A Message from the President and Chief Executive Officer

2006 was a time of significant change for The Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition International Office (FPMT, Inc.). The move from Taos, New Mexico to Portland, Oregon took place at the end of 2005 and the beginning of 2006, and it has taken several months to settle into the new office. Considerable rethinking, reorganizing, restructuring – and a big changeover in staff – were all part of the process.

The main purpose of International Office (which is Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s office) is to serve Rinpoche, and to serve and support the projects and centers of FPMT in their mission of benefiting sentient beings. Since Rinpoche is always traveling around the world, it is essential to have an office of dedicated professional people “on the ground” who are able to manage and communicate Rinpoche’s vision to FPMT centers, projects, and students all around the world, to keep you connected.

When 2006 began, we had a director of International Office who looked after the day-to-day operations. That has changed: Now we have a management team made up of the departmental directors. They run the day-to-day operations and report to me as CEO. I visit the office periodically for two weeks at a time, and am always in touch by email and phone. This seems to be working well.

FPMT has come such a long way since Lama Yeshe and Lama Zopa Rinpoche first came in contact with Westerners. I always remember Lama Yeshe explaining the beginning and how it was:
“Now, the way we have evolved is not through you or me having said we want to do these things, but through a natural process of development. Our organization has grown naturally, organically. It is not ‘Lama Yeshe wanted to do it.’ I’ve never said that I want centers all over the world. Rather, I came into contact with students, who then wanted to do something, who expressed the wish to share their experience with others, and who then put together groups in various countries to share and grow with others.

“Personally, I think that’s fine. We should work for that. We are human beings: Buddhism helps us grow. Therefore, it is logical that we should work together to facilitate this kind of education. And it is not only us lamas who are working for this. Actually, it is you students who are instrumental in creating the facilities for Dharma to exist in the Western world. True. Of course, teachers help. But the most important thing is for the students to be well-educated. That is why we exist.

“When we started establishing centers there was no overall plan – they just popped up randomly all over the world like mushrooms, because of the evolutionary process I’ve just mentioned and the cooperative conditions. Now that all these centers do exist, we have to facilitate their development in a constructive, clean-clear way; otherwise, everything will just get confused. We have to develop properly both internally and in accordance with our twentieth-century environment.”

I think this is where the organization is now – we are at this stage where Lama Yeshe said it is really important to become well-organized. In the last couple of years, from time to time we hear Rinpoche saying,

“FPMT hasn’t really begun yet.”

And just recently, on Rinpoche’s first visit to the new home of International Office in Portland, and on seeing the new building, he said,

“Now FPMT has begun.”
There is no doubt in my mind that Rinpoche has an extraordinary vision of what we can do and how we are going to get there – not always in terms that we can relate to now. Rinpoche has an extremely strong sense of wanting to do something very beneficial for all sentient beings and, as His Holiness the Dalai Lama has said,

“Lama Zopa’s courage is quite extraordinary; I really admire it.”

This opinion is frequently echoed by Rinpoche’s other gurus.

In October 2006, the FPMT Board held a meeting with International Office staff in the new office in Portland, looking to the future: Where do we want to be in five years? It was an exciting and stimulating meeting, which concluded that there were three areas that we needed to focus on: revenue, communications, and leadership. Discussions on how to take these forward are still in progress.

In September 2006, we had a surprise visit from Lama Osel (Lama insisted he be called, simply, “Osel”). He suddenly appeared in Aptos, California at Rinpoche’s house – actually, he was on summer vacation. We spent a few days together, and Osel spent a lot of time talking with Rinpoche about Dharma and his experiences of the last few years. He also met some of Lama Yeshe’s older students, and stayed with Karuna Cayton. Osel said he was awed by Rinpoche’s house, and the “vibe of the holy objects.” In conversation with me he said,

“I am creating my world, FPMT is doing well creating its world, later we will merge my world and FPMT.”

Osel was very happy with the visit (and so were we, especially Rinpoche; we all felt we connected again.) We drove
overnight together to L.A.: Rinpoche and Osel, Ven. Tsen-la, Ven. Holly and myself. Osel’s parting advice to me with a hug was,

“No matter what bad things people say or do to you... just give love!”

