

法界佛教大學校長蘇珊・朗思 DRBU President Susan Rounds

菩提臺 Водні Ѕталд

夏方 文 李海昱 英譯

By Fang Xia English Translation by Lotus Lee

法界佛教大學(以下簡稱法大)前校長阿匹納博士自2014年春季班退休後,由蘇珊,朗思 (果載居士)接任代理校長,並於2014年秋季 班正式獲聘爲法大校長。

果載居士出生於紐約,父親任職於聯邦政 府,雙親都樂於爲人羣服務,並參與許多義務 工作。她從小就立志當老師,她的志向備受父 母鼓勵。青少年時期,她定期上路德教會,十 分認真。但她的人生哲學是:認為對的就去 做,而非「必須這樣做才能得救,否則就會被 懲罰」。因此在教會裏感覺無法解決心中的疑 惑,找不到她想追尋的答案。

1962年她自衛斯理女子學院畢業時,正值宣 公上人自港赴美弘法。但遇見上人的因緣,直 到十四年後才成熟。大學畢業後,果載居士進 入哈佛大學深造,獲得教育碩士學位。從此投 After Dr. Akpinar, the former president of Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) retired in the spring of 2014, Susan Rounds officially became the new president of DRBU in the fall of 2014.

Susan was born in New York, and her father worked for the federal government. Both of her parents were avid volunteers and enjoyed serving the community. From a young age, she aspired to become a teacher, which was met with much encouragement from her parents. In her teens, she attended Lutheran church services with much enthusiasm. However, her personal philosophy was "Do it because it's the right thing to do," not "Do it to gain salvation and avoid punishment." Consequently, her experiences in church were unable to eradicate the doubts and confusion in her mind or give her the answers that she wanted.

Susan graduated from Wellesley College in 1962, which, coincidentally, was the same year the Venerable Master traveled

身教育事業,首先在紐約地區任教於小學與幼稚 園。1972年她的同修果舟居士皈依上人座下,次年 兩人自紐約遷居至北加州,以便親近上人。她因爲 贊同不殺生的理念,也跟著開始吃素,並體會素食 對健康的益處。

1975年,她在上人座下受三皈五戒,成爲佛弟 子,並以持誦觀音聖號為修行法門,當時她仍在柏 克萊加大攻讀「語言與閱讀發展」博士學位。法界 佛教總會購置萬佛聖城後,她與果舟居士於1978年 成爲首批入住的居士家庭之一。

育良小學與培德中學相繼成立時,她是創校校董 之一,並擔任校長顧問。法界佛教大學創校後,她 與恒持法師等人共同擬定法大的課程。1987年,果 舟居士的父母搬到瑜伽市定居。爲了方便照顧老人 家,果舟、果載、以及他們的兒子小果船全家搬到 萬佛城山門外,與父母同住。1988年起,果載居士 擔任多明尼肯大學瑜伽市分校校長長達十二年,負 責教師證照項目。

兩年前果載居士應邀協助法大兩項新的學位學 程:文學士學位與佛教經典碩士學位。法大目前正 在申請認證,教職員目前全體總動員,正為明年這 項考察評估,加緊籌備中。

回顧既往,果載居士記得在擔任多明尼肯大學瑜 伽市分校校長時,雖有很多半時員工協助,但凡事 必須自己作決定,獨力承擔責任。來到法大擔任校 長,雖然同樣要為許多行政事務作決定,但有多位 上人的老弟子共同合作,她說:「我覺得不再是自 己一人孤軍奮鬥,而是在一個團體裏,大家共同分 享著上人的願景,這讓我感覺十分愉快。」**參**



from Hong Kong to the United States to propagate the Dharma. However, she did not meet the Venerable Master until fourteen years later. After graduation, she went on to obtain a Master's degree in education at Harvard University and began her career in teaching at kindergartens and elementary schools in New York. In 1972, her husband David Rounds (also known as Guo Chou) took refuge with the Venerable Master. They moved from New York to California the following year in order to be closer to him. As she agreed with the principle and practice of not killing, she became a vegetarian and came to realize the health benefits of a vegetarian diet.

In 1975, Susan took the three refuges and five precepts under the guidance of the Venerable Master, and concentrated her practice on the dharma door of Guan Yin Recitation. At the time, she was studying for a doctorate in Language and Reading Development at UC Berkeley. After DRBA bought the land that was to become the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, she and her husband were some of the first lay families to move to the City in 1978.

Susan was one of the founding board members of Instilling Goodness and Developing Virtue Schools, and served as consultant to the principal. After DRBU was founded, she and Dharma Master Heng Chih established the curriculum together with several other people. In 1987, David Rounds' parents moved to Ukiah permanently, and in order to take better care of them, David, Susan and their son Nathaniel moved to a house just outside of the gate of CTTB to live with his parents. Beginning in 1988, Susan served as the Director of the Ukiah Center of Dominican College for twelve years and was responsible for the Teaching Credential Program.

Susan began working with DRBU again two years ago when she was asked to help with the two new degree programs: a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts and a Master's degree in Buddhist Classics. of classical texts which the students read and discuss in small seminar classes. Currently, DRBU is in the process of accreditation. The faculty and staff are all working very hard to prepare the university for this accreditation visit.

Looking back, she remembers that as the director of the Ukiah Center of the Dominican College, although she had many part-time subordinates helping her, she had to make many decisions and take responsibilities by herself. But now, as the president of DRBU, though she still has administrative decisions to make, there are many of the Venerable Master's senior disciples here whom she can work with. She says: "I no longer feel that I am working by myself; being in a community with people that share the Venerable Master's vision makes me very happy." *****