

## Unreserved Giving of Love Nurtures Kind & Competent Doctors

Written by Tzu Chi Foundation  
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In 1994, Tzu Chi ventured into medical educations; drawing first blood in Taiwan by introducing a totally new culture of cadaveric dissection. A brand new life was endowed to the conventional cold, dark, glooming and scary dissection class. The dissection class of Tzu Chi refers to cadaveric donors as "Cadaveric Teachers" or "Silent Mentors". They are Bodhisattvas in living, befitting the highest examples of human philosophy. In the Tzu Chi culture of teaching, students interact freely with the family members of the Silent Mentors. The students also participate in warm, yet simple memorials with full trust and respect so that they are able to sense the unwillingness of the family members, thereby appreciating the value of selfless giving.

To emphasize on paying respect to all life, students are required to suture and cloth the mentors at the end of dissection class. Family members are then invited again to attend the memorial services putting the mentors to rest in the coffins, saying farewells and cremations. The memorials are gratefully blessed as they place the remains of the mentors into a "glaze cinerary urn", with softly chanting echoes of rebirth. The "glaze cinerary urn" is then kept in the Great Giving Hall that symbolizes the up most contributions. Contributions of the mentors are then compiled to reflect the vision of education - "gratitude, respect, love"!

During the autumn of 2000, [Tzu Chi University](#) realized that the process of cadaveric presentation was not suitable for practical training of clinical skills, and the pledges of potential donors were overwhelming. Hence, Tzu Chi University researched and developed "rapid deep freeze preservation" and "surgical simulation training".



Starting from Tzu Chi, the surgical simulation training was tried for the first time on May 27, 2002, and by September 15, 2003, the first "operation simulation theater" was completed. Internal training was first given to the students followed by the doctors of other medical facilities of Tzu Chi University. External training was given to the students and doctors of sister universities both from local and foreign professional bodies. The break-through technique of combining culture into professional teaching created uproar from circles of training, education and social bodies.

Moving a step higher in 2008, several functionally connected rooms was constructed around the 8 teaching operation tables. On September 10, 2008, Master Cheng Yen officiated the opening of the newly formed "[Medical Simulation Center](#)". It consists of an independent entrance, a reception area, a fully functioning simulation line, independent cleansing units, concealed gas supply piping, surveillance monitors and robotic arms for the operating table. In addition, every operation table is equipped with a large LCD screen, which broadcast the life history of the mentors so as to remind trainees of the mentors' loving kindness and unreserved giving.

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Multiple instances of text that are completely illegible due to heavy blue and black digital noise or corruption. The text appears to be a list or a series of short paragraphs, but the characters are unrecognizable.