My anthropology is about cultures of Southern Asia, East Asia, and Indo-Pacific navigational regions in terms of early history and archaeology, languages and cultures, aesthetic systems, anthropology of religions, visual anthropology, tourism, and organizing performing arts. I have implemented my research into multimedia and spatial humanities. My project (1979) was to see if a Sri Lanka Buddhist head monk ordained in 1919, without experiencing the cinema, could produce a film about his life. He did. Today, my presentation is about tracing histories of lives and religious systems across Indo-Pacific regions. It’s gathering data, geo-registering, and making spatiotemporal dynamic maps of multidimensional connections with seemingly unrelated elements.

David Blundell received a doctorate in anthropology from the University of California based on the life histories of Buddhist practitioners making their own ethnographic films in Sri Lanka. Professor Blundell is currently Director of the Asia-Pacific SpatioTemporal Institute, Top University Project in Digital Humanities, Research and Innovation-Incubation Center, National Chengchi University, Taipei. He conducts research with the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative (ECAI), University of California, Berkeley, as Anthropology and Language editor, http://ecai.org. As a filmmaker, Dr Blundell received the United Nations Day of Vesak 2014 Award for Best Documentary, Arising Light: Dr B R Ambedkar and the Birth of a New Era in India. See www.arising-light.org His publications concern the anthropology of belief systems, Buddhism, visual & aesthetic anthropology, Austronesia, geographic information systems (GIS), language and culture, Asia-Pacific as a cultural area.