

Robert E. Buswell, Jr., is Distinguished Professor of Korean and Chinese Buddhist Studies, and director of the [Center for Buddhist Studies](#), at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He simultaneously serves as founding director of the Academy of Buddhist Studies (Pulgyo Haksurwŏn) at Dongguk University, the major Buddhist University in Korea. Buswell also served as founding director of UCLA's Center for Korean Studies (5/93 to 6/2001); chair of the Department of Asian Languages & Cultures (7/95 to 6/04); and interim vice-provost and dean of the International Institute (2000-2001). He was elected president of the Association for Asian Studies (2008-09) and will serve as past-president and past-past-president in subsequent years.

Buswell has been awarded the Manhae Grand Prize, the major national award in Korea, for "pioneering the study of Korean Buddhism; and the Puri Prize for Buddhist Studies, also in Korea.

Buswell specializes in the Son (Chan/Zen) traditions of Korean and Chinese Buddhism; he has also published extensively in East Asian apocryphal scriptures and Vaibhasika Abhidharma materials.

## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley. December 1985. Buddhist Studies. Dissertation Title: "The Korean Origin of the Vajrasamādhi-Sūtra: A Case Study in Determining the Dating, Provenance, and Authorship of a Buddhist Apocryphal Scripture." UMI #8609960. Readers: Lewis Lancaster, Michael Rogers, Michel Strickmann

M.A., With Distinction. U.C. Berkeley. June 1983. Sanskrit (South and Southeast Asian Studies). Three comprehensive examinations: 1) Abhidharma Literature: Vasubandhu's Abhidharmakosabhāya with Yasomitra's Sphurthavyākhyā; 2) The Sanskrit Grammarians: Patanjali's Mahābhāṣya Bhāṣyavṛttī with Kasikavṛtti and Nyāsabhāṣya; 3) general examination in South and Southeast Asian Studies.

A.B., With Highest Honors. U.C. Berkeley. June, 1981. Chinese (Oriental Languages). Valedictorian. Honor's Thesis: "Syncretic Trends in Chinul's Thought: An Annotated Translation of the Wondon songbullon [Treatise on the attainment of Buddhahood according to the Complete and Sudden school]."

Fieldwork in Buddhist Monasticism: Wat Bovoranives, Bangkok, Thailand, 1972-73 (Theravada); Polam-ji, Landau Island, Hong Kong, 1973-74 (Ch'an); Songgwang-sa, Cholla Namdo, Korea, 1974-79 (Son and Hwaom).

University of California, Santa Barbara. September, 1971 - December 1972. Asian Studies

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Buddhist Studies

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 2007: *Cultivating Original Enlightenment: Wonhyo's Exposition of the Vajrasamadhi-Sutra (Kumgang Sammmaegyong Non)*. The Collected Works of Wonhyo, vol. 1. University of Hawaii Press, 2007. 429 pp.
- 2007: *Religions of Korea in Practice*. Princeton Readings in Religions series. Editor. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 542 pp.
- 2006: *Christianity in Korea*. Coeditor (with Timothy S. Lee) and contributor. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. 408 pp.
- 2006: *The Scriptures of Won-Buddhism (Wonbulgyo kyojŏn)*. Translated by Robert E. Buswell, Jr., Nak-chung Paik (Seoul National University) and Young Don Choi (Korea University), on behalf of the Department of Edification of Won-Buddhism. Iksan: Won Kwang Publishing Co. 467 pp.
- 2005: *Currents and Countercurrents: Korean Influences on the Buddhist Traditions of East Asia*. Editor and contributor. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. 294 pp.
- 2004: *Encyclopedia of Buddhism*. Editor-in-Chief and contributor. 2 vols. New York: Macmillan Reference. 981 + xxxix pp. Named 2004 *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title; named Outstanding Reference Source for 2005 by the Reference and User Services Association of the American Library Association.  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/rusa/rusaprotools/outstandingref/thelists1/lists.htm>
- 2000: *The Principal Book of Won-Buddhism (Wonbulgyo chongjon)*. Translated by Robert E. Buswell, Jr., Nak-chung Paik (Seoul National University) and Young Don Choi (Korea University), on behalf of the Department of Edification of Won-Buddhism. Iksan: Won Kwang Publishing Co. 179 pp.
- 1996: *Abhidharma Buddhism to 150 A.D.* Encyclopedia of Indian Philosophies, vol. 7. Delhi: Motilal Barnarsidass. Coeditor (with P. S. Jaini and Noble Ross Reat) and contributor; Karl H. Potter, Editor. 636 pp.
- 1992: *The Zen Monastic Experience: Buddhist Practice in Contemporary Korea*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 245pp
- 1992: *Paths to Liberation: The Marga and its Transformations in Buddhist Thought*. Coeditor (w/ Robert M. Gimello) and contributor. Studies in East Asian Buddhism series, no 7. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, A Kuroda Institute Book. 525pp

- 1991: *Tracing Back the Radiance: Chinul's Korean Way of Zen*. Classics in East Asian Buddhism, no. 2. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, A Kuroda Institute Book. 232pp (Paperback abridgment of *The Korean Approach to Zen*).
- 1990: *Chinese Buddhist Apocrypha*. Editor and Contributor. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. 338pp.
- 1989: *The Formation of Ch'an Ideology in China and Korea: The Vajrasamadhi-Sutra, A Buddhist Apocryphon*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 315 pp.
- 1983: *The Korean Approach to Zen: The Collected Works of Chinul*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press. 468 pp.

### Books In Progress

- Dictionary of Buddhism*. Co-Editor (with Donald Lopez, Univ. of Michigan) and contributor. New York: Doubleday, manuscript will be submitted December, 2010. 1 million word ms.
- Arouse Your Mind and Practice: Wonhyo's Didactic, Ritual, and Pure Land Texts*. The Collected Works of Wonhyo, vol. 3. University of Hawaii Press, expected 2011. Editor and Contributor.
- A Primer of Koan Practice: The Essentials of Chan by Gaofeng Yuanmiao*. The Sajip (Fourfold Collection), vol. 3. In preparation.
- Korean Buddhism's Guide to Liberation: The Excerpts from the Dharma Collection and Special Practice by Chinul* The Sajip (Fourfold Collection), vol. 4. Korean Classics Library series. In preparation

### Articles

- 2009: "Korean Buddhist Journeys to Lands Worldly and Otherworldly." Presidential Address. *Journal of Asian Studies* 68-4 (November): 1-21.
- 2007: "The Emergence of a 'Korean' Buddhist Tradition." In *Korean Buddhism in East Asian Perspectives*, compiled by Geumgang Center for Buddhist Studies, Geumgang University, Korean Studies Series No. 35, pp. 23-44. Seoul: Jimoondang, 2007. [unauthorized reprint]
- 2004: "Sugi's Collation Notes to the Koryŏ Buddhist Canon and their Significance for Buddhist Textual Criticism." *The Journal of Korean Studies* 9-1 (Fall, 2004): 129-184.

- 2004: "The Transformation of Doubt (*Yiqing*) into a Positive Emotion in Chinese Buddhist Meditation." In *Love and Emotions in Traditional Chinese Literature*, pp. 225-236, ed. Halvor Eifring. Leiden: E. J. Brill.
- 2003: "Sthiramati, *Tattvarthatika* on Vasubandhu's *Abhidharmakosa*." In *Buddhist Philosophy from 350-600 A.D.* Encyclopedia of Indian Philosophies, vol. 9, pp. 491-405, 613-614. Karl H. Potter, ed. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers, 2003.
- 1999: "Buddhism Under Confucian Domination: The Synthetic Vision of Sosan Hyujong (1520-1604)." in *Confucianism and Heterodox Religion in Late Choson Korea*, ed. JaHyun Kim Haboush and Martina Deuschler, pp. 134-159. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.
- 1999: "Monastery Lay Associations in Contemporary Korean Buddhism: A Study of the Puril Hoe." In *Contemporary Korean Religion*, ed. by Lewis R. Lancaster, pp. 101-126. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, 1999.
- 1999: "Sthiramati, *Tattvarthatika* on Vasubandhu's *Abhidharmakosa*." In *Buddhist Philosophy from 350-600 A.D.* Encyclopedia of Indian Philosophies, vol. 9, pp. 453-457. Karl H. Potter, ed. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers.
- 1998: "Imagining 'Korean Buddhism': The Invention of a National Religious Tradition." In *Nationalism and the Construction of Korean Identity*, Korea Research Monograph no. 26, edited by Hyung Il Pai and Timothy R. Tangherlini, pp. 73-107. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, 1998.
- 1997: "The Three Times Controversy in Abhidharma Philosophy." In *Han'guk Pulgyo ui chwap'yo (The Direction of Korean Buddhism)*. Nagwon sunim koghui kinyon haksul nonch'ong (Seventieth-Birthday Festschrift for Ven. Nagwon), edited by Nagwon sunim kohui kinyom haksul nonch'ong kanhaeng wiwonhoe, pp. 1229-1266 (37 pp.). Seoul: Nagwon Sunim Kohui Kinyom Haksul Nonch'ong Kanhaeng Wiwonhoe.
- 1997: "The Proliferation of *Cittaviprayuktasamskara*-s in the Vaibhasika School." *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 25: 451-466.
- 1997: "Buddhadeva: Materials Toward an Assessment of His Philosophy." *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 25: 561-587.
- 1997: "The 'Aids to Penetration' (*Nirvedhabhagiya*) According to the Vaibhasika School." *Journal of Indian Philosophy* 25: 589-611.
- 1995: "The Hagiographies of the Korean Monk Wonhyo (617-686)." In *Buddhism in Practice*, edited by Donald S. Lopez, Jr. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- 1993-94: "Zen Buddhism and the Context of Belief." *Cahiers d'Extreme-Asie* 7 (1993-94): 283-318.
- 1993: "The Debate Concerning Moderate and Radical Subitism in Korean Son Buddhism." In *Han'guk chonggyo sasang ui chae chomyong*, Chinsan Han Kidu paksa hwagap kinyom (Reconsiderations of Korean Religious Thought, in Honor of the Sixtieth Birthday of Chinsan, Dr. Han Kidu), pp 489-519. Iri, Korea: Won'gwang University Press, 1993
- 1992: "Zen Monastic Practice in Korea." *Korean Culture* 13-3 (Fall, 1992): 34-44
- 1992: "The Path to Perdition: The Wholesome Roots and their Eradication." In *Paths to Liberation: The Marga and Its Transformations in Buddhist Thought*, ed. Buswell and Gimello, pp. 107-134
- 1991: "Wonhyo's Philosophical Thought." Translation from the Korean, with annotation, of "Wonhyo ui chorhak sasang," by Pak Chonghong. In *Assimilation of Buddhism in Korea: Religious Maturity and Innovation in the Silla Dynasty*, Studies in Korean Religion and Culture, vol. 4, ed. Lewis R. Lancaster and Chai-shin Yu. Berkeley: Asian Humanities Press, 1991.
- 1991: "The Reception of Buddhism in Korea and its Impact on Indigenous Culture." Translation from the Japanese, with annotation, of "Chosen ni okeru Bukkyo juyo to shinkan'nen" [The Reception of Buddhism in Korea and the conception of spirits], by Inoue Hideo. In *Introduction of Buddhism to Korea: New Cultural Patterns*, Studies in Korean Religion and Culture, vol. 3, ed. Lewis R. Lancaster and Chai-shin Yu. Berkeley: Asian Humanities Press, 1991.
- 1990: "The Pilgrimages of Hyangbong: Memoirs and Poems of the Kumgang Mountains." *Korean Culture* 11-4 (Winter, 1990): 18-23. Translation of selections from *Unsu san'go* (Scattered Manuscripts of a Wandering Monk), with introduction.
- 1990: "'Buddhist Soteriology: The Marga and Other Approaches to Liberation': A Conference Report." *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies* 13-1 (1990): 79-99. Coauthor (with Robert Gimello).
- 1990: "Prolegomenon to the Study of Buddhist Apocryphal Literature." In *Chinese Buddhist Apocrypha*, ed. Robert Buswell, pp. 1-30.
- 1989: "Chinul's Ambivalent Critique of Radical Subitism in Korean Son Buddhism." *Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies* 12-2 (1989): 20-44. Revised and expanded version of "Tono tonsu-e taehan Chinul ui yangga-chok pip'an."
- 1989: "Tono tonsu-e taehan Chinul ui yangga-chok pip'an" [Chinul's Ambivalent Critique of Radical Subitism]. *Pojo sasang* [Chinul's thought], vol. 2, pp. 45-88. Seoul: Pojo sasang yon'guwon.
- 1989: "Wonhyo's *Arouse Your Mind to Practice!*" *Ten Directions* 10-2 (Fall/Winter, 1989): 17-19. Annotated translation of Wonhyo's *Palsim suhaeng chang*, with introduction.

- 1989: "Songgwang-sa: The Monastery of the Sangha Jewel." *Korean Culture* 10-3 (Autumn, 1989): 14-22.
- 1989: "Haein-sa: The Monastery of the Dharma Jewel." *Korean Culture* 10-1 (Spring, 1989): 12-21.
- 1988: "Did Wonhyo Write Two Versions of his *Kumgang sammaegyong-ron* [Exposition of the *Book of Adamantine Absorption*]?: An Issue in Korean Buddhist Textual History." In *Korean Studies: Its Tasks and Perspectives*, Papers of the Fifth International Conference on Korean Studies, vol. 2, pp. 585-604. Suwon: The Academy of Korean Studies.
- 1988: "Ch'an Hermeneutics: A Korean View." In *Buddhist Hermeneutics*, Studies in East Asian Buddhism, no. 6, ed. Donald S. Lopez, pp. 231-256. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- 1987: "The Short-Cut Approach of *K'an-hua* Meditation: The Evolution of a Practical Subitism in Chinese Ch'an Buddhism." In *Sudden and Gradual Approaches to Enlightenment in Chinese Thought*, ed. Peter N. Gregory, pp. 321-377. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- 1987: "The Chronology of Wonhyo's Life and Works: Some Preliminary Considerations." In *Wonhyo yon'gu nonch'ong: ku ch'orhak kwa in'gan ui modun kot* [Research on Wonhyo: various aspects of his philosophy and humanism], ed. Kim Chigyon, pp. 932-964. Seoul: Kukt'o t'ongil-won.
- 1986: "Chinul's Systematization of Chinese Meditative Techniques in Korean Son Buddhism." In *Traditions of Meditation in Chinese Buddhism*, edited by Peter N. Gregory, pp. 199-242. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- 1983: "The Tantric Response to the Buddhist Vinaya Tradition." *Phi Theta Papers* [U.C. Berkeley: Oriental Languages Students' Association] 15 (1983): 23-50.
- 1982: "The Identity of the *Popchip pyorhaeng nok* [Dharma collection and special practice record]." *Korean Studies* [Michael Rogers Festschrift] 6 (1982): 1-16.