HERE IS LAMA ZOPA RINPOCHE’S MESSAGE TO ALL OF US:

“The purpose of life is to benefit sentient beings, to free them from suffering and bring them to enlightenment. This is the real meaning of life, the purpose of surviving each hour, minute, and second with this human body. Some of us are retreating in isolation, some are physically active in this world, some are busy with our bodies, some are busy with minds. Whatever we are doing, our motivation is to benefit others and serve the teachings of the Buddha. This is the sole source of our own happiness and the happiness of others.

“What else in life could be more meaningful, more fruitful, that can bring you to highest enlightenment, but cherishing and serving others.

“I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for all you have accomplished in this past year... all of this has come from your devotion and compassion. I will dedicate the merit and pray for you always.

“With much love and prayer,
Lama Zopa”

And as Rinpoche always says: “All that has been achieved has been done with the help of each one of you. I cannot do without all of you helping, each one of you - helping makes it happen, everyone together makes it happen.”

In deep appreciation to everyone for all you have done,

Roger Kunsang
MISSION STATEMENT OF THE FPMT

The FPMT is an organization devoted to the transmission of the Mahayana Buddhist tradition and values worldwide through teaching, meditation and community service. We provide integrated education through which people’s minds and hearts can be transformed into their highest potential for the benefit of others, inspired by an attitude of universal responsibility. We are committed to creating harmonious environments and helping all beings develop their full potential of infinite wisdom and compassion.

Our organization is based on the Buddhist tradition of Lama Tsongkhapa of Tibet as taught to us by our founder, the incomparably kind Lama Thubten Yeshe and our spiritual director, Lama Thubten Zopa Rinpoche.
Educating and Inspiring
Students, the General Public
and All Beings

Through the development of and in concert with centers, programs, and projects worldwide, International Office constantly strives to serve the needs of FPMT students, as well as the larger public. Our aim is to provide a model of education and inspiration as well as specific tools to effect change in people’s lives, ever ready to embrace new opportunities in order to benefit all sentient beings and preserve the Mahayana tradition.

Rinpoche personally saw all invitations to teach from FPMT and non-FPMT centers in 2006. He also received up to one hundred personal emails and letters each month via International Office. All urgent letters were answered as quickly as possible by taking dictation, and sending photos, practices, or blessed substances that Rinpoche recommended. Rinpoche gives dedicated time to as many letters and emails as he can, which can take from one to six or seven hours per letter, sometimes spanning several days. Lama Zopa Rinpoche is our model par excellence for how we all can strive to serve and be of benefit.

Supporting Global Centers

Last year, International Office offered support for 147 FPMT centers and study groups in 31 countries. FPMT centers offered service to their local communities through Dharma education, hospices, health care, universal education schools, helping prisoners, helping to fund education for Tibetan refugees, and counseling. Future development of retreat houses in Washington for students and Sangha who wish to do retreat in the later part of their life is now underway. The following are some specific ways in which International Office provided center support:
NEWS AND ADVICE FROM RINPOCHE
Students were kept up-to-date with Lama Zopa Rinpoche's advice via the Lama Zopa Rinpoche e-Newssheet, distributed to 8700 people; Rinpoche's homepage www.fpmt.org/teachers/zopa; and Rinpoche's key advice for centers, which is kept on Rinpoche's homepage and in the FPMT Members' Area. General FPMT e-Newssheets also went out to 8700 people. Our companion office in California also coordinated Rinpoche's advice and replies to the centers and students.

FORMATION OF CENTERS & STUDY GROUPS
In 2006, ten new FPMT study groups, formed with Lama Zopa Rinpoche's blessing, were helped to begin, and discussions were held with several others about the possibility of forming FPMT study groups.

