

NEWS & NOTES

The International Research Institute for Zen Buddhism (IRIZB), Hanazono University, Kyoto, has appointed a new director, eminent Zen scholar Dr. Nishimura Eshin. He replaces Dr. Yanagida Seizan who, in his modern approach to Zen studies, has dominated the field for the past three decades (for an overview of his achievements, see the Special issue Ch'an/Zen Studies of *Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie*, vol. 7 [1993–1994], published in his honor).

Also retiring is associate director Dr. Urs App, who, along with institute researcher Michel Mohr, coordinated the production of a prodigious number of Zen-related publications, including the electronic ZenBase CD 1 and the Electronic Bodhidharma, an internet homepage (<http://www.iiijnet.or.jp/iriz/irizhtml/irizhome.htm>) that boasts the largest store of primary Zen Buddhist text materials on the internet.

Of special note also is the twenty-one-volume Hanazono University Concordance series generated by the Institute. Deposited at various institutes and libraries around the world where scholars and researchers working on the original texts can access them more easily, the Series includes concordances to the following Zen texts: 1. *Record of Linji* (Rinzai) 臨濟錄, 2. *Vajrasamādhi Sūtra* 金剛三昧經, 3. *Huangbo* 黃檗 (Ōbaku) texts, 4. *Platform Sutra* 六相壇經, 5. *Lengjia shiziji* 楞伽師資記, 6. *Jueguanlun* 絕觀論, 7. *Wumenguan* (Mumonkan) 無門關, 8. *Zen Songs* (信心銘十, 牛圖, etc.), 9. *Records of Mazu* (Matsu) 馬祖 and *Nanquan* (Nansen) 南泉, 10. *Record of Zhaozhou* (Jōshū) 趙州錄, 11. *Zongmi's Preface* 禪源諸詮集, 12. *Changuan Cejin* (Zenkan sakushin) 禪關策進, 13. *Record of Dongshan* (Tōzan) 洞山錄, 14. *Record of Caoshan* (Sōzan) 曹山錄, 15. *Record of Yünmen* (Ummon) 雲門廣錄, 16. *Lidai Fabaoji* (Rekidai hōbōki) 歷代法寶記, 17. *Letters of Dahui* (Daie) 大慧書, 18. *Record of Xuefeng* (Seppō) 雪峰語錄, 19. *Record of Xuansha* (Gensha) 玄沙廣錄, and 20. *Record of Layman Pang* 寶藏論, with volume 21 being an Index to the Series. For further information, contact Mrs. S. Usami, Librarian, International Research Institute for Zen Buddhism, Hanazono University, 8-1 Nishinokyo Tsubonouchi-machi, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto-fu 604, Japan.

For a recent study and translation of Nishida Kitarō's thoughts on Lafacadio Hearn, see Michiko Yusa, trans., "Nishida and Hearn," in *Monumenta Nipponica* 51(1996).3: 309–316. Originally written as a preface to Tanabe Ryūji's *Koizumi Yakumo* (1914), it was subsequently included in Nishida's *Collected Works*, vol. 1, pp. 410–413. We also wish to take this opportunity to credit Dr. Yusa with editing the translation of Nishida Kitarō, "The Retirement Speech of a Certain Professor," that appeared in *EB* 28, 2 (1995).

A fine selection of Nishida's essays in Japanese has also been compiled recently by Ueda Shizuteru in *Nishida Kitarō Zuihitsu-shū* [Collected Essays] (Tokyo: Iwanami shoten, 1996), pp. 400. Dr. Ueda has also brought together selected essays of Nishitani Keiji in *Shūkyō to hi-shūkyō no aida* [At the interface between religion and non-

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religion] (Tokyo: Iwanami shoten, 1996), that was released on the sixth anniversary of Dr. Nishitani's death.

The NCC Center for the Study of Japanese Religions has recently published Mutō Kazuo's "Christianity and the Notion of Nothingness," translated by Jan Van Bragt, in *Japanese Religions*, vol. 2, no. 2 (July 1996), pp. 199-227. The mutual respect with which Mutō Kazuo (1913-1995), who was a professor of Christian studies at Kyoto University, and Nishitani Keiji (1900-1990) regarded one another is related in the introduction by NCC director Yuki Hideo and editor Martin Repp. For further information, contact: NCC Center, Karasuma Shimotachiuri, Kamikyo-ku, Kyoto 602, Japan.

Bukkyō University, L.A. Extension, hosted an international academic symposium on the theme, "A Comprehensive Review of the Pure Land Buddhism of Hōnen," on November 23, 1996. Invited were over a dozen scholars from Japan and the United States, with presentations being made by Kajiyama Yuichi, Alfred Bloom, and Fujimoto Kiyohiko, among others.

University of Calgary will be the site of the eighth biennial conference of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies on July 24-28, 1997, with a conference theme of "The Bodhisattva Path in Jodo Shin Shu." For further information, contact, Ms. Susan Austen, The University of Calgary, Conference Management Services, 1833 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, AB T2M 4S7, Canada.

The Accession ceremony for Ōtani Chōken, the twenty-fifth hereditary heir to the Shinshū Ōtani-ha lineage, was held in Kyoto on November 21, 1996, before an audience of ten thousand people in the Goei-dō of the Higashi Honganji, Kyoto.

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of D. T. Suzuki's death in 1966. A special commemorative lecture was held in Kanazawa under the auspices of the City of Kanazawa, Dr. Suzuki's birthplace, along with a changing exhibition of memorabilia organized by Mrs. Mihoko Okamura-Bekku, Dr. Suzuki's former secretary.

The Shinbunkaku, Kyoto, will be sponsoring a series of talks on D. T. Suzuki from April 12 to May 11, 1997. Featured speakers will be Ueda Shizuteru, Yanagida Seizan, Nishimura Eshin, Mihoko Okamura-Bekku, and Terakawa Shunshō.

Other news. The Eastern Buddhist Society quietly celebrated its 75th anniversary since its founding in 1921 by D. T. Suzuki and Beatrice Lane Suzuki.

The journal welcomes informative news items from readers. Please submit them to the journal secretary. Materials will be subject to editing.