

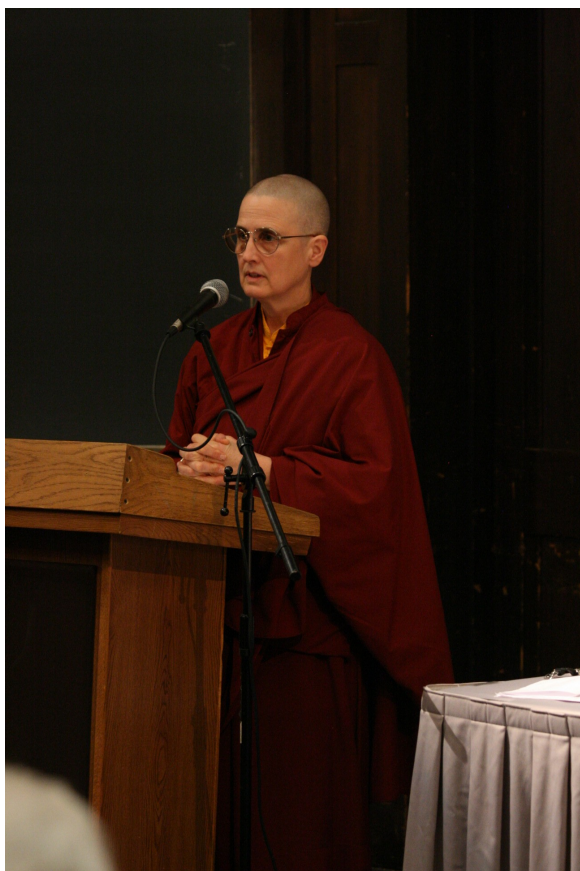
February 3, 2012

Re-visioning a Resilient and Sustainable Future for Local Communities Through Inter-Religious Dialogues

Poughkeepsie, NY: On February 1, the Green Brain Initiative and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Vassar College co-hosted a Sacred Earth Leadership Forum at Vassar College.

Almost 100 people comprising of local community leaders from the Native American, Islamic, Jewish, Christian, Hindu and Buddhist traditions, as well as local environmentalists and scholars, came together to explore theological foundations for principles for environmental actions, as well as challenges and innovative opportunities for forging links between sustainable householding, sustainable development and ecological integrity, and reconnecting the community with their natural environment through enlightened living and environmental activism.

Karen Dipnarine-Saroop, Co-Founder of the Green Brain Initiative, shared, “As the earth continues to be ravaged by the advancing cancerous archetypes of militarism, consumerism, scientism, economic growth, and the like, contemporary theology is recognizing the escalating significance of, and must now fulfill its role in the ongoing dialogue and actions toward sustainable development and environmental well-being, through a humanitarian approach.”



Reverend Dr. Chodrung Kunga Chodron
(Tsechen Kunchab Ling
Tibetan Buddhist Temple)



Rabbi Neal Joseph Loevinger (Temple Beth-El)



Donna Coane (Spirit of Thunderheart) and Imam Qari
Muhammad Asil Khan (Mid-Hudson Islamic Association)

She added, “The inter-religious dialogues tonight successfully examined the state of our local communities, and provided guidelines for our local leaders to begin to work closely with our communities to re-vision and build a resilient and sustainable future for our next generations through ancient wisdom and enlightened living. The results of these explorations will be published later this year.”

For more information and to support the work of the Green Brain Initiative, visit www.green-brain.org or write to us at ksaroop@priyacomm.com or call 845-849-2205.