* Attendees: Phuntsog Wangmo, Paola Zamperini, Bret Bourman, Anna Bartenstein, Tom Burton, Naomi Zeitz, Lauri Marder, Will Shea, Vern Harrington, Jeff Krouk, Ed Hayes, Kathy McGrane, Al Daggett, Harold Graves, David Hayes, Robyn Kinsey, Efrem Marder, Lori Leff, Matt Hayat, Natasha Pavlovic, Elisa Gonzalez

***Guru Yoga A***

**Joint Meeting of the Board of Shang Shung Institute with the Gakyil of the Dzogchen Community (minutes):**

1. Discussion of Rinpoche’s email regarding SSI/DCA collaboration
   1. Financial Sharing
   2. Rinpoche’s August 19th email read aloud at the meeting.
   3. “What are we collaborating on?”
   4. Communication:
      1. Having an SSI/ASIA representative present at Gakyil meetings
      2. Consistent dates for the meetings
      3. Monday November 26th @ 5 PM : SSI Meeting ; the next DCA Gakyil Meeting will be November 11th @ 12:30 PM
      4. Discussion of Community Meetings DCA/SSI/ASIA people can all be present
      5. Share meeting minutes between SSI/DCA
2. Restructuring of International Shang Shung Institute
   * 1. Present organization is not really working. Discontinuity between different SSI organizations
     2. Discussion of Restructuring:
     3. One aspect that is not clear yet, at the international level is the financial aspect of the new ISSI order: How does the money flow? How does the money get distributed?
     4. SSI Board: Discussion about the color representatives. Jeff Crouk and Phuntsog Wangmo for red, Will Shea, Ed Hayes for Yellow, Paola Zamperini and Matt Hayat for Blue. Email: [board@shangshung.org](mailto:board@shangshung.org)
3. Practical Collaboration between Tse East blue gakyil, SSI USA, and Kundrolling NY City:
   1. Fabio’s visit to Amherst October 2012
   2. Tibetan pronunciation workshop for SSI/DCA February 2013 by Fabian Sanders
   3. Yeshe Namkhai will return to Amherst in April/May of 2013
   4. Elio Guarisco may come to teach for SSI/DCA
   5. Coordinating with Kundrolling: trying to bring Tsultrim Allione in to talk about Ayu Khandro, possibly March 2014
   6. Yellow SSI Financial Report:
      1. $20k Net income for 2012 so far. Gross Income: $146k
         1. Bookstore: $77k
         2. Medical Program: $58k
         3. Mirror: $11k
   7. Discussion of having Reciprocal Board Members between DCA/SSI
4. Sharing the Costs of the Schoolhouse/Facilities, Communications
   1. Red SSI Discussion of Facilities:
      1. SSI Presence in Amherst / a 3,426 sf building in Amherst discussed briefly as an example of a possible SSI office/footprint in Amherst area
   2. Discussion of A.T.M.A.’s attempts to gain official state recognition for Tibetan Medicine.
      1. Discussion of steps necessary for Accreditation: Graduated Students, Record Keeping
      2. Discussion of making connection with established Pharmaceutical Teaching organization in Mass that is interested in working with Alternative Medicines.
      3. Need for practical, clinical practice for the students
      4. Discussion of inviting more speakers to come, generating income
   3. SSI Membership Renewal Discussion
   4. What is the best utilization of the schoolhouse? Is it time to transition out of the Schoolhouse? Extended discussion about SSI possibly moving to new facilities
      1. The advantage of having SSI/DCA in the Same Location is Synergy, many medical students are introduced to the DCA community via the medical program, etc.
      2. Discussion of Phuntsog Wangmo’s online teaching program

**ACTION ITEMS as a result of the meeting:**

1. There will be a SSI representative at each gakyil meeting, and vice versa. Bret Borman, the SSI USA secretary (secretary2shangshung.org), and Harold, the DCA secretary, will ensure that the SSI board and the TSE East gakyil are kept informed of the respective meeting dates to ensure attendance and planning;
2. Bret will send to the gakyil the minutes of past and future SSI board meetings, and Harold will do the same for the minutes of TSE East meetings;
3. Harold will send to Bret and the SSI board the letter for membership so that SSI and DCA can coordinate the 2013 membership drive;
4. Al Daggett, Yellow gakyil member, will share with Phuntsog Wangmo and Paola Zamperini the contact information and details about an acquaintance of his who could help the SSI STM in the process of accreditation;
5. The gakyil and the SSI board will try and convene regularly, either by holding quarterly meetings, and/or by having potluck gatherings where representatives from each body will give community members updates and share information. Ideally ASIA will be part of this process too. The next meeting will be held near Losar as a Summary Meeting for 2012.