

Dharma Realm Buddhist University Earns Eight-Year Academic Reaccreditation

法界佛教大學續獲八年認證資格

By Dharma Realm Buddhist University
法界佛教大學 提供

On April 11, 2024, Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU) was pleased to announce that it had been granted an eight-year academic reaccreditation by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) after a comprehensive review. DRBU was first granted accreditation in 2018, and this eight-year renewal marks a significant milestone in the growth and maturity of the university. DRBU offers undergraduate, masters and certificate programs and is the only accredited four-year institution in Mendocino County.

The WSCUC team visited DRBU in October, 2023 to conduct a three-day review. The reviewing team commended the University for its highly qualified faculty and staff, for the transformational impact of the DRBU education on students and alumni, and for its commitment to graduate students debt free. WSCUC's Commission Action Letter affirms that DRBU has successfully fulfilled the rigorous standards set forth in the accreditation process.

“We are proud of this eight-year reaffirmation and of WSCUC's recognition of our distinctive strengths, especially the transformational impact of our education and our ethic of care,” said Dr. Susan Rounds, DRBU President. “This accomplishment is due to the efforts of the whole University community and our collective commitment to DRBU's mission and to WSCUC's high standards for academic quality and institutional effectiveness.”

Renowned for its distinctive “Great Books” style degree programs, DRBU offers a unique educational experience centered on Asian and Western core texts and the integration of contemplative exercises.

The official WSCUC Action Letter is available for public viewing on the WSCUC website, (<https://www.wscuc.org/institutions/dharma-realm-buddhist-university/>) offering

2024年4月11日，法界佛教大學（法大）欣然宣布：經過全面審查後，本校已獲美國西區學校與大學聯盟（WASC）的「高等學院與大學委員會」（WSCUC）八年學術再次認證。法大於2018年首次獲得六年認證；這次續獲八年的認證，標誌著本校不斷成長，臻於成熟的重要里程碑。法大提供本科、碩士和證書課程，是曼都西諾縣唯一獲得認證的四年制大學。

「高等學院與大學委員會」團隊於2023年10月訪問法大，進行為期三天的審查。審查小組讚揚了本校高素質的教職員工、法大教育對學生和校友產生身心轉化的影響，以及對學生畢業時零學貸的承諾。「高等學院與大學委員會」行函確認法大已成功達到認證過程中規定的嚴格標準。

法大校長蘇珊·朗茲博士表示：「我們為續獲八年認證以及高等學院與大學委員會對我們獨特優勢的認可感到自豪，尤其是我們的教育和對學生的關懷，所帶來身心轉化的影響。這一成就歸功於整個大學所有成員的努力，我們對法大使命的集體承諾，以及高等學院與大學委員會對學術品質和校方效率的高標準要求。」

法大以其獨特的「偉大書籍」（研讀東西方經典著作）學位課程而聞名，提供以亞洲和西方核心文本為中心，並融合冥想練習的獨特教育體驗。

高等學院與大學委員會正式行函

insight into DRBU's commitment to transformative education and student-centered learning. For further information about Dharma Realm Buddhist University and its accredited programs, please visit www.drbu.edu.

After the campus visit and report by WSCUC team which was conducted from from October 4 to 6, 2023, Dr. Rounds introduced the updates of DRBU and the accreditation inspection (WSCUC team visit) to the four assemblies in the Buddha Hall of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas on October 7.

Dr. Rounds said, "On October 6, Dr Kuan, the team chair, shared a summary of the team's finding with a standing room-only audience of DRBU faculty, administrators, students and board members. The team found that everyone they talked to understood and was committed to the mission and vision of the university. In a private conversation with me, Dr. Kuan told me that his team members had told them they wished they could study at DRBU!"

In the past ten years, DRBU has grown steadily based on its original foundation. In addition to obtaining accreditation, starting from the fall semester of 2014, a new undergraduate program and a new master's program in Buddhism were launched. In June 2015, the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association purchased a new campus for DRBU in downtown Ukiah, which was later named the "Sudhana Center." In the fall semester of 2017, the then newly-renovated building at the main campus of DRBU was put to use. For the spring semester of 2024, the old auditorium of the Sudhana Center has been renovated into a reading and study lounge. The 1,400-square-foot space, which originally had damaged floors and peeling paint, has been given a new look after renovation. It can not only be used for reading and self-study, but can also be used as a small auditorium when needed.

Venerable Master Hua once said when he founded DRBU, "Dharma Realm Buddhist University is an institution that allows everyone to discover their inherent wisdom, inherent morality, and inherent spirituality. Discover your inherent wisdom, and you will not do confusing and upside-down things to endanger the world. It is the purpose of DRBU." Now that it has been reaccredited for another eight years, DRBU continues to work hard towards this goal to live up to the Master's expectations. ❀

法大的內容，可在該委員會的網站上公開查閱。網址：<https://www.wscuc.org/institutions/dharma-realm-buddhist-university/> 此份函件提供了對於法大致力轉化身心的教育，和以學生為中心學習的見解。欲知法大及其獲認證學位的更多信息，請至法大網站www.drbu.edu查閱。

高等學院與大學委員會的團隊成員此次校園考察與報告自2023年10月4日進行至6日。考察結束後，朗茲博士特別於10月7日在萬佛殿向萬佛聖城四眾介紹法大近況，以及此次認證考察的情況。

朗茲博士說：「高等學院與大學委員會團隊的領隊關博士，於10月6日向法大的教職員工、行政人員、學生和董事會成員，報告了他們團隊的觀察結果，現場座無虛席。委員會團隊發現，每個他們訪談的人，都理解並致力於法大的使命和願景。在私下與我交談時，關博士告訴我，他的委員會團隊成員告訴他，他們也希望能在法大學習！」

近十年來，法大在原有的基礎上穩定成長。除了獲得認證資格之外，2014年秋季班起，推出本科新學程，以及碩士班的佛學新學程。2015年6月，法界佛教總會購置瑜伽市中心附近的法大新校區，其後命名為「善財參學中心」。2017年秋季班，法大校本部新教學大樓整修完工啟用。2024年春季班，善財參學中心舊有的大廳，經翻修為自習閱覽室。1,400平方呎的空間，原已地板破損，油漆剝落，整修後煥然一新，不僅可供閱覽自習，需要時，也可當作小型禮堂使用。

宣公上人在創辦法大之初曾說：「法界佛教大學，是令人發掘本有的智慧、本有的道德、本有的靈性的學府；把你本有的智慧發掘出來，就不會做顛倒愚癡危害世界的事情，這是法界佛教大學的宗旨。」如今再獲八年認證資格後，法大繼續朝這個目標努力，以不負上人的期許。❀