Dear Wellesley Buddhist Community Sangha,

You are me, and i am you. Isn't it obvious that we "inter-are"?
You cultivate a flower in yourself, so that i will be beautiful.
I transform the garbage in myself, so that you will not have to suffer.

I support you;
You support me.
I am in this world to offer you peace;
You are in this world to bring me joy.

– Thich Nhat Hanh

As the academic year draws to a close, I remember anew that the heart of all relationships, is this interbeing. We support each other. This is the treasure of Sangha. Our Buddhist Community has attained Sangha through sitting retreats together, through weekly practice together, and through the nourishment of Dharma friendships. In our mutual support the heart of the Buddha's teaching shines clearly: we are all interconnected. The effort we each make towards bodhicitta, awakened heart, brightens our world. As an alum (class of '91), and as a teacher fortunate enough to work with these radiant women, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your ongoing support of Wellesley Buddhist Community.

In the Dharma,

Ji Hyang Sunim

MANDALA CREATION

The Buddhist Community is very pleased to announce a partnership with the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life on a project to share the diamond-point clarity of the teachings of Tibet with our greater community. In March 2005 the Tibetan nuns of Keydong nunnery will visit Wellesley Campus, create a sand mandala, and give practice and teachings.

The presence of these women, trained in Tibetan Buddhist practice and arts, challenges eons of structural obstacles women have faced upon the path. Their visit has the potential to be very catalytic. These Tibetan women are actually the first ever trained in the art of sand mandala and thankga painting. They are raising money to build classrooms and a library at the nunnery for their studies, which are greatly needed. Training resources for Tibetan nuns are at a premium.

When these nuns came to Trinity College a few years ago, thousands of people visited Trinity College. The book, *Women's Buddhism: Buddhism's Women*, came directly out of this conference. We expect the nuns' visit to Wellesley College to be equally transformational, across campus and beyond. Thus we are in partnership with many groups around this: the Office of Religious Life, the Religion, Art and Political Science Departments; the Davis Museum, the Episcopal Archdiocese, and Ruah Spirituality Institute. For more information, see our website:http://www.wellesley.edu/RelLife/rel/buddhism/visit.html
Year in Review

Wellesley Buddhist Community has had a great growth year. For eighteen months prior to September it had lain fallow, and is now returning to full expression.

Our ongoing activities include:

**Weekly meditation and discussion:**
Monday nights, 7 to 8 p.m.
Weekly sitting, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 to 1 p.m. Mondays and Fridays, 8:30 to 9 a.m.

**Interreligious Events:**
Wellesley Buddhist Community sponsored a Labyrinth meditation, cosponsored by the Protestant Chaplaincy, the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and the Newman Catholic Ministry. Mary Gottman, '95 and Mary Piso, a current CE student, were Labyrinth facilitators.

**Visits from local teachers:**
In February, Zen Master Jane Dobisz gave a lecture and booksigning, based on her new book, *The Wisdom of Solitude*. The event was covered by the *Wellesley Townsman*.

**Off campus retreats:**
We held our first retreat Saturday, February 7th which was cosponsored by B.U. Zen Society. This retreat was held at the Peace Abbey, an ecumenical center in Sherborne. Zen Master Jane Dobisz gave teaching and Zen kong-an interviews.

**Cultural Events:**
In October we hosted noted writer and translator Bill Porter (Red Pine), who gave a lecture and slide presentation based on his book, *Road to Heaven*, an account of his travels across the most inaccessible mountain peaks of China, and his encounters with the hermits who keep ancient Taoist and Buddhist traditions alive. The Chinese Department, Religion Department, and Chinese Students Association cosponsored.

**Field trips:**
We visited Kurukulla Tibetan Buddhist Center, in Medford for a Tara Puja given by Geshe Tsulga, and Lam Rim teaching given by Khensur Rinpoche, Geshe Tsulga's teacher. Students especially appreciated meeting Ani Jampa Dolkar, a nun in residence at Kurukulla Center, who is a Wellesley Alum!

**Indigo Blue:**
This Wintersession our pilot mindfulness-based stress reduction classes began, with the title Indigo Blue. These classes are designed to share traditional Buddhist methods for cultivating mindfulness in a way that everyone can access, and fit into a wider campus initiative, entitled, “Reducing Stress, Enhancing Learning.” Our mindfulness classes receive the creative and structural benefits of my internship with the pioneering Stress Reduction Clinic in Worcester, and experience in California teaching mind-body programs.
Next fall we will begin with great bright energy. In October, we will be honored with a visit by noted translator Red Pine, author of *Road to Heaven*. Red Pine's most recent work is *Poems of the Masters*, a classic anthology of Tang and Sung Dynasty verse. We will also sponsor a four week series on Women in Buddhism to be given by Zen Master Bon Yeon (Jane Dobisz), and a lecture to be given by award-winning author and Vipassana teacher Kate Lila Wheeler. Together with the U.U. Ministry, we are sponsoring a visit by James Ismael Ford, who holds the Rinzai and Soto Zen lineage of Robert Aitken Roshi's line, and is Minister of First Unitarian Society in Newton. March 2005 marks the historic visit of the Keydong Nuns, which we will celebrate in collaboration with the Davis Museum and other campus organizations and departments. The nuns will construct a sand mandala dedicated to Avalokitesvara, the embodiment of compassion.

**Chapel Renovation**

Houghton Chapel hosts our offices, our meditation room, and the college's multifaith worship. During its 105 year history, it has had virtually no work done. While we are appreciative of having a dedicated space for meditation practice – a rarity on college campuses – it is true that the walk across the unfinished basement to our meditation room is not as welcoming as it might be.

This week the college embarks upon a restoration project, to renovate this basement into a new Multifaith Center for Religious and Spiritual Life. In this first stage, our entrance is situated above ground. In the next, the interior will be transformed; the meditation room we share with the Hindu community will be above ground, well furnished and lit, and part of a developed space that invites all students to celebrate their own spiritual tradition, and come together as community. By giving to the College this year, you can help bring our new space into being.

**Contact Us!**

If you are on campus, stop by my office in the lower level of the Houghton Chapel, or call 781.283.2793. Over the summer, our office is closed: I can best be reached through email, at jsunim@wellesley.edu.

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