Dear friends,

I am so glad to announce the appointment of Harsha Menon as our interim Buddhist Chaplain for the Spring 2021 semester. Harsha will work closely with the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha, collaborate with our multifaith team, and support Buddhist life on campus.

Harsha Menon is a scholar and practitioner of Buddhism and a filmmaker. She graduated from Harvard Divinity School with a Masters of Theological Studies with a focus on South Asian religious traditions with Buddhism in particular. She has been an executive board member at the Tufts Buddhist Mindfulness Sangha from its inception, and assisted former Buddhist Chaplain Venerable Priya Sraman for many years. She brings a warmth and enthusiasm for this work, and we are so glad she will lend her many gifts to the Buddhist Chaplaincy this semester.

As a researcher, she focuses on Buddhist studies, film studies, post-colonial theory, social practice, sonic ethnography, transnational feminisms, and the role of research in cinematic and artistic practice. Harsha has taught visual anthropology, experimental film, and civic engagement and contemporary arts at Tufts. She combines filmmaking with Buddhist practice and social service projects about women, literacy, and food insecurity in many parts of the world. [You can read her full biography on our website.]

We are continuing the process for a settled Buddhist Chaplain, and hope that person will join the team this summer. I will continue to update you in that process as it evolves.

Thank you, and I wish you a meaningful start to your semester.

Pax et lux,

Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger
University Chaplain