Preface

The papers collected in this volume grew out of a conference I organized in the spring of 1983 through the Kuroda Institute for the Study of Buddhism and Human Values, the fourth such conference on Buddhist Studies sponsored by the Kuroda Institute. All the original conference papers have been revised to varying degrees in light of the discussion that ensued and in response to the other papers. In this regard I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Professors Donald S. Lopez, Jr. (Middlebury College), John R. McRae (Fairbank Center for East Asian Research at Harvard University), and William F. Powell (University of California at Santa Barbara), all of whom took part in the conference as discussants. Their perceptive comments and enthusiastic participation did much to enhance the quality of the resulting volume. In preparing the papers for publication, I have made every effort to make them work together synergistically to present a coherent overview of the traditions of Chinese Buddhist meditation.

I would like to take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge our dānapati, Dr. Steven Rockefeller. His generous contribution to the Kuroda Institute made the conference possible, and his continued support of the Kuroda Institute's series, Studies in East Asian Buddhism, has helped make possible the publication of this volume. I would also like to thank Stephan Bodian, the production editor for the series, and Stuart Kiang and the staff at the University of Hawaii Press for their diligent and careful attention to detail in the preparation of this volume. Finally, I would like to thank Robert Burger for compiling the index.

PETER N. GREGORY