In July, President Green unveiled an ambitious new approach to education at YSU after consultation with University Leadership, faculty and staff, alumni, strategic partners, and students. Beginning with the Fall 2015 Trimester, all MATCM students now have the opportunity to more deliberately design a path meaningful to them and their future practice by choosing from one of three advanced study concentrations.

The three new concentrations are:

- **Taoism & Qi Cultivation**
  Enables students to gain greater appreciation for the development of harmony and balance as the foundation for well-being. Through advanced studies, students become masters of their Qi and are better prepared healthcare practitioners.

- **Women’s & Children’s Health**
  Well woman and pediatric care that considers lifestyle, nutrition, and environment is a growing area of specialization among acupuncture and TCM practitioners. This concentration will provide a platform for gaining and applying advanced integrative learning focused on gynecological and pediatric conditions.

- **Acupuncture Orthopedics & Pain Management**
  With proven effectiveness for conditions ranging from arthritis to sports injuries, no area of TCM is as sought after as Orthopedics & Pain Management. This concentration provides advanced training to assess, diagnose and manage a wide assortment of musculoskeletal conditions and pain.

When announcing the new concentrations to the University community, President Green stated, “[This curricular enhancement] reflects our recognition of the rapid evolution of healthcare towards a more holistic and integrative model. It also underscores YSU’s commitment to provide our students with an exceptional acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine education and the skills and knowledge necessary for success.”

It was important to all involved that the new classes offered did not increase the cost or length of the program. Students will continue to take six units of Qi Cultivation, in addition to three units of Taoist studies. However, each student will now be able to select a six-unit advanced concentration in Women’s and Children’s Health, Acupuncture Orthopedics & Pain Management or Taoism & Qi Cultivation. For even greater flexibility, students may choose to create a unique interdisciplinary course combination.

In our selection of concentrations, it is important to understand our imperative to stay true to the founding principles of the University, while enhancing the body of relevant educational instruction. This change in curriculum will ensure students are even better prepared to improve the health and wellness of their patients and communities. The enhanced course offerings also will enable them to move more confidently into an increasingly interdisciplinary and integrative care environment.

The demand for integrative TCM is growing. Our new concentrations are another example of how YSU is stepping up to meet the new challenges and expectations to help our students and alumni continue distinguishing themselves.
When people from all walks of life join together for one purpose, special things happen. This year many of our long-standing donors came together for a new event devoted to the educational mission of the University. A Night at the Auction produced many winners, but not the winners one normally expects.

This was an event where nothing was auctioned off. Instead, donors learned about critical funding priorities and new programs that will propel YSU’s future. They then gave to areas of interest in a silent auction format.

Our students who benefit from enhanced resources and our faculty and staff, who utilize your gifts to ensure the best possible education for every student, were the big winners on the night. Here is a brief recap of the areas of support donors enhanced or helped kick-off... .

Anatomy & Physiology Instructional Resources: With our students this is among the most cited educational needs to help with understanding and application. Gifts to this area will provide vital interactive instructional resources such as a virtual simulated body and 3-D Learning Technology for the classroom.

Animal Acupuncture Project: A favorite for conversation during the event, the emerging field of animal acupuncture offers limitless hope for our furry friends. While still evolving, it offers one more career path for our students to pursue. This specialty project is planned to begin during the 2016 Academic Year.

General Scholarship Fund: There is increasing competition to attract the best and brightest minds to YSU. We are conscious that we must not only be wise stewards of tuition and charitable gifts, but together we must ensure more students have access to a quality education without mortgaging their dreams.

Name a Clinic Room: For a gift of $1,000 donors could publicly show their support of the University. Name plates will be placed on clinic room doors to both acknowledge the gift and reinforce YSU’s non-profit status.

Orthopedic Clinic Exercise Room: As a focus of our MATCM concentrations and specialty clinic program, this devoted clinic room is critical to offering the comprehensive care and recovery our patients need. Your support will provide equipment for treatment and rehabilitation. A special note of our gratitude to the William H. Hazen Foundation for naming the room for 2016.

Provide Free & Subsidized Clinic Treatments: This, of course, is the cornerstone of our community promise and central to our students’ well-rounded clinical preparation. Donors ensure our students are engaged in treatment procedures for a wide assortment of conditions and individuals.

You may choose to restrict your end of the year gift to one of these areas or any area you are passionate about. Just use the enclosed card and return envelope to make your gift before December 31.

