

# Dharma Realm Buddhist University Celebrates Commencement

## 法界佛教大學畢業典禮

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On Saturday, May 21, 2022, Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) held its first in-person commencement ceremony since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's graduates were joined by the classes of 2020 and 2021, making for DRBU's largest commencement to date. Friends, family, staff, and alumni all gathered to celebrate the graduates' achievements. DRBU also hosted a livestream for those who could not attend in person.

Bright sun shone on the ceremony, which was held on the lawn in front of South Wing 123, the main hub of DRBU's classes and activities. Family and friends came from around

2022年5月21日星期六，法界佛教大學舉行了自新冠疫情大流行開始以來的首次面對面的畢業典禮。今年的畢業生加入了2020年和2021年的班級，這是法大迄今為止最大的畢業典禮。朋友、家人、員工和校友都聚集一堂慶祝畢業生的成就。法大還為那些無法親自參加的人舉辦了一場直播。

盛大的儀式在法大教學大樓前的草坪上舉行。家人和朋友來自加利福尼亞和美國各地，總而言之，大約有一百人



California and the United States, and all told, some 100 people were in attendance. Professor Emeritus Ernest Waught emceed, and DRBU President Dr. Susan Rounds offered a welcoming address.

Congratulating the graduates, Dr. Rounds encouraged them to apply what they learned at DRBU for the betterment of the world. “You have studied texts that are storehouses of wisdom from many different times and cultures. But you also recognize that the truest, deepest wisdom is inherent in you. You have worked to uncover the light that shines within all of us and connects us to the great, beating heart of the universe. You understand the importance of virtuous and wholesome conduct. You know that compassion, generosity, and patience are antidotes to fear, anger, and violence. And you know that diligent daily work is needed to establish yourself in a place of equanimity and joy. This world desperately needs what you have learned at DRBU.”

Each of the graduates also gave a short speech reflecting on their experience as a student. Expressing the joy and sorrow of studying during the pandemic, one Master’s student said, “Even though I only got to experience one

參加。名譽教授厄內斯特·沃主持，法大校長蘇珊·朗茲博士致歡迎辭。

在祝賀畢業生的同時，朗茲博士鼓勵他們將在法大學到的知識應用於建設世界的進步之中。「你所研究的著作是來自許多不同時代和文化的智慧寶庫。但與此同時你也認識到了，最真實、最深刻的智慧是內在的。您一直在努力發現那閃耀在我們所有人內心，並將我們與宇宙中偉大的、跳動的心臟聯繫起來的光芒。你了解德行和善行的重要性。你知道同情、慷慨和耐心是恐懼、憤怒和暴力的解藥。而且你知道，每日精進能使自己平靜、快樂。這個世界迫切需要你在法大學到的一切。」

每位畢業生都發表了簡短的演講，回顧了他們作為學生的經歷。一位碩士畢業生表達了疫情期間學習的喜怒哀樂：「雖然只有一個學期的實體學習的體驗，但和大家一起學法，讓我的精神得到了滋養。我知道我不應該貪婪，但這個體驗讓我嚮往更多……我們的時間不多，但我們共同分享的每一刻都很珍貴。」



semester in person, being with everybody and learning the Dharma together has nourished my spirit. I know that I shouldn't be greedy, but it leaves me wanting more.... We didn't have a lot of time, but every moment we shared together was precious.”

A Bachelor's student spoke about the personal transformation afforded by a course of study at DRBU. “For a long time it was difficult for me to speak my mind and articulate what I truly wanted to say to others. I didn't think that what I had to say would be of much value to other people. But over time I've learned that my voice does have value, and so do the voices and perspectives of others. In class I was able to learn from others and realize that people deserve much more than how I depict them to be inside my head. I learned that people can be insightful, vulnerable, and honest as long as I'm receptive to those parts of myself as well.”

Dr. Theodore Tsukahara, a teacher of the Integral Program at Saint Mary's College of California and their 2022 Professor of the Year, delivered the keynote address. Praising the graduates for their reflections, he referred to Socrates. “What should we learn from his life? Pursue an education that will foster virtue that is a foundation for character formation. Accept the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. And what I've heard from your speakers today, that is well underway here at DRBU.”

