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### **Patricia J. Graham Talk and Book Signing at Oread Books**

January 31, 2008 (LAWRENCE, KS) – Patricia J. Graham, Adjunct Research Associate at the KU Center for East Asian Studies and author of *Faith and Power in Japanese Buddhist Art, 1600 - 2005*, will present an informal talk and signing from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at Oread Books on level 2 in the Kansas Union on the KU Campus in Lawrence. Graham's comments will include observations on the process of writing the book as well as the importance of the topic. The KU Center for East Asian Studies is co-host for the event, which is free and open to the public.

*Faith and Power in Japanese Buddhist Art, 1600 - 2005* (University of Hawaii Press), published in Fall, 2007, explores the transformation of Buddhism from the premodern to the contemporary era in Japan and the central role its visual culture has played in this transformation. The accessible book includes 157 illustrations, 46 in color, and will be of interest to scholars and students of Japanese art, history, and religion as well as anyone with an interest in Buddhism or Japanese culture.

The first section of *Faith and Power in Japanese Buddhist Art* explores Buddhism in the earlier period of Japanese art (1600 – 1868), surveying Buddhist temples and imagery within the larger political, social and economic concerns of that time. The second section addresses Buddhism's visual culture in modern Japan (1868 – 2005), addressing such topics as the relationship between Buddhist institutions and the increasingly militaristic national government prior to World War II, and emergence of a new form of Buddhism dominated by nondenominational practitioners including secular artists. Graham demonstrates that Buddhism remains vital to modern Japanese society.

Patricia J. Graham, a former professor of Japanese art and culture, and museum curator, is an independent scholar and Asian art consultant based in Lawrence, Kansas. She is currently affiliated with the University of Kansas as Adjunct Research Associate at the KU Center for East Asian Studies. She is the only scholar outside Japan to have published a book about the Japanese tea ceremony of sencha, entitled *Tea of Sages: The Art of Sencha* (University of Hawaii Press, 1998).

Oread Books is a full-service, independent bookseller located on the University of Kansas Campus in Lawrence on the second floor of the Kansas Union. As a non-profit organization in the division of Student Success, all proceeds are given back to KU through student programs and activities.

The selection and events at Oread Books are reflective of the campus community, always current and representing diverse points of view.

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