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FAU Presents ‘Zen Buddhism: Roots and Branches’

BOCA RATON, Fla. (October 5, 2018) – The Center for Body, Mind and Culture and the Asian Studies Program in Florida Atlantic University’s Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters is hosting a conference on “Zen Buddhism: Roots and Branches,” on Friday, Nov. 2 and Saturday, Nov. 3 at 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus. There is no fee to register, however advanced registration is advised. To register, email bodymindculture@gmail.com.

The conference will examine Zen Buddhism (or Chan Buddhism as it is known in China), which is both a religion and a bodily practice with branches that have spread over the world. Its roots first developed in China during the Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE), and by the 13th century had spread to Japan, Korea and Vietnam. Today, Zen practice and theory have become prominent also throughout the Western world. This conference provides a forum for research on both the early development and the later spread of Zen.

“We are delighted to explore the history and contemporary expression of Zen together with an international and transdisciplinary group of experts,” said Richard Shusterman, Dorothy F. Schmidt Eminent Scholar in the Humanities and director of the Center for Body, Mind and Culture. “It is a special pleasure to collaborate closely on this project with Ken Holloway, FAU’s Levenson Chair in Asian Studies and associate director of our Center.”

The presentations will include both ancient and modern aspects of Zen’s remarkable evolution, dealing with topics such as metaphysics, meditation, liturgy, doctrines of salvation, poetry, poverty, pedagogy and post-enlightenment practice. This is the 14th international conference of the Center for Body, Mind, and Culture since its founding in 2007.

For more information visit <https://www.fau.edu/artsandletters/bodymindculture/uconfen/>.

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About Florida Atlantic University:

Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of \$6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of critical areas that form the basis of its strategic plan: Healthy aging, biotech, coastal and marine issues, neuroscience, regenerative medicine, informatics, lifespan and the environment.

These areas provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU's existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.