The mission of Oregon College of Oriental Medicine is to transform health care by educating highly skilled and compassionate practitioners, providing exemplary patient care, and engaging in innovative research within a community of service and healing.
Robert Kaneko, DAOM, LAc

Robert Kaneko came to OCOM from California in 1992, when Carol Taub, then Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, reached out to let him know the college was looking for a new instructor. Soon thereafter, he moved to Portland to join OCOM’s faculty. After a year, he became the Clinic Director and, in 2003, became the Dean of Clinics. “My favorite work at OCOM has been teaching students in the clinics. I enjoy helping the underserved, lower income people who otherwise would not be able to engage in our services. And through this experience, I learn so much from our students. They are always bringing something new for me to bring to my patients.”

In 2007, Kaneko received his doctoral degree in acupuncture and Chinese medicine. His capstone project, “Health and Longevity,” has become increasingly relevant with the aging baby boomer population. “People are living longer and looking to maintain their health well into their 80’s and 90’s. My mom is going to be 98. The advice I give her is to keep a low-carb diet with lots of vegetables and lean meats.”

There is an emotional aspect to health and longevity as well. “People come see me for many ailments, so I do my best to identify the root cause. What presents itself as chronic pain, insomnia, or digestion issues, is often stress or diet related. Instead of just ‘fixing things,’ I find I am most effective by helping my patients learn to breath, calm their mind, and find some balance in their lives.”

“In many cases — if the body is given a chance, and a little assistance — it will heal itself.

Acupuncture, Chinese herbs, exercise, and a bit of helpful health advice, can help the body to move in a more healthful direction. Patients can often can avoid medication and even surgery.”

Robert Kaneko, DAOM, LAc earned a BA in education from Antioch College (Ohio) in 1978, received his acupuncture/herbal training from SAMRA University in Los Angeles (1985), his DAOM from OCOM (2007), and supplemented these programs with study in China. He completed OCOM’s Research Scholar program and has participated in clinical and educational research projects, including collaboration with Oregon Health & Science University and Kaiser’s Center for Health Research. He maintains a private practice and has taught meditation in the Portland area since 1995.
Alumni Profile

Brynn Graham, DAOM, LAc

After getting less than adequate results with standard treatments for her chronic health conditions, Brynn Graham turned to traditional Chinese medicine. "I was facing the prospect of taking several fairly powerful prescription medications indefinitely, so I was willing to try another approach. This was in the early 1990’s and acupuncture was not very prominent in the Portland area, but a friend of mine talked me into trying it. After six months of acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine, I felt significant improvement and was able to discontinue taking all medications — this was huge for me."

So impressed with the healing power of Chinese medicine, she enrolled in OCOM’s master’s program, graduating in 2001. After 13 years of private practice, she returned to OCOM for the postgraduate DAOM program, from which she graduated in 2016.

Graham has now worked in health care for more than 30 years. Prior to her career in acupuncture and Chinese medicine, she worked as a technologist at one of the larger Portland-area hospitals, where she specialized in surgical X-ray and diagnostic imaging.

Graham has since become a successful healer in Portland’s acupuncture community by establishing her own practice at Yoga Pearl Wellness Center in the thriving Pearl District, where she has practiced for the past 16 years. She focuses on treating pain, women’s health issues, and chronic health conditions in aging adults, specializing in treating pelvic pain in men and women.

“Chronic pelvic pain patients are an underserved patient population, even in the Western medical community, mainly because these conditions can be frustrating to treat. This is due to the fact that the source and mechanisms of the pain are poorly understood and, therefore, can be difficult to determine or treat effectively. The doctoral program provided me the opportunity to do internships with a variety of specialists around the country from whom I learned a great deal in treating these types of conditions. I utilize an integrative acupuncture approach which combines traditional Chinese medicine with medical acupuncture treatment strategies. This seems to work well in treating these patients.”

Graham has shared her leadership skills at the state level, serving on the Acupuncture Advisory Committee (AAC) of the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) from 2011 to 2017, before serving as AAC Chair from 2015 to 2017.

“The role of the OMB, as with any licensing board, is to protect the public. The AAC has a strong advisory presence at the OMB, helping in regulating the practice of acupuncture in Oregon, making treatments safe for patients, as well as protecting the reputation of our medicine. We are very fortunate here in Oregon to have a strong, supportive, and reputable licensing Board that respects our profession.” In the past, Graham had served on the Board of Directors for the now defunct Oregon Acupuncture Association.


Married, with two adult children, Graham met her husband of 26 years at a Portland hospital where they both worked. He is currently an associate professor at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, teaching anesthesia residents in the operating rooms. Graham splits her time between her Portland clinic and contracting at an acupuncture clinic in Mississippi, an underserved area, where she is one of only eight licensed acupuncturists in the entire state. She has also conducted workshops on topics surrounding acupuncture and evidence-based medicine for residents, fellows, and faculty at UMMC.
Donor Profile

**Kathy Duerr, Ambassador, Bragg Health Foundation**

Since 2015, Bragg Health Foundation has been supporting OCOM by providing more than $25,000 in scholarships to master’s students, sponsoring health-promoting alumni CE events, and supporting the college’s Cherry Blossom Gala fundraising efforts.

“OCOM has built a solid reputation, and so I recommended Bragg Health Foundation support your great college,” says Kathy Duerr, Bragg Health Foundation Ambassador. The foundation’s mission is to inspire and educate people of all ages throughout the world to adopt a healthy lifestyle through optimal nutrition, exercise, positive attitudes, and spiritual wellness. In addition to providing scholarships, Bragg Health Foundation sponsors health outreach, provides programs, books, and materials on healthy living, and supports health science research.

Kathy Duerr first came to Bragg Health Foundation in 2005 as an independent health consultant, promising Patricia Bragg (founder Paul C. Bragg’s daughter): “I can build a legacy for you.” Now, 13 years later, Duerr has created a bridge between Bragg Health Foundation and Bragg products to invest globally in youth, adults, and organizations like OCOM.

“Nutritional harmony exists in some of our most popular foods.”

Students are bringing in an emotional component, too. “They are talking more about healthy lifestyles, how to cook better, and the importance of having a garden. It’s no longer about what not to eat, but instead, what to eat.”

“Eating ham and pineapple together at holidays isn’t just tradition,” she shares, as but one an example. “Pineapple has a natural enzyme, Bromelain, which supports the healthy digestion of protein. Nutritional harmony exists in some of our most popular foods.”

“This work is very personal for me. I have a thriving garden in southeast Portland, so I am passionate about inspiring others to nurture good health, eat right, and be well.”

You can provide support to Bragg’s outreach efforts and live a healthier life by purchasing their nutritious products at [www.bragg.com](http://www.bragg.com).

The entire OCOM community is incredibly grateful for Bragg Health Foundation’s partnership. For more information on the foundation and Bragg products, contact Kathy Duerr at kduerr123@msn.com or call 503-788-2720.
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OCOM’s mission is to transform health care by educating highly skilled and compassionate practitioners, providing exemplary patient care, and engaging in innovative research within a community of service and healing.

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**FY2017**

**Source of Funds**

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**Uses of Funds**

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**Balance Sheet**

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**Total Liabilities and Net Assets**  

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Thank you!