

First Annual Nanzan Seminar for the Translation of Buddhist Texts

Translating Zhiyi's *Fahua Xuanyi*
with Paul L. Swanson

Following his translation of the *Mohezhiquan* 摩訶止觀 (*Clear Serenity, Quiet Insight*, 2018), Paul has been working on a dual (with and without notes) English translation of Tiantai Zhiyi's *Fahua Xuanyi* 法華玄義. In his PhD dissertation (which was the basis of *Foundations of T'ien-t'ai Buddhism*, 1989), he first examined the second fascicle of this text and the themes of the two truths (mundane and real) and threefold truth (emptiness, conventionality, and the Middle). In his new endeavor, he has gone beyond the second fascicle (Taisho 33.681–707) and made significant revisions and additions to the original translation.

This six-part seminar is an opportunity for Paul to share with, and receive feedback from, scholars and graduate students interested in the translation of Chinese (in particular Tiantai) Buddhist texts. We will first look at the introductions to the text, which provide a general summary, and then examine Paul's revisions to the section on "sublime objects" (Taisho 33.698b–705b), one of the most influential passages in the Tiantai tradition. If time permits, we may explore overlapping themes in the *Fahua Xuanyi* and *Mohezhiquan*.

Time: 10am–noon (Japan time)

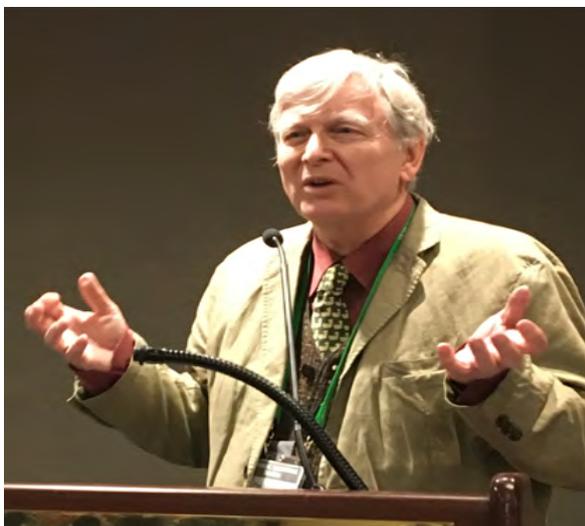
Location: Zoom (broadcasting live from the NIRC in Nagoya, Japan)

Dates: Apr. 21, May 19, June 16, July 14, Sept. 22, Oct. 20 (all dates Japan time)

Prerequisites: 1) training in reading Chinese Buddhist texts, 2) experience in translation, 3) basic knowledge of Tiantai Buddhism

To allow full participation we will restrict the number of participants to 25, reserving 10 positions for graduate students.

To register, email a CV and brief statement explaining your interest in joining the seminar to Matthew McMullen at mcmullen@nanzan-u.ac.jp by **March 27, 2021**.



Paul L. Swanson is Senior Research Fellow Emeritus at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture where he is currently the Roche Chair for Interreligious Research. He is the author of *Foundations of T'ien-t'ai Buddhism* (1989), *Clear Serenity, Quiet Insight* (2018), and *In Search of Clarity: Essays on Translation and Tiantai Buddhism* (2019) as well as editor for numerous edited volumes on Buddhism and Japanese religion. He was awarded the 2019 Toshihide Numata Book Award for his translation of Zhiyi's *Mohezhiquan*.