Reflections

Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence
at the Faculty of Dentistry,
The University of Hong Kong
Reflections

Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence at the Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE 
TIME AFTER TIME

Root canal treatment files
Retreatment files
Gutta percha points and 3D warm obturators

PROTAPER®
UNIVERSAL
The new generation
DENTSPLY
Reflections

Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence
at the Faculty of Dentistry,
The University of Hong Kong

Edited by Trevor Lane, MA, DPhil

Faculty of Dentistry
The University of Hong Kong
25 Years of Excellence
HKU Faculty of Dentistry • Since 1912
Our Vision
To be the leading dental faculty in Asia

Our Mission
To serve the people of Hong Kong and the region by advancing their oral health and well-being through excellence in learning, discovery, patient care, and engagement.
Celebrating 25 years of Discovery, Patient Care, Community Engagement.

www.facadenthk.org
Let’s Make It Better For You ...
Ultrasound equipments from Satelec

- P5 Newtron
  Ultrasound scaler

- ProphyMax
  Combination unit of scaling and prophylaxis

- P5 XS
  Simply Plug and Play

- PMax XS
  Chip air for dry operation
  Precise water adjustment for periodontal medication
  Light for improving visibility in oral cavity

Let’s Impress You ...
From hand mix to machine mix, alginate to rubber base impressions
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dean’s Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Congratulatory Messages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Charting Our Roots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Building on a Firm Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Sustaining Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Profiles of Excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>Pioneering Innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96</td>
<td>Faculty Reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Alumni Reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Student Reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Tribute to Donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>Honouring the Past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Recruiting the Best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>Facts and Figures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>134</td>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As a long standing partner of the Hong Kong University Faculty of Dentistry W&H would like to congratulate you for 25 years of excellence: it has been a great pleasure to support the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and we look forward to our continued cooperation over the next 25 years.
Our Chronicle
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry was established in 1982, one year after the opening of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, where the Faculty is based. Our Faculty is unique, and still is the only institution providing undergraduate dental education in Hong Kong and the only one in China using English as the medium of instruction.

Dental education is the fountain from which all dentistry flows. A strong dental education system produces a strong dental profession, and the highest level of oral health care for the public. Our educational role is deep and wide: we provide dental and parodental education of the highest quality, and are committed to providing life-long learning. Since our inception, and thanks to the efforts of our founders, former deans, faculty members past and present, and institutions such as the Dental Council of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, we have been able to mould generations of dental and parodental professionals, giving them the knowledge, skills in science and critical thinking, and ethical principles needed to meet Hong Kong’s ever-changing oral health needs.

Nurturing Excellence
The Faculty’s mission is to serve the people of Hong Kong and the region by advancing their oral health and well-being through excellence in learning, discovery, patient care, and engagement. This mission, covering our four main activities, is our driving force and is instilled in the hearts and minds of each member of the Faculty. I thank all Faculty members, particularly the Faculty Executive Committee and Faculty Board, for only through their advice and concerted effort do our goals become realised so that benefits can be reaped by our stakeholders year after year.

Learning: Our undergraduate course is one of the top three HKU programmes sought by students both from Hong Kong and abroad, and our Faculty is one of a very few dental schools in the world that fully implements problem-based learning in the undergraduate curriculum. Our talented teachers and visiting academics from all four corners of the globe also ensure we have top-class postgraduate and continuing education programmes. The Faculty’s world-renowned postgraduate programmes have grown from strength to strength, and our current enrolment of more than 150 postgraduate students hails from 15 countries outside Hong Kong.

Ensuring excellence: The current Faculty Executive Committee comprises the Dean (fifth from the left); Elected Member Prof ECM Lo (second); and Associate Deans Prof TW Chow, Dr JE Dyson, Prof UK Cheung, Prof EUO Hägg, and Prof LJ Jin.

In 25 short years, the Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Hong Kong has truly made its mark on the region and the world. We celebrate this significant milestone in our history by taking the opportunity in this book to reflect on our past and celebrate our future.
**Discovery:** Our Faculty has created an environment where research can flourish. Working together and with various collaborators, our dental educators and scientists have made the Faculty quickly evolve into a leading centre for dental research in the region. As concluded in the 2006 Research Assessment Exercise, almost 90% of our full-time academic staff have reached or surpass an international level of research.

**Patient Care:** Since their establishment, the Faculty and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital have functioned as an important safety net for dental treatment for some of the most underserved people of Hong Kong. The Faculty is particularly fortunate to have a nucleus of specialists who accept referrals and serve as a key resource for the practising dental community.

**Engagement:** Hong Kong does not offer free access to dental care for the whole community, and the Faculty attempts to bridge the gap by providing community-based clinics and serving special-needs groups such as children and the elderly. To promote preventive care in the community, the Faculty organises roving exhibitions, open days, public events, and public education campaigns using the mass media. We also closely engage the wider dental community through synergising partnerships with the Hong Kong Dental Association and the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, and regularly see former students attend our continuing education events. This is not surprising, as some 50% of general dental practitioners are our alumni!

**Dental Visions**

The Faculty’s vision is to be Asia’s leading faculty of dentistry. We consider ourselves as the premier dental school in the Asia-Pacific region and we plan to continue soaring up the international hierarchy of dental schools. Indeed, we continually ensure our teaching, research, and patient care are of an international standard; we actively promote internationalisation among our staff and students, in line with the goals of our University’s Centenary Vision for 2011; and we regularly win international prizes and awards. Yet, we cannot rest on our laurels. There are many challenges and opportunities ahead, such as undergraduate curriculum reform in 2012, establishment of a regional platform for postgraduate dental education, and further improvement of research and infrastructure support.

We have come of age, set firm deep roots, and scaled new heights. With the cooperation of every member of the Faculty; the collaboration of colleagues at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, other HKU departments, and other universities; and engagement with the community and partners in industry and government, we will surely be able to fulfil our mission of dental excellence for the next 25 years and many more to come.

Prof Lakshman P Samaranayake  
Dean, HKU Faculty of Dentistry
Congratulatory Messages
I am pleased to congratulate the Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong, on its 25th anniversary.

Since its inception in 1982, the Faculty has played a leading role in Hong Kong’s dentistry development. It has also helped to significantly raise the standard of dental services and the awareness of oral health in our community.

Over the past quarter of a century, the Faculty has developed into a premier centre for dental education in Southeast Asia. Its graduates are serving people in Hong Kong and across the region with dedication and professionalism.

I congratulate the Faculty on its Silver Jubilee and wish it every success in the years ahead.

Donald YK Tsang
Chief Executive, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Chancellor, The University of Hong Kong
On behalf of the University, I am delighted to offer my congratulations and warm wishes to the Faculty of Dentistry on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

A quarter of a century ago, the establishment of the Faculty of Dentistry was a pioneering endeavour in a variety of ways. In addition to being the first facility of its kind in Hong Kong, the provision of dental education and the training of future dentists further strengthened the University’s commitment and contributions to society.

The Faculty was also notable for its then unorthodox approach to pedagogy and knowledge. In addition to demanding academic excellence of its students, there was an additional emphasis on developing an aptitude for handling the qualitative demands of the profession, and embracing a belief that learning did not stop upon graduation. Twenty-five years on, these principles of whole-person development and life-long learning are intrinsic components of the University’s philosophy and an important part of what makes the HKU experience unique.

The University is justifiably proud of the Faculty’s accomplishments and the loyalty of our alumni to their alma mater remains undiminished, as demonstrated by their ongoing support of our initiatives. I offer them my warmest thanks for their enthusiasm and commitment. I am sure that I can count on our dental alumni to stay true to this vital tradition, and that together, we can continue to provide the best support for our students and our scholars, in this generation as well as those to come.

Prof Lap-chee Tsui
Vice-Chancellor
The University of Hong Kong
ince its establishment at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital 25 years ago, the Faculty of Dentistry has accomplished much more than indenting heavily into the dental landscape of Hong Kong.

It has, in fact, turned a completely new page in dental services in the territory.

Today, we have an internationally renowned Faculty of Dentistry that excels in teaching, research, and services to the community. It has actually become a unique and very valuable asset of the University and of the Hong Kong community, providing outstanding contributions in all these areas.

Please accept my heartiest congratulations and very best wishes to all members of the Faculty, past and present, on the occasion of your Silver Jubilee celebrations.

Prof Chack-fan Lee
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
The University of Hong Kong
am delighted to extend my warmest congratulations to the Faculty of Dentistry as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Since its establishment in 1982, the Faculty of Dentistry has gone from strength to strength.

For 25 years, it has remained the sole provider of undergraduate and postgraduate dental education in Hong Kong, and in this capacity it has provided Hong Kong with a cadre of skilled dental practitioners who have given valuable service to the community. In recent years, the Faculty has won praise for placing problem-based learning at the centre of its undergraduate curriculum. By encouraging undergraduate students to bring their reasoning powers to bear on practical problems, this approach has not only made them better dental practitioners but also given them a valuable broader education.

Besides training first-class practitioners, the Faculty also has a strong commitment to pioneering research, and its research achievements have helped to cement the University’s international reputation in this area. The Faculty owes its success to the hard work and dedication of all its members, past and present, and to their unvarying commitment to serving the people of Hong Kong. I am confident that in the next 25 years, it will build on the proud reputation it has already made for itself, winning fresh laurels and scaling new heights.

May I wish the Faculty of Dentistry a very happy 25th birthday, and extend my best wishes for its future success.

Prof Paul KH Tam
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
The University of Hong Kong
Congratulations to the Faculty of Dentistry on the special occasion of its 25th anniversary. Since its establishment in 1982, the Faculty has been playing a leading role in the development of dental education and research in Hong Kong and the region.

The Faculty is exemplary in its pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning. In particular, it is widely acclaimed in the region for the pioneering introduction of problem-based learning in its undergraduate curriculum a decade ago. Since its inception, the Faculty has produced several generations of first-rate dental practitioners who serve the community with dedication. Yet, the Faculty continues to strive to meet the changing oral health needs of the community by providing the most modern, evidence-based oral and dental care and adapting its curricula to suit. Notably, it has recently mounted innovative postgraduate programmes such as the new Master of Science in Implant Dentistry.

Under the Dean’s leadership, the Faculty has recently made remarkable strides on the research front. Many exciting interdisciplinary projects with both clinical and scientific importance have already been conducted or initiated. Furthermore, the research productivity and quality of the Faculty rivals some of the most reputable world-class dental schools. In the 2006 Research Assessment Exercise conducted by the University Grants Committee, the Research Index of the Faculty of Dentistry ranked among the top three faculties in the University. The Faculty’s staff and alumni should be justly proud of its many and varied accomplishments.

I congratulate the Faculty again on its achievements over the years. My best wishes for its continued success in the years to come!

Prof Joseph HW Lee
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
The University of Hong Kong
On behalf of the Dental Council of Hong Kong, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong. This is indeed a joyous occasion to celebrate.

Since its inception 25 years ago, the Faculty has evolved to become a premier research and teaching institution wholly committed to dentistry, not only for Hong Kong but for the whole Southeast Asia region. On top of providing university dental education, the Faculty has been successful in recent years in promoting advanced education in the dental field with wide recognition. I am sure that both local and international students will not fail to find that the Faculty is the right choice of institution at which they can achieve their academic goals in the dental profession.

