

# 2009 Yin Shun Foundation Summer Dharma Retreat English Program Speakers

## ***Monastic Teachers***

**Venerable Bhikkhu Bodhi** is an American Buddhist monk from New York City. He obtained a BA in philosophy from Brooklyn College and a PhD in philosophy from Claremont Graduate School. After completing his university studies he traveled to Sri Lanka, where he received novice ordination in 1972 and full ordination in 1973, both under the late Ven. Ānanda Maitreya. From 1984 to 2002 he was the editor for the Buddhist Publication Society in Kandy, Sri Lanka. He returned to the U.S. in 2002. He currently resides at Chuang Yen Monastery and teaches there and at Bodhi Monastery. He is the chairman of Yin Shun Foundation. Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi has many important publications to his credit, either as author, translator, or editor, including *The Middle Length Discourses of the Buddha (Majjhima Nikaya, 1995)*, *The Connected Discourses of the Buddha (Samyutta Nikaya, 2000)*, and *In the Buddha's Words (2005)*.

**Priv.-Doz. Dr. Bhikkhu Anālayo** was born in Germany in 1962 and ordained in Sri Lanka in 1995. In the year 2000 he completed a Ph.D. thesis on the *Satipatthana-sutta* at the University of Peradeniya (published by Windhorse in the UK). In the year 2007 he completed a habilitation research at the University of Marburg, in which he compared the *Majjhima-nikaya* discourses with their Chinese, Sanskrit, and Tibetan counterparts. At present, he is a member of the Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Hamburg, as a Privatdozent (the German equivalent to an associate professorship), and works as a researcher at Dharma Drum Buddhist College, Taiwan. Besides his academic activities, he regularly teaches meditation in Sri Lanka.

## ***Lay Teachers***

**Michael Roehm** has been the facilitator of the Sutta Study Group at the Washington Buddhist Vihara for over twelve years. His Buddhist affiliations and activities have focused on both the Theravada and (Korean and Soto) Zen traditions. A former monastic in Sri Lanka and Korea, where he was a student of Zen Master Kusan Sunim, he was also a founding member of the Washington Buddhist Vihara and Bhavana Society, and a cofounder of Lotus Lantern International Buddhist Center (Seoul, Korea) and the Buddhist Fellowship of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, VA. He has given talks and taught Buddhist courses in Korea and the US, and is a lay student in the Mountain and Rivers Order of Zen Mountain Monastery. He lives in Washington, DC, where he is Senior International Student Adviser in International Student and Scholar Services at American University. An inveterate day hiker, he can be found on the Appalachian Trail and related trails many Sundays of the year.

**Yu-Jung L. Avis, Ph.D.**, became a Buddhist in 1991 when she was a graduate student at Rutgers University. She regularly attended Ven. Jen-Chun's Saturday Dharma talks and religious programs for a majority of the last seventeen years. She joined the Yin Shun Foundation in 1998 and served as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in 2004 and 2005. She was the English interpreter for the weekly program of Dharma talks at Bodhi Monastery for several years while she studied Pali with Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi. She is a co-translator of Ven. Yinshun's autobiographical work, *A Sixty-Year Spiritual Voyage on the Ocean of Dharma*. She is an Associate Professor of Finance at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York.