

Youheng Wong, P.E.

(aka Venerable Youheng / Winie Wong)

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EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

- **Ph.D. in Computer Engineering**, University of Illinois Chicago, IL (GPA: 4.00) [2020–present]
- **Professional Engineer License**, Missouri Board for Architects, PE, PLS and Landscape Architects [2005]
- **M.S. in Electrical Engineering**, Washington University in St. Louis, MO (GPA: 3.91) [2005]
- **Honors B.S. in Electrical Engineering**, Saint Louis University, MO (GPA: 4.00 *Summa Cum Laude*) [2000]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student with [Dr. Erdem Koyuncu](#) and [Dr. Natalie Parde](#) [2020–present]
[Computer Engineering, University of Illinois Chicago](#) (Chicago, IL)

- Explore domain-specific neural machine translation (NMT) with application to Buddhist scriptures.
- Research on sustainable methods to train the Transformer and be efficient during inference.
- Investigate existing Chinese-English parallel corpora, and build a new Buddhist Chinese-English dataset.
- Mentor 2 undergraduate students on "Vision Transformer" and "Neural Networks on Stock Prediction."

Independent Researcher on Buddhist Art [2008–2016]
[Fo Guang Shan](#) (Kaohsiung, Taiwan)

- Developed software to automatically substitute 100,000 standard terminologies in the translated entries.
- Performed extensive research on Buddhist art from 46 countries.
- Resulted in adding 823 entries to the *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts*.

Research Engineer [2003–2007]
[bioMérieux, Inc.](#) (St. Louis, MO)

- Researched on the automated translation of the company's manuals from English to 11 languages.
- Investigated into rule-based translation and vocabulary substitution using database.

Undergraduate Student with [Dr. David W. Barnett](#) [1999–2000]
[Electrical Engineering, Saint Louis University](#) (St. Louis, MO)

- Assisted in the neural networks research on mice in collaboration with biomedical engineering faculty at Washington University in St. Louis.
- Presented and analyzed an enormous amount of data collected in the lab.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Superintendent [2019–present]
[Fo Guang Shan Chicago Buddhist Temple](#) (Chicago, IL)

- Supervise all aspects of daily temple affairs and activities; plan and execute special events.
- Analyze and evaluate the expansion of the temple.

Director of Social Education and Outreach Departments [2016–2019]
[Fo Guang Shan Hsi Lai Temple](#) (Los Angeles, CA)

- Organized numerous large-scale events and programs for 500 to 4,000 participants.
- Supervised Buddhist education courses, youth ministry, and spiritual retreat programming.

Editorial Director / Acting Chief Editor / Software Developer / Translator [2008–2016]
[Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts Editorial Department](#), Fo Guang Shan (Kaohsiung, Taiwan)

- Led an editorial team of 8 editors, 15 advisors, and over 300 volunteers to publish the 20-volume English Edition of the encyclopedia, which contains 10,000 entries covering 8 categories.
- Translated over 1,000 entries and identified numerous translation problems and issues.
- Designed an editorial database with over 90 functions and search methods to expedite the editing process and track progress.
- Served as Editor for the 4 volumes of Architecture and 5 volumes of Caves.
- Acted as Chief Editor to proofread all the entries in the 20 volumes to standardize terminology and style.

Senior Firmware Engineer [2001–2007]
[bioMérieux, Inc.](#) (St. Louis, MO)
▪ Embedded programming for automated microbial detection systems.
▪ Designed and implemented the Graphical User Interface for a new instrument in 7 languages.
▪ Interacted with different departments during the software development cycle, including marketing, software, verification and validation, manufacturing, support, and documentation teams.

Firmware Engineer [2000–2001]
[Celox Networks, Inc.](#) (St. Louis, MO)
▪ Embedded programming on a multi-processor, multi-board telecommunications router.
▪ Programmed PowerPC 750 and CPC 710 using C and assembly language.
▪ Designed diagnostic tests used for bringing up high-speed, multiple-processor circuit boards.
▪ Created direct hardware controlling code such as watchdogs refresh routines.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING AT UNIVERSITIES

Visiting Lecturer, Guang Ming College (Manila, Philippines) [2016–2018]
▪ Taught a one-week intensive course on Buddhist Art to 26 undergraduate students each summer.
▪ Graded and provided suggestions for the student research papers.

Guest Lecturer, University of the West (Los Angeles, CA) [2018]
▪ Taught Humanistic Buddhism to more than 70 undergraduate and graduate students.

Guest Lecturer, University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA) [2016–2017]
▪ Lectured on Buddhism to 90 undergraduate students in the Chinese Civilization class each semester.

TEACHING AT OTHER VENUES

Teacher, Fo Guang Shan Chicago Buddhist Temple (Chicago, IL) [2019–present]
▪ Delivered lectures online and in-person on various Buddhist topics, such as meditation, sutras, and Buddhist art.

Guest Teacher, Montini Catholic High School (Chicago, IL) [2019–2021]
▪ Requested to provide a 2-hour lecture on Buddhism to over 60 juniors and seniors each year.

Translator Trainer, Fo Guang Shan Hsi Lai Temple (Los Angeles, CA) [2018–2019]
▪ Coached translators to improve their simultaneous interpretation skills.

Teacher, Fo Guang Shan Hsi Lai Temple (Los Angeles, CA) [2016–2019]
▪ Taught semester-long classes on a variety of topics, including meditation, Buddhist scriptures, art, history, and culture.
▪ Students ranging from beginner to advanced levels, with 20-40 students in each class.