I would like to commend the Faculty for fulfilling its educational role and for its outstanding success in enhancing Hong Kong’s global reputation in the dental field through the professionalism and genuine concern for students shown by its staff in the past 25 years.

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success of the Faculty for many years to come.

Dr Homer WK Tso, BBS, JP
Chairman
Dental Council of Hong Kong
On behalf of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, I congratulate the HKU Faculty of Dentistry for achieving 25 years of excellence in clinical teaching and research.

As a Faculty Lecturer since 1982, I have witnessed changes in the Faculty over the past quarter of a century: from the simple phantom-head room to the modernised Simulation Laboratory, from teaching tools such as blue diode slides to digital photography and PowerPoint, from large computers at the main University campus to personal laptops, from lectures to problem-based learning. As time goes by, there have also been fewer full-time Faculty staff, more part-time lecturers, and more postgraduate students. Importantly, more and more of the Faculty’s graduates have become professors and teachers; it is their turn to pass on their knowledge and experiences.

The Faculty must be proud of its achievements. Faculty academicians and associates regularly win awards and medals for their research, while students from both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes are highly praised by external examiners and observers.

The College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong is appreciative for the collaboration with the Faculty of Dentistry as a training centre. The Faculty’s teachers and supporting staff play a pivotal role in training dental specialists in both basic and higher pathways of the College. I hope our collaboration and the Faculty continue to grow from strength to strength.

Dr John Ling
President
College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong
On behalf of the Hong Kong Dental Association, I would like to congratulate the Faculty of Dentistry of The University of Hong Kong on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

In 25 years, the Faculty has become one of the best dental schools in the world. The citizens of Hong Kong are very proud of their own dental school, and support from the community is overwhelming.

Dental students graduating from the Faculty are excellent in both didactic knowledge and clinical skills. And the research output of staff and graduates has won numerous coveted international awards and is constantly cited by refereed journals.

The Faculty is one of the few dental educational institutions that possesses its own computed tomographic X-ray equipment and computer-guided implant system. Its training modules are unique among dental schools, the most noteworthy being its postgraduate training programmes. Some of these form part of the training of dental specialists, which entails a minimum of 6 years—the longest anywhere in the world. After such extensive training, no wonder Hong Kong’s dental specialists are among the most highly regarded.

All in all, the Faculty of Dentistry has come a long way, having evolved from infancy to become a giant in dental education in a very short time. The Hong Kong Dental Association applauds the Faculty for its successes, and hope that they will continue to grow in the years to come.

Dr Vincent FS Leung
President
Hong Kong Dental Association
Milestones in the progress of any organisation are times of celebration, and the progress of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has been remarkable in its first 25 years. To have been part of that progress together with a committed and dedicated group of colleagues was a very special privilege.

The earliest years of the Faculty saw a period of incredibly intense activity: the acquisition of staff, the creation of an innovative dental undergraduate curriculum, the building of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, and the establishment of relationships within the University, with the dental profession in Hong Kong, and with the regional and international dental community. These all consumed the time and energies of the first group of academics in the Dental Faculty.

It was an honour to find myself leading the Faculty for a period of 6 years from 1983. That, too, was a time of significant advancement for all those who had striven to bring the dental project at HKU to fruition. The successful Visitation of the General Dental Council of the United Kingdom in 1984 gave international credence to the undergraduate teaching programme. There was also the planning for the commencement of postgraduate education, together with both basic and clinical research, and negotiations to ensure that Dentistry was included in the structure of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

Soon, the Faculty and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital became the focus of great interest from the major dental faculties in the People’s Republic of China, from our sister institutions in Southeast Asia, and indeed globally—particularly in 1984, when the 11th Asian Pacific Dental Congress was held in Hong Kong and so many Faculty members were involved.
Undoubtedly, a highlight of my deanship for me personally was the presentation of the first class of BDS graduates to the University for the award of their degrees. That too was a milestone for the Faculty, marking the culmination of the initial phase of its development. The dental profession of Hong Kong was to be forever changed by ever-increasing numbers of HKU dental graduates. Whatever trials and huge effort there might have been in bringing the Faculty to that point were overwhelmed with the satisfaction of seeing a job well done.

But milestones are not simply for the remembrance of things past. Out of the memories and experiences must come the determination and vision to do even more in the future so as to add to whatever kudos the Faculty has thusfar attracted. As always, that depends on the people involved and their commitment to the noble elements of academia and professionalism. In offering my heartfelt congratulations to the Faculty on this happy occasion, I wish it yet more success in the years ahead in its quest for excellence.

My very best wishes to colleagues, staff, alumni, and students—both undergraduate and postgraduate—for continuing progress to the next milestone!

Prof Ian Davies
Dean, HKU Faculty of Dentistry, 1983-1989
HKU Vice-Chancellor, 2000-2002
heartily congratulate the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital on the Silver Jubilee of the Faculty.

Since its inception, the Faculty has moved on to great heights of academic excellence and innovative teaching methodology. It has added many new technologies, specialist clinics, and services. It has moved from infancy to adulthood and is now recognised as one of the premier dental educational institutions. The postgraduate degree and certificate programmes are highly sought after by candidates from many parts of the world. The hospital and Faculty have also been successful in raising sizeable private donations to support special events and extra-curricular activities.

Above all, I am proud of the great achievements of our HKU dental graduates. They have taken numerous important leadership roles in the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, all the dental specialist societies in Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Dental Association, and many international associations and societies in dentistry. In fact, I now greatly enjoy my part-time clinical work in a group practice in Central with a number of my former students.

I look forward to personally attending the excellent continuing education courses and joining the festivities. It will be my great pleasure to meet former colleagues and students and to hear of their successes.

Prof Emeritus Stephen HY Wei
Dean, HKU Faculty of Dentistry, 1989-1997
It gives me great pleasure to send my warmest congratulations to you on the auspicious occasion of the Faculty’s 25th anniversary. I remember the 10th and 20th anniversaries in Hong Kong as great opportunities to rejoice in our successes and progress, and I am sure that the present occasion will be used wisely to celebrate and to plot your bright future.

During the past couple of years, my own alma mater, the Royal Dental College of Copenhagen, has celebrated its 125th anniversary and my present home institution, the Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Sydney, has celebrated its 100th anniversary. In comparison, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry would seem a mere teenager. But the pace with which the Faculty has matured into a world-renowned and authoritative institution, around whose graduates there is great respect, is impressive. This, not least, is a tribute to the Faculty’s leadership and academic and general staff contributions to excellence. It takes a huge sense of responsibility to be the only institution of its kind, as you are among the higher teaching and research institutions of Hong Kong, and you have ably lived up to the expectations from society and politicians, and provided both professional and academic leadership at a high level.

I feel privileged to have served as your fourth Dean, even though it was for a limited period that was characterised by transition and restructure. I salute you for your perseverance and solid focus on the future quality of your core activities.

May the Faculty go from strength to strength in the future years.

Prof Eli Schwarz, KOD
Dean, Faculty of Dentistry
The University of Sydney

Dean, HKU Faculty of Dentistry, 1997
On the occasion of this memorable 25th anniversary, I welcome the opportunity to warmly congratulate all the staff and students of the Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Hong Kong and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

In a relatively short period, by means of careful planning, innovative thinking and untiring efforts, the two sister organisations have globally provided shining examples of excellence in dental education, research, and oral health care delivery. By so doing, they have directly and indirectly improved the quality of life of numerous individuals in Hong Kong and mainland China, as well as other countries of the region and beyond.

I would like to express my sincere hopes for the continuing success of Prof Samaranayake and his talented teams of staff, and am sure they will continue to make a major impact for the benefit of society at large by virtue of yet more new research discoveries and pioneering methods of teaching and learning in the years to come.

In conclusion, I would like to send my very best regards to all in the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and Prince Philip Dental Hospital and wish them a further, equally successful, 25 years of work and progress.

Prof Frederick C Smales
Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Dean, School of Dentistry
AIMST University, Kedah Darul Aman, Malaysia

Dean, HKU Faculty of Dentistry, 1998-2003
I would like to wish the Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Hong Kong sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of its establishment.

I remember visiting the Prince Philip Dental Hospital for the first time back in 1979, before it was opened. I was in Hong Kong on vacation and called in to see what was happening. At that time, the building was empty, but plans for Hong Kong’s first, and still sole, dental school were well under way and I had seriously considered applying for a post.

Time has now marched on and I have had many opportunities to return to Hong Kong over the past 10 years—firstly in my capacity as a College Examiner and also more recently when I examined in the Faculty’s BDS IV Examination. I find that each visit to your dental school provides an extremely interesting and valuable experience. Particularly, the Faculty managed to keep everything going during the 2003 epidemic of severe acute respiratory syndrome, which occurred during my second year as external examiner. Also of note during the past 25 years, your dental school has overcome what I am sure must have been an exceptional challenge to introduce a new curriculum based on problem-based learning, and there is no doubt that the Faculty has succeeded in achieving its objectives.

Again, on behalf of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, I would like to congratulate the Faculty on its 25th birthday, and I look forward to my next visit in the not too distant future.

Prof JG Cowpe
Dean, Faculty of Dental Surgery
Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
am delighted to have this opportunity to send my
congratulations and best wishes to the Faculty of Dentistry of
The University of Hong Kong on its 25th anniversary. I have always
taken a keen interest in the development of the Faculty ever since I
had the pleasure of opening the Dental Hospital in 1981.

The last 25 years have seen an explosion in new techniques and
materials for the dental profession. If the Faculty was originally
founded just to train dental undergraduates, it has since embraced a whole catalogue of
special courses and initiatives designed to improve the service that present and future dental
practitioners are able to offer their patients.

The Faculty owes its success to the enthusiasm and hard work of its Deans and its staff, and they
all deserve great credit for their far-sighted dedication and commitment. I have no doubt that
the Faculty will go on to achieve even greater success in the future.

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
Celebrating in style: Winning Silver Jubilee T-shirt design, by Siew-fen Wong, BDSII.

Years of Excellence!
1982 - 2007

Faculty of Dentistry
The University of Hong Kong
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry was formally established in 1982, two years after the first batch of dental students was admitted to the University. Until the graduation of our first dental graduates in 1985, Hong Kong’s dentists were mainly expatriates and locals trained abroad.

The decision to establish Hong Kong’s own dental school originated in the 1970s, when Hong Kong was under British administration, led by Governor Sir Murray MacLehose. At that time, there were only about eight new dentists per year, and a total of 440 practising dentists, equivalent to a dentist-to-population ratio of 1:9000.

In 1973, the Government commissioned an evaluation of the need for the development of local medical and health services, including dental care services. The Government’s Medical Development Advisory Committee subsequently recommended that provisions be made for dental training to be introduced, in a multipronged approach.

Firstly, the territory was to create a School Dental Care Service and an associated Dental Therapists Training School.

Secondly, a dental school would be established at The University of Hong Kong, which would train some 60 dentists each year at a standard meeting the requirements of the General Dental Council of the United Kingdom.

Thirdly, dental ancillary training would also be developed, such as through the provision of dental hygiene and surgery-assisting courses at the new HKU dental school and a dental technology course at the then Hong Kong Polytechnic.

So, the scene was set, and dentistry in Hong Kong would be forever transformed.
The Early Years

The introduction of dental education in Hong Kong was shaped by a Dental Academic Advisory Committee, appointed by the Government in 1976, following the approval of a White Paper in 1974 on the development of medical and health services in the territory.