SUPPORT FOR CENTER STAFF: RESIDENT TEACHERS, DIRECTORS, SPIRITUAL PROGRAM COORDINATORS, & REGIONAL & NATIONAL COORDINATORS
In 2006, ten new Center Directors were appointed by Rinpoche, and were all sent the FPMT Center Director Pack, an educational product of International Office. These new directors were encouraged to give priority to making time for a Center Director Orientation Retreat. Five FPMT Masters Program graduates are now settled in as resident teachers. Successful efforts were made to provide three additional centers with a resident Geshe, and suitable interpreters were selected. In addition, fifteen new Spiritual Program Coordinators were appointed.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES
The organization's essential reference tool is The FPMT Handbook, also a product of International Office. FPMT Center Directories were kept up-to-date in Mandala Magazine and on the FPMT website. International Office, together with Tushita Meditation Centre in Dharamsala, India, also facilitated FPMT's Prayers for the Dead service.

Managing Charitable Projects
International Office grew tremendously in the past year in its ability to take on more and more of Rinpoche's never-ending plans and projects for the organization. We now support more than fifty projects worldwide, including health clinics, schools, the construction of holy objects, and many more charitable activities.
In 2006, all of Rinpoche’s projects were coordinated with the help of International Office and our companion office in California – from the Sera Je Food Fund to the Mani Wheel Fund to projects in South Indian monasteries, offerings to Rinpoche’s gurus, and creating holy objects and Dharma art around the world. Many of these projects are listed at www.fpmt.org/projects. Those not listed are maintained by the companion office in California.

A YEAR OF GIVING

In total, $1,472,032 was disbursed directly to the FPMT Charitable Projects in 2006 from the following restricted funds:
Creating Educational Programs

International Office makes available the vision and advice given by Lama Zopa Rinpoche in the form of FPMT standard education programs, prayer and practice books, DVDs, MP3s, and downloadable advice on the FPMT website. The following are some specific ways in which International Office offered educational service and support in 2006:

PROGRAMS AND PUBLICATIONS

By the end of last year, International Office had supported more than 110 centers and study groups in following Discovering Buddhism, 26 centers and study groups in following the Basic Program, and helped with preparations for the next Masters Program which is to begin in January 2008 at Istituto Lama Tsong Khapa in Italy. Maitripa Institute in Portland, Oregon, another FPMT educational program, entered its second year in 2007 with 28 full-time students working toward a graduate degree in Buddhist Studies.

Thanks to a very kind benefactor, every FPMT center was supplied with new, revised versions of Essential Buddhist Prayers, Vol. 1. In 2006, International Office sent out over 1000 copies! Due to the kindness of the same benefactor, centers will also soon be receiving complimentary copies of Essential Buddhist Prayers, Vol. 2.

In addition, International Office made available many sadhanas, meditations, practices, and sutras for the first time. These included the Sutra of Golden Light, Sanghata Sutra, and Vajra Cutter Sutra. According to the wishes of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, these three precious sutra texts are now available online and in hard copy in ten languages. More than 250 of these Dharma resources are available via the Foundation Store.

BEYOND ENGLISH: TRANSLATIONS

International Office also made great progress in getting FPMT curriculum and practice materials translated into the multiple languages of the FPMT mandala. Translation coordinators were appointed and translation offices opened in France, Spain, and Germany. Translation achievements in 2006 included the completion of Lamrim Chenmo in Mandarin, and Middling Lamrim in German. Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s and general FPMT e-newsheets were also translated into Spanish, German, and Italian.
NEW MEDIA FORMATS: ON CD & DVD
Another exciting 2006 achievement was the provision of materials on audio CD (Lama Yeshe’s Chod), MP3 CD (Lama Zopa’s How to Meditate on Emptiness), and in DVD (Lama Zopa’s Power of Mantras and Holy Objects) format. International Office hosts FPMT Audio, which makes available 24/7 a selection of teachings by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, and other FPMT teachers.

AT-HOME TRAINING PROGRAMS
Students continue to appreciate being able to study at home, and International Office received frequent feedback that these programs are changing people’s lives! All fourteen of the Discovering Buddhism at Home modules were made available in 2006 in Audio CD and MP3 format, and there are now seven Basic Program Homestudy modules available. A comprehensive CD of all Basic Program translations and commentaries was also made available for centers. Finally, the Discovering Buddhism DVD series was translated and shown on national television in Russia, Tuva, Mongolia, Israel, and Korea. At the same time, these programs continued to be extremely successful in the centers around the world.

