

Discussion Questions: Mahayana Class 1 (Pages 1-26 “Heart of Daring”)

- 1) How do the mahayana and hinayana views of emptiness differ?
- 2) Does emptiness mean non-existence?
- 3) What are the “seven greater characteristics of the mahayana philosophy that distinguish it from the hinayana?”
- 4) Why does Chandrakirti refer to compassion referred as the “seed of enlightenment”?
- 5) How does the mundane concept of love and compassion differ from the mahayana concept of love and compassion?
- 6) Are the different ways of generating the aspiration bodhicitta mutually exclusive? Is it possible for a single person to experience more than one of these?
- 7) Can an aspiration really impact other beings? Why is aspiration so important on the mahayana path?