	Chinese Buddhism and eminent monks in the late Qing and Republican (and other) periods: Tiantai, Esoteric, Chan, Pure Land Buddhism. Also Japanese Buddhism.
Dissertation Title	A Study of the Life and Thought of the Venerable Xuyun (1840-1959)
Dissertation Abstract	<p>My thesis is concerned with the eminent 19th/20th century Chinese monk Xuyun - Empty Cloud - [J. Kyouun] (1840 ũ 1959), and in particular, representations of his life in regard to architectural structures such as temples, memorials and stupas; in traditional and contemporary texts; and in newer technological interpretations such as documentaries and miniseries produced for cinema and television. The research examines representation in the context of the history of Buddhist and religious biography in contemporary China and how these compare with representations of distinguished Buddhist (and other religious) figures from the Han to the Ming Dynasty. The theme of hagiographic invention and ũpatternũ versus ũparticularũ will be addressed as will the state of Buddhism during the late Qing and the Republican period, and the historical genealogical lineages of Xuyun.</p> <p>Xuyun is an extremely important figure in modern Chinese Buddhism, and is arguably the most important figure in Chinese Chan Buddhism in this period. He is recorded as being the Dharma heir of all five schools of Chan that developed during and following the Tang dynasty. These were namely the Caodong (J. Soto), Fayen (J. Hogen), Yunmen (J. Unmon), Guiyang (J. Igyo) and Linji (J. Rinzai). The</p>



	<p>influence that Xuyun had during his v̄activej days of Dharma promulgation cannot be underestimated. Xuyun was not only held in high esteem by his peers, his influence reached to the very highest echelons of Chinese political circles (it is reported that Chairman Mao Zedong inquired into his affairs).</p>
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