



University Provost
Office of the Provost

20 April 2006

Dear Friends,

The historic visit to UB by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on September 18-20, 2006 represents a unique learning opportunity for the university community and the larger communities we serve. UB is truly privileged to host the Dalai Lama for a three-day visit, which will afford us many opportunities to learn from him. A Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, distinguished scholar and writer, and one of the most revered spiritual figures in the world today, the Dalai Lama will participate in an interfaith service with local religious leaders, hold special audiences with students and faculty, and participate in an unprecedented conference on Law, Buddhism and Social Change. The culmination of the visit will be on September 19th when His Holiness delivers a major public address at UB Stadium on the theme of his visit, "Promoting Peace across Borders through Education," as part of the university's Distinguished Speakers Series.

Nota Bene: September 19th has been designated a Special Day of Learning and regular classes will be suspended that day to allow students and faculty to participate in learning opportunities centered on His Holiness's public address at 3:00 pm. With this minor adjustment, the Fall 2006 University calendar will still exceed the SUNY Board of Trustees minimum requirement for course contact hours.

In addition to the program at UB Stadium, which begins at 1:00 pm, there will be a full day of other learning activities including special lectures, workshops, exhibits, a book fair, film screenings and presentations in various venues on the North Campus. Tickets for the stadium event go on sale in early May. Ticket and event information is available at: http://www.buffalo.edu/dalai_lama/.

While a number of special events are already planned for September 19th, faculty, students and staff are encouraged to propose additional academic activities that might be suitable to this unique occasion and enhance the learning experience of those who participate. These activities should broadly relate to the theme of His Holiness's visit and might address global issues that are not only of particular interest to students and community members but also of abiding concern to the Dalai Lama himself. These might include the defense of human rights, nonviolent conflict resolution, stewardship of the environment, the threat of terrorism, the plight of exiles, refugees and "stateless" persons, the role of education in promoting peace, and the relationship between science and spirituality, among others. Proposals for special activities on September 19th may be submitted to the Dalai Lama Steering Committee, care of John J. Wood, Associate Vice Provost for International Education: jjwood@buffalo.edu

We are excited at the prospect of the Dalai Lama's upcoming visit to our campus and encourage everyone in the UB community to take part in the special activities planned for September 19th.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Satish K. Tripathi'.

Satish K. Tripathi
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs