



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dharma Realm Buddhist University Takes Important Step Toward Accreditation

UKIAH, California, August 1, 2016 – Dharma Realm Buddhist University, an innovative Buddhist-grounded institution located at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas in Talmage, California, has recently taken a major step toward accreditation.

The University has been awarded Candidacy for accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). WSCUC is a regional accrediting agency serving public and private higher education institutions in California, Hawaii, and the Pacific.

Dharma Realm Buddhist University offers two unique programs: a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree program in Liberal Arts, and a two-year Master of Arts degree program in Buddhist Classics. Both programs combine rigorous engagement with classic philosophical texts with an emphasis on students developing self knowledge. The peaceful rural campus is a unique setting for learning, with traditional classrooms, dorms, over 200 acres of open space, and an organic garden, all flourishing alongside an engaged monastic community.

When the team from WSCUC visited the campus in March, 2016 and met with the faculty and students, they were inspired by the depth and quality of the conversations as well as by the commitment of the community, according to DRBU President Susan Rounds.

In a letter following the visit, WSCUC commended DRBU “for its development and ongoing support of a community that is remarkably engaged in old and new ideas, consistently open to fresh perspectives, and creative in advancing the University’s mission on and off campus. The University’s connection to the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association’s monastery provides a rare and inspiring learning environment as well as collaborations and opportunities that enrich both organizations.”

WSCUC will be making a return visit in November, 2017, as part of the ongoing accreditation process.

President Rounds stated, “Achieving Candidacy is a critical milestone for us and we know that our students will benefit from the new and ongoing initiatives that DRBU has implemented through this accreditation process. We are honored that WSCUC specifically recognizes that the DRBU community demonstrates and practices an ‘ethic of care’ that is grounded in the



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University's mission and values. WSCUC also observed that these values were 'visible in all aspects of the student's experience' (classroom, student conferences, residential life, work-study program, student activities, and so on)."

The Commission action letter and team report has been made public on the WSCUC directory: <https://www.wascenior.org/institutions/dharma-realm-buddhist-university>.

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APPLYING TO DHARMA REALM BUDDHIST UNIVERSITY

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2016-17 school year, until August 10, 2016. For more information about admissions, visit www.drbu.org or contact Wayne Chen at 707-234-5897.

Dharma Realm Buddhist University is a small private school dedicated to liberal education in the broad Buddhist tradition—a tradition characterized by knowledge in the arts and sciences, self-cultivation, and the pursuit of wisdom. Know yourself; know the world. These are the enduring hallmarks of an educated person, both East and West, and the essence of the DRBU Experience.