Coordinating Worldwide Events and Staff Training

Our beloved spiritual director, Lama Zopa Rinpoche, journeyed around the world during the past year, offering teachings and visiting many of the regions where FPMT’s 147 centers and study groups continue the work of spreading the Dharma according to his holy wishes. The coordination and administrative support of these engagements is part of the ongoing work of International Office. In addition, International Office organizes events around the world for the purposes of training and collaboration, as well as other teachings that the organization sponsors for the benefit of all sentient beings. The following are some specific achievements “in the field” in 2006:

TEACHINGS & TRAVELS OF LAMA ZOPA RINPOCHE
International Office supported Lama Zopa Rinpoche in traveling to and teaching extensively in India, Sikkim, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA, as well as Nepal for the annual November course where there were over 200 students. Rinpoche did not waver from constantly benefiting sentient beings in whatever way they needed by teaching, and by leading meditations, pujas, and practices for generating success and harmony and for overcoming obstacles. Rinpoche constantly served to bring people into and along the path to enlightenment through his guidance and inspiration.
Twenty-six centers hosted our Spiritual Director during 2006, and help was given to work out the schedule, as well as to provide practical guidelines. See www.fpmt.org/teachers/zopa/schedule.asp for more information.

Rinpoche had the great opportunity to attend teachings from His Holiness the Dalai Lama in the USA and India, and to receive rare lung (transmissions of certain teachings) from Khyongla Rato Rinpoche in India. In October, Rinpoche was able to do his own personal retreat for two weeks.

HOSTED EVENTS & TEACHINGS
In the autumn of 2006, International Office managed a team of dedicated volunteers who looked after the non-Tibetans attending the teachings of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Sarnath, India, an event co-hosted by FPMT. International Office also helped to coordinate the Long Life Pujas offered to His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Lama Zopa Rinpoche during the year. Together with Maitripa Institute, International Office hosted the Heart Shrine Relic Tour in early July in Portland, Oregon. More than 2,000 people came to see this amazing exhibit and to receive its blessings.
MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, & TRAININGS

In 2006, International Office supported three FPMT Regional Meetings in 2006 – the European region at Kalachakra Centre in Paris in May; the American region at Land of Medicine Buddha in November; and the South Asian region in Sarnath in December. Assistance was also given to preparing the agenda for the Australian and Spanish national meetings, and FPMT Regional and National Coordinators kindly assisted International Office on relevant issues for the FPMT organization.

International Office was part of the committee planning, organizing, and facilitating of the 2006 Geshe Conference in Sarnath, India, attended by Lama Zopa Rinpoche and twenty-seven FPMT geshes.

FPMT now offers three separate training programs for center and project staff: Spiritual Program Coordinator Training, Foundation Training in Compassionate Service, and Rituals Training. More than thirty people attended a Foundation Training in New Zealand in October. Future trainings are planned for 2007 in France and the USA.

Serving Lama Zopa Rinpoche Daily

OUR COMPANION
OFFICE IN CALIFORNIA – RINPOCHE’S HOME BASE IN APTOS

Appointed as President and Chief Executive Officer of FPMT, Inc. in 2006, Ven. Roger Kunsang is based in the California office in Aptos, when he is not traveling around the world as Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s tireless attendant and secretary, as he has for the last twenty years. Ven. Roger’s secretary, Ven. Holly Ansett, is also based in Aptos where she works in varying capacities for Rinpoche and International Office, alongside up to thirteen in-house Sangha.
Communicating Through Publications and Multimedia, The Foundation Store, and The FPMT Website

*International Office* connects to the growing network of *FPMT* students and friends and to a general public increasingly interested in Buddhism through a vibrant magazine, an extensive website, and other educational publications in a variety of multimedia formats to meet the needs of every practitioner. The Foundation Store serves as an important vehicle for offering these tools and many more to assist students along the path.

**MANDALA MAGAZINE**

*Mandala* has served for twenty years as a global voice for *FPMT*, reaching out to our students and centers, as well as the general public. *Mandala* contains teachings by Lama Zopa Rinpoche, Lama Thubten Yeshe, other high lamas, articles by or about students and practitioners, and news of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other high lamas. It continues to be the only magazine which specializes in the Gelug school, founded by Je Tsongkhapa (1357-1419).

