

# Hōko Karnegis



## Practice history

**Zaiko tokudo** with Sekijun Karen Sunna, December 1998;  
*Minnesota Zen Meditation Center, Minneapolis, MN*

**Shukke tokudo** with Shohaku Okumura, April 2005;  
*Sanshin Zen Community, Bloomington, IN*

**Hossenshiki** with Kensho Miyamae, October 2005;  
*Kogetsu-an, Shin Asahi, Japan*

**International Open Ango**, June/July 2008 and  
June/July 2011; *Shogoji, Kumamoto, Japan*

**Residential training**, August 2010—May 2011;  
*Tshoji Senmon Sodo, Okayama, Japan*

**Passed first baika test**, May, 2012; *Okayama, Japan*

**Dharma transmission** with Shohaku Okumura, August 2012; *Sanshin Zen Community, Bloomington, IN*

**Zuise**, November, 2012; *Daihonzan Eiheiji, Fukui, Japan and Daihonzan Sojiji, Yokohama, Japan*

**Passed shihanho baika test**, November, 2013; *Okayama, Japan*

**Appointment as nitokyoshi**, May, 2014

**Appointment as kokusai fukyoushi**, September, 2014

## Recent leadership

**Communications Director**, October 2013-present, *Hokyoji Zen Practice Community, Eitzen, MN*  
Responsible for all aspects of strategic communications planning and implementation, including message development, audience analysis, and creation and distribution of electronic and printed promotion and information. Activities include writing, photography, layout, website updates and Facebook posts. Additional involvement in fundraising, membership development, list management and overall strategic thinking.

**Adjunct Instructor, Department of Religion**, January 2013-present; *Lakeland College, Sheboygan, WI*  
Teach undergraduate course, *Eastern Religious Traditions*, which covers Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism and Shinto. I taught in the classroom while in Milwaukee, and now teach the course online.

**Interim Practice Director**, September 2011-September 2013, *Milwaukee Zen Center, Milwaukee, WI*  
On the retirement of the incumbent resident priest, I agreed to a two-year contract under which I assumed responsibility for all aspects of temple operations, both spiritual and administrative. Community involvement was also important in this role, including interfaith work. Five sangha members received the precepts from me, and I instituted Sunday practice (still popular and ongoing), which included a weekly talk.

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## Dharma administration

**Listserv moderator**, 2015-present; *Association of Soto Zen Buddhists*.

**Communications team leader**, 2014-present;  
*Tenpyozan Advisory Board, Lower Lake, CA*.  
Provide communications planning and deliverables in support of the building and startup phase of the first authorized Soto Zen training temple in the West.

**Secretary/communications officer**, 2006-2010;  
*Hokyoji Zen Practice Community, Eitzen, MN*  
Helped to establish Hokyoji as an independent organization separate from Minnesota Zen Meditation Center; drafted articles of incorporation, led strategic planning retreat, designed and largely wrote the final proposal for independence, created strategic communications plan.

**Board member/communications officer**, 1998-2003;  
*Minnesota Zen Meditation Center, Minneapolis, MN*  
Served as secretary; developed and implemented strategic communications plan as well as flyers, signage, website copy and other publications.

**Zazenkai co-organizer**, 2002-2009;  
*Kakudenji and Kogetsuan, Shin Asahi, Japan*  
Help to organize and lead an annual weeklong practice opportunity for Westerners at a rural Japanese temple.

**Board member**, 2003-2005;  
*Cedar Rapids Zen Center, Cedar Rapids, IA*  
Provided consultation as needed on policy setting and administration.

**Director**, 2006-2007;  
*Sanshin Zen Community, Bloomington, IN*  
Responsible for all aspects of administration for a local, national and international sangha.

## Publications

“Dharma Dictionary: Myo,” *Buddhadharma*, Winter, 2006.

“Buddhism By Numbers,” *Tricycle*, Fall, 2008.

“The Taste of Thusness,” *Buddhadharma*, Fall, 2011

“The One Left Behind,” *Seeds of Virtue, Seeds of Change*, ed. Wolfer and Carney, Temple Ground Press, August 2014

*Ancient Way*, a quarterly journal of traditional Soto Zen practice; print-on-demand issues 2014-2015; now online at <https://ancientwayjournal.wordpress.com>

*Milwaukee Zen Center: 30 Years of Reflections*, with Tozen Akiyama and Tonen O’Connor, self-published, August 2015

Chapter on mindfulness in Temple Ground Press book on the Eightfold Path, *forthcoming*

## Academics

**B.A. Speech Communication/Broadcast**,  
University of Minnesota, 1983

**Master of Liberal Studies**,  
University of Minnesota, 2007.  
Self-designed degree with coursework in East Asian literature and innovation studies.  
Thesis: *Translating the Tradition: Organizing and Leading the American Zen Sangha*.

## For additional current information

Visit Hoko’s website at  
<http://dharmalight.weebly.com/>

and her Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/hoko.karnegis](http://www.facebook.com/hoko.karnegis)

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## Secular professional experience

### Senior Communications Specialist,

*Metropolitan Council*, St. Paul, MN 1994—2010  
Training, coaching and assistance for presenters, design and layout of publications and presentation visuals, development and promotion of communications resources and services available to staff, writing and editing of publications. Acted as communications liaison for Learning and Organization Development and other Human Resources units, Office of Diversity and Information Systems. Served on the core team for the development of the Council's intranet site. Involved as needed with the development and implementation of communications training for staff.

### Director of Communications,

*Suburban Community Channels*,  
White Bear Lake, MN 1988—1994  
Responsible for all aspects of communications for this nonprofit, including long-term and project planning, budgeting, implementation and evaluation. Projects included membership and fund solicitation; design and production of corporate literature; advertising, on-air and print promotion; media relations; production of weekly local TV newscasts. Involved as needed with development, implementation and promotion of video production training for the public.

### Associate News Producer,

*KMSP-TV*, Minneapolis, MN 1983—1984  
Produced major market weekend evening news program, wrote news and weather copy, created weather graphics, designed and implemented on-air graphic style for news program, supervised internship program.

**Additional assorted employment** as an independent strategic communications consultant and in retail sales and management

## Equipment skills

Windows applications including Adobe InDesign and Photoshop, the Microsoft Office suite, internet browsers, basic audio editors; hardware including scanners, laptops, desktop and large-format printers, projectors, cameras and various video production equipment.

## Awards

*Northern Lights Award of Excellence in Television Programming*, Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC), 1994

*Classics Award (Television Programming)*, Minnesota Chapter, Public Relations Society of America (PRSA), 1995

## Publications

"Frame School" (copy and photos, including magazine cover), *Bicycle USA*, July, 1992

"Troubled Bridge Over Waters," *Adventure Cyclist*, November/December, 1995

Various news stories, photos and press releases

## Educational seminars (examples)

Speaker, "Community News Programs," Minnesota Association of Cable Television Administrators (MACTA), St. Paul, MN 1993

Speaker, "Promoting Your Programs," National Federation of Local Cable Programmers (NFLCP), Annual Convention, St. Paul, MN 1992

Speaker, "Models for Attracting and Facilitating Non-profit Involvement," National Federation of Local Cable Programmers (NFLCP), Annual Convention, Washington DC 1990