



## Upcoming Events



### [Mindful Shopping: How Smart Consumption Can Benefit Beings](#)

A webinar with Daniel Goleman  
Wed., Sept. 26, 2009, 3 - 4 pm ET



### [Coming Home!](#)

A dance and movement workshop with Joeritta Jones de Almeida  
Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009  
Studio Helix, Northampton, MA



### [How We Live Now: The Power of Mindfulness in Shaping American Public Life](#)

A Talk by Mirabai Bush  
Oct. 28, 2009, 7 pm  
Newton, MA

## Greetings!



Summer greetings! After an exceptionally rainy start to the season we are finally feeling the warmth of the summer sun here in Western Massachusetts.

Our board and staff worked closely together during the winter and spring of 2009 as we launched a major review of the Center's programs. An intensive strategic planning process reached out to interview over thirty diverse stakeholders, seeking their guidance, ideas, feedback, and aspirations--all framed by reflections on the wider context for our work. We held a pivotal Board of Directors' meeting/retreat in May. The fresh perspective of our new board members, combined with the experience and knowledge of our longtime members, helped to yield new directions, mission and methods. We emerged with new vision and momentum for the coming summer. Our goal is to engage others in using contemplative practices to raise awareness, kindle greater compassion, heighten our individual and collective sense of connection and responsibility, and work towards organizational and societal transformation. Working in collaborative partnerships will be key to our strategy.

We believe this is a decisive, momentous time in our long human history: billions of people striving to co-exist peacefully on a small, beautiful planet. To forge a truly viable future for all, we need to develop a life based on harmony, fairness, fulfillment for all--with justice and care for the generations to come: we must work together to create a more just, compassionate and sustainable world.

To realize this destiny, we need the very best of our human qualities and capacities to be realized in ourselves and our leaders: more compassion, calmness, insight, capacity for reflection, decisive action. Less egocentricity, more wisdom.

More on this and new initiatives in future newsletters. In the meantime, tomatoes are ripening in the gardens as the warm world calls us outward into these days of abundance.

Philip Snyder  
Executive Director

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Meet Kathryn Wittneben,



### [2009 Mindfulness in Education Conference](#)

Oct. 30 - Nov. 1, 2009  
Oakland, CA



### [Retreat for Academics](#)

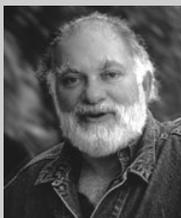
November 12-15, 2009  
Marconi Conference Center,  
Marshall, CA



### [Accessing Our Best Inner Resources for Service and Social Action](#)

with John Makransky  
November 14, 2009  
Northampton, MA

## Bearing Witness



Bernie Glassman and the Zen Peacemakers are offering a free subscription to **BEARING WITNESS: A Newsletter for Western Socially Engaged Buddhism.**

This e-Newsletter offers profiles, links and articles on the groups and individuals committed to this practice, emerging

## Our New Associate Director

 Kathryn joined our staff in May 2009, and we're so glad to have her with us! Kathryn has worked on and raised money for different social transformation issues over the past 20 years. Most recently she headed a statewide women's reproductive rights and health care organization in Denver, CO. Prior to that, she was President/CEO of The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund (U.S.) which provided grants and capacity-building assistance to youth-led organizations focusing on marginalized youth across the U.S. She has led nonprofit organizations working on economic reform and democratization in the former Soviet Union and has also served as Senior Economist on two U.S. House of Representatives Committees. She has taught international politics and economics at universities in the U.S. and Sweden. Her contemplative practices include meditation, music, and writing.

## 2009 Contemplative Practice Fellowship Recipients

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the [2009 Contemplative Practice Fellowships](#). The large number of proposals we received indicates the growing interest in contemplative practice in academic settings, but made the selection process difficult. If we had greater funding, we would have funded many other worthy proposals.

We extend a warm welcome to the 2009 Fellows.



## The Contemplative Heart of Higher Education

*highlights from the first ACMHE conference,  
April 24-16, 2009*



service projects and social actions as well as the history, ethical bases and philosophies comprising this multifaceted global movement.