In 2006, the magazine (84 pages; 6 issues per year) continued to evolve and improve: By August, International Office was able to print *Mandala* in four-color again for not much more cost than the black and white version. An email Reader Survey brought in about 500 responses from a sample email list of only 1300 randomly selected subscribers. International Office used this valuable information to determine what was popular and which areas needed inclusion or expansion.
Last year, International Office switched printers for Mandala, choosing a local environmentally-friendly Portland printer, Journal Graphics, whose state-of-the-art pollution control oxidizer consumes the ink fumes and actually generates power for the plant.

Sets of Mandala dating back to December 1995 were also assembled and are now available in boxes of 60 through the Foundation Store. Centers and students are beginning to take advantage of this valuable Dharma resource.
THE FOUNDATION STORE
Serving Students & Reaching Out to the General Public

International Office manages an online store and website in our efforts to support and reach students and the general public internationally.

Last year illustrated that the Foundation Store has grown into a successful online distributor of FPMT education products and related ritual and meditation supplies, fulfilling approximately 550 orders per month and supplying our customers with home-study programs, practice materials, and sacred art.

The primary mission of the Store is to supply reliable, affordable education materials and Dharma products that are of the highest quality. In 2006, the Foundation Store was praised on many occasions for its products, good service, and affordability. All Dharma proceeds above the cost of production are strictly categorized and used only to further the charitable mission of the FPMT. A link on the www.fpmt.org/shop/ homepage explains to the customer exactly where their money goes, a feature which makes the store unique in Buddhist online shopping.

The combined and complementary FPMT educational mission and store mission is illustrated by one person’s comments about having bought a statue from a stand-alone store and receiving only the statue, before realizing that FPMT, because of the educational connection, sends along instructions for filling and blessing statues and mantras with every statue.
THE WEBSITE AND OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES

The website is the main information resource for both the general public interested in Tibetan Buddhism and, through the Members’ area, for those offering service within the organization. This area contains all essential FPMT center and study group information and education updates.

In 2006, the websites for www.fpmt.org, www.mandalamagazine.org and www.fpmt.org/shop were completely overhauled and redesigned. The sites now have complementary identities, and the introduction of many up-to-date technology features make the sites more attractive and user-friendly. FPMT audio and streaming video make FPMT teachers and projects available to a wide audience. International Office has seen a huge increase in web traffic in the last five years due to the changes that have been implemented and forecasts show that this traffic will only increase over the coming year.
A New Home Base in Portland, Oregon

2006 began in January with a burst of energy when Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s International Office moved some of its staff – and over 2000 boxes, office furniture, computers and holy objects, including a one-ton marble Buddha – 1500 miles from Taos, New Mexico to Portland, Oregon. International Office now has its own building in a spiritually democratic city and is rapidly becoming part of the community. The building is also the home of FPMT’s burgeoning Tibetan Buddhist university, Maitripa Institute, directed by Yangsi Rinpoche.
Throughout 2006, International Office oversaw the construction of a large altar with five statue bays for our meditation and teaching hall: the Jokhang. We are currently in the final construction and installation phase. A large Shakyamuni Buddha statue arrived from Nepal in February 2006, and during Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s 2006 visit, he commented that he was very pleased with the art. A 4-ft Palden Lhamo statue that was already in International Office’s possession, and a Chenrezig statue offered by Yangsi Rinpoche, graced the Jokhang throughout 2006. We are now waiting for statues of Lama Yeshe, Atisha, Hayagriva, and King Songtsen Gampo to be completed, all of which have been advised by Lama Zopa Rinpoche as beneficial to have in International Office.

WORKING TOWARD INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND GROWTH

International Office hosted two FPMT, Inc. Board of Directors’ meetings in 2006, attended by Lama Zopa Rinpoche and most of the Board members. In April, Board member Karuna Cayton met with International Office staff to facilitate better communication and develop strategies for International Office. We have made significant progress in forming a plan to keep taking International Office forward.
Summary of Financial Position

FPMT International Office is responsible for managing the accounts of FPMT, Inc. which include the unrestricted income and disbursements for the FPMT International Office operations and the restricted funds for all the other charitable projects. In addition FPMT, Inc. acts as a fiscal agency for a number of centers which have funds with the International office which are held on their behalf.