Dr. Tsukahara then quoted from Pope Francis in urging the graduates to carefully consider what guiding star or principle they will look to in the future. “We may ask ourselves what star we have

一位學士學位畢業生談到了在法大學習課程所帶來的個人轉變。「很長一段時間以來，我很難說出自己的想法並清楚地表達我真正想對別人說的話。我不認為我要說的話對其他人有多大價值。但隨著時間的推移，我了解到我的聲音確實有價值，其他人的聲音和觀點也是如此。在課堂上，我能夠向他人學習，並意識到他人應該得到我更多的尊重與理解。我了解到，只要我可以接受自己的洞察力、脆弱和誠實，那麼他人在我眼中也就會變得更富有洞察力、脆弱和誠實。」

加州聖瑪麗學院綜合課程教師、2022年度教授西奧多·冢原博士發表了主題演講。他讚揚了畢業生們的反思性的演講，並提到了蘇格拉底——「我們應該從他的生活中學到什麼？是追求能夠美德的教育——因為美德是培養品格的基礎。是接受公民的義務和責任。而我今天從你們的演講者那裡聽到的，證明了這些都正在法大順利的進行著。」

冢原博士隨後引用教皇方濟各的話，敦促畢業生仔細考慮他們未來將尋求什麼樣的導引或原則。「我們可能會問自己，我們選擇在生活中追隨哪顆指南星。有些星星可能很亮，但它們並不指向方向。當我們享受成功時，成功、金錢、事業、榮譽和享樂就成為了我們的生活。但它們是流星——曇花一現，而且轉瞬即逝，它們的光輝也消失殆盡。這種是誤導而不是引導我們的流星。」

再次引用教皇的話，冢原博士提出了一種替代物質追求的另一種追求：對致力於共同利益的



chosen to follow in our lives. Some stars may be bright, but they do not point the way. So it is with success, money, career, honors, and pleasures, when these become our life. They are meteors; they blaze momentarily, but then quickly burn out, and their brilliance fades. They are shooting stars that mislead rather than lead.”

Quoting again from the pope, Dr. Tsukahara proposed an alternative to material pursuits: discernment of a higher calling devoted to the common good. “Discernment is not about discovering what more we can get out of this life but recognizing how we can better accomplish the mission entrusted to us... This entails a readiness to make sacrifices, even to sacrificing everything. For happiness is a paradox. We experience it most when we accept the mysterious logic that is not of this world. Discernment then is not a solipsistic self-analysis or a form of egotistical introspection but an authentic process of leaving ourselves behind... for the good of our brothers and sisters.”

In closing, Dr. Tsukahara told the graduates, “I wish you happiness as you continue your journey in life.” This May, DRBU celebrated its fourth cohort from the BA in Liberal Arts, its eighth cohort from the MA in Buddhist Classics, and its fourth cohort from the Graduate Certificate in Buddhist Translation. In addition, its first international Bachelor’s student graduated this year. Finally, longtime Professor Barbara Waugh was awarded the title of Professor Emerita in recognition of her years of service to DRBU and the many people who were able to study Sanskrit because of her. Classes will resume in August for the start of the Fall 2022 semester. ❀

更高使命的洞察力。「洞察力不是要發現我們可以從這一生中得到的什麼，而是要認識到我們如何能夠更好地完成賦予我們的使命……這需要準備好做出犧牲，甚至犧牲一切。因為幸福是一個悖論。當我們接受這個不屬於這世界的神秘邏輯時，我們對它體驗得最多。因此，這種洞察不是一種唯我的自我分析或一種以為我為中心的內省形式，而是一個真正的將自己拋在後面的過程……是為了我們兄弟姐妹的利益。」

演講最後，冢原博士對畢業生們說：「祝你們在將來人生的旅程中幸福。」今年五月，法大迎來了第四屆文科學士學位、第八屆佛教經典碩士和第四屆佛教翻譯碩士研修班學生。此外，法大的第一位國際學士學生今年也應屆畢業。最終，長期擔任教授的芭芭拉·沃被授予名譽教授稱號，以表彰她多年來為法大服務，以及感謝因她的付出能夠讓許多人學習梵文。法大的實體課程將於8月份，2022年秋季學期，開始時恢復開課。❀



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