The Committee, comprising members from several countries and led by Prof GL Howe, made detailed plans for dental education and ancillary training. It set a target date of 1980 for the admission of the first undergraduates reading for the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) degree at The University of Hong Kong.

In 1978, the University, whose Vice-Chancellor then was Dr Rayson Huang, recruited the first two senior members of its dental staff—namely, Prof GL Howe, later to be the Faculty’s founding Dean, and Prof CE Renson—to guide and oversee the initial phases of this landmark project. In the same year, construction began on the dental teaching hospital in Sai Ying Pun, a populous district on Hong Kong Island, close to the main University campus.

By early 1980, heads of the five core clinical dental departments had been appointed, as follows:

- Children’s Dentistry and Orthodontics,
  Prof AH Brook
- Conservative Dentistry,
  Prof CE Renson
- Oral Surgery and Oral Medicine,
  Prof GL Howe
- Periodontology and Public Health,
  Prof WIR Davies
- Prosthetic Dentistry,
  Prof RKF Clark

Plans included the teaching of certain subjects of the dental curriculum by departments in the HKU Faculty of Medicine, so appropriate additions to their staffing were also provided for.

Keeping to schedule, the first batch of dental undergraduates was admitted in autumn 1980. Then, ‘Dental Studies’ was a division of the HKU Faculty of Medicine and was based in an open-plan office in Sassoon Road. By 1981, the dental teaching hospital, at 34 Hospital Road, was completed, and it was officially opened on 24 March 1981 by His Royal Highness Prince Philip.
after whom the hospital was named. A year later, in July 1982, Dentistry was accorded separate and independent status by the University, and the HKU Faculty of Dentistry was formally established and housed at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

Supporting teaching and instructional units included the Oral Radiology Unit, Anaesthetics Unit, Dental Materials Science Unit, and Dental Technology Unit. Other service units included the Reception and Primary Care Unit; Dental Library; Dental Illustration Unit; and Dental Data Processing Unit. The Faculty, comprising the five clinical dental departments and associated units, were collectively allocated 46 full-time academic staff, together with other clinical posts and personnel in dental technology, radiography, dental surgery assisting, and dental hygiene.

Today, with 35 full-time academic staff and more than 100 part-time staff and honorary teachers, the Faculty of Dentistry is one of 10 faculties of the University and has a substantial degree of delegated responsibility for the conduct of its academic and associated activities. The Faculty Board (see <www.facdenthk.org/about03.htm>) is responsible for the Faculty’s academic administration and reports to the University Senate.

Management of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital is overseen by a Board of Governors that is established and incorporated under The Prince Philip Dental Hospital Ordinance Chapter 1081 of the Laws of Hong Kong. The Board comprises representatives from Government and The University of Hong Kong, as well as some professional and lay members. Reporting to the Board, the hospital’s Comptroller is responsible for financial matters related to the running of the hospital. Non-HKU hospital staffing and hospital maintenance were funded initially by the Department of Health and from 2002 by the now Food and Health Bureau.

The current Comptroller is Mrs Ivy OK Chow. The present Faculty Dean, a member of the Board of Governors, is also the Director of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

---

**Early Milestones**

- **1976**: Dental Academic Advisory Committee is set up by the Government
- **1978**: Founding Dean of Dental Studies is appointed
- **1978**: Construction begins on the Prince Philip Dental Hospital
- **1980**: Heads of five clinical dental departments are appointed
- **1980**: HKU admits first intake of dental undergraduate and paradental students in autumn 1980
- **1981**: Prince Philip Dental Hospital is opened
- **1981**: Dental students start clinical studies at the hospital in autumn 1981
- **1982**: The first batch of paradental personnel qualifies
- **1982**: HKU Faculty of Dentistry is established
our individuals who played a role in the introduction of dental education in Hong Kong give their accounts of this historic occasion. Dr Rayson Huang was HKU’s Vice-Chancellor before and during the establishment of the Faculty of Dentistry, while Drs Jeffrey Tsang, Richard Walters, and Frank Law taught in the newly established Faculty.

In the setting up of the Faculty of Dentistry at The University of Hong Kong, the usual practice of ensuring that a new teaching institution be fully inspected by the relevant statutory body before its qualifications are recognised was waived by the Dental Council of Hong Kong. The reason was that the Dental Council of Hong Kong had strong confidence in the Faculty right from the start, on the basis of its excellent facilities, the indisputable quality of its teaching staff, and the well-organised method of delivering knowledge to its students. In fact, the waiving of the usual requirement and the automatic granting of recognition of the Faculty’s BDS degree have remained unchanged up to the present moment. And the decision has proved to be utterly justified, as evidenced by the fact that the majority of countries have also granted recognition to the BDS degree conferred by the HKU Faculty of Dentistry.

Many people would say that the establishment of a new dental school is a very difficult task, but I can assure that, as agreed by many academics, establishment of reputation is even more difficult. To start building an academic institution depends largely on the availability of funds, but money can never buy reputation, recognition, and image. These things are earned only by performance, which is eagerly watched, valued, and assessed by those who are familiar with the relevant fields of study. This evaluation is very critical, precise, and accurate, and the HKU Faculty of Dentistry passes muster year by year.

I had the privilege of being among the part-time teaching staff of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry for a long while, including its early days and inception. I am fortunate and proud to have witnessed the Faculty’s birth, growth, and development, and now maturation into the premier dental faculty in our region. This is a proven fact, and credit is largely due to the teaching staff of the Faculty.

On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, I wish the Dean and his teaching staff continued success in the future.

Dr Jeffrey YS Tsang, MBE is a specialist in Orthodontics and the Immediate Past Chairman of the Dental Council of Hong Kong. Dr Tsang was on the part-time teaching staff of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry during its inception.

“The Dental Council of Hong Kong had strong confidence in the Faculty right from the start”
Meeting Unmet Needs

On the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, I have great pleasure writing a few words to convey my warmest congratulations and best wishes. On this happy occasion, I would like to take the opportunity to relate some of my reminiscences of the early days, more than 30 years ago, when we started to promote the introduction of dental education into Hong Kong.

Filling a Glaring Gap

In the early 1970s, Hong Kong—although a prosperous modern city of about 4 million people—had hardly any provision for dental care for the population. In an attempt (and a poor one) to meet the need for dentists, a handful of students were sent annually to universities abroad, such as in Singapore and the Philippines.

The training of dentists was thus for me the highest hope I entertained for The University of Hong Kong as I came back to serve my alma mater as Vice-Chancellor in 1972. In fact, I brought up the subject at my first opportunity after assumption of duty, in the first speech I made at the degree congregation on 3 November 1972. I referred to the absence of dental teaching as the “most glaring gap” in Hong Kong’s system of higher education and added that “…one may well find it difficult to understand why, although Hong Kong has a proud history of 100 years of medical education, dentistry is still not found in the curriculum of our University”.

World-class Dentistry in Hong Kong

So, moves were made to introduce local dental education. But many obstacles ensued, the greatest of them being finance. The working party that was set up to study the project some time later recommended that instead of a dental unit or department in the Medical Faculty that most of us had envisaged, an independent dental school complete with a comprehensive dental hospital, should be the way forward.

The rationale for this recommendation was that, for a city like Hong Kong at the end of the 20th century, it would not be worthwhile if the new dental school to be established were not one at par in standards with the best schools in advanced countries all over the world.

While most of us agreed with this ambitious plan, it caused misgivings among heads of government departments concerned. However, we were fortunate to have the backing of the then Governor, Sir Murray MacLehose, who had right from the beginning supported the project, and who saw it through, culminating in the Faculty’s establishment in 1982.

Silver Service

The sterling and world-class service that the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has rendered Hong Kong and neighbouring cities throughout the past 25 years has been there for all to see, thanks in no small measure to the Faculty’s devoted teachers and supporting staff.

I am happy and proud to have played a part in the birth of the Faculty and to have witnessed its healthy growth and full maturation. I wish the Faculty much success for its developments in the next quarter of a century.
look back at my 21 years of teaching at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, in the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, with great pride.

I began my teaching there with my first group of part-timers in 1982 with a day-long training session before we started clinical work the following term.

The first day of seeing patients in the hospital was fraught with problems, the major one being patients passing out from injections of local anaesthetic. I do not know who was more anxious from the experience—the patients, the students, or the staff. I can still picture Maggie Crosswaite running around the Conservative Dentistry Clinic with glasses of sugar water as a panacea for all who had fallen in the ranks. Strangely, this never happened again when second-year students were first seeing patients.

Pleasant Surprises

My earliest recollection of the dental hospital was before it was built.

Prof Geoffrey Howe paid a surprise visit to my clinic in 1978 with five other people, quite unannounced. They were on a fact-finding mission to see what a typical Hong Kong dental surgery was like. I told them that they had to travel away from Central to obtain that information.

At that time, I had no idea who Prof Howe was, nor that there were plans to create Hong Kong’s first, and still sole, dental school. A few years later, and all became clear: a Faculty of Dentistry had been established at The University of Hong Kong, and Hong Kong had its own dental school at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

And a great dental school it has been. Even in the early years, visiting colleagues from all corners of the world were impressed by the facilities and quite envious of them. The hospital building and its facilities have changed extensively since their early days, but we can be even prouder of the hospital, the Faculty, their dedicated staff, and the earnestness of all the students.

I wish to offer my congratulations to the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and the Prince Phillip Dental Hospital and their staff on the first 25 years of local dental education and training, and on their magnificent contribution to the profession of dentistry.

“The hospital building and its facilities have changed extensively since their early days, but we can be even prouder of the hospital, the Faculty, their dedicated staff, and the earnestness of all the students”
Scaling New Heights

The dental profession in Hong Kong embarked on a new era when, in July 1974, the Legislative Council approved a White Paper on the development of medical and health services, including proposals to establish a dental school.

Two years later, in June 1976, a Dental Academic Advisory Committee was appointed to advise on staff, buildings, and equipment, for a degree curriculum that would meet the requirements of the General Dental Council of the United Kingdom.

At that time, I was most fortunate—through a colleague in my private practice, Dr WL San, who was a member of the Dental Academic Advisory Committee—to have the opportunity to get acquainted with most of the pioneers of the formative years of the Faculty. These notable individuals included Profs CE Renson, Ian Davies, and Robert Clark. I was also especially happy to see Dr Margaret Comfort, a former classmate and friend from the University of Manchester, who joined the Faculty’s Department of Oral Surgery.

I am particularly proud to have known Prof Davies since his arrival in Hong Kong in February 1980. Prof Davies has contributed so much to The University of Hong Kong, not only as a Dean of the Faculty but also as an HKU Vice-Chancellor. This achievement was unprecedented.

Proud to Play a Part

My own involvement in the Faculty includes a decade-long part-time lectureship, during which I was also quite active in the Hong Kong Dental Association and the Dental Council of Hong Kong. Indeed, it has been a privilege to be a bridge between these important institutions. For example, I assisted in the development of a Statutory Examination by the Faculty, under the auspices of the Dental Council of Hong Kong, and was a member of that body’s Examining Board. I am proud to have been a member of the teaching staff in the Faculty’s formative years. I was recruited by Prof Renson, then Professor of the Department of Conservative Dentistry, who is sadly missed since his demise several years ago. As a part-time Clinical Lecturer in his department from February 1982 to September 1990, I worked for two sessions a week. My remuneration began at HK$350 per session, rising to HK$750 when I resigned.