GUEST SPEAKING EXPERIENCE

Guest Speaker, University of Wisconsin, Madison (Madison, WI) [2019]
▪ Presented the *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts* to librarians and researchers.

Guest Speaker, University of California, San Diego (San Diego, CA) [2019]
▪ Introduced the *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts* to professors and students.

Guest Speaker, University of California, Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA) [2018]
▪ Invited to lecture on Buddhist art to nearly 80 professors, librarians, and students.

Guest Speaker, University of California, Irvine (Irvine, CA) [2018]
▪ Requested to expound on the *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts* to over 60 professors, librarians, and students.

Guest Speaker, Clinical Pastoral Education, PIH Hospital (Los Angeles, CA) [2017]
▪ Instructed 10 chaplain interns on "Buddhist Perspective on Life and Death" for 90 minutes.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, HONORS

ENGINEERING

- **National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)** Member [since 2005]
- **Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)** Member [since 1996]
 - Vice President, Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Saint Louis Chapter [2001–2002]
 - Chair, Saint Louis University Student Branch [1998–2000]
 - Robotics Committee Chair, Saint Louis University Student Branch [1997–2000]
 - Textbook Scholarship Recipient [1998]
- **Society of Women Engineers (SWE)** Member [since 1998]
 - President, Saint Louis University Student Section [1999–2000]
 - Vice President/Co-Founder, Saint Louis University Student Section [1998–1999]
 - Certificate of Merit for Highest Honor in Science and Mathematics [1996]
- **Association of Parks College Students (APCS)** Member [1997–2000]
 - Treasurer, APCS (student government of all engineering organizations at SLU) [1998–1999]

AWARDS AND HONORS

- **LDC Data Scholarships**, Linguistic Data Consortium [2021]
- **Parks Scholarship**, Saint Louis University [1996–2000]
- **Dean's List**, Saint Louis University [1996–2000]
- **Golden Key National Honor Society** Member [since 1998]
 - Treasurer [1999–2000]
 - Scholarship Award for Superior Scholastic Attainments and Outstanding Academic Merit [1999]
- **Honors Student Association** Member [1996–2000]
 - President [1999–2000]
 - Treasurer [1998–1999]
- **Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society** Member [since 1999]

OTHER

- **American Translators Association** Associate Member [since 2015]
- **Fo Guang Shan Publications Review Board** Member [since 2009]
- **PIH Hospital Clinical Pastoral Education** Professional Advisory Group [2017–2019]
- **Guibord Center** Advisory Council [2016–2019]
- **Buddha's Light International Association (BLIA)** Member [1998–2007]
 - President, Saint Louis Young Adults Subdivision [2006–2007]
 - Board of Directors, Saint Louis Chapter [2001–2004]

COMPUTER SKILLS

Languages	Software	Operating Systems
C / C++ / Interactive C	visionClick Embedded Dev Tool	RTXC Real Time OS
68000 Assembly Language	CodeWright	Windows
PowerPC 750 Assembly Language	Visual SlickEdit	UNIX / Linux
VHDL	Concurrent Versions System (CVS)	MS-DOS
Java	PSPICE (MicroSim)	Macintosh
SQL	MATLAB	
HTML	Workview Office (VIEWlogic)	
Python		

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- English: Fluent
- Chinese: Fluent in Cantonese / Fluent in Mandarin / Proficient in Min
- French: Basic
- German: Basic

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- Expressions of the Dharma: Buddhist Art and Culture in Everyday Life** (Los Angeles, CA) [2019]
- Co-organized this 3-day academic conference with University of the West.
 - Hosted a panel and presented the *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts* at the conference.
- World Buddhist Forum** (Wuxi, China and Taipei, Taiwan) [2009]
- Appointed to interpret for thousands of Buddhist experts from Chinese to English.
 - Translated 3 opening speeches and 46 conference papers on a wide range of Buddhist topics, with only five days to prepare.
- International Academy of Buddhism Conference** (Los Angeles, CA) [2007]
- Presented a paper titled "Parallels in Engineering and Humanistic Buddhism."

PUBLICATIONS (*I have published under different names: Youheng, Youheng Wong, and Winie Wong.*)

ARTICLES

- Yikong, Youheng. Buddhist Temples in the Modern Era: Architecture of Fo Guang Shan. *Studies in Asian Art and Culture* series, Universität Bonn (in preparation).
- Winie Wong. [Parallels in Engineering and Humanistic Buddhism](#). *Hsi Lai Journal of Humanistic Buddhism*, 2007.

BOOKS

- Hsingyun, Youheng, Peter Johnson. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Architecture](#). 4 volumes. Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Peter Johnson. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Caves](#). 5 volumes. Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Yann Lovelock, Yuan Chou. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Sculpture](#). 4 volumes. Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Youlu, Graham Wilson. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Painting](#). 3 volumes. Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Youlu, Stefanie Pokorski. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Calligraphy](#). Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Youji, Stefanie Pokorski. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Artifacts](#). Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng, Youlu, Stefanie Pokorski. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – People](#). Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.
- Hsingyun, Youheng. [Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts – Index](#). Los Angeles: Buddha's Light Publications, 2016.

REFERENCES

Erdem Koyuncu, Ph.D. (Ph.D. Advisor)

- Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Illinois Chicago
- ekoyuncu@uic.edu, (949) 293-0696

Natalie Parde, Ph.D. (Ph.D. Co-advisor)

- Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois Chicago
- Co-Director, UIC Natural Language Processing Laboratory
- parde@uic.edu, (312) 355-1310

Lewis Lancaster, Ph.D. (Buddhist Professor for Distance Learning Courses)

- Professor Emeritus, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California, Berkeley
- buddhst@berkeley.edu