

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
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THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY, INC.

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
September 29, 1993
New York

Present: Andy Afable, Jean Bankier, John Brady, [REDACTED],
[REDACTED], Vasken Kalayjian, Fran Perriello, Wilkie
Pretorius, Richard Rudin, Eido T. Shimano, Yasuko
Shimano and Bernard Spitz

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

The minutes of the August 9th meeting were approved. Wilkie Pretorius read yet another letter of resignation received from [REDACTED], dated August 10th and his acknowledgement of August 17th.

Ms. [REDACTED] was asked to leave the meeting, but refused on the grounds that the bylaws provided a grace period of two months for a resignation to take effect.

Pretorius then read a letter from Eido Roshi addressed to Andy Afable, inviting him to join the board of directors under special privileges granted him under Article III, Section 2 of the bylaws.

Vasken Kalayjian left the room and did not return again.

A motion was passed to remove Mr. Kalayjian as a director of the Zen Studies Society.

Eido Shimano requested that the matter of employment contracts for him and Mrs. Shimano be postponed until the annual meeting of 1994.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Willem J. Pretorius
Secretary

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Proposal for a General Statement regarding Teacher/Student

Relationships.

(Suggested by Dai Bosatsu Zendo Committee)

It has become clear that sexual relationships between teacher and students often result in confusion, psychological and spiritual damage to the students and causes harm to the general Sangha as well.

Therefore, it is the position of the Zen Studies Society that sexual relations between teacher and student are not permissible. A teacher in the Zen Studies Society is defined as one who conducts dokusan with students or one to one private interviews.

Transgressions will be dealt with openly by the Board of the Zen Studies Society or a committee that is formed by them, on a case by case basis. Possible actions by the Board can include counseling, psychotherapy, public statement or apology, or others. It should be clear that repeated offenses will result in a request for the teacher's resignation.

A teacher in a spiritual tradition must be held accountable in regards to the highest standards of behavior. Because they have accepted the position of a so-called spiritual leader in a so-called spiritual organization it is their duty and obligation to uphold the highest degree of professional ethics, respect, honesty, and self restraint in relation to a student. Because a Zen teacher is no more a human being than anyone else they must also abide by the same guidelines appropriate to any other relationship in the "helping" professions which deals with human interaction, example: doctor-patient, therapist-client, lawyer-client.