

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Ow Yeong Wai Kit  
PhD Candidate  
National Institute of Education, Singapore  
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### **ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

- 2015 Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) (Distinction), National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University
- 2014 MA in English: Issues in Modern Culture (Distinction), University College London
- 2013 BA in English Literature (First-Class Honours), National University of Singapore

### **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS / MEMBERSHIPS**

- 2020 – Present Board Member, Centre for Interfaith Understanding Singapore
- 2016 – Present Executive Director, PoetryWalls Singapore
- 2014 – Present Member, British Association of Modernist Studies UK
- 2010 – 2013 Chief Editor, PRISM Undergraduate Journal, USP Singapore
- 2010 – 2011 President, NUS Buddhist Society Singapore

### **SUMMARY OF WORKING EXPERIENCE**

- Jan 2022 – Present PhD Candidate, National Institute of Education
- Jan 2020 – Dec 2021 Academy Officer, Professional Development Branch 2, Academy of Singapore Teachers
- Jun 2015 – Dec 2019 Teacher, Department of English  
Bukit Batok Secondary School, Singapore

### **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Honour / Award</b>
2021	Associate of Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST) Award, Ministry of Education
2019	Outstanding Youth in Education Award, Ministry of Education
2019	Service Excellence Award (Platinum and Gold), Ministry of Education
2015	Rotary International 75th Anniversary Gold Medal, National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University
2015	Justice Choor Singh Book Prize, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University
2014	John Oliver Hobbes Memorial Scholarship in Modern English Literature for Best Dissertation, University College London
2013	Valedictorian, University Scholars Programme, National University of Singapore
2013	Joanna Wong Gold Medal, University Scholars Programme, National University of Singapore

2012	National University of Singapore Society Medal for Outstanding All-Round Achievement, National University of Singapore
2010	Singapore Ministry of Education Teaching Scholarship

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Edited Books***

*Love and Life at the Gallery*, co-edited with Genevieve Wong (Singapore: Poetry Festival Singapore, 2020).

*Love at the Gallery*, co-edited with Genevieve Wong (Singapore: Ethos Books, 2017).

*SG Poems 2015-2016*, co-edited with Eric Valles, Ian Chung, Tan Chee Lay, Chow Teck Seng, Azhar Ibrahim, and K. Kanagalatha. (Singapore: Ethos Books, 2015).

*From Walden to Woodlands: An Anthology of Nature Poems*, co-edited with Muzakkir Samat (Singapore: Ethos Books, 2015).

### ***Articles and Book Chapters***

"The Power of Literature Knowledge Organisers", in *The World, the Text, and the Classroom: Teaching Literature in Singapore Secondary Schools*, eds. Dennis Yeo, Ann Ang, and Suzanne Choo (Singapore: Pearson, 2020), 94-114.

"She Walks Like A Free Country: Amanda Chong's *Professions* and Jennifer Anne Champion's *Caterwaul*." *Cha: Asian Literary Journal*. Issue 41. Sep 2018. Web. <<https://chajournal.blog/2018/08/21/free-country>>.

"What We Stay Alive For", in *Practices of Inquiry: Through the Lens of the Student Teachers*, ed. Chua Bee Leng (Singapore: NIE, 2017), 16-25.

"Bearing Fruit: The Rise of Singapore's Civil Society", in *The Birthday Book*, ed. Malminderjit Singh (Singapore: Ethos Books, 2016), 166-169.

"The Deep Restlessness of Alvin Pang." *poetry.sg*. 14 July 2016. Web. <<https://www.poetry.sg/alvin-pang-intro>>.

"Refrain of the English Teachers", in *50 Years, 50 Voices: 50 Years of English in Singapore Schools*, eds. Philip McConnell and Genevieve Wong (Singapore: ELIS, 2015): 71.

"A Heretic's Dream of Salvation." *Interreligious Insight* 12.2 (Dec 2014): 54-64.

"Our Failure of Empathy': Kevin Carter, Susan Sontag, and the Problems of Photography." *Think Pieces: A Journal of the Joint Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies, University College London* 1.1 (2014): 9-17. 10.14324/111.2058-492X.002. <<https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1458035>>.

"Silence, Simplicity and Sacredness: Buddhist and Catholic Monasticism in Contemporary Film." *Interreligious Insight* 11.2 (Dec 2013): 58-66.

"Karen Armstrong's Charter for Compassion: Implication for Inter-Religious Efforts in Singapore." *Canons* 9.1 (2013): 1-17.

### ***Commentaries and Creative Writing***

'diatribe / diamantine." *Quarterly Literary Review Singapore (QLRS)*. Vol. 20 No. 2. Apr 2021.

"In turbulent times, the young need the arts more than ever." *The Straits Times*. 21 Feb 2021: A23.

"Strength in Solitude: A Teacher's Testimony". *SingTeach Virtual Staff Lounge*. Oct 2020. Web. <<https://singteach.nie.edu.sg/strength-in-solitude-a-teachers-testimony>>.

"Cher, stay at home boring leh' — a teacher's response to 3 common messages from students." *Today*. 27 May 2020.

