

Dharma Realm Buddhist University Celebrates 2019 Commencement

法界佛教大學2019年畢業典禮

法大 提供

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On May 24, 2019, Dharma Realm Buddhist University held its commencement ceremony at Sudhana Center in Ukiah, CA. This year's commencement ceremony was a significant milestone for DRBU, as we graduated our first class of students from the B.A. in Liberal Arts program. A total of seven B.A. students received their diplomas: Bhikshuni Heng Jie, Bhikshuni Jin Zhi, Bhikshuni Jin Run, Bhikshuni Vien Trung Tinh, Lisa Liang, Frank Liu, and Alex Wang. In addition, our fifth cohort of students graduated from the M.A. program in Buddhist Classics. The seven M.A. graduates were Indrayani Barker, Meina Co, Justin Howe, Brenda Li, Brianna Morseth, Mojo Tchudi, and Sheila Xie.

The theme of "pioneering" ran throughout this year's commencement ceremony, for the graduating B.A. students were pioneers for DRBU's new degree program.

法界佛教大學畢業典禮於2019年5月24日在加州瑜伽鎮的善財參學中心舉辦。今年的畢業典禮是法界佛教大學的重要里程碑，因為我們第一屆文學學士班的學生畢業了。總計有七位學生拿到他們的學士文憑：比丘尼恒解、比丘尼近直、比丘尼近潤、比丘尼圓忠安、梁麗珊、劉無為和王智通。另外還有第五屆佛教經典碩士班畢業的學生。這七位碩士畢業生分別是因德拉雅尼·巴克、顧美娜、賈斯丁·合維、李彬德、布里安娜·莫斯、莫猶·楚迪和謝明惠。

貫穿今年畢業典禮的主題是「開創」。這些學士畢業生是法大新學程的先驅，作為第一批完成該學程的學生，他們是法大社區不可或缺的部分，幫助塑造各方面

As the first students to complete the program, they are integral to the DRBU community and have helped shape every aspect of the student experience – from academics, to dorm and community life, to service-scholarship (work study). In addition, the parents and family members of the graduating students are pioneers in supporting the students throughout their studies at a school that was not yet accredited at the time of enrollment. Families traveled from as far as Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Texas, Pennsylvania, and Florida to attend the commencement ceremony.

The keynote address was given by Professor Harold Roth, a pioneer in the academic field of Contemplative Studies. He is a Professor of Religious Studies and East Asian Studies at Brown University and the founder of Brown University's Contemplative Studies Initiative and Concentration. His keynote address, titled "Contemplative Tools for the Future," discussed the value of an education that develops knowledge of oneself and one's potential as a human being. Professor Roth argued that the dominant paradigm of knowledge in higher-education treats the human and the natural world as an "Other." At DRBU and in Brown's Contemplative Studies Program, an alternative mode of inquiry is practiced that uses a critical first-person subjective perspective to explore oneself and one's relationship to the world. To do so, students try various contemplative practices that are directly related to what they are reading and reflect openly about their experience. To further emphasize this point, Professor Roth discussed how the Daoist text, the *Huainanzi*, offers alternatives for seeing the environment that emerge out of contemplative practice.

Bhikshuni Heng Chih, a DRBU Professor Emerita and Chair of the Board of Trustees was also acknowledged during the ceremony as a pioneer. Dharma Master Heng Chih became a fully ordained Buddhist nun in 1969 and was one of the first five Caucasian monastic disciples of Venerable Master Hsuan Hua. This year, 2019, marks her 50th year in the Sangha, making her one of the world's most senior Buddhist nuns. She was acknowledged during commencement for her decades of service to the monastic order,

的學生體驗——從學術、宿舍、社區生活以及服務與獎學金（工讀）。另外，這些畢業生的父母親和家人也是支持學生們學習的先驅，讓自己的孩子就讀一所入學之初尚未獲得認證的學校。這些畢業生的親友團遠從澳大利亞、香港、台灣、德州、賓州、佛羅里達州來參加畢業典禮。

