Buddhism, Science, and Nature
as part of the Religion and Nature Seminar Series

Presented by:
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This talk will include Buddhist teachings that lend support to a modern environmental ethic needed to meet the contemporary challenges of industrial pollution, depletion of natural resources, the disruption of ecosystems, and irreversible climate change. Chief among these teachings are the doctrine of Dependent Origination and the idea of Intrinsic Buddha Nature. In Japan the Buddha Nature idea is extended to the entire natural world in what is known as the “Buddhahood of plants and trees” (somoku-jobutsu).

Dr. Nicholson will address the more fundamental question of the relationship between Buddhist teaching and science. Buddhism can support a radical shift in our understanding of ourselves and our place in the world, an outlook that can be aligned with a modern ecological worldview.