In addition to donating to support academic excellence at YSU, all guests received a preview of Dr. Mao’s soon-to-be-released book, Secrets of Health & Happiness: The Five Elements Guide to Living Your Ultimate Life. Not only did Dr. Mao guide each guest through the Five Elements and share healthy living advice for each profile, interactive stations allowed each guest to discover her or his own element.

Departing having made YSU’s future stronger and with a special pre-release edition of Dr. Mao’s book in hand, everyone felt it was a “win-win” event! •
A highlight of this year’s successes for the University has been initiating our monthly speaker series, the Tao of Success. We’ve been fortunate to have noted experts in their fields who have come to share their experiences and tips with the students and alumni in attendance.

Topics have ranged from business planning to understanding malpractice to digital online marketing to creating a strong core experience for patients. There has even been advice on building partnerships with other healthcare practitioners. The presentations have truly been designed to expose participants to a range of valuable information.

The program is conceptualized to address six core principles that when applied to our daily lives help us toward greater satisfaction in our professional endeavors.

Those principles are:

**Self-Knowledge:**
One must assess and understand personal values, interests, strengths, weakness, and how to act on this knowledge.

**Professionalism:**
One must continually practice habits while in school to prepare for his or her chosen career. This requires constantly updating and adding to a personal toolbox of skills, observing mentors, refining skills, and continuing these actions throughout life.

**Understanding Your Pathways:**
One must assess the professional things she or he loves to do and know how to earn a living doing them. One must continually seek advice from those in the field doing what she or he wants to do. By engaging in curricular and co-curricular activities while in school and life-long learning programs offered after graduation, one deepens her or his knowledge and appreciation for the endeavor.

**Assessing Opportunities:**
One must be focused on understanding and identifying when opportunities present. One must continually seek advice from those in the field doing what she or he wants to do. By engaging in curricular and co-curricular activities while in school and life-long learning programs offered after graduation, one deepens her or his knowledge and appreciation for the endeavor.

**Managing Transitions:**
One must utilize fact-based assessment to analyze any current situation be it financial or practice-oriented. One must consider and prepare for intervals when cash-flow might be tight such as waiting on test results before practice. This will help mitigate urges to deviate from the plan. Charting thresholds for goals is an excellent method of staying on target.

**Maximizing Connections:**
One must appreciate her or his network’s interests, skills, and multi-layered connections to effectively help them and seek their help. By practicing the principle of reciprocity in your networking, one contributes to the community with the knowledge that the good one does comes back to them.

In the coming days, our students and alumni will receive instructions on how to access the Tao of Success portal on the new yosan.edu. Events are usually advertised 2-3 weeks ahead of the scheduled date so please take the opportunity to join an event. Many of the best moments come from audience questions. •
The University celebrated two achievements this fall showing our excellence runs across the board! First, we learned the residents of West Los Angeles voted the Clinic the #1 Acupuncture Clinic in the area. We are proud that the consistent care and attention to detail from our student interns, supervisors, and staff is being recognized. Congratulations to the Clinic!

Next, the August California Acupuncture Licensing Exam results are in and YSU is back at #1 with a 92% pass rate for first-time test takers. We consistently rank in the top three, and have more first place finishes during the last six years than any other school.

We are proud to augment the quality of our students with support and programming that promotes success. Examples of such programming include free tutoring and advising for all students during their four years. Additionally, our Academic Affairs staff offer focused sessions for licensing exam prep for all students who wish to take advantage.

This combination of results is particularly heartening since it shows that our comprehensive classroom and clinical program exceeds our peers in many ways. We should all be proud of the daily commitment to excellence that produces such quality results for our students and our community.

To further accentuate Thomas's commitment to YSU’s mission of service to the community through the years, in early 2016, the YSU Community Clinic name will officially be changed to the Yo San University, Blount Community Clinic. “Brother Thomas” was a humble man who did not like much fuss about the good he did, but after careful deliberation with his family, we all share in recognizing how fitting a tribute this is. He had such a lasting impression and impact on the lives of so many students and patients through the years that all who benefit need to know it is because of people like him.

President Green summed it up best when accepting the gift, “The extent of Thomas’s support has been greater than many knew through the years. However, this gift will allow us to build on our established legacy, continue educational excellence in the classroom, enhance our already distinctive clinical offerings, and respond to the rapidly changing landscape of our profession. As the only non-profit acupuncture school in Los Angeles, our mission and approach is special and this gift further underscores our unique values, commitment to our students, and responsibility as a healthcare provider to the broader community.”

We look forward to welcoming Thomas's family to campus in early 2016 for an official ribbon cutting to rededicate the Clinic. Watch for more details on the upcoming events.