Late Summer Greetings!

This is truly the Academy’s time of transition each year. Our brief summer lull is over and we are in for an exciting and full late summer. On August 11th, we welcomed 18 new students to their journey with us. We welcomed senior faculty member, Gary Dolowich, back to share his wisdom with the new class and to kick off their first intensive session with a three-day introduction to the Five Elements. We are looking forward to getting to know this class with their diverse backgrounds and experiences. We are also thrilled to welcome Class 31, our newest group of interns, to their clinical residency. Opening celebrations will take place on August 19th. We have 24 students entering their clinical internship. They will be the first group to work from our beautiful new clinic and classroom building. I don’t know who is more excited-- the faculty and administration or the interns! The clinic interns just completed their final herbal session with Amy Sear. Once they are settled into acupuncture clinic, they will begin weekly herbal studies classes and weekly herbal clinic.

In September, we look forward to having our second year students return and merge their separate classes into one fabulous group.

In addition to receiving all of this fullness, the energy of this time of year calls for some letting go. Having spent three years growing and transforming, it is time to send our newest graduating class out into the world to share the gift of Five Element acupuncture with their communities. Class 30 has reached this auspicious moment. I am proud of the practitioners that this group of interns has become. From my time with them in the clinic, I know them to be highly skilled, compassionate, and effective practitioners and I wish them all the best as they prepare to take their exams. We celebrate the commencement of Class 30 on August 29th. Please join me in wishing these fine practitioners much success in their future practices.

I am so pleased that our most recent enrollment cycle resulted in such a robust class. The thanks goes to you! Your referrals are the life blood of the Academy and your support helps to ensure the future of Five Element acupuncture. We are deeply grateful for your support. If someone in your life has the makings of a fantastic Five Element practitioner, please tell them about the Academy. Our next Preview Day is October 17, 2015 and we are accepting applications for the class starting January 25, 2016.

(continued on p. 2)
In July, the Academy invited Niki Bilton to teach a faculty development workshop. The Academy is pleased to support the faculty in this way. This time together helps to deepen our understanding of Five Element theory in relation to classical Chinese medicine and to inspire our teaching to future generations of practitioners. We are interested in hosting Niki Bilton’s Graduate Program to maximize our practitioner skills and to help preserve the Five Element tradition. I will send out a flyer with more information soon. We are looking to begin the program in January 2016. Please contact me directly if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity (misti.oxford@acupuncturist.edu).

We have several continuing education opportunities coming up. Here are some highlights and you can learn more about each of these events on our website. Mark Fortney will be at the Academy September 19-20 with a workshop titled “Ten Thousand Things: Delving Deeper into the Spirit of the Points”. Both Florida CEUs and NCCAOM PDA points are available for this workshop. Learn more about this upcoming workshop in this newsletter.

Florida license renewal is due in February 2016! In preparation for that, on December 5-6, the Academy is bringing Amy Sear to teach CEU courses geared toward Florida licensure renewal. Registration is available for one day or two days. Plan now to fulfill some of your requirements in a live class at the Academy. Please visit our website for details.

Please join us in celebrating the expansion of our campus by contributing to the Receiving Fullness fundraising campaign. We are excited about our growth and invite you to be a part of it. The new building is coming together beautifully for the start of the next clinical residency. We are all looking forward to working in the new space. The campaign is off to a great start and I am deeply grateful for the support of this community. Your donation to our Receiving Fullness campaign helps ensure the future of the Academy and the future of Five Element acupuncture. Please visit our website and make your contribution today.

May the good work you do nourish and sustain you,

Misti Oxford-Pickeral

I have written and published a book! On Wednesday Sept 23 I’m launching The Yin and Yang of Climate Crisis: Healing Personal, Cultural, and Ecological Imbalance with Chinese Medicine at my first book reading and signing at Phoenix Books in Burlington, VT. October 14th I’m also doing a reading and signing at the environmental education center Shelburne Farm in Shelburne, VT and presenting a workshop on “Internal Climate Change” as well as signing books during the Connecting for Change Bioneers conference in New Bedford, MA on October 23-24. And of course, I’m speaking at the Academy’s Commencement on Aug 30. There will be other events that people can read about at my new website www.personalasecological.com

-Brendan Kelly
Class 15
My new practice is open in Fort Lauderdale! I’m offering Five Element acupuncture, herbs, Mei Zen cosmetic acupuncture and cupping. My bilingual practice is a great option for those who feel more comfortable speaking in Spanish. My new website is up too: www.fortlauderdale-acupuncture.com.

-Aña Toriello
Class 27

This summer I enjoyed an amazing trip to Israel, visiting extended family and friends, including the Academy’s former president, Dorit Reznek. True to Dorit’s exhuberent nature, the day I arrived she shared with me her excitement regarding her plans to introduce auricular community style acupuncture in her clinic. I was enthusiastic and excited for her. A few days into my vacation, a friend showed me a flyer announcing the event, “Smile Ear to Ear” led by Patty Getford, a U.S. acupuncturist. In Dorit’s excitement, she forgot to mention that I was going to be leading the event! Of course, I was more than happy to lead such a wonderful cause. There were three sessions and each was very well attended. It was an honor to be a part of this fantastic and diverse group of practitioners and to introduce community style acupuncture to so many different people of a different culture with a different language. It was as if we were one heart and was very energy producing. I loved them. Here is an excerpt from a letter of gratitude that I received:

Dear Patty,

On behalf of the “Flying Camel” clinic, thank you again for coming and leading our event “smile from ear to ear”. We are excited that in addition to Chinese Medicine practitioners working side by side by Western doctors, we are also offering Community treatments to those who cannot afford private treatments.
We have received very positive feedback to the program you led. So much so, that we are starting weekly community treatments. You instilled trust and comfort in those who participated. We appreciated learning from you and your knowledge in the area of ear acupuncture, and the desire to be a part of what we did.

