

THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors  
February 6, 1993  
New York City

Present: Jean Bankier, John Brady, Ed Glassing, Vasken Kalayjian, Denis Kelly, [REDACTED], Fran Perriello, Wilkie Pretorius, Yasuko Shimano and Bernard Spitz.

Absent: Richard Rudin, Eido T. Shimano

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 A.M.

The purpose of this Special Meeting was to accept the formal resignation of Junpo Denis Kelly as Vice Abbot and Head Monk at Dai Bosatsu Zendo. (Ed Glassing attended the meeting as representative of Dai Bosatsu Zendo's Executive Committee).

Kelly read his letter of resignation (copy attached), and added that he and Eido Roshi was of similar character, lacking ethical and moral standards. However, in October 1992, upon receiving transmission, he had to face what it meant to defend the dharma and he wanted to change. Eido Roshi was not willing to do the same, and Kelly therefore requested the board to consider not allowing him to teach. He intended to spend the next three years eliminating lust and other characteristics from his own persona.

The board accepted his resignation, and Bernard Spitz, on behalf of the board, thanked him for his past work and wished him well.

Mrs. Shimano also thanked him for his kindness to her husband, for his long practice, and wished him a wonderful life.

Wilkie Pretorius asked whether he would use this situation to spread ill-will towards the organization and Kelly reassured the board that he had no desire to harm the Zen Studies Society, or Eido Roshi, in any way. He greeted everyone and left.

Ed Glassing presented a letter from the Executive Committee of Dai Bosatsu Zendo, signed by himself, Susan Morningstar and Linda Baylor, urging the board to assign him as temporary Dai Bosatsu Zendo representative on the ZSS board (copy attached).

He assured the board that the Executive Committee was very capable to manage the affairs of the monastery without Denis Kelly and that they had in fact been making decisions at DBZ for some time already.

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It was decided to appoint Glassing as Head Monk and Shikaryo at Dai Bosatsu Zendo until such time as Eido Roshi returned from Japan and he and the board together could make a permanent appointment.

He also informed the board that the DBZ Executive Committee had written a letter to Eido Roshi about a week prior to his departure for Japan, expressing their hope that he would deal in an honest way with the situation involving his alleged physical relationship with a female student. This meant for Eido Roshi to acknowledge the problem. He said that they would support him.

During an informal discussion, Glassing described the events at Dai Bosatsu Zendo leading to Kelly's learning of the alleged affair in January and his subsequent decision to resign and improve his own life. The boyfriend of the woman in question apparently had an intimate meeting of minds with Eido Roshi, but requested that, for the benefit of the sangha and of the organization, the relationship be dealt with openly and honestly.

It was decided that the board would meet with Eido Roshi upon his return from Japan concerning the issues raised at this meeting and that feelings of support and caring be expressed without judgment.

A consensus was reached that Eido Roshi should continue his work with the Zen Studies Society and that the board would welcome his return as Abbot. It was recognized that he might need some time to rest before resuming his normal activities.

It was also decided to issue an immediate statement to the New York sangha and sesshin participants at DBZ, informing them of Kelly's resignation, of Ed Glassing being appointed temporary Head Monk, and reassuring the sangha that dharma activities would proceed as scheduled at both Zendos (copy attached). Dai Bosatsu Zendo would be responsible for the mailing.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilkie J. Pretorius  
Secretary

Eido T. Shimano Roshi  
Abbot

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February 6, 1993

Zen Studies Society  
Board of Directors  
223 E. 67th Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Board Members:

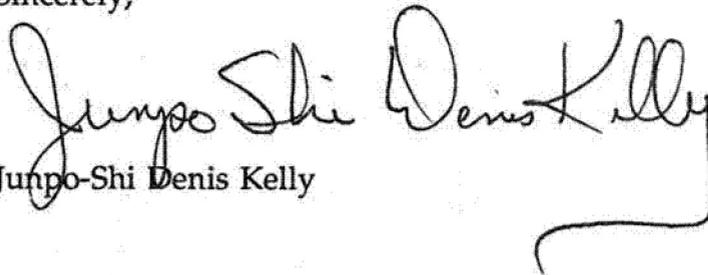
Today, with deep regret, profound sadness and genuine concern, I resign as Vice Abbot and Head Monk at Dai Bosatsu Zendo.

After two weeks of deep and anguished soul searching, I find that Eido Roshi and I are diametrically opposed on two critical, irreconcilable issues: the first being Buddhist ethics or precepts, and the second being the philosophy of teaching.

I thank all of you, especially Eido Roshi, for the opportunity to have served these past five years at the monastery. I have grown, matured and changed very profoundly and will be forever grateful for your support and trust.

It is my sincerest wish that Zen Studies Society, Shobo-ji and Dai Bosatsu Zendo continue to grow and prosper.

Sincerely,



Junpo-Shi Denis Kelly

Eido T. Shimano Roshi  
Abbot

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February 6, 1993

Zen Studies Society  
Board of Directors  
223 E. 67th Street  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Board Members:

The Executive Committee of Dai Bosatsu Zendo has received Junpo-Shi Denis Kelly's resignation. His contributions, although at times controversial, helped the monastery grow. We will miss him.

Given the sudden circumstances of his leaving, we are deeply concerned for Dai Bosatsu Zendo and the Sangha. We want to assure you that during this transition period, we will continue to uphold the practice and manage the daily activities at the monastery.

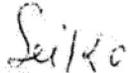
As there is no longer a Dai Bosatsu Zendo representative on the Board, we urge the Board to appoint Seigan Ed Glassing as temporary representative until Roshi returns so that the monastery's perspective will not be overlooked.

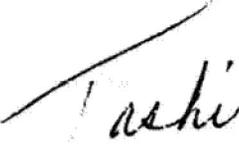
We were disturbed and saddened to hear about Roshi's affair with a Kessei student and are worried about the repercussions of this matter. We hope that together we can encourage Roshi to resolve this situation honestly. We feel it in the best interest of Zen Studies Society, Shobji and Dai Bosatsu Zendo, to encourage the Board to ask Roshi to return from Japan as soon as possible.

Given the fact that the members of the Board have never met with the Executive Committee, we would like to request an informal meeting at Dai Bosatsu Zendo as soon as possible to introduce ourselves and address this issue and its resolution.

Sincerely yours,

  
Seigan

  
Seiko

  
Tashi

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D R A F T

Dear :

The Board of Directors of the Zen Studies Society announces the resignation on February 6, 1993, of Junpo-Shi Denis Kelly as Vice Abbot and Head Monk of Dai Bosatsu Zendo Kongo-ji.

We are grateful for his past efforts and wish him well in his future endeavors.

In the absence of Eido Roshi who is presently in Japan on a teaching assignment, the board appointed Reverend Seigan Fudo Ed Glassing as Head Monk and Shikaryo at Dai Bosatsu Zendo.

All Dharma activities at both Dai Bosatsu Zendo and New York Zendo will continue as scheduled.

Let True Dharma Continue!

Muin Bernard Spitz  
President  
The Zen Studies Society, Inc.