"The Joy of Learning Club." *Schoolbag*. 3 Jul 2019.

"Homichlophobia." *Quarterly Literary Review Singapore (QLRS)*. Vol. 17 No. 3 Jul 2018

"Playing the cards right for literature." *The Straits Times*. 10 Apr 2017.

"Banning the name of God (for some)." *The Interfaith Observer*. 15 Apr 2014.

"Singapore's students get proactive about interfaith peace." *The Interfaith Observer*. 15 Nov 2013.

"Youth can take the initiative in combating xenophobia." *The Straits Times*. 14 Apr 2012: D14.

"Spare a thought for the 'aunty' serving you." *The Straits Times*. 31 Mar 2012: D6.

"A lesson or two from Dublin." *The Straits Times*. 3 Mar 2012: D10.

"Let youth lead interfaith efforts on campus." *The Straits Times*. 25 Feb 2012: D18.

"Dotting the *i* for Singapore." *The Straits Times*. 24 Dec 2011: C11.

"Sense of being an outsider hits home." *The Straits Times*. 8 Oct 2011: D12.

"Sharing our piece of the Singapore Story." *Today*. 16 Aug 2011: 14.

"Youth interfaith efforts can make a difference." *The Straits Times*. 16 Apr 2011: D8.

"Comedy is no joke." *The Straits Times*. 26 Mar 2011: D12.

"Study trip turns into spiritual odyssey." *The Straits Times*. 29 Jan 2011: D7.

"Transported by Japan's roads and trains." *The Straits Times*. 13 Sep 2010: B8.

"Tak kenal maka tak cinta." *Berita Harian*. 22 May 2002: 13.

### **CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUM PAPERS**

#### **"Enlivening Singapore Literature in the Classroom: The Case of Haresh Sharma's *Off Centre*"**

3<sup>rd</sup> Singapore Literature Conference (organised by Poetry Festival Singapore)  
31 July 2021 (paper accepted, forthcoming)

#### **"The Power of Knowledge Organisers in the Singapore Secondary English Literature Classroom"**

Teachers' Conference and ExCEL Fest (organised by the Academy of Singapore Teachers, Ministry of Education, Singapore)  
2 June 2021

**“The Power of Knowledge Organisers in a Singapore Secondary English Literature Classroom”**

55<sup>th</sup> International Regional English Language Centre (RELC) Conference  
17 March 2021

**“Teaching Asian Poetry in the Literature Classroom”**

ELLB Literature e-Symposium (organised by the English Language and Literature Branch, Curriculum Planning and Development Division 2, Ministry of Education, Singapore)  
Co-presented with A/P Suzanne Choo, Dominic Nah, Sandra Teng, and Liew Pei Li  
26 Aug 2020

**“Teaching Asian Poetry in the Literature Classroom”**

Teacher-Led Workshop for the Academy of Singapore Teachers  
Co-presented with A/P Suzanne Choo, Dominic Nah, Sandra Teng, and Liew Pei Li  
6 Aug 2020

**“Longing and Belonging: Explorations of Identity in Wena Poon & Alfian Sa'at's Short Stories”**

2<sup>nd</sup> Singapore Literature Conference (organised by Poetry Festival Singapore)  
National Library Singapore  
27 July 2019

**“Examining Singapore Literature in English: What and Who do We Read, and Why? | What's Worth Learning by Heart?”**

1<sup>st</sup> Singapore Literature Conference (organised by PoetryWalls and the National University of Singapore, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)  
Co-presented with Prof Koh Tai Ann and moderated by A/P Loh Chin Ee  
LASELLE College of the Arts  
29 July 2017

**“The Politics of Race in Contemporary Singaporean Short Stories: Alfian Sa'at and Wena Poon”**

Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies Forum on ‘Race’  
University College London  
28 Mar 2014

**“‘Our Failure of Empathy’: Kevin Carter, Susan Sontag, and the Problems of Photography”**

Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies Forum on ‘Empathy’  
University College London  
1 Nov 2013

**“Born Again: Transcendence and Renewal in Narratives of Spiritual Rebirth”**

Inaugural USP Honours Research Conference  
National University of Singapore  
14 Apr 2012

**“Faith and Globalization: Remodelling Mosques in Singapore”**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tony Blair Faith Foundation Faith and Globalization Student Conference  
National University of Singapore  
31 Aug 2010

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Contemporary and twentieth-century poetry (Geoffrey Hill; T.S. Eliot; W.H. Auden; Ezra Pound; W.B. Yeats); modern and postmodern literature and religion (theology of language); ecopoetry (Mary Oliver; Gary Snyder; Wendell Berry); literature pedagogy (teaching of poetry); Singapore literature (Edwin Thumboo; Alfian Sa'at; Wena Poon; Alvin Pang; Haresh Sharma).