[Click here to subscribe.](#)

Bernie has also created two resource directories for this work:

[a directory of Socially Engaged groups and individuals](#)

and

[a directory of learning resources.](#)

Looking for more upcoming events?



Browse our listings of retreats, conferences and other events from related organizations.

[more...](#)

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Search Inside Yourself

Our first Association conference brought 100 educators and administrators from North America and the UK to Amherst College for a beautiful weekend of warmth, energetic engagement, and focus on the future of contemplative pedagogy and the Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education.



Read the [Conference Report \(.pdf\)](#)  
by Geri DeLuca

Professor of English, Brooklyn College

Watch videos of the keynote addresses:



[Head, Heart, and Hand: Cultivating the Contemplative in Higher Education](#)

David Levy  
Professor, The Information School,  
University of Washington



[Higher Education in a Time of Stress: The Kingdom is Now or Never](#)

Diana Chapman Walsh  
Former President, Wellesley College

For more videos, visit [acmhe.org](http://acmhe.org)

## New Blog: The Meditative Life



Arthur Zajonc, Director of our [Academic Program](#) and Professor of Physics at Amherst College, has started writing a biweekly blog for Psychology Today. [The Meditative Life](#) offers practical instruction on how to tap into your mind and heart, plus inspiration from great meditation teachers.

[read more...](#)

## A Warm Welcome to our New Board Members!

### Chris Desser

Chris Desser is a fellow of On the Commons, a think tank focused on developing the concept of The Commons as an overarching analytical structure organizing across sectors and disciplines. Her current project is The Catalog of Extinct Experience, an art installation exploring extinct and vanishing experiences in the natural world-like sipping water from a stream or seeing stars in the sky-and why such experiences are so important to personal and social evolution. In 2003, she co-founded Women's Voices, Women Vote, a project that successfully increased the participation of single women in the



Google's Jolly Good Fellow, mindfulness, and the transformation of how people work  
This article from the September Shambhala Sun features two of our board members (Chade-Meng Tan and Norman Fischer), Senior Fellow Mirabai Bush, and Advisory Council member Daniel Goleman.

[Read the story](#)

electoral process. Chris was the director of the Funder's Working Group on New Technology, an association of foundations concerned with the environmental, cultural and political implications of emerging technologies such as biotechnology, nanotechnology.

#### **Brad Grant**

Bradford C. Grant is the Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, Architecture, and Computer Sciences, and the Director of the School of Architecture and Design at Howard University. He is the former Chairperson and Endowed University Professor of Architecture in the Department of Architecture at Hampton University, Hampton, VA. He is involved in research, practice and teaching of architecture accessibility and Universal Design, Fair Housing and cultural issues in architecture. Mr. Grant was the Director of Hampton University Department of Architecture Urban Institute, the community design center and a service learning arm of the University, and is the recipient of many awards for his community design projects.

#### **Rhonda Magee**

Our new Vice-Chair, Rhonda is Professor of Law at the University of San Francisco. Her current projects in legal education, which include an effort to reorient the study of U.S. Immigration law to underscore its origins in slavery and working to include mindfulness in traditional legal education and law practice, represent the latest iterations of her longstanding commitment to reforming education for the full, completely inclusive and holistic needs of democratic humanity in the 21st century. She is dedicated to exploring the inter-relationships between law, philosophy and notions of justice and humanity, with a commitment to listening to and re-telling the stories of the impact of law on the lives of traditionally marginalized and subordinated people.

#### **Chade-Meng Tan**

Chade-Meng Tan (Meng) is Google's Jolly Good Fellow (which nobody can deny). Meng was one of Google's earliest engineers. He now serves with Google University, where he is the Head of the School of Personal Growth. One of his main projects is Search Inside Yourself - a Mindfulness-based Emotional Intelligence course, which he hopes will eventually contribute to world peace in a meaningful way. Outside of Google, Meng is the Founder and (Jolly Good) President of the Tan Teo Charitable Foundation, dedicated to promoting Peace, Liberty and Enlightenment in the world. He is also a Founding Patron of Stanford University's Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education (CCARE). Meng hopes to see every workplace in the world become a drinking fountain for happiness and enlightenment.

[Read more about our Board...](#)

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