Thanks again, with much appreciation,
Dorit Parnas, PhD on behalf of Dorit Reznek, M.Ac., A.P. and Noa Ben Baruch, M.D.

-Patty Getford
Class 12

I spent the summer as the resident acupuncturist for Yellow Barn, an international center for chamber music in Putney, Vermont. I worked with musicians from all over the world. My practice, Sword Hands (www.swordhands.com), is based in Brooklyn, NY and Putney, VT. I offer Five Element acupuncture and my husband Travis teaches qigong and offers personal healing sessions. We are both very much interested in the place where medicine and the arts intersect.

-Sarah (Paulson) Hampton LaPlante
Class 28
Ten Thousand Things
The Etymology, Poetry, and Deep Meaning of Acupuncture Point Names

Ten Thousand Things is an exploration of the Chinese character names of acupuncture points for licensed acupuncturists. In the class, we will investigate Daoist philosophy, poetry, etymology, meditation, and needling to strengthen our ability to use the point names in our acupuncture practices. We will explore ways to communicate the deep meaning of the points, in order to enhance healing in our clients, as we cover specific points along the 12 main meridians. This class will engage the senses, intellect, and emotional intelligence to understand the ancient characters and connect those meanings to contemporary practice.

September 19 - 20, 2015
Sat. 9:00 - 5:30  Sun. 9:00 - 5:30
Academy for Five Element Acupuncture
Gainesville, FL
15 PDA hours NCCAOM #1252-001
Before September 1st
$160 Academy faculty and students
$200 General Public
After September 1st
$200 Academy faculty and students
$240 General Public
To register, call: 352.335.2332 or visit our website: www.acupuncturist.edu

The class will be taught by Mark A. Fortney L.Ac. Mark began studying Chinese language and culture over 30 years ago and has lived in China and Taiwan. He has been practicing acupuncture in Asheville, NC for the last nine years while teaching at Daoist Traditions College of Chinese Medicine. He brings more than twenty years of teaching experience and a passion for Chinese history to this class.

Florida License Renewal Intensive with Amy Sear
December 5-6, 2015
9am - 5pm
Wondering how you’re going to work all those classes into your busy schedule? Stop worrying and come to the Academy! Registration is available for one day or two days. Plan now to fulfill your license renewal requirements in a live class at the Academy over one weekend.

Day One
“Adaptogens: Modern Biomedical Understanding of Ancient Herbs” 3 hrs credit in Biomedicine
“A Practical Presentation of FL Laws and Rules” 2 hrs credit in FL Laws and Rules
“Increasing Safety, Decreasing Risk” 2 hrs credit in Medical Errors

Day Two
“Ethics in OM Practice” 4 hrs credit in General (FL) and/or 4 hrs credit in Ethics (NCCAOM)
“Inflammation and Herbal Strategies for Reducing It” 3 hrs credit in Biomedicine

Course descriptions and online registration is open on our website: acupuncturist.edu

Upcoming Events

Academy Calendar
Family Night & Reception
August 28
Class 30 Commencement
August 29
Mark Fortney
Ten Thousand Things: Delving Deeper into the Spirit of the Points
September 19-20
Patient Social & Clinic Open House
October 9
Prospective Student Preview Day
October 17
Florida License Renewal Weekend Workshop
Amy Sear
December 5-6
New Master of Acupuncture Class
January 25, 2016
Welcome New Students

Welcome new Master of Acupuncture students! Pictured here: (front row, l to r) Kate Henkle, Vanessa Berger, Sara Smith, Melissa Washburn, Carol Short, Cheng Liu, Jiling Lin, (back row, l to r) Miha Kim, Jadranka Bozja, Steve Reiman, Jasmine Stine, Sarah Rowe, Paula Koberda, Deva Zheng, Courtney Kelly, Jordan Hughes.

Welcome New Interns

Welcome Class 31 on the first day of clinic residency – after two days of comprehensive exams. Pictured here: (front row) Brittany Newman, fAe gibson, Alana Debow, Jodie Treloar, Devynne Berry, Deb Long, Finn Beckman, (middle row, l to r) Katie Cook-Bretson, Jennifer Growden, Monica Nolan, Telma Tavares, Bonnie Barrow, (third row, l to r) Matt Goolsby, Alpha Bond, Stephanie McCall, Caroline Schultz, Laurinda Poirier-Solomon, Laura Lynn Powell, Karmel Spaeth, Aven Whitmire, Tenelle Wilson, Hillary Leonzio, (fourth row, against the window) Kate Mansfield, Jean-Yvonne Pierre.

Thank You Donors

Classrooms are filling in our new building! Commemorate a loved one, share your inspiration with future students, or get together with your class and make a donation. Donations may be made by phone (352.335.2332) or on our website, acupuncturist.edu. Thank you to our most recent donors:

Gary Dolowich
Joan Goddard
Catherine Hollingsworth
Stanley Hubbard
Brendan Kelly & Liz Geran
Anthony Peyser
Peter Pritchard
Sara Rodefeld
Henry Schieff
Scott & April Schroeder
Celia Thibodeau
A.W. Van Rensselaer

Getting ready for our first class in the new classroom.

The new treatment tables are here!