

Tibet Kolloquium

Dr. Kenneth Bauer, Dartmouth College

Mixing Methods to Unravel the Mysteries of a Tibetan Treasure Map



Dr. Kenneth Bauer uses a mixed methods approach – drawing from textual analysis, ethnography, remote sensing, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – to decipher a richly illustrated map of a Tibetan nomad area. The painted map depicts Rongbo (Chinese: Longbao), a high-altitude watershed in western China (Yushu Prefecture, Qinghai Province). To unravel the mysteries of this painting, he integrated place-based knowledge and remotely-sensed data so that the multi-dimensional layers of knowledge encoded in this unique cultural artifact could be represented and compared analytically. In this talk, Kenneth Bauer describes the productive, novel, and sometimes surprising ways that mixing qualitative and spatial analysis methods reveals insights about the cultural ecology of this pastoral enclave, specifically, and about Tibetan understandings of the environment, more broadly. This talk will illustrate how mapping techniques can be used to produce more holistic understandings of complex, time-bound processes like land use change. Dr. Bauer will advance an epistemological argument that challenges the binary view that indigenous cartography and Cartesian representations of the world belong in separate knowledge domains.

Dr. Kenneth Bauer is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at Dartmouth College. He teaches courses on environment and development issues, with a regional focus on Tibet and the Himalaya, and thematic interests in state-society relations, biodiversity conservation, and climate change. Among his research interests are resettlement and urbanization in Tibetan nomad areas of China and community development in the Himalayas. Bauer has more than 20 years of experience as a consultant for a variety of organizations including UNDP, USAID, TetraTech, and Winrock International. He earned a BA in History from Brown University, an MSc in Rangeland Management from University of California-Berkeley, and a DPhil degree in Development Studies from the University of Oxford. Dr. Bauer manages the Human Development Initiative and the War & Peace Studies Program at the Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth College.

Dienstag, 3. Juli 2018

18.00 Uhr

Invalidenstr. 118, **Raum 507**

(S-Bahn Nordbahnhof, U6 Naturkundemuseum)