### **Journal Articles**

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2018, Sep.). She Walks Like A Free Country: Amanda Chong's *Professions* and Jennifer Anne Champion's *Caterwaul*. *Cha: Asian Literary Journal*, 41. <<https://chajournal.blog/2018/08/21/free-country>>.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2014, Dec.). A Heretic's Dream of Salvation. *Interreligious Insight*, 12(2), 54-64. <[https://90198366-107c-42f8-b430-f665cff7a46d.filesusr.com/ugd/64c1dc\\_6ff78f7ad00844f294463f75b00596df.pdf](https://90198366-107c-42f8-b430-f665cff7a46d.filesusr.com/ugd/64c1dc_6ff78f7ad00844f294463f75b00596df.pdf)>.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2014). 'Our Failure of Empathy': Kevin Carter, Susan Sontag, and the Problems of Photography. *Think Pieces: A Journal of the Joint Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies, University College London* 1(1), 9-17. doi: 10.14324/111.2058-492X.002. <<https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1458035>>.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2013, Dec.). Silence, Simplicity and Sacredness: Buddhist and Catholic Monasticism in Contemporary Film. *Interreligious Insight*, 11(2), 58-66. <[https://90198366-107c-42f8-b430-f665cff7a46d.filesusr.com/ugd/64c1dc\\_7b8aa94d7e814168b10841dfe0086954.pdf](https://90198366-107c-42f8-b430-f665cff7a46d.filesusr.com/ugd/64c1dc_7b8aa94d7e814168b10841dfe0086954.pdf)>.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2013). Karen Armstrong's Charter for Compassion: Implication for Inter-Religious Efforts in Singapore. *Canons*, 9(1), 1-17. <[https://issuu.com/canonsjournal/docs/canons\\_volix\\_issuei\\_special\\_edition](https://issuu.com/canonsjournal/docs/canons_volix_issuei_special_edition)>.

### **Book Chapters**

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2020). The Power of Literature Knowledge Organisers. In D. Yeo, A. Ang, & S. S. Choo (Eds.), *The World, The Text and The Classroom: Teaching Literature in Singapore Secondary Schools* (pp. 94-114). Pearson Education.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2017). What We Stay Alive For. In B.L. Chua (Ed.), *Practices of Inquiry: Through the Lens of the Student Teachers* (pp. 16-25). NIE.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2016). Bearing Fruit: The Rise of Singapore's Civil Society. In M. Singh (Ed.), *The Birthday Book* (pp. 166-169). Ethos Books.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2015). Refrain of the English Teachers. In P. McConnell & G. Wong (Eds.), *50 Years, 50 Voices: 50 Years of English in Singapore Schools* (pp. 71). ELIS.

### **Conference Papers**

Ow Yeong, W.K. (31 July 2021, paper accepted, forthcoming). "**Enlivening Singapore Literature in the Classroom: The Case of Haresh Sharma's *Off Centre***". Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Singapore Literature Conference, organised by Poetry Festival Singapore, at the National Library, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (2 June 2021). **“The Power of Knowledge Organisers in the Singapore Secondary English Literature Classroom”**. Paper presented at the Teachers’ Conference and ExCEL Fest, organised by the Academy of Singapore Teachers, Ministry of Education, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (17 March 2021). **“The Power of Knowledge Organisers in a Singapore Secondary English Literature Classroom”**. Paper presented at the 55<sup>th</sup> International Regional English Language Centre (RELC) Conference, RELC, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (26 Aug 2020). **“Teaching Asian Poetry in the Literature Classroom”**. Co-presented with A/P Suzanne Choo, Dominic Nah, Sandra Teng, and Liew Pei Li. Paper presented at the English Language and Literature Branch (ELLB) Literature e-Symposium, Ministry of Education, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (6 Aug 2020). **“Teaching Asian Poetry in the Literature Classroom”**. Paper co-presented as a Teacher-Led Workshop with A/P Suzanne Choo, Dominic Nah, Sandra Teng, and Liew Pei Li, for the Academy of Singapore Teachers, Ministry of Education, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (27 July 2019). **“Longing and Belonging: Explorations of Identity in Wena Poon & Alfian Sa’at’s Short Stories”**. Paper presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Singapore Literature Conference (organised by Poetry Festival Singapore) at the National Library, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (29 July 2017). **“Examining Singapore Literature in English: What and Who do We Read, and Why? | What’s Worth Learning by Heart?”**. Paper co-presented with Prof Koh Tai Ann and moderated by A/P Loh Chin Ee, at the 1<sup>st</sup> Singapore Literature Conference, organised by PoetryWalls and the National University of Singapore, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, at LASELLE College of the Arts, Singapore.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (28 Mar 2014). **“The Politics of Race in Contemporary Singaporean Short Stories: Alfian Sa’at and Wena Poon”**. Paper presented at the Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies Forum on ‘Race’ in University College London.

Ow Yeong, W.K. (1 Nov 2013). **““Our Failure of Empathy’: Kevin Carter, Susan Sontag, and the Problems of Photography”**. Paper presented at the Faculty Institute of Graduate Studies Forum on ‘Empathy’, at University College London.

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Ow Yeong, W.K. (31 Aug 2010). **“Faith and Globalization: Remodelling Mosques in Singapore”**. Paper presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tony Blair Faith Foundation Faith and Globalization Student Conference at the National University of Singapore.