冥想研究領域的先驅——哈洛德·羅斯教授。哈洛德·羅斯是布朗大學宗教研究與東亞研究的教授，也是布朗大學冥想研究與專注的創始人。演講主題是「未來的冥想工具」，其中討論了教育的價值，就是培養自我的知識以及開發人類的潛能。羅斯教授認為，高等教育主導的知識觀將人類與自然世界區別對待。在法界佛教大學和布朗大學的冥想研究計畫中，採用另一種新的探究模式。以第一人稱的主觀視角來探索自己以及個人與世界的關係。學生們嘗試各種與他們所閱讀的內容相關的冥思練習，並公開反思他們的經驗。為了進一步強調這一點，羅斯教授討論了道家著作《淮南子》如何為冥想中顯現的環境提供替代方案。

在畢業典禮上，比丘尼恒持——法大永久榮譽教授以及大學董事會主席也被視為先驅。持法師在1969年受具足戒，也是宣公上人頭五位白人弟子之一。2019年是她加入僧團第50年，這使她成為世界上最資深的佛教比丘尼之一。在畢業典禮上，持法師幾十年在維持僧團秩序、佛經翻譯以及法界大學種種的貢獻得到表揚。

學士班和碩士班都推選三位演講者在畢業典禮



the translation of Buddhist texts, and to DRBU.

Both the B.A. and M.A. cohorts selected three speakers to give short talks during the commencement ceremony. The talks reflected the value and transformation that each student received from their time at DRBU. Many thanked their teachers, friends, and mentors for supporting them along the way.

Following the speeches, President Susan Rounds awarded the degrees. The commencement ceremony ended with the singing of “Dedication of Merit” and the school song, “Jin Xu Kong” (Pervading Empty Space). ❀

上發表簡短致詞。演說中反映了他們就讀法大期間的收穫以及轉變。很多人都感謝他們的老師、朋友以及導師們一直以來對他們的支持。

演講結束後，校長蘇珊·朗思頒發學位證書。畢業典禮在「迴向偈」以及校歌「盡虛空」的歌聲中圓滿結束。❀

楚石梵琦禪師《西齋淨土詩》(Poems No.9 – 10)

Chan Master Chushi Fanqi's Pure Land Poems of the West Studio

海鹽天寧寺楚石梵琦禪師

西齋結社 英譯 / 楊維光 修訂

Ming Dynasty Chan Master Chushi Fanqi of Tianning Monastery in Haiyan County
English translation by West Studio Club / Revised by Yong Wei Kwong

妙明覺體即如來。 The wondrous, luminously understanding, enlightened nature is the Tathagata;
暫借蓮華養聖胎。 Temporarily, one borrows the lotus to nurture the sagely fetus.
瑞相且分三十二。 Distinguished by thirty-two auspicious marks,
流光何止百千垓。 One radiates a trillion beams of brilliant light.
莊嚴寶具相隨到。 Articles adorned with jewels appear as one pleases;
細軟天衣不假裁。 Heavenly gossamer garments require no tailoring.
上品上生生死絕。 Reborn in the highest superior grade lotus, one ends birth and death;
塵塵刹刹紫金台。 Sitting on a purple-golden dais, one appears in worlds as many as dust motes.

未歸極樂尚闍浮。 Yet to return to Ultimate Bliss, we remain in Jambudvīpa,
漂泊風塵更幾秋。 Adrift in this defiled world for countless autumns.
殘夢頻驚蕉葉雨。 Often are our dreams shattered by rain pattering on plantain fronds;
故鄉只在蕩華洲。 Our original home is none other than the islets of lotus blooms!
屈伸臂頃無多地。 Returning is as quick as flexing an arm; it's easily within reach.
高占人群最上頭。 Far surpassing the multitudes, we emerge the loftiest of all.
二大士心憐老病。 The two Mahāsattvas feel deep pity for us decrepit folk;
何妨攜手入瓊樓。 Why not enter the jade pavilions with them hand in hand?