An annual audit of the accounts of FPMT, Inc. is performed each year by our auditor, Respess and Respess, PC. The audit of the 2006 accounts will commence in April 2007 and full audited accounts outlining the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Activities and the Statement of Functional Expenses will be available after the completion of the audit.

The following chart gives a preliminary overview of the income and disbursements during 2006 for the FPMT International office, the FPMT charitable projects and restricted funds held as Fiscal Agencies for centers.

All the restricted funds are maintained with opening and closing balances each year. During 2006, overall disbursements from the restricted funds for the FPMT charitable projects and for the funds held as fiscal agencies exceeded their income which resulted in a reduction in the fund balance for some of restricted funds. A breakdown of the disbursements from the FPMT Charitable Projects can be seen earlier in this report. In total more than 6000 donations from donors in 60 countries were received during 2006 for the various funds and projects managed by FPMT, Inc.
The following charts give a breakdown of the income and expenses to the FPMT International Office during 2006.

**Breakdown of Income to FPMT International Office during 2006**

- Admin Fee Income, $63,674
- Foundation Store Net Profit, $28,099
- Other Income, $108,545
- Investment Income, $386,369
- Unrestricted Donations, $806,643

**Total** $1,393,330

**Breakdown of Expenses for FPMT International Office during 2006**

- Center Services Dept, $82,400
- Development Dept, $37,255
- California Dept, $82,434
- Information Services Dept, $119,576
- Education Dept, $157,426
- Admin & Finance Dept, $332,198
- Portland Building, $86,155
- Mandala Magazine, $99,445
- Unrestricted Charitable Projects, $421,273

**Total** $1,418,163

These expenses also includes all the unrestricted charitable projects of Lama Zopa Rinpoche which are funded through donations raised by Rinpoche throughout the year on behalf of FPMT, Inc. See Lama Zopa Rinpoche's Other Projects on [www.fpmt.org/projects/](http://www.fpmt.org/projects/) for more details. During 2006 some of these expenses included the following:

- Donation to Deer Park toward new Temple $110,000
- Donation to Nalanda monastery for Statues $60,336
- Donation to Jangchub Choeling Nunnery for Statues $26,026
- Sponsorship of Puja's in Indian monasteries $23,934
- Sponsorship of Education for Osel $21,629
- Lama Zopa Rinpoche Other Projects $179,348

**Total** $421,273
Staff Listing

Ven. Roger Kunsang, President and CEO
Ven. Holly Ansett, Ven. Roger’s Secretary and Administrative Assistant

ADMINISTRATION
Kim Hollingshead, Director
Chuck Latimer, Development Coordinator
Heather Drollinger, Administrative Assistant/Project Coordinator

EDUCATION
Merry Colony, Director
Ven. Gyalten Mindrol, Materials
Olga Planken, Basic Program and Masters Program Consultant (based in Holland)
Ven. Connie Miller, Materials, Editor (based in New Mexico)

CENTER SERVICES
Claire Isitt, Director

FINANCE
Eamon Walsh, Chief Financial Officer
Ugyen Shola, Administrator/Office Manager

INFORMATION SERVICES
Paddy Ryan, Information Services
Adam Payne, Web Development

MANDALA
Nancy Patton, Editor and Publisher
Sara Blumenthal, Associate Editor
Sandra Peterson, Advertising and Subscriptions

FOUNDATION STORE
Richard Holdeman, Manager
Samten Gorab, Order Fulfillment/Customer Service
Dion Stepanski, Order Fulfillment/Customer Service
Our Benefactors

*International Office would like to express our very deep gratitude for the generous support of all the centers, students, benefactors, and donors throughout 2006. It has been a very successful year and we look forward to more in 2007! Pujas are constantly organized at monasteries and dedicated specifically for all of your kindness and generosity.*
May 2007 usher in an era of peace and loving kindness in your home, your country, and the world.

There are 147 centers, study groups and projects in 31 countries worldwide which are under the spiritual direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche and the FPMT.