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He is the author of seven books on East Asian History including:

*Modern Japan: A Historical Survey*. Revised Edition with Mikiso Hane. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2008.

*The History of Japan*. Revised edition. Greenwich, CT: Greenwood Press, 2008.

*Daily Life in Early Modern Japan*. Greenwich, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002.

*Japan Comes of Age: Mutsu Munemitsu and the Revision of the Unequal Treaties*. London: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 1999.

In addition to his extensive teaching career (including winning the Distinguished University Teacher award at Illinois State University), he was Director of General Education for four years at Illinois State University. He was a President of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs and served as the Director of the Midwest Japan Seminar.