After Buddhism was transmitted from India to China, after a period of spread and adaptation, Indian Buddhism was gradually integrated into Chinese culture. Subsequently, after its complete development and the establishment of various schools, Chinese Buddhism succeeded in spreading into the neighboring countries and regions, and this led to the establishment of Japanese Buddhism, Korean Buddhism, and Vietnamese Buddhism. What about today’s Chinese Buddhism? Does Chinese Buddhism still have such cultural tension and dynamic that it can continue to develop to other areas? To explore the current situation, I look at Chinese temples in Hawaii and how they are developing. In Hawaii, where Asians have a higher proportion of the population than in other states of the U. S., the study of Japanese Buddhism began relatively early and has been relatively thorough. However, the study of Chinese Buddhism has not been so systemic. To attempt to redress this lack, my presentation will discuss the current situation and problems of Chinese Buddhist temples in Hawaii and their future development using the results of my field survey and interviews, and after conducting a literature review.

About the speaker: Guanghui Yu is an associate professor in the College of Communication, Guizhou Minzu University, China. Her research interests include Chinese Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism and ethnic culture. Her PhD thesis is about the Tibetan Buddhist temples in Chengdu. She is currently participating in research projects on the history and development of Tantric Buddhism in Guizhou, an the introduction to Tibetan Buddhism in Chengdu, and the 13th Five-Year Plan of Guizhou Religion Development. She is currently a visiting scholar in UHM’s Department of Religion.