My duties involved teaching dental undergraduates the full spectrum of clinical techniques, under the headings of Operative Dentistry, Endodontics, and Fixed Prosthodontics. The students were brilliant, like Dr Ronny Lie, and most of my teaching colleagues became very good friends. I still meet many former colleagues and students at scientific and social meetings, and they are now very successful dental professionals.

Anniversaries offer the opportunity to reflect on where we have been and where we are going. For the past 25 years, I have observed the Faculty as it has fulfilled its commitments to training dental professionals and para-dental personnel for the betterment of Hong Kong’s oral health. During those years, the Faculty has gained an enviable and distinguished reputation, both locally and worldwide. And I have no doubts that the Faculty’s reputation will escalate even further.

It is my great pleasure to convey my heartiest congratulations to the Faculty, Dean, and all members of staff and students on this most memorable occasion!
Building on a Firm Foundation

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry remains the only dental school in Hong Kong and plays a crucial role in the provision of dental care and education. Since its establishment, the Faculty has quickly distinguished itself with numerous contributions to the field of dentistry and to community health care.

Based in the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, with 11 storeys and 33,000 m² of floor space, the Faculty of Dentistry enjoys world-class facilities, including two lecture theatres, well-equipped research laboratories, a Dental Library, a Problem-based Learning Suite, and a Simulation Laboratory. The hospital is also equipped with wireless Internet access. Support services are provided by the Dental Technology Laboratory and Dental Media Unit. Special amenities, such as a Community Lounge, a Postgraduate Habitat, and student union and alumni offices, help enrich faculty life.

Thanks to the unfailing commitment of its staff, the Faculty has earned a strong international reputation. Our undergraduate course is world-renowned for its exclusive use of problem-based learning. Our staff and students regularly publish their research work internationally, present at conferences at home and abroad, and win regional and international awards.

Locally, the Faculty supplies invaluable clinical services to society, especially for underserved groups. And locally graduated dentists are making their mark in the community and on the world scene. Importantly, Hong Kong’s dentist-to-population ratio has grown from 1:9000 before the Faculty’s establishment to 1:4000 today.

Prof Brian Darvell, Reader in Dental Materials Science, explains the multifaceted role of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry:

In the beginning... The pain and anguish of toothache set the scene for the compassionate to make sincere efforts to alleviate the suffering, while dealing with patients as real people. As experience and skills of both dentists and technicians grew, the technical art of repair and replacement, for function and appearance, became increasingly important. Meanwhile, growth of our understanding of the way the body and materials work provided a strong scientific foundation for all interventions: comprehension ensures efficacy.

However, remove the science, and dentistry is reduced to artisanal quackery; remove the art, and it becomes ugly utilitarianism; remove the humanity, and we are left with venal self-interest. True modern dentistry entails equal measures of and attention to these three dimensions. Our goal is to foster their effective union.
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry is established at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital on 1 July 1982

1982
- The first MDS candidate graduates
- The Faculty hosts the annual meeting of the International Organization for Standardization Technical Committee for Dentistry

1986
- The first MDS candidate graduates
- The Faculty hosts the annual meeting of the International Organization for Standardization Technical Committee for Dentistry

1987
- The first PhD dental candidates successfully defend their theses at HKU

1988
- The Oral Biology Unit is created to encourage research into oral biology
- The Faculty hosts the 11th International Conference on Oral Biology and 3rd Scientific Meeting of the Southeast Asian Division of the International Association for Dental Research

1985
- The first batch of 75 BDS students graduates from the 4-year-4-month course
- The HKU Dental Alumni Association is formed
- Taught postgraduate courses are offered

1990
- The BDS course is extended to 5 years

1992
- The Faculty celebrates its 10th Anniversary

1994
- The BDS Elective Programme starts, giving each student the opportunity to spend 2-3 weeks at a dental school or institution abroad in Year 5
- The Dental Research Seminars are inaugurated

1995
- The first batch of students reading the 5-year BDS curriculum graduates

1997
- The Faculty becomes a unitary faculty, without separate departments

1998
- The Faculty introduces problem-based learning (PBL) to the undergraduate curriculum to promote student-centred life-long learning

1999
- The Faculty’s Simulation Laboratory, one of the best equipped in the world, is established

2000
- The Faculty introduces problem-based learning (PBL) to the undergraduate curriculum to promote student-centred life-long learning
- The total number of taught postgraduates graduating from the Faculty exceeds 100

2002
- The Faculty celebrates its 20th Anniversary
- The Faculty hosts the 17th Scientific Meeting of the Southeast Asian Division of the International Association for Dental Research and the 13th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asia Association for Dental Education

2003
- The first batch of students reading the integrated PBL curriculum graduates

2004
- The total number of BDS graduates exceeds 1000
- The Oral Health and Science Seminars are inaugurated

2006
- The Prince Philip Dental Hospital celebrates its 25th Anniversary
- The Faculty starts planning for the 6-year BDS curriculum
- The Faculty holds its 20th Annual Scientific Meeting
- The Faculty co-hosts the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry with the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, 16-19 November 2007

2007
- The Faculty’s Silver Jubilee is formally celebrated at the Silver Jubilee Gala Concert given by Chuanyun Li at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on 15 November 2007, and at a Gala Dinner on 18 November 2007
- The Faculty launches a Conjoint International Postgraduate Programme in Periodontology with Peking University, the first ever conjoint international postgraduate course in clinical dentistry or medicine to be conducted in mainland China.

1997, Prof E Schwarz • 1998-2003, Prof FC Smales • 2004-, Prof LP Samaranayake
Overcoming obstacles:
The turn of the millennium, and Prof Smales’ deanship, was punctuated with scares of the Y2K computer bug, several bouts of avian influenza, and the SARS epidemic.

In 1997, the governing bodies of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital (PPDH) decided that both would undergo radical change. The two sister organisations would become leaner and fitter. In addition, despite reducing resources, they would deliver more in the form of expanded and enhanced educational and health care activities. The changes were to be put in the hands of someone from out of town who would hold the twin posts of Executive Dean of the Faculty and Director of the PPDH. And so I was appointed, ready and prepared to fill these shoes. I left my post at the University of London and moved to Hong Kong, where a truly unique and memorable experience awaited me.

According to many of its own people, Hong Kong through much of my stay was considered to be uncharacteristically downbeat. But to a new arrival, it was a fantastic and wondrous place. In particular, the Faculty and PPDH were truly amazing creations entirely consistent with the nature of a great city that never failed to shine during my 6-year deanship.

Some things about Hong Kong were quite unexpected. The beautiful and underpublicised long-distance walking trails occupied much of my spare time. Less surprising was to encounter the well-known administrative efficiency of the Hong Kong people, which enhances every aspect of life. In carrying out my mission, I was the direct beneficiary of the skills of many such individuals, and would especially note Dean’s Secretaries Annie Cheng and Idy Chan, Faculty Secretaries Mabel Chiu and Rupert Chan, and PPDH Comptroller, Ivy Chow.

After the Handover

My deanship started in January 1998, half a year after the return of Hong Kong’s sovereignty to China, and in the middle of an Asian financial crisis and a threat of avian influenza. Despite the air of uncertainty, and the PPDH’s dependence on an archaic and irksome funding regime administered by the Department of Health, the hospital moved forwards, and some modernisations took place. Dental chairs were replaced and the exterior of the building was attended to, re-emerging without the signature sunshades but with equally arresting Florida high rise-style grey-and-pink paintwork.

Most importantly, the Department of Health provided funding for comprehensive infection...
control measures. This wisdom was subsequently fully appreciated when the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) struck Hong Kong in 2002-2003. During that time, no fewer than 12,000 patient visits, many of them with invasive operative content, took place in the PPDH. Remarkably, together with other dental bodies and professionals, the hospital remained free from SARS transmissions between patients, staff, and students.

If SARS was the low point during my time in Hong Kong, there was no shortage of high points, all laced with much good humour and friendship. A particular favourite of mine was Maggie Crosswaite’s farewell evening, during which a somewhat mundane pre-recorded videotape of Prof Ted Renson was revealed to be a live telecast from the Eastman Dental Hospital in London. The broadcast continued in interactive mode, full of reminiscences, humour, and wit.

Never a Dull Moment

Ceaseless organisational turbulence (intended and unintended, positive and negative) was a central feature of my deanship. One sequence of unpredicted events led to Prof Ian Davies’ becoming HKU Vice-Chancellor in 2000. A former Faculty Dean and scrupulously fair, Prof Davies was not one to give special favours to his home unit but after his accession, the Faculty–University interface worked more smoothly than ever.

While Vice-Chancellor, Prof Davies was instrumental in moving the PPDH closer to the Hospital Authority, thereby loosening its link to the Department of Health. This was a significant change and meant that several stalled initiatives could finally move ahead. Among these were the modernisation of the Dental Hygiene Programme and the acceptance that the PPDH should take the lead in replacing the Delphi computer system with a comprehensive patient and dental training management system that uses the latest information and communications technology.

Realising Goals

And what of the Faculty of Dentistry? How well did it succeed in meeting its demanding objectives? The answer is to be found in the splendid achievement-packed Faculty newsletter Expressions, which is eagerly devoured upon its arrival here in Northern Malaysia. However, I should say that owing to the untiring efforts of Associate Deans, Heads of Units, and Research Group Convenors, a substantial number of targets were achieved and indeed handsomely exceeded by the end of 2003. Problem-based learning was implemented in the dental undergraduate curriculum. Through formal agreements, links with major dental schools in China were firmly cemented in place. A highly praised Simulation Laboratory was created and equipped with virtual-reality teaching systems. The concept of interdisciplinary Research Groups was pioneered. And the benefits of sound business plans were demonstrated to the rest of the University.

Much remained to be done at the end of 2003 when I departed this wonderful city. Expansion of the postgraduate programme beyond cost-recovery to income generation needed a major effort. But most challenging was the completion of a full research culture within the Faculty, whose output would gain the respect of the University and the wider academic community of Hong Kong. I am delighted to note that my successor, Prof Samaranayake, and his talented team have more than succeeded in both tasks.
If the Walls Could Talk

If the walls could talk, they would undoubtedly speak in Chinese, with the Cantonese dialect becoming less and less dominant over Mandarin as the years progress. If the walls could talk, they would remind us of how their external surfaces were once adorned by beige tiles with protective, fancy, white sunshades.

From its early days as the ‘Dental Studies’ arm of the HKU Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Dentistry has become a major dental school in the Asia-Pacific region. To signify how, to my mind, times have changed since the birth of the Faculty in 1982, I recall an important meeting that led up to the Faculty’s establishment.

The aim of that meeting, called by the Board of the Faculty of Medicine, was to discuss Dental Studies becoming a separate Faculty. On the afternoon of the meeting, I left my teaching of Oral Diagnosis and Treatment Planning to a colleague and headed off, accompanied by one of my students, who was a very political animal in those, and subsequent, days.

During our taxi ride from Sai Ying Pun to Sassoon Road, the student rehearsed his piece on why the time was right for dentistry to go it alone. And at the meeting, his speech went straight to the core of the matter. His view, strongly supported by former Deans of the Faculty of Medicine, who, being perspicacious fellows, all perhaps rightly foresaw what a nuisance the dentists might become, won the day. We were free to create our own mischief.

