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Institute for
Social Anthropology



OAW
Austrian Academy
of Sciences

KEYNOTE LECTURE, June 12th, 18.00

Campus: Alte Kapelle: Spitalgasse 2-4, Hof 2.8, 1090 Wien

Symposium: TRANSFORMING TIBETAN ANATOMY

Institute for Social Anthropology at the Austrian Academy of Sciences

June 12th and 13th, 2014

Apostelgasse 23, 1030 Vienna



Organisation: Katharina Sabernig: e-mail katharina.sabernig@meduniwien.ac.at
programme of the symposium: www.katharinasabernig.at/anatomy-symposium

Welcoming

CHRISTIANE DRUML, Vice Rector for Clinical Affairs and Director of the Collections of the
Medical University of Vienna

KLAUS-DIETER MATHES, Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies,
University of Vienna

Keynote Lecture

Janet Gyatso, Harvard Divinity School

HOW TO MAP THE BODY – AND HOW IT MATTERS

This paper studies the conflict, in the intellectual history of Tibetan traditional medicine, between tantric Buddhist and empirically determined anatomies of the channels of the human body. It reflects on what was at stake in such a discrepancy and how to make sense of the issue in light of the history of science in the West, as well as in Indo-Tibetan and pan-Asian histories of culture and medicine.



Janet Gyatso is Hershey Professor of Buddhist Studies at Harvard University, where she serves on the faculties of the Divinity School, the Study of Religion, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, and Inner Asian and Altaic Studies. Her writing and teaching have centered on Tibetan Buddhism and its cultural and intellectual history from the perspective of large issues in the humanities about human experience and its literary presentation. She is the author of *Apparitions of the Self: The Secret Autobiographies of a Tibetan Visionary*, as well as several edited volumes. Her forthcoming book on Tibetan medicine, coming out this year with Columbia University Press, is *Being Human in a Buddhist World: An Intellectual History of Medicine in Early Modern Tibet*.



