

Patte Marie High, Reader in Social Anthropology
University of St Andrews

Employment history:

From To		Name of organisation and position held
01/07/20	Present	Founder and Director for the Centre for Energy Ethics University of St Andrews I lead an interdisciplinary research centre focussed on scholarship, policy and public engagement on energy and climate change.
08/2018	Present	Reader in Social Anthropology University of St Andrews I supervise 6 PhD students and 3 postdocs, mentor 4 early career lecturers, and am incoming Director of Research.
07/2017	06/2023	Principal Investigator, ERC Starting Grant University of St Andrews I lead an interdisciplinary team of 10 researchers, working on the ethical dilemmas involved in global energy practices.
09/2016	07/2018	Lecturer in Social Anthropology University of St Andrews My teaching includes anthropology and interdisciplinary courses.
09/2013	08/2016	Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow University of Edinburgh/ University of St Andrews I carried out a new research project, based in Colorado (USA) on the oil and gas industry.
09/2009	08/2013	British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow London School of Economics/ University of Edinburgh I carried out a research project on Mongolian Buddhism and ethics in a region of gold rush mining. Career break (maternity leave): 01/2011-12/2011
08/2008	08/2009	LSE Fellow London School of Economics I contributed to UG teaching while also working on my publications.

Selected other appointments:

From	To	Name of organisation and position held
08/2020	present	Selection Committee Member on the St Andrews Prize for the Environment
02/2020	01/2023	Chair for Research on University of St Andrews' Environmental Sustainability Board
11/2019	Present	Advisory Board Member on the Engineering at St Andrews Institute
03/2016	02/2018	British Academy Representative on the cross-disciplinary sustainability committee of the UK Future Earth
08/2013	07/2019	Judge in Society for Economic Anthropology's Harold K. Schneider Student Prize Competitions

Qualification history:

From	To	Qualification	Subject	Awarding body
09/2004	07/2008	PhD	Social Anthropology	Cambridge
09/2003	08/2004	MPhil	Social Anthropology	Cambridge
09/1999	07/2002	BSc	Anthropology	LSE

Selected grant history:

From	To	Title of grant	Awarding body	Role	Amount
03/2023	02/2027	Alliances for Research Challenges	SFC	PI	£600,000
07/2017	06/2023	Starting Grant	ERC	PI	£1.4 M
11/2020	07/2021	Restarting Interdisciplinary Research	SFC	PI	£97,000

03/2017	02/2020	Knowledge Exchange and Impact Award	St Andrews	PI	£17,320
09/2015	08/2017	Rising Star Engagement Award	British Academy	PI	£20,000
01/2016	06/2016	Main Fund Award	Creative Scotland	PI	£10,000
09/2013	08/2016	Early Career Fellowship	Leverhulme Trust	PI	£91,000
09/2009	08/2013	Post-Doctoral Fellowship	British Academy	PI	£189,000
09/2003	07/2008	PhD Studentship	ESRC	PhD	£100,000

Prizes:

Date	Prizes
07/2021	Finalist, Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2021
10/2020	Finalist, Society for Economic Anthropology Book Award

Selected publications:

Books:

2022. Solarities: seeking energy justice. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. Co-authored book with the After Oil Collective.

2017. Fear and fortune: spirit worlds and emerging economies in the Mongolian gold rush. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

2010. Аюултай Хишиг: Монголын албан бүс алтны үүрхайн эдийн засаг дахь хөрөнгө ба эцэглэл. Admon Press: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Edited volumes/special issues of journals:

2019. Energy and ethics? anthropological approaches to our energy dilemmas. With J. Smith. Special Issue in Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute (JRAI), vol. 25, S1.

2017. Towards an anthropology of energy: ethnography, energy and ethics. With J. Smith. Special Issue in Energy Research and Social Science vol. 30.

Journal articles:

2022. Utopias of Oil: private equity and entrepreneurial ambition in the U.S. oil and gas industry. Cultural Anthropology, 37 (4): 738-763.

2019. Introduction: the ethical constitution of energy dilemmas. With J. Smith. JRAI, 25:9-28.

2019. Projects of devotion: energy exploration and moral ambition in the cosmoeconomy of oil in the Western United States. JRAI, 25:29-46.

2018. A question of ethics: the creative orthodoxy of Buddhist monks in the Mongolian gold rush. Ethnos 83(1):80-99.

2017. Exploring the anthropology of energy: ethnography, energy and ethics. With J. Smith. Energy Research and Social Science, 30:1-6.

2013. Polluted money, polluted wealth: emerging regimes of value in the Mongolian gold rush. American Ethnologist, 40(4):676-688.

2013. Cosmologies of freedom and Buddhist self-transformation in the Mongolian gold rush. JRAI, 19(4):753-770.

Book chapters:

2022. Articulations of ethics: energy worlds and moral selves. In Handbook for the Anthropology of Technology, Brun, M.H. et al. (eds.). London: Routledge.

2016. Human predation and animal sociality: the transformational agency of 'wolf people' in Mongolia. In Animals Out of Place, Hum, S. (ed.). London: Routledge.

2013. Believing in spirits, doubting the cosmos: religious reflexivity in the Mongolian gold mines. In Ethnographies of Doubt: Faith and Uncertainty in Contemporary Societies, Pelkmans, M. (ed). London: I.B.Tauris.

Selected policy reports and evidence:

2024. Consultation feedback on the Scottish Government's proposal for a Heat in Buildings bill, with S. Field, Z. Shipton, J. Dickie & K. Thomason. 10 pp.

2023. Net zero society: scenarios and pathways. Government Office for Science, 194 pp.

2023. Comments on the Scottish Government's draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan, with S. Field, A. Finch, N. Gardiner, J. Hogan, L. Jagadamma, E. Skrzypek. 15 pp.

Selected blog posts:

2020. Oil, oil, who wants some oil? Parts 1-4. With S. Field. The Energy Blog