The Octagon at Life University was conceived as a venue for the exploration of the range of content areas reflected in the "Eight Core Competencies" of Life University including:

Integrity and Citizenship
Communication and Relationship Theory/Skills
Philosophy of Human Existence and Health Care Policy
Leadership and Entrepreneurship
Belief Systems and Performance
Learning Theory/Critical Thinking
Contemporary Scientific Paradigms
Integrative Change

None of these areas are unique to Life University. What is unique to Life University is the lens through which The Octagon explores, studies, teaches and researches these areas.

The Octagon "lens" is one that sees the human being as a self-developing, self-maintaining and self-healing entity possessing underappreciated capacities and skills to learn, grow, improve and heal. Inherent to the use of this "lens" is a perspective that wholeness, wellness, growth and healing are innate processes that are best realized with internal reliance and alignment. In the realm of physical health this perspective causes one to ask why a person is not well as opposed to why are they sick.

The Octagon seeks to bring this important vantage point to all of the discussions it undertakes. In doing so The Octagon hopes to reveal connections and linkages previously not appreciated or understood into greater focus.