That former student is now a Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon with the Government Dental Service, and the Faculty of Medicine has never since seen Deans the likes of those who supported us. Almost all the staff from Dental Studies who were at that meeting, apart from me, have now passed away or are living happily in retirement, or at least I hope ‘happily’ is the case.

I remember hurrying back to my office after the board meeting, gazing across a broad view of the harbour to the Kowloon side—something that is not possible today, except on a good-air day and when angled correctly in the narrow slivers between buildings.

I also remember feeling—as, I am sure, did the early colonisers—that now we were here to make our mark. Hopefully, our mark has been for the good of Hong Kong.

Prof Esmonde Corbet is Professor of Periodontology at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and has taught at the Faculty before and since its inception in 1982.
The Dental Library, established in 1981, is one of the branch libraries of the University Libraries. Located on the fifth and sixth floors of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, the Dental Library provides study and research facilities for both the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and the HKU Division of Speech and Hearing Sciences.

The Library maintains extensive collections in Dentistry, Biomedicine, and Speech and Hearing Sciences. It currently houses approximately 58,000 volumes of books and bound journals, 1000 periodical titles, 2500 audiovisual titles, and 400 non-bibliographic databases.

Facilities include 100 study carrels, 9 online public access catalogue workstations, 4 discussion rooms, an audiovisual viewing corner, and a Knowledge Navigation Centre.

Simulation Laboratory

Opened in 1999, the Simulation Laboratory has 60 Kavo workstations for the learning of operative techniques and clinical skills in a computer-aided environment. The recent addition of the Den-X system has allowed visual feedback and evaluation of cavity preparations in ‘three dimensions’, while students are performing the procedure in real time.

Situated on the sixth floor of the hospital, the Simulation Laboratory provides the optimal learning environment, not only for the Faculty’s undergraduate and postgraduate courses, but also for continuing education courses organised periodically by Faculty staff and dental supply companies.
Centralised Research Laboratories

In 2004, the Faculty centralised the management of its three research groups—in Biomedical and Tissue Engineering, Infection and Immunity, and Public Health and Healthy Ageing—by creating the Centralised Research Laboratories. The goal was to optimise the research facilities of the fourth, fifth, and seventh floors of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, while providing an environment conducive for multidisciplinary research. A Technician-in-Charge coordinates laboratory support for Faculty staff and students, and 24-hour secure access is provided to all laboratories.

The world-class facilities allow a wide range of techniques to be conducted, such as laboratory-based computed tomography, high-pressure liquid chromatography, real-time polymerase chain reaction, genetic analysis and sequencing, fluorescence and confocal laser scanning microscopy, artificial mouth culture, and sterile cell and tissue culture.

Dental Media Unit

Formerly the Dental Illustration Unit, the Dental Media Unit (DMU) was renamed to reflect the growing needs of the Faculty for multimedia and graphics presentations in teaching and learning, as well as for conferences and research presentations. While new in name, the DMU must have the longest-serving group of staff in the Faculty, with an average length of service of 24 years. Looking to the future, the DMU will play a greater role in developing and supporting Web-based initiatives to facilitate student learning for both undergraduates and postgraduates.
The Problem-based Learning (PBL) Suite was designed to provide the best possible facilities for small-group PBL tutorials in all years of the BDS curriculum. The Suite, which is situated on the ground floor of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, was put into service in September 1998, at the time that the PBL curriculum was introduced for all new undergraduate students at the Faculty of Dentistry.

The Suite was officially opened on 3 November 1998 by Prof YC Cheng, then Vice-Chancellor of The University of Hong Kong, and Mr Kenneth Fang, then Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

In terms of facilities, the PBL Suite comprises 11 Tutorial Rooms, an Administrative Office, a Student Common Room, and a Resource Room, which houses a large collection of student learning resources, including an artificial skeleton, artificial skulls, and models of the dentition at different ages. The Tutorial Rooms are each equipped with an electronic interactive whiteboard and key reference books, as well as wireless Internet access.

Community Lounge

If the former Senior Common Room was the caterpillar, and the Resource Room was the pupa, then the Community Lounge is the butterfly. This newly renovated facility on the seventh floor of the hospital provides an oasis where staff and visitors can meet in a relaxing atmosphere.

A friendly steward is in attendance, and staff can enjoy a coffee break or get on with some work undisturbed. The custom built-in bar opens every Friday evening, when postgraduate students can mingle with teaching staff and unwind after a week’s hard work. The multipurpose lounge also doubles as a lecture hall and has a large screen and a projector for use in presentations.
The Dental Technology Laboratory was set up when the Prince Philip Dental Hospital (PPDH) was built, and is located on the fourth floor of Block B. The Laboratory provides patient services for the PPDH and HKU Faculty of Dentistry by fabricating, on demand, dental and oral appliances and prostheses.

The Laboratory also assists the Faculty by way of teaching, research, and development of new techniques, while the Production Laboratory makes teaching aids for the Dental Technician Training Course at the PPDH. Supported by 32 Dental Technicians, the Laboratory has various function rooms, including a casting room, polishing room, and porcelain room, to handle the different working stages.

The Computer Laboratory, on the seventh floor of the hospital, is open to all students of the Faculty and has 10 personal computers that are installed with up-to-date desktop publishing and word-processing software, as well as the most recent version of the statistics software SPSS. All computers allow high-speed Internet access and are linked to the Laboratory’s scanner and two printers. The computing facilities of the Computer Laboratory supplement resources in the Library and other Faculty units.

A Faculty Research Technician provides the Laboratory’s helpdesk services, performing troubleshooting, security support, and upgrades, and giving individual tutorials as needed.
Sustaining Excellence
Over the years since undergraduate dental education was first introduced at The University of Hong Kong in 1980, the curriculum has undergone tremendous changes to keep pace with the evolving needs of our graduates and the people of Hong Kong whom they serve. The present problem-based learning (PBL) curriculum is at the leading edge of dental curricula worldwide and has been the subject of much interest from dental schools abroad.

The Early Curricula

The original four-and-a-half-year undergraduate curriculum was specifically designed to meet the requirements of the General Dental Council of the United Kingdom, and an emphasis was placed on prevention of oral disease and comprehensive patient care. The annual intake was initially set at about 75, gradually decreasing to reach 50 in the 1990s.

Key features of the first BDS curriculum included some integration of basic medical sciences with clinical dentistry, small-group teaching, and training of undergraduates to work as team leaders alongside dental ancillary staff. The first class of students received their BDS degree in 1985.

In 1990, the BDS course was extended to 5 years. The fifth year of the curriculum was primarily focused on clinical vocational training and included an elective programme (2-3 weeks at a dental institution abroad), selectives, and topic courses, as well as programmes in Advanced Oral Diagnosis and Treatment Planning, Special-needs Dentistry, and Ethics and Jurisprudence. Dental students were also given the opportunity to provide their patients with comprehensive dental care in the Family Practice Clinic, which was organised to resemble a general dental practice.

The Problem-based Learning Curriculum

Until the 1990s, much of the undergraduate teaching was delivered through lectures and there was only limited integration between the different disciplines. Following a University-led Faculty review in 1996, the decision was made to move to a student-centred PBL curriculum that allowed integration across the various disciplines.

The new PBL curriculum was thus introduced in 1998, with the explicit aims of producing well-rounded, competent, and caring dental practitioners who are able to think independently and critically, respond quickly to patients with complex problems, adapt to future changes occurring in dentistry, and remain contemporary in their skills and knowledge. This curriculum also encourages students to take responsibility for their own learning, so that they become independent learners.

In this curriculum, students participate in a diverse range of learning activities, including:

- PBL tutorials
- Laboratory practicals
- Broadening courses and resource sessions
- Web-based learning
- Clinical observation, clinical demonstration, and clinical technique courses
- Dental technology demonstrations and practice
Furthermore, students are given supervised clinical practice with patients in multidisciplinary polyclinics and experience in Discipline clinics and community outreach clinics. The fourth year includes a community dental health project and the fifth year includes elective visits to dental institutions outside Hong Kong and attendance at general dental practices in Hong Kong.

Promoting Active Learning

The emphasis throughout the PBL curriculum is very much on active learning, with students accepting responsibility for their own learning. No traditional-style lectures are given. Instead, small-group tutorials take place weekly (or biweekly), and six to eight students work through a series of carefully designed and interesting dental problems that expose them to the necessary range of topics of dentistry and supporting sciences. Rather than assuming a traditional didactic role, the teacher acts as a facilitator of learning. Each student is required to actively contribute to the learning process and is encouraged to enhance the learning experience through self-critical reflection. This approach helps students to develop the skills necessary for life-long learning, critical thinking, and problem solving, all of which will all be needed throughout their future careers.

In contrast to most traditional curricula, learning of the relevant medical and supporting sciences (such as anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, and behavioural sciences) is fully integrated with the learning of clinical dental subjects. Hence, the underlying sciences are learnt in a proper context.

The Future

In line with the forthcoming secondary and tertiary education reforms in Hong Kong, the Faculty of Dentistry is currently working on the development of a new 6-year BDS curriculum, which will be introduced in 2012. A Faculty retreat was held in October 2006 to discuss proposals for the extended curriculum and these are now being further developed by a Faculty Task Group. Other possible developments include enhancement of research-based learning and e-learning, and reinforcement of learning in rapidly developing fields such as implantology.

The BDS Curriculum

The diagram below shows the approximate time distribution according to curriculum content for each year of the BDS course.
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry aims to enhance specialist dentistry both in Hong Kong and internationally. In fact, the Faculty has become a major provider of taught postgraduate (TPG) education in Asia, and remains the only local provider of specialist dental training in a wide range of disciplines. Of the 22 TPG courses offered by the Faculty in 2006-07, 15 are recognised parts of the training required in the eight dental specialties of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and the Dental Council of Hong Kong.

TPG Courses Offered

The Faculty offers three kinds of TPG courses: Postgraduate Diploma, Master degree, and Advanced Diploma. The latter two courses typically form two components of dental specialist training in Hong Kong, which lasts 6 years—longer than in most other countries. Details of our courses can be found in the Postgraduate Courses page of our website <www.facdenthk.org>. Information on dental specialist training in Hong Kong can be found at <www.cdshk.org>.

The first TPG student, from Jordan, was awarded a Master of Dental Surgery degree in Prosthodontics in 1986. By 2007, a total of 230 dentists had obtained a Master degree. Master degrees are now offered in all eight dental specialties, and the newly introduced Master of Science (MSc) degree course is available for Dental Material Sciences and Implant Dentistry.

The first Postgraduate Diploma was awarded in 1993 to an Orthodontics lecturer from Peking University who was supported by the Rotary Club of Hong Kong. Fifty-two diplomas have since been awarded in seven different fields. The first Advanced Diploma was in Orthodontics, and was awarded in 1997 to a Rotary Scholar from mainland China; 49 dentists have since received this diploma, in six specialties.

Going Global

Initially, TPG studies were heavily subsidised, and the number of TPG students admitted each year was small and regulated. Now, the majority of students rely on private funding, although a small number with government funding have been admitted from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia.

In the new millennium, the University Council decided that practically all our TPG courses should be self-funded, and the number of students admitted could be decided by the Faculty. Those changes, together with aggressive promotion, have led to a sharp increase in the number of applicants, doubling from 80 in 2004 to 161 in 2006, and a 10-fold increase in revenue between 2003 and 2006.

Of our current 110 or so TPG students, two-fifths come from 15 different countries, reflecting our courses’ international recognition and appeal.
Apart from Hong Kong, our TPG students come from China or Macau (4), Asia (25), Australia (4), the UK (7), and Canada (1). This level of overseas recruitment is probably the highest of any faculty at HKU, and is indeed necessary to maintain course viability.

**Life-long Learning**

To encourage life-long learning, the Faculty has a strong programme of continuing professional education and development that is targeted at all local dentists, dental specialists, dental technicians, dental hygienists, and dental surgery assistants, as well as our postgraduate and diploma students. Our programme—in the form of Continuing Education courses and weekly Oral Health and Science Seminars delivered by experts from home and abroad—allows our dental community to keep updated and obtain credit for their learning, while letting the Faculty strengthen its ‘town and gown’ relationships.

**The Future**

Our goal is that at least 50% of our TPGs will publish their findings in peer-reviewed journals. All clinical Master courses include a research component and in some disciplines, practically all Master students publish already. In some diploma courses, too, students publish clinical and/or basic research papers. Not only do students’ journal publications increase the visibility of the Faculty and its various disciplines, but the experience gives students good practice in publishing and manuscript preparation. Most TPGs present their research at regional and international conferences, further adding to the exposure of the Faculty.

To adjust to changing demands, we periodically revise our selection of TPG courses. In the next academic year, some Postgraduate Diploma courses will be upgraded to MSc courses, and several new courses are likely to be added, such as an MSc in Aesthetic Dentistry and MSc in Advanced and Lingual Orthodontics.

Lately, we have been discussing how to establish a separate platform for postgraduate and professional dental education for the Asia-Pacific region, with aspirations to become the premier dental learning institute in Asia, similar to the Eastman Institute in Europe and North America. This venture will help us consolidate our TPG and Continuing Education courses, as well as our research degree courses.

Since our roots as a provider of basic dental education and training, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has extended its role to training specialists to the highest standards, providing life-long learning for dentists in the community, and caring for more complex dental and dentofacial problems. In 25 short years, the Faculty has proudly developed into a major dental institution that is committed to serving the local community, the region, and beyond.

**Postgraduate Generation**

Over the years, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry’s TPG courses have expanded and grown in popularity, both locally and internationally, with 331 TPGs graduating so far.
The Faculty of Dentistry, in support of the mission of The University of Hong Kong to be a research-led university, strives to achieve excellence in research and, ultimately, the discovery of new knowledge. With the support of our University, our Faculty has invested a lot of resources in recent years into nurturing research excellence among its staff and students.

Research Infrastructure

After a Faculty review in 2004, the Faculty’s research activities were restructured into three areas: Biomedical and Tissue Engineering, Infection and Immunity, and Public Health and Healthy Ageing. The three corresponding research groups are affiliated with the University’s Strategic Areas and Themes to allow integration of our research efforts with those of the University’s multidisciplinary research areas. Academic staff can join as members in any of the research groups, and each group has a convenor to facilitate the development of research focuses.

The overall research management is directed by the Dean, who, together with the Associate Dean and Assistant Dean for Research and Discovery, leads the Faculty Research Management Committee, of which all the research convenors are members. In 2004, the Faculty’s four research laboratories were reorganised into a 24-hour Centralised Research Laboratory facility, currently with Prof Bakr Rabie as the appointed Director. A new Tissue and Cell Culture Laboratory and several major pieces of equipment, funded by the University Development Fund, have been added in the past few years to facilitate research development.

Research Excellence

The research culture in the Faculty is very strong. According to the results of latest Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), conducted in 2006 among all the tertiary institutions in Hong Kong, the Research Index for the Faculty was 87.7%. In other words, 87.7% of full-time equivalents (FTE) of academic staff have reached or surpassed a “level of research excellence appropriate to the discipline in Hong Kong and showing evidence of international excellence”, as quoted in the report from the University Grants Council to our Faculty. In contrast, the Hong Kong–wide research index was 76.3%, and the HKU average was 85.5%.

Our 2006 RAE score represents a dramatic increase of 53% when compared with our score in the previous RAE (57.2%), conducted in 1999 (see Box), and the Faculty now occupies one of the top three places in the HKU Faculty Research League Table, out of 10 faculties. Our research productivity is also high: in 2006, our refereed research output per FTE was higher than HKU’s average, both for professoriate staff and for professoriate and research staff combined (see Box). The Faculty came top in the University league table for the latter score. These achievements would not have been possible without our Faculty staff’s commitment to strive for research excellence, and we would like to acknowledge the hard work of our staff in contributing to this success.
Research Traditions

The Faculty has established a nice tradition of holding an Annual Scientific Meeting each year during which staff and postgraduates present their research findings. Not only does the event nurture multidisciplinary research in dentistry through the sharing of research results, but research excellence is also recognised in the form of prizes for senior and junior oral and poster presenters.

At its Annual Scientific Meetings, the Faculty publishes Annual Research Publications—a booklet of abstracts of all the research publications of our staff and theses of our postgraduates in the past academic year. Through the continuous dedication of our staff, more than 130 articles have been published each year in the past 5 years, even though the Faculty has only 32.5 FTE.

Research Development

Since 2006, the Dean has initiated a raft of measures to further nurture our research culture. Among them are strategies that address the needs of clinical academic staff, many of whom have a heavy clinical load and inadequate time allocated to research. Part-time sessions have thus been allocated to staff needing relief from their teaching and clinical duties to enable them to concentrate on research. Furthermore, to strengthen applications for Hong Kong Research Grants Council’s Competitive Earmarked Research Grants, the Faculty has made available part-time sessions for applicants, funds for inviting co-investigators, and seed funding to build up preliminary results.

An Outstanding Researcher Award has been created to energise staff to achieve research excellence. Recipients of the award so far are Dr May Wong (2006) and Dr Cynthia Yiu (2007).

The Faculty has been increasing its enrolment of research postgraduates reading for MPhil and PhD degrees. The number of students has gradually increased to about 50, thanks to the increase in our allocated student quota because of improvements in our research profile indicators. We have also been allowed to admit students using other funding or through student self-funding, and the Dean has mobilised Faculty funds to provide 50% of the fee that a supervisor needs to contribute to a studentship.

Future Strategies

There is no doubt that our Faculty excels in terms of the number of Institute for Scientific Information publications per Faculty staff. However, the next mission is to improve the quality of our publications in journals with even higher impact factors—for example, by collaborating further with multidisciplinary research groups and improving the quality of publications in cross-disciplinary journals. Such strategies were discussed at the Faculty’s Staff Retreat in June 2007, titled ‘From good to great research: nurturing our potential’. The Faculty plans to refine and define its future research direction, and proposals from staff will form the blueprints of the research strategies that will be considered by the Faculty Research Management Committee.

Research Assessment Excellence

Research Assessment Exercise results, 1999 and 2006

Average refereed research output, 2006

[FTE=full-time equivalent; RAF=research assistant professor; RF=research fellow]
The Faculty in the Community

To be Hong Kong’s only dental school means that the Faculty has a unique and important role to play in the community, not only in supplying homegrown dentists and much-needed clinical services, but also in promoting oral health and planning for the city’s future. To do this, we need to forge strong partnerships with the public and actively engage in public education. The HKU Faculty of Dentistry has recently intensified efforts to increase its visibility in the local community, by involving a wide range of stakeholders—the public, government, businesses, industry, alumni, academics, and professional bodies—in its activities.

Media Relations

In giving—and assisting colleagues to give—newspaper, television, and radio interviews, we aim to publicise the Faculty’s unique role in Hong Kong’s dental education, research, and clinical services and to raise public awareness of the importance of dental and oral health care. To this end, the Faculty employed a Communications Manager, Ms Edith Ng, in April 2007 to coordinate communications efforts. An oral health article now regularly appears in the Ming Pao Weekly Magazine, cable television interviews on dental topics of public interest have been conducted, plans are under way for an Oral Health and Advancements in Dentistry radio series, and the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee will feature in a newspaper supplement. In May 2007, Prof Lim K Cheung explained distraction osteogenesis in a local television programme on the lives of patients born with cleft lip and palate.

Publications

The Faculty newsletter, Expressions, helps to keep a high profile among more than 4000 alumni, dentists, and friends in Hong Kong and around the world. Each issue of the newsletter focuses on a Faculty Discipline and also features research highlights, Faculty news, alumni and student news, and an informative and reader-friendly Patient Page. In addition, it is available on the website <www.facdenthk.org>, along with other news articles and information on the Faculty.

Public Events and Public Education

Our community outreach programme includes mass media activities, roving exhibitions, oral health education sessions, and open days. Members of the Faculty’s Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group have taken part in public events such as the Hong Kong Innovation Festival 2006 and an exhibition at the Hong Kong Science Museum from September 2006 to March 2007.
Community Care

In addition to offering clinical services at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, the Faculty is committed to providing outreach services. We have set up a Dental Clinic at the Integrated Diabetes Mellitus Research and Training Centre of the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, and a Geriatric Dental Clinic at the Kwong Wah Hospital. The Faculty’s community dental service team, supported by charity foundations, also visits various special-needs groups in the city. In 2006, the ‘Implant Project for the Elderly’ was established to provide implant-supported dentures to impoverished elderly people without any teeth, and it was the first project to receive funding from HKU’s Azalea (1972) Endowment Fund.

Alumni Relations

We work closely with the HKU Development and Alumni Office to stay in touch with all dental alumni and encourage alumni giving. All alumni receive our newsletter, and regular mailings let them know about upcoming events and continuing education courses, to ensure their life-long learning. We also assist in reunions to strengthen alumni–Faculty bonds. A room on the seventh floor of the hospital is dedicated as the office of the HKU Dental Alumni Association.

Fund-raising and Friend-raising

The Blue Ribbon Committee, comprising distinguished individuals and leaders from the dental community, was formed in 2003 to advise the Faculty on fund-raising, and friend-raising, campaigns. So far, the Committee has organised two fund-raising concerts, with a third—by world-famous violinist Chuanyun Li—in November 2007. In collaboration with the HKU External Relations Office, the Faculty is very active in seeking support from charitable organisations, alumni, and friends, raising more than HK$5 million in 2003-04 and more than HK$7 million in 2005-06.

Partnerships and Development

We partner with professional bodies such as the Hong Kong Dental Association and the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong. With the latter, we are co-organising the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry, to take place in November 2007 as part of our Silver Jubilee.

We are also keen to strengthen partnerships with industry, and have received generous support for projects, such as start-up funding from Nobel Biocare for our new Implant Dentistry and Research Centre, support from AO Education and Synthes to establish the AO Craniomaxillofacial Surgical Training Centre, and industry sponsorship for the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry.

Good show: The Faculty held two fund-raising piano concerts: by Wenyu Shen in February 2006 and by sisters Mary, Enloc, and Melody Wu in November 2006. Ticket sales, together with donations and sponsorship, help the Faculty to fulfil its missions, including holding public exhibitions and serving special-needs groups.
A
s never before, globalisation and integration have become crucial targets for international universities like HKU. As the Faculty’s first Associate Dean for Mainland and Global Affairs, appointed in 2006, I am committed to increasing the visibility of the Faculty beyond Hong Kong and leading efforts to enhance collaborations between the Faculty and key dental schools in China and worldwide.

Building on Our Strengths

Building on the Faculty’s current reputation as one of the leading dental institutions in the Asia-Pacific region, we are continually seeking opportunities for academic development and research collaboration. We also plan to establish partnerships to further promote our world-class postgraduate programmes and continuing education courses.

We are already deepening academic links with major dental schools in China and other parts of the world by increasing inter-institution interactions. Our newly implemented Visiting Professorship Scheme and existing Visiting Scholarships will facilitate staff and student exchange, as will networking among dental institutions belonging to the Universitas 21 universities.

Mutual Bonds

Strengthening ties with mainland China will definitely give the Faculty more opportunities for further strategic development, such as:

- Recruitment of top undergraduate and postgraduate students
- Fruitful research collaboration through multicentre studies, co-supervision of research postgraduates, and joint publications
- Joint organisation and administration of various high-quality dental and paradental educational programmes and continuing education courses
- Work experience for Hong Kong dental professionals in mainland China
- Active involvement in the global integration of Chinese dentistry
- Joint conferences and workshops

Unprecedented Conjoint Course

A recent great accomplishment was the launch of the Faculty’s Conjoint International Postgraduate Programme in Periodontology, organised in conjunction with Peking University. Officially approved in March 2007 by the Ministry of Education of the Government of the People’s Republic of China, this programme is the first ever conjoint international postgraduate course in clinical dentistry or medicine to be conducted in mainland China.

It is hoped that all the Faculty’s postgraduate clinical programmes would eventually be extended to the mainland, thereby contributing to the education and training of dental specialists in China, while fostering academic and professional links between the mainland and Hong Kong.
The Wider World

As Hong Kong’s only dental school, our Faculty plays a unique role in promoting productive relationships between academia, government, and industry, and in bridging China and the world. In the next 25 years and beyond, we will continue taking full advantage of our position where ‘East meets West’ to facilitate global networks in dental education, research, professional development, clinical practice, and public education.

Going the Distance

1. Mainland and international liaison
   Memoranda of Understanding will be renewed with six major dental schools in China (in Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Wuhan, Chengdu, and Guangzhou) during the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry in November 2007. Memoranda of Understanding have recently been signed with dental schools in Japan (Showa University and Tsurumi University), Thailand (Thammasat University), Kuwait (University of Medical Sciences) and the United States (University of Pennsylvania). And in line with the 2003 policy of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government towards greater interaction within the Pearl River Delta region, the Faculty plans to hold joint conferences and clinical and postgraduate activities with dental schools in the region.

2. International meetings
   The Faculty is well represented at major international conferences each year, and actively takes part in conference organisation. In November 2006, the Faculty cohosted the 5th Annual Conference of the International Society for the Prevention of Tobacco Induced Disease with the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine—the first joint conference between the two clinical faculties of HKU. Faculty members also helped organise the 7th Asian Congress on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in 2006, the 21st Congress of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry in 2007, and the 7th Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology Meeting in 2007. In November 2007, the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry will be cohosted with the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong. And in 2008, the Faculty is hosting an International Workshop on Problem-based Learning in Dentistry.

3. Universitas 21 network
   The Annual Meeting of the U21 Health Sciences Group was held in Hong Kong in September 2007 and hosted by HKU. Our Faculty hosted the subdiscipline meeting in dentistry, holding symposia on postgraduate education and forensic odontology, as well as interactive discussion on benchmarking and problem-based learning.

Faculty outreach:
In 2006, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry joined forces with the Faculty of Medicine to cohost the 5th Annual Conference of the International Society for the Prevention of Tobacco Induced Disease. Staff in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery took part in the Nobel Biocare World Tour 2006, demonstrating live surgical teledentistry, and the 7th Asian Congress on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. The Faculty’s roving booth and posters help publicise its role and activities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>餐廳</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A</td>
<td>會議室</td>
<td>Conference Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>香港大學學生會牙醫學會</td>
<td>Dental Society, HKUSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>研究實驗室</td>
<td>Research Laboratories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>牙科資料處理部</td>
<td>Dental Data Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>研究生工作室</td>
<td>Postgraduate Habitat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>全科診症室</td>
<td>Family Practice Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>牙科手術助理員學院</td>
<td>School of Dental Surgery Assistants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td>牙科模擬治療室</td>
<td>Simulation Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>牙科圖書館</td>
<td>Dental Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>牙醫學院行政處</td>
<td>Faculty of Dentistry Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>醫院行政處</td>
<td>Hospital Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6B</td>
<td>大會議室</td>
<td>Board Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A&amp;B</td>
<td>言語及聽覺科學部</td>
<td>Division of Speech &amp; Hearing Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>口腔生物部</td>
<td>Oral Biosciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>牙科物理學</td>
<td>Dental Materials Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>口腔復康科</td>
<td>Oral Rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>牙科輔助學生事務處</td>
<td>Dental Ancillary Student Affairs Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>牙科技師培訓中心</td>
<td>Dental Technician Training Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>牙科工藝</td>
<td>Dental Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>牙顱病高級治療中心</td>
<td>Advanced Endodontics Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>牙顱病學</td>
<td>Endodontics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>牙齒公共衛生</td>
<td>Dental Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>牙周病學</td>
<td>Periodontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>牙科衛生學院</td>
<td>School of Dental Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>兒童齒科</td>
<td>Paediatric Dentistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>矯正學</td>
<td>Orthodontics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>裂唇及裂顎矯治中心</td>
<td>Cleft Lip and Palate Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>影像導航植牙科手術室</td>
<td>Image Guided Implantology Operating Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>口腔顱面外科</td>
<td>Oral &amp; Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>登記處</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>調問處</td>
<td>Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>繳費處</td>
<td>Shroff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>初診及收症處</td>
<td>Reception and Primary Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>牙科媒體部</td>
<td>Dental Media Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>X光學</td>
<td>Radiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GB</td>
<td>演講室</td>
<td>Lecture Theatres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GB</td>
<td>問題為本學習中心</td>
<td>Problem-Based Learning Suite</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Profiles of Excellence

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry originally had five core clinical departments. After a University-led review, these departments and other units were disbanded in 1997 and the Faculty was reorganised as a unitary Faculty with nine Disciplines, headed by an appointed full-time Executive Dean.

The number of Disciplines has now increased to 12, and the members who work in those Disciplines have within 10 years made important contributions at local, regional, and international levels. A healthy, collaborative and interdisciplinary culture has also been cultivated during that decade. Within this framework, the Faculty has three interdisciplinary research groups, provides both specialty-based and research group–based postgraduate research programmes, and offers about 20 taught postgraduate programmes that cover 11 subject areas. Our taught postgraduate courses are in great demand from graduates all around the world, and some of the courses fulfil specialist training requirements of the eight dental specialties in Hong Kong.

Assisting the Dean in the functional management of the Faculty are five Associate Deans who are responsible for Undergraduate Education, Postgraduate and Continuing Education, Research and Discovery, External Relations, and Mainland and Global Affairs. In addition, the Faculty is administratively organised into Discipline Areas that are managed by Line Managers. The Areas include the following:

- Family Dentistry & Endodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Periodontology & Dental Public Health
- Oral Rehabilitation, Dental Materials Science & Dental Technology

If the Prince Philip Dental Hospital is the hardware, then the HKU Faculty of Dentistry can be viewed as the software. And the two have indeed become inseparable in the education and training of dentists and ancillary professionals. Although the hospital itself focuses on training dental auxiliaries and has an independent Dental Technician Training Centre, Faculty staff members are involved in the teaching activities of the hospital’s School of Dental Surgery Assistants and School of Dental Hygiene.

The Faculty also has some special centres that reflect particular areas in which Faculty staff have clinical expertise. These include the Cleft Lip and Palate Centre, AO Craniomaxillofacial Surgical Training Suite, and Advanced Endodontics Centre. Moreover, the Faculty has become internationally recognised as a centre of research excellence in oral and craniofacial diseases, and has gained recognition in Hong Kong and Asia in the management of cleft lip and palate.
The Discipline of Dental Materials Science was originally set up in 1980 as a separately managed teaching and research unit. Over several years, it grew to be staffed by a senior lecturer, a lecturer, three technicians, a secretary, and an office assistant. The establishment is now just the one Reader, as cutbacks and changed Faculty priorities have taken their toll.

More than 20 research students have completed their studies in the purpose-designed laboratory suite. Research interests in the area include the following topics:
- Mechanical test method design
- Chemistry of saliva
- Numerical techniques and modelling
- History of assumptions

Specific research projects over the years have covered a very wide range of subject matter, reflecting the diverse nature and roles of materials in dentistry. Even so, and recognising the practical importance of the field, there has been an underlying commonality in that effort has been focused on developing test methods that generate results interpretable in the service context.

The motivation in teaching has been, and remains, to make the underlying science of dental materials accessible to dental undergraduates and to equip them with the concepts and intellectual tools necessary to understand the materials they will encounter over their whole working life.

Accordingly, teaching and learning focus on the comprehension of the behaviour and handling of all classes of product, as opposed to dealing with formulae and values for soon-to-be obsolete products. To achieve this required the design of a completely new course at the outset, with course structure and content geared to principles and process rather than data. The course is embodied in the textbook *Materials Science for Dentistry*, which was first formally published in 1998 and has now been through eight editions and sold to teachers in more than 25 countries.

The undergraduate course in Dental Materials Science, since its first delivery in 1982, always included a substantial laboratory component in which practical experience in the behaviour of dental materials was gained through discovery projects that were designed, executed, and interpreted by the students, rather than through ‘fill in the blanks’ demonstrations. Thus, the Discipline was the first user of problem-based learning in the Faculty, and certainly the first worldwide in the subject area.

Teaching has also been supported by the publication *A Glossary of Terms for Dental Materials Science*. Now in its ninth edition, it fills a previously unoccupied niche in the field and is of especial value for non-native English speakers. Both books mentioned above are under continual development, and they are also used for postgraduate teaching in Hong Kong and several overseas dental schools.
1. Calcium phosphate chemistry
Central to tooth tissue and saliva chemistry, and especially dental caries, an extremely sensitive technique has shown the true solubility of hydroxyapatite and other minerals—typically one-hundredth of that normally reported. In addition, so-called stable phases are not, calcium-deficient hydroxyapatite is normal, and solution composition affects all equilibria. Consequently, the entire field needs drastic overhaul.

2. Dipole magnet behaviour
The treatment of the poles of magnets as point-like is a convenient fiction, but does not explain the forces acting. Indeed, real magnets cannot even be treated as a simple collection of dipoles as a bundle. However, allowing the bundle to be in effect elastic, by using a ‘stretched exponential’ function for the position of the pole inside the end of the magnet itself, a satisfactory phenomenologically descriptive equation can be written.

3. Wax rheology
The flow of waxes controls many aspects of their use in dentistry, but they cannot be studied using conventional rheometers and no detailed description of their behaviour had ever been made. Using a ‘falling ball’ Stokes’ Law approach, it has been shown that waxes are pseudoplastic, having no yield point (they flow under any load whatsoever); that they probably contain liquid even when considered solid, and progressive melting dominates behaviour; and that they often exhibit stress-melting.

4. Mechanical testing
Compression testing is cheap, easy, and commonplace, but there can be no such thing as strength in compression for solid bodies. It has been shown that all uniaxial compression tests are equivalent, even the so-called indirect tensile test, and that failure probably leads to shear, although shear strength cannot be derived. The interpretation of many test results needs caution.

5. Acrylic processing
It has been believed since its introduction that denture base acrylic can be made residual monomer-free. This assumption ignores known chemistry: free-radical polymerisation systems are equilibria and monomer is always present, the amount being temperature-dependent. Optimisation of processing to minimise that residual monomer, however, requires times far in excess of that ordinarily used, but is quite predictable.
Dental Public Health or Community Dentistry specialises in the prevention and management of dental diseases in populations, and the promotion of oral health through organised community efforts.

Our Discipline is concerned primarily with the oral health and diseases of populations, serving the community as a whole rather than people on an individual basis. Our chief responsibilities are monitoring the oral health of particular populations, identifying their oral health needs, providing community dental services, fostering policies that promote oral health, and evaluating oral health services in the community.

The Discipline is currently staffed by three full-time teachers (a Professor, an Associate Professor, and an Assistant Professor), a fractional seconded teacher, and a number of honorary and part-time teachers.

Our staff are actively engaged in the teaching of dental undergraduates. In particular, all BDS year 4 students are required to conduct a community health project in groups, under the guidance and supervision of teachers from the Discipline. Over the past 20 years or so, more than 150 projects have been conducted, involving more than 1000 dental students. Tens of thousands of people in Hong Kong have benefited from the projects.

Full training in the recently established specialty of Community Dentistry, leading to Fellowship status in the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, is available through our Discipline for dentists who are interested in becoming a specialist in this field. Our Discipline is currently the only centre in Hong Kong that provides full specialist training in Community Dentistry and is highly regarded by Chinese national dental authorities as a centre for providing advanced training for Chinese public health dentists.

We offer a postgraduate course in Dental Public Health in the form of a 2-year full-time Master of Dental Surgery. Our Discipline is also very active in providing continuing education for dentists both within and outside Hong Kong. For example, every summer since 2003, a 1-month intensive training course has been provided to experienced public health dentists who work in dental schools and hospitals in mainland China. So far, 44 dentists from more than 20 provinces or cities have attended this course, thanks to
funding from the Borrow Foundation in the United Kingdom.

Research in Dental Public Health is of high quality and multidisciplinary, covering two University-wide strategic research themes—namely, Public Health and Healthy Ageing. The main fields of study include oral epidemiology, oral health-related quality-of-life issues, preventive dentistry, and dental health care services. There are currently 12 PhD students under the supervision of teachers in the area. Good collaborations have been established with researchers from key dental schools in China and other countries, such as Australia, Canada, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Staff and research students have won a number of international research prizes, including best paper awards at International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Southeast Asian Division annual scientific meetings. Recently, our staff and students won the IADR Colgate Research in Prevention Travel Award and the Procter and Gamble Junior Investigator Award at the 2006 IADR General Session held in Brisbane, Australia.

Our Discipline has been very active in the provision of services to the community. Oral health education programmes have been delivered to various population groups in Hong Kong through talks, exhibitions, interactive activities, and mass media campaigns. Several territory-wide oral health surveys have been conducted among children, adults, and elders to monitor their oral health and to collect essential information for planning dental care services.

Furthermore, an outreach community dental service team has since 1997 provided essential dental care and treatment to various special needs groups, notably elders living in residential and nursing homes, the physically handicapped, and homeless people. Funding has been generously donated by a number of charity foundations. Using portable dental equipment, our outreach team has so far provided much-needed preventive and curative dental care to thousands of disadvantaged people in the place where they live or work.

---

**Distinguished Research**

1. **Large-scale oral health surveys in Hong Kong and in Guangdong Province**
   Successive surveys were conducted in Hong Kong in 1984 (adults), 1986 (school children), 1991 (adults and elders), and 2007 (preschool children) and in Guangdong Province in 1997 (school children, adults, and elders) to monitor oral health and to collect essential information for planning dental care services.

2. **Fluoride and oral health**
   Investigations into water fluoridation and its effects on teeth and tooth decay have provided essential information to the Hong Kong Government for fine tuning the concentration of fluoride in the drinking water in Hong Kong.

3. **Innovative dental treatments**
   Clinical research in the use and effectiveness of atraumatic restorative treatment and caries arrest treatment by topical fluoride application has been pivotal to the development of these two innovative minimally invasive dental treatments for decayed teeth.

4. **Oral health care status of special-needs groups**
   Community-based and patient-centred intervention studies are ongoing to investigate the prevalence and impact of oral diseases among special-needs groups in Hong Kong, such as homeless people and elderly living in residential and nursing homes.
Dent Technology is itself not a discipline, but it has a central role that is supportive in nature. Our unit provides practical and technical support to Faculty staff in general clinical practice, through the fabrication of all types of oral appliances, prostheses, implants, and so on.

The principal role of the Tutor and Instructors in the Dental Technology Unit is to teach undergraduate and postgraduate students the highly technical procedures in this subject area. Dental Technology also collaborates with the Disciplines within the Faculty to develop new techniques, appliances, and research protocols.

Dental Technology is an important component in the dental curriculum, as not only does it provide dental students with the necessary knowledge base in laboratory processes that relate directly to clinical practice, but it also provides invaluable practical motor skill training.

Initially, this teaching unit was staffed by 11 Dental Technology Instructors, as the original curriculum relied heavily on Dental Technology tuition. However, because of modern practice techniques and education philosophy changes, the current curriculum demands fewer technology sessions, and, accordingly, there are fewer Dental Technology Instructors. Today we have one Tutor, one Instructor, and two Honorary Instructors.

In addition to their teaching duties, staff in Dental Technology are involved in the management and daily running of the Production Laboratory within the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.
In terms of facilities, the Dental Technology Unit has computer-assisted design and manufacturing (CAD-CAM) systems for the fabrication of dental ceramic restorations. Casting of all sorts of dental alloys and metals (silver, cobalt-chromium, titanium, gold, etc) is possible with our different types of casting machines. We also have vacuum mixing equipment, vibrators, and trimmers, which facilitate model casting and shaping. More than 500 semi-adjustable articulators (which simulate the movement of a patient’s jaw) are available for teaching, patient services, and research.

Dental Technology does not have its own postgraduates, but it does look after all postgraduates of the Faculty by giving them seminars, demonstrations, and guidance when required.

The Dental Technology Unit is actively involved in some aspects of the community. The Tutor is one of several Faculty members who work closely with the Hong Kong Productivity Council, concentrating on the development of a three-dimensional dental prosthesis design and manufacturing system. The Tutor is also, at present, the President of the Hong Kong Society of Dental Technicians—a society that aims to promote the standard of Dental Technicians in Hong Kong.

Distinguished Research

1. **Orthodontic functional appliances**
   Studies on the development of oral appliances and fabrication techniques have been performed. For example, we have monitored the effect of continuous bite-jumping in adult rats (*Angle Orthodontist*, 2004) and the effect of modified trimming of a headgear activator (*Hong Kong Dental Journal*, 2005).

2. **Implantology**
   Studies on implantology have been done to fabricate a precision surgical template (*Clinical Implant Dentistry and Related Research*, 2002); to test the three-dimensional accuracy of implant placement in a computer-assisted navigation system (*International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants*, 2006); and to formulate a casting technique to minimise the distortion of implant suprastructure casting (*Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*, 2004).

3. **Patient treatment**
   An intra-oral lubricating device has been designed for patients experiencing radiotherapy-related xerostomia (*Clinical Oral Investigations*, 2005). In addition, for patients with scleroderma associated with systematic lupus erythematosus, a modified sectional denture using a magnet has been developed (*Special Care in Dentistry*, 2006).

4. **Use of magnets in dentistry**
   The technique of laboratory fabrication of magnet cast keepers has been studied (*Dent Technician*, 2004), and the effect of the casting process has been assessed (*Journal of Prosthodontics*, 2007). Investigations are ongoing on the use of magnets for implant overdentures.
Over the years, the Discipline of Endodontics has evolved from a branch of Conservative Dentistry into a dental specialty with its own identity, as recognised by the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and worldwide.

The practice of Endodontics is related to the management of diseases of the pulpal and periradicular tissues. It is taught at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels by a faculty of three full-time/fractional members, six part-time teachers, and two honorary staff.

Endodontics at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry is situated in Block A of the third floor of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital. An Advanced Endodontics Centre has been functioning within this clinical area since December 2003. As such, the Discipline is a state-of-the-art clinical facility that is able to provide training for endodontic specialists.

The Discipline of Endodontics admits up to four Master of Dental Surgery students per year. We also offer an Advanced Diploma in Endodontics programme for holders of the Master of Dental Surgery in Endodontics who wish to further their training in the specialty.

The main research topics of our Discipline staff and postgraduate students include the following:
- C-shaped canals
- Evaluation of endodontic microleakage
- Fatigue behaviour of nickel-titanium rotary instruments
- Clinical outcome and longevity of various endodontic treatment modalities
- Restoration of root canal–treated teeth
- Infection and disinfection of root canal dentine

Our Discipline has established a strong research collaboration with the School of Stomatology of Wuhan University, China.
Distinguished Research

1. **Longevity of root canal treatment**
   Our Discipline has investigated the longevity of root canal treatment and has proposed a method of examining clinical treatment outcome using survival analysis on a cohort of patients. Our research findings were published in journals such as *Oral Surgery*, *Oral Medicine*, *Oral Pathology*, *Oral Radiology & Endodontics* and the *International Endodontic Journal*.

2. **Endodontic leakage**
   We developed the ‘glucose filtration model’—an innovative test methodology for the non-destructive, quantitative determination of the cumulative amount of leakage for root canal–treated teeth. The research work was reported in the journal *Oral Surgery*, *Oral Medicine*, *Oral Pathology*, *Oral Radiology & Endodontics* in 2005. The method has since been shown by another research group to be more sensitive than a widely adopted method, known as fluid filtration, in detecting endodontic microleakage.

3. **Instrument breakage**
   We have examined broken instruments after clinical use and have described topographical features of the fracture surface—for example, in the *International Endodontic Journal* in 2005 and 2007. This method of examination is now widely included in the determination of the reason for instrument breakage.

4. **C-shaped root canal system**
   The C-shaped root canal system’s anatomical features have been studied thoroughly by our Discipline, and a classification system based on radiographic features has been proposed. The work has been published in journals such as the *International Endodontic Journal* and the *Annals of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons*.

5. **Nickel-titanium instrument fatigue**
   We have used a scientific approach based on engineering principles to examine the low-cycle fatigue behaviour of nickel-titanium rotary instruments.
Hong Kong is the first place in the world to develop Family Dentistry as a clinical specialty of dentistry. Family Dentistry was developed as a specialty by the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, in collaboration with the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, and since 2003, it has been recognised by the Dental Council of Hong Kong. (In many countries, Family Dentistry is practised and known as Primary Dental Care and is not recognised as a specialty. In the United States, although the term Family Dentistry is used, it is not treated as a specialty.)

To promote Family Dentistry as a specialty, the Faculty designed two postgraduate courses that were both approved components of the local training pathway to be a Specialist in Family Dentistry. These were a 2-year part-time programme leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in General Dental Surgery (a programme still currently offered), which forms part of the basic training in Family Dentistry, and a 4-year part-time Master of Dental Surgery in Family Dentistry, which formed part of the higher training in the specialty.

Family Dentistry is a specialty of breadth, rather than one of depth. Covering all dental fields, Family Dentistry is the dental specialty for which continuing and comprehensive oral health is delivered by dentists who are equipped with knowledge that integrