

# Term Notes



# Congratulations!

## Class of 2020-2021

### ■ COMMENCEMENT

**O**n June 19th, eleven Wongu students celebrated the completion of their Oriental Medicine education at the International Peace Center in Las Vegas. President Eric Richardson cautioned each graduate to expect challenges and barriers to the practice of Oriental Medicine and highlighted the ways that integrative health practice in the U.S. is a growing and viable field.

Dr. Sang Kyun Kim, Chairman, Wongu University Board of Directors, addressed the graduates via video from Korea persuading them to “think of patients foremost” and exhibit compassion and integrity to the wider community. Dr. Kim admitted that Oriental medicine requires promotion in the U.S.



Michael Ferris Commencement Address

and assured the graduates that Wongu supports their dreams to further the healing practice. Lauren Harrington gave the Student Address reflecting on the “long journey” where families were formed, babies born, and finally, degrees earned. Dr. Michael Ferris, member of the Nevada Board of Oriental Medicine, Founder of Integrative Acupuncture in Las Vegas gave the Commencement Address.

He encouraged the future doctors to be aware of the community around them, utilize the expertise of others and be ready to serve the health and wellness of this community. Family, friends and colleagues of the graduates wrote inspiring

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## ...from the President

be a concern for all Oriental Medical professionals, as it specifically abolishes the Nevada Oriental Medicine board but leaves other medical professions with their boards intact.

Wongu University opposed this legislation as it placed Oriental Medicine as nearly alone in the healing professions without the recognition that it is a legitimate medical practice that needs to be regulated and standards maintained for licensing by professionally educated and trained Oriental Medicine Doctors (OMD).

There were many other concerning factors in this bill, but that would make this article much too long.

The Wongu students, faculty and our families and friends, as well as the many other OMD's in Nevada rallied together to make our united opposition heard. We would like to recognize the behind the scenes work of many of our political

supporters and the advocacy of the Nevada Board of Oriental Medicine with the Nevada legislature. With our concerted efforts, the bill failed to leave the Senate Finance committee and was not passed.

At Wongu, we especially are grateful to our senior student and soon to be alumnus, Rachel Ong, for assembling a 'Toolkit' of letters, talking points, and email addresses that provided an invaluable resource for supporters to voice their concerns about the legislation.

*Note: this effort by the state to centralize all licensing under state regulation is not likely to go away. Wongu University is represented on the Nevada Board of Oriental Medicine and we'll be steadfast to maintain the integrity of oversight of Oriental Medicine through our professional community. Don't delete that Toolkit!*

**T**he Traditional East Asian Medicine community, the TEAM community, came together strongly during this last term to meet a challenge to our healing profession we seek to promote and practice for the healing it brings the residents of our state.

The Nevada Senate introduced a bill, **Senate Bill 335 (SB335)**, to bring all occupations that require a license under the Nevada State Department of Business and Industry. The language of the bill explicitly abolished the Nevada Board of Oriental Medicine. This language should



## SB335 Toolkit

**I**n order to combat SB335, there was a joint effort from the Wongu community and the general Oriental Medicine (OM) community in Nevada. One of those efforts was led by Wongu senior student, Rachel Ong. Rachel used her networking to connect with [One APIA Nevada](#), a grassroots, non-profit organization for the local Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) community who work to get the community politically involved and advocate for AAPI rights in Nevada. Her friends at One APIA Nevada suggested compiling a toolkit and provided her with a template to start off with. Rachel and another senior Wongu student, Lauren Harrington, filled in the content specific to SB335 and distributed it to as many as possible to spread the word.

The [toolkit](#) was thorough, listing information about SB335's specific legal wording related to OM, as well as multiple methods to contact legislators. It provided templates for composing emails and comments regarding the bill, and simply laid out talking points of how this bill would affect Oriental Medicine. It was regularly updated as new information was available and as the bill passed through the different committees. The toolkit ended with a page of resources listing links to additional information regarding SB335.

This 9-page guide greatly contributed to preventing SB335 from passing and protecting the future of Oriental Medicine in the state of Nevada. Wongu and the OM community is grateful to Rachel Ong, Lauren Harrington, and all those who helped to spread the word to make this victory possible.



Rachel Kohl leading Oath

■ COMMENCEMENT

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020-2021

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messages to each graduate in the photo books prepared by the Wongu Student Association. Congratulations to the graduates: Maria Esperanza Arabia, Zemfira Cameron, Casey Carpenter, Lauren Marie Harrington, Pang Kuo Hsu, Aeja Kim, Rachel Kelly Ong, Canan Sanatkar, Cassandra Suter, Stephanie Tanner, Nipaphan Yingyoud.



*A photo from Graduation Party*

Group photo of Wongu students and graduates at the graduation party hosted by Dr. Brandt and WSA.

■ WONGU STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## Ja Woon Go Now Available for Sale in the WHC!

The Spring 2021 AC550 Acupuncture Orthopedics class continued the annual tradition of creating the herbal ointment Ja Woon Go with Dr. Tae Cheong Choo. It is a topical ointment from the Korean ancient herbal medicine textbook “Dong Ui Bo Gam”, which was written in 1610 by the great physician, Hur Joon. It treats

various skin conditions including, but not limited to: dermatitis, acne, burns, eczema, dry & cracked skin, insect bites, minor cuts & wounds, allergic reactions (itchiness, redness), inflammation, anti-aging and skin sensitivity.



Ja Woon Go is available either in a tube or a jar.

It is currently on sale in both the WSA cabinet in



the Student Lounge and the Wongu Health Center. Please contact Student Services, Joshua, or WHC front desk, Palmy, if interested in purchasing. The tube is \$5 and the jar is \$15; only cash is accepted. All proceeds will go to Wongu Students Association (WSA) to be used to fund various student-led projects and activities for the benefit of the Wongu community.

# Wongu Co-Sponsors Acupuncture Research Conference

Wongu University co-sponsored the Society for Acupuncture Research (SAR) conference, "Pandemics, Pain, & Public Health: Roles and Relevance of Traditional East Asian Medicine (TEAM)" held virtually but also with a presence in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with major sponsor, the University of Michigan Department of Anesthesiology and Program in Integrative Medicine.

Wongu had a 'virtual' presence with a booth that attracted about 80 different visitors from 307 researchers, practitioners, educators, and students from 24 different countries. The conference conducted 3 workshops, 6 symposiums, and 83 discussion topics posted by the community. In addition, 75 posters on a variety of research topics were presented.

Wongu's co-sponsorship will allow faculty and students to access all conference abstracts and presentations, including the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine and

THE SOCIETY FOR ACUPUNCTURE RESEARCH

June 14 - 17, 2021 virtual event  
SAR 2021 RESEARCH CONFERENCE  
REGISTER TODAY AND JOIN US!  
[www.AcupunctureResearch.org/conference](http://www.AcupunctureResearch.org/conference)

**Pandemics, Pain, & Public Health: Roles and Relevance of Traditional East Asian Medicine**  
300 registrants and counting ... 24+ different countries  
**You don't want to miss this!**

access to SAR's full library of condition-specific Evidence-Based Assessments. Please contact Dr. Richardson for further information and future participation.

## ~ Reflections ~



**Valerie Chang**  
Fourth-year  
Wongu student



*It was very inspiring to see so many people from various ethnic backgrounds, talents, and perspectives working to advance Oriental Medicine for the benefit of our patients. A few presentations highlighted the challenges in bringing OM to mainstream medical practice. At my current organization, there are 35 physicians, 12 nurse practitioners, 1 physician assistant (me) and 10-15 locations. The practice and their patients could definitely benefit from having OMDs in their wellness program. The conference was inspiring and persuaded me to meet with my COO to present a vision of integrating OMD's into the practice.*

*The conference included Western medical doctors as well. The integration of western and eastern care has a great potential impact on the health of our community. This conference inspired me to further deepen my own studies in OM. While it's crucial to graduate and pass the Board exams, I discovered a need to pursue more in-depth elective courses, seminar presentations, and possible post-graduate studies. The conference was amazing for the amount of research going on and I encourage more students to participate in SAR next year.*



*I am grateful to have had the opportunity to join SAR via Wongu and attend this conference. It was an eye-opening event; allowing me to find out more about the world of acupuncture research. The research that caught my eye were the "The effect and mechanism of acupuncture on chronic pain" and the "Self-Care and Empowerment in the Digital World: Combination of eHealth Applications and Acupressure". The presenters were knowledgeable and well prepared with ample amounts of data.*



**Professor Jin Ngan, OMD**  
Wongu faculty

# Herbal Highlight



# 羅布麻葉

## LUO BU MA YE

~ APOCYNIVENETIFOLIUM ~

**DONNA TONGCO-NGUYEN, MANAGER, WONGU HERBAL DISPENSARY**

The dogbane leaf, also known as Luo Bu Ma Ye in Traditional Chinese Medicine, is sweet, bitter and cool. According to TCM, Luo Bu Ma Ye enters the liver meridian to clear heat, and extinguish wind, while facilitating urination, and enhancing health in the middle-aged and elderly. Luo Bu Ma Ye is used for a variety of issues including hypertension, dizziness, vertigo, insomnia, palpitations, edema, and urinary difficulties.

Luo Bu Ma Ye may be consumed as a stand-alone herb either as a decoction or an infusion taken as tea, with a dosage of 3-15g. Overdosage of Luo Bu Ma Ye may cause nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. When used over a long period of time, it may also lead to hypokalemia. To avoid toxicity, overdosage and long term use of Luo Bu Ma Ye must be avoided.



Luo Bu Ma Ye is available at the Herbal Dispensary. For inquiries or to book an appointment, please call WHC at 702-852-1280.

### FACULTY NOTE



Wongu faculty member, Professor Paul Kapsar, RN, MSN, ARPN, once again graciously donated several large pots of multiple aloe pups and pots for the pups. All pups found new homes within two days of the announcement.

If you missed out on this opportunity, please be sure to check your Wongu designated email frequently for other news and announcements.

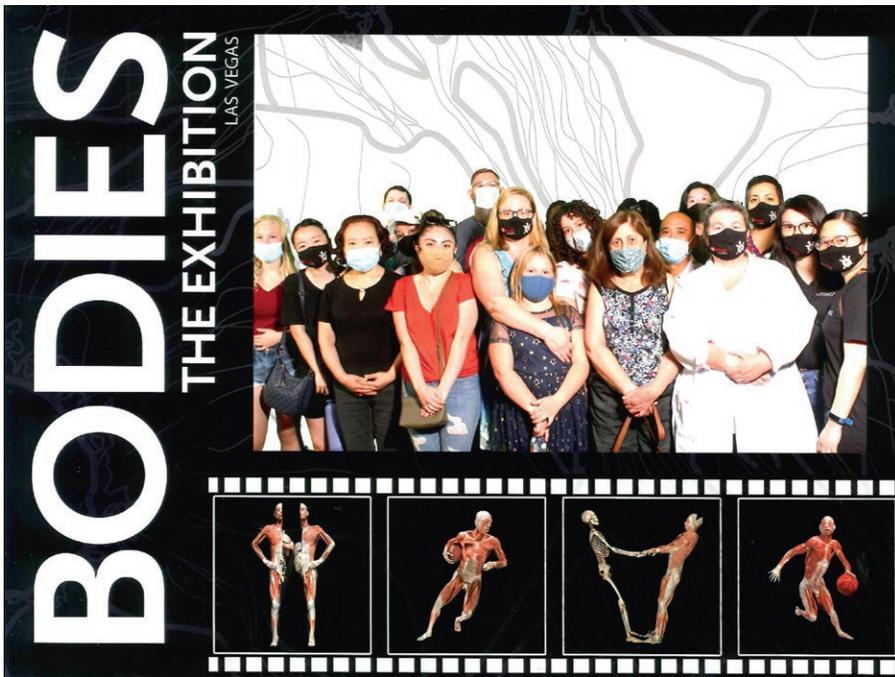
### WONGU STUDENT ASSOCIATION

## Online Lecture on Dong Yi Bao Jian with Dr. Choo

Wongu Student Association (WSA) partnered with AISA to introduce Dong Yi Bao Jian, a masterwork that encompasses a broad spectrum of subjects that include various topics such as inception of form and qi, methods of tonifying essence, pulse diagnosis, external elements invasion and treatments, just to name a few. On Saturday, June 12, Dr. Choo introduced the depth and vast information of Dong Yi Bao Jian so that the students can use it to better understand Oriental medicine.



Dr. Tae Cheong Choo, LAc, OMD, PhD



## Bodies | The Exhibition Field Trip

On Sunday, May 30, the Wongu Student Association (WSA) hosted a field trip to Bodies | The Exhibition at the Luxor Hotel & Casino. There, Wongu faculty and WSA board member, Dr. Brandt guided the students through the exhibit. Students were encouraged to find the acupuncture points for each display so that they can get a better understanding of the anatomy.

Group photo of the Wongu Family at the Bodies Exhibit

## Online Herbal Lecture with Dr. Yubin Lu

WSA hosted an online lecture presented by Dr. Yubin Lu on Friday, May 14. The lecture focused on revolutionizing the way of learning Chinese herbs by understanding and not by memorizing. Dr. Yubin Lu holds a Ph.D. degree in Basic Theory of Chinese Medicine from Shandong University of

Traditional Chinese Medicine. From 1999-2004, Dr. Lu was both professor and Academic Dean at the American Academy of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. He is now a full-time professor at Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, and a licensed acupuncturist in Oregon, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.



Dr. Yubin Lu, Ph.D., LAc

## Welcome New Students!

The Wongu family grew by 2 new students this Winter 2021 quarter. Although we were not able to meet in person due to COVID, we wanted to extend a warm welcome! We look forward to seeing you in person soon.

Supaporn Tikhamrum

Rachal Lewis

