

Dharma Realm Buddhist University's Delegation Visits Taiwan and Forges Sister-University Relationships

法界佛教大學代表團訪問臺灣，簽訂姊妹大學意向書



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Isn't it joyful when friends visit from afar?

—*Confucian Analects 1:1*

A total of 6,435 miles physically separates Taiwan from Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU)'s campus in Ukiah, California. However, distance is no barrier for friendships grounded in a shared aspiration to foster the roots of human goodness. In November 2016, a delegation from DRBU visited Taiwan to meet old friends, established sister-university relationships and continue an ongoing dialogue with educational and business leaders.

The DRBU delegation for this ten-day trip included Rev. Heng Sure, DRBU professor and President of DRBA; Douglas M. Powers, DRBU Vice President for Finance and Administration; Fujing Shiue, former Chancellor of National Taipei University and DRBU Board member; Wayne Chen, DRBU's Director of Development and Strategic Planning; Franklyn Wu, DRBU's Accreditation Liaison Officer and Assistant Professor; Bhikshu Jin Chuan, Chaplain and Instructor; and members of the Taiwan's Hsuan Hua Foundation.

有朋自遠方來，不亦樂乎？

—《論語》〈學而篇第一〉

臺灣與加州瑜伽市的法界佛教大學，足足相隔6,435哩，彼此致力於培育人性善根而締結的友誼，卻不因距離而有所障礙。2016年11月，法界佛教大學訪問團前往臺灣拜訪老友，簽訂姐妹大學意向書，並且繼續與教育界、商業界的領導階層對話交流。

為期十天的法界佛教大學訪問團，成員包括法大教授暨法界佛教總會主席恒實法師、法大財務行政副校長道格拉斯·鮑爾(果勒居士)、國立台北大學前校長暨法大現任董事薛富井、法大發展規劃部門主任陳頌明、法大學術認證負責人暨副教授吳適有、宗教輔導暨講師近傳師，及臺灣宣化文教基金會成員。

In order to foster a dialogue between the roots of Chinese and Western values and culture, the delegation hosted as well as participated in many events and gatherings. Highlights included the following:

11/19 - Retreat at C.C.P. Contact Probes. Though producing contact probes might not sound like a spiritual activity, the Chairman and President of C.C.P. has infused this company with a culture of honoring parents, cherishing children, and practicing Buddhism. At his request, DRBU conducted a one-day retreat for the company's leadership as well as academics and artists. Reverent Heng Sure told the group how he has met many different kinds of Buddhists: emergency room Buddhists, who call out to the Buddha when there is a crisis, consumer Buddhists, trying to get the best deal in Dharma practice, and wisdom-gardener Buddhists, who cultivate their minds like a garden to develop wisdom. Doug Powers did a close reading of the *Prajna* chapter in the *Sixth Patriarch Sutra*, showing how it conveys modern values of equality, freedom, empiricism, and human potential.

11/20 - Meeting with members of Taiwan leadership. How do we bridge traditional Chinese values to modern youth? DRBU delegation spent an afternoon conversing on this topic with Mr. Eddie Wu, General Manager of Microsoft in Taiwan, and various educational leaders, including former Minister of Education, Vice Ministers of Education, and several university presidents and deans.

The Taiwanese government has integrated a "Life Education" program in Taiwan schools in order to foster students' personal, social, and spiritual lives. Nanhua University recently won an award for being a model school in this regard, and President Tsong-Ming Lin invited the DRBU delegation to visit the campus to see and learn from the program.

Doug Powers shared how, in the 1960s and 1970s, Master Hua took on the difficult job of teaching principles of virtues to American hippies without the benefit of the Chinese cultural context. Rev. Heng Sure quoted Master Hua, saying, "Although teaching a rooster to lay eggs is difficult, it's not that difficult; teaching Americans, that's truly difficult!" Everyone had a good laugh. However, the difficulty that Master Hua faced in America is perhaps similar to what Taiwan is now facing with its younger generation, which might not fully identify with traditional Chinese values. How can educational and other leaders best respond to these modern influences? This is a potential subject for dialogue, as DRBU is presenting these virtues without relying on the "authority" of Chinese culture; instead, DRBU's pedagogy is to have students discover their inherent wisdom and virtue through a direct engagement with classical texts both Eastern and Western.

11/21 - Gathering with Westerners living in Taiwan. For seekers of Buddhist wisdom, martial arts training, and an understanding of Chinese philosophy and culture, Taiwan is a natural destination. But Taiwan also presents challenges to Westerners. Rev. Heng Sure, Doug Powers, and Bhikshu Jin Chuan led a roundtable discussion on "Bridging East & West." One topic that came up was how difficult it was for Westerners to penetrate Chinese Buddhism and Chinese culture because of fundamental differences in ways

為了促進中西方文化觀點的交流，訪問團主持並參與多項活動與聚會。主要活動如下：

11/19 - 參加中國探針股份有限公司佛學研習會。探針製造，聽起來雖然不像是一項精神領域的活動，但因為該公司董事長暨總裁致力推動孝親懷少、修習佛法的企業文化，因此特別邀請訪問團為公司的管理階層以及學術界、藝文界人士舉辦一天的研習會。實法師分享自己的經驗，介紹接觸過的各類型佛教徒：急難發生時，向佛陀請求救援的急診室佛教徒；希望學佛能帶來最大好處的消費者型佛教徒；耕耘心地、開發智慧的園丁型佛教徒。果勒居士則以《六祖壇經》〈般若品〉為主題，講解〈般若品〉傳達的平等、自由、實証科學和人類潛能的現代價值觀。

11/20 - 會晤臺灣教育界領導階層。如何為現代的青年搭起與中國傳統價值觀相接的橋樑？訪問團與臺灣微軟總經理以及數位教育界的領導人士，包括前教育部部長、副部長及數位大學校長及院長們，利用一個下午的時間研討這個主題。

為培育學生個人、社交及精神層次的生活，臺灣政府將「生活教育」整合到學校教育。南華大學最近在這個項目贏得模範學校的榮譽，訪問團接受林聰明校長之邀，前往南華大學就此「生活教育」活動觀摩學習。

果勒居士分享1960、1970年代，上人如何在一個沒有中華文化的時空下，承擔起教育美國嬉皮道德觀的艱鉅任務。實法師引用上人形容的「要公雞下蛋還不難，教美國人最難」，引起哄堂大笑。而上人當年在美國所面臨的困難，也就類似當今臺灣所面臨青少年時代無法認同中華傳統價值觀的情況。因此，教育界以及其他領導階層如何回應這些現代化的影響，成為極具潛力的對話主題。法大的教育方式不標榜中華文化的權威，而是讓學生透過直接研讀東西方的經典文集，開展自身本有的智慧及道德。

11/21 - 會晤在臺的西方人士。對探尋

of thinking. For instance, the Chinese often find security and positive identity in conforming with the group, while Americans often feel oppressed when asked to follow conventions that they do not understand.

11/22 - Visit to Huafan University. Located in New Taipei



DRBU entered a sister-university relationship with DILA

法大與法鼓文理學院簽訂姐妹大學意向書

City, Huafan University was founded by Bhikshuni Hui Wan, who devoted her life to education. She made a vow to not build temples but schools, and said, "Education is my life. I will be with it as long as I can breathe." Having a goal of integrating the study of humanities and technology with compassion and wisdom, the school today comprises colleges in Engineering, Liberal Arts, Arts and Design, and Buddhism. To build on this long-term friendship, DRBU entered a sister-university relationship with Hua Fan University.

11/23 - Interfaith talk by Reverent Heng Sure at National Taipei University. How can

Buddhists be in sincere dialogue with members of other religions? As Taiwan becomes more religiously diverse, this question is especially relevant given its long cultural history of living according to Buddhist values. Rev. Heng Sure shared Master Hua's teachings on being respectful and learning from other religions and showed pictures of interfaith gatherings in which DRBA has participated over the years.

11/24 - Visit to Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts (DILA). Nestled among mountains facing Taiwan's north shore, DILA offers Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral programs in the Humanities

佛法、武術以及中國哲學文化的人士而言，臺灣是自然的最佳選擇。但是對西方人來說，生活在臺灣也有相當多的挑戰。因此，恒實法師、近傳法師、果勒居士共同主持一個「東西橋樑」的討論會，其中一個主題就是思考模式差異造成西方人了解中國佛教及文化的困難，譬如中國人對順應團體有安全及正面的認同，而西方人則會對遵循陌生的傳統感到壓迫。

11/22 - 參訪華梵大學。位於新北市的華梵大學乃由畢生致力於教育的曉雲法師所創立，發願創立學校而非寺廟的她說：「教育工作與我的生命是一體的，它將陪伴我到生命最後一天。」該校以「人文與科技融匯，慈悲與智慧相生」為創校宗旨，現今有工程系、文學系、藝術與設計，以及佛學系。為延續長遠的友誼，訪問團此行代表法大與華梵大學簽訂姐妹大學意向書。

11/23 - 恒實法師在國立台北大學作宗教交流



Visiting Professor Yu Kuang-Chung

拜訪余光中教授

講演。佛教徒如何與不同的宗教真誠交流？臺灣宗教愈趨多元，對長久以佛教觀為主流的社會而言，這個議題也愈顯重要。恒實法師分享了上人鼓勵弟子尊重並向其他宗教學習的開示，也播放法總歷年參與的宗教交流活動照片。

11/24 - 參訪法鼓文理學院。座落山間、面向臺灣北海岸的法鼓文理學院，目前有人文學科及佛學的學士、碩士和博士課程。法鼓文理學院教授數種不同的語言（梵文、中文、英文、日文

and Buddhist Studies. DILA teaches many different languages (Sanskrit, Chinese, English, Japanese, Tibetan) and has been at the forefront of digitalizing the Tripitaka, the Buddhist Canon. To support one another in the joint goal of bringing Buddhism to higher education, DILA and DRBU entered a sister-university relationship during this visit. Both universities have begun discussing how to facilitate student and faculty exchange in the future.

In addition to visiting the above-mentioned sites, the DRBU delegation also met with old friends, such as Dharma Master Ming Kuang who held many Buddhist Summer Camps; the former Speaker of Legislative Yuan Wang Jin-pyng; the Director of the American Institute in Taiwan Kin W. Moy; and Professor Yu Kuang-Chung, a pioneer in introducing Western literature to Taiwan. Incidentally, Rev. Heng Sure studied with Professor Yu in 1969. Professor Yu surprised everyone by reading a poem he had written for Rev. Heng Sure in 1971 titled, "To Chris on His Going West from Denver." The last lines of his poem were a fitting tribute to a meeting of old friends.

*Soon you'll be through trees and trees,
Through the eternal life of the trees,
And the wind will be cool,
And the miles will be green,
And the miles will be blue,
Will greet your eyes, scene after scene.*

*And the miles will be short,
And the miles will be long,
And the miles will be up,
And the miles will be down,
And some will come in thought,
And some will go in song.*

Although the DRBU delegation had to travel 6,435 miles to Taiwan, every mile was worth it. Confucius could also have easily said in the *Analects*, "Isn't it joyful to visit friends who are far away?" ❀



One-Day Retreat at C.C.P Contact Probes

主持中國探針股份有限公司一日佛學營

及藏文），並率先將三藏經典數位化。為共同將佛學引入高等教育，法大與法鼓文理學院在這次參訪中簽訂姐妹大學意向書，並討論將來推展師生交流的方案。

參訪上述各個單位之餘，訪問團也拜訪不少舊雨新知，例如致力舉辦佛教夏令營的明光法師、前立法院院長王金平、美國在台協會梅健華處長、率先引進西方文學到臺灣的余光中教授等。有趣的是，實法師1969年曾就教於余教授，教授出人意料地朗誦一首他在1971年寫給實法師的一首詩「送樓克禮自丹佛西行」。詩的結語，正是此次訪問團會晤老友的最佳句號。

此去你會歷經樹和樹
歷經森林永恆的生機
風吹來會清涼
路有時會發綠
有時又會發藍
迎面而來，一段又一段

路有時候會嫌短
有時候又會嫌長
有時候要上坡去
有時候又下坡去
有的路值得回味
有的路值得彈唱

雖然必須穿越6,435哩才來到臺灣，但每一哩路都不虛行，猶如《論語》中孔子曾說的：「有朋自遠方來，不亦樂乎？」❀