



法界佛教大學開學典禮

DRBU Convocation

胡悅文/譯

Written and translated by Yue Hu

Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) held the Fall 2015 Student Orientation from August 17th to 19th and the Convocation on the morning of August 18th. Dharma Master Heng Liang, DRBU Dean of Student Affairs, said that last year, at DRBU's first Convocation for students entering programs, this room was about half full. This year it is kind of bursting and by next year, at this rate of growth, we hope that we will have a much bigger facility for many more students.

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法界佛教大學（法大）於8月17至19日舉行2015年秋季班迎新活動，並於8月18日上午舉行開學典禮。法大學務長恒良法師指出，去年法大為第一屆新學程的同學們舉辦開學典禮時，法大會議室只有半滿，今年差不多爆滿。按照這樣的成長率，明年希望能有更大的校舍，以迎接更多學生入學。

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法界佛教大學開學典禮 (續)

DRBU CONVOCATION (CONTINUED)

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DHARMA REALM NEWS | 法界音

(續封面內頁)

恒良法師說，首屆佛教經典碩士班學生於今年春季順利畢業，畢業率高達百分之八十；她祝福新生能百分之百地順利畢業。今年的迎新主題是「入法界」，恒良法師表示，大乘佛教最長的經典《華嚴經》裏最長的一品，恰名為〈入法界品〉。其中到處參訪善知識的善財童子，正代表了所有追尋性靈、學問、知識、智慧、理解的人。

恒良法師指出：「善財童子的特質包括誠懇、活力、渴望、目標明確、好奇心、勇氣、開放、尊敬、仁慈、淨心、感恩、好學等，我們能在自己身上找到多少這些特質，足以決定我們發現、學習與成長的幅度。」

法大校長蘇珊朗德說，法大今年有許多新的成長：女眾宿舍整修工程今春完工；

(Continued from the front inner cover)

Dharma Master Heng Liang said, “Last spring we also saw DRBU’s first graduating class in Master of Arts in Buddhist Classics, 80 percent of the students of that cohort graduated successfully. My wish for you students here today is that all of you successfully graduate so that we can have 100 percent from your respective degree programs at DRBU.” The theme for this year’s orientation is *Entering the Dharma Realm*. It is also the name of the longest chapter of the longest text of the Mahayana Buddhist Canon, the *Avatamsaka Sutra*. This chapter tells the story of Sudhana who represents all spiritual seekers as well as all seekers of learning, of knowledge, of wisdom, and of understanding.

Dharma Master Heng Liang said, “Some of these qualities of Sudhana are sincerity, vitality, earnestness, clarity of purpose, curiosity, courage, openness, reverence, kindness, gratitude, purity of heart, joy in learning. The extent to which we are able to find the human qualities that he embodies within ourselves will determine the extent to which we are able to discover and learn and grow.”

DRBU President Susan Rounds pointed out that this year brings much that is new to DRBU: Last spring we celebrated the opening of the renovated



新的佛教經典碩士班第一屆學生於今年6月畢業；法大瑜伽市新校區「善財參學中心」於週日（8月16日）灑淨等等。她回憶在1980年代初期，法大向州府申請核准時，宣公上人曾對準備文件急著趕最後期限的弟子們說：「你們都不知道怎麼放大心量。」蘇珊·朗德說：「現在我們的心量比較大了，我也知道，我們辦政法大若有任何成功之處，那是來自上人的願力與德行。」

法大教務長馬汀維和文博士引用蘇格拉底、老子等哲人的至理名言、善財童子的故事，乃至愛默生與艾略特的詩句，鼓勵學生們勇於探索自我，發現自性。他說：「混濁導致澄淨。善財童子的參訪最終回到原點，澄淨正來自混濁之中。」

法大的迎新還包括打坐、研討、聚餐、參觀校園、以及其他多項活動。並於開學第一個星期的週五與週六，以跑步、妙覺山健行等充滿活力的方式，迎接新學期的開始。❀

Women's dormitory building. In June we celebrated the graduation of the first students of our new Masters Program in Buddhist Classics. On Sunday, we purified the boundaries of the DRBU Sudhana Center in downtown Ukiah. She recalled the day in the early 1980's when they were preparing the document that would allow DRBU to be approved by the State of California. They were rushing to meet a deadline and hurried in to show the Master what they were sending off. The Master told them, "You people don't know how to think big!" Susan Rounds said, "I think we are thinking bigger now, and I know that any success we are having at DRBU is because we are being carried on the river of the vows and virtue of the Venerable Master."



DRBU Dean of Academics Martin Verhoeven encouraged students to explore and discover their true nature. He quoted Socrates, Laozi, the story of Sudhana's search, and the poems of Ralph Waldo Emerson and T. S. Eliot. He said, "Murkiness leads to clarity. Sudhana's search leads right back to where he began. The clarity is right there within the murkiness."

The DRBU orientation included meditation, a seminar, dinner gathering, campus tour and other events and activities. This new semester has started off on an energetic note by jogging and hiking on Wonderful Enlightenment Mountain on Friday and Saturday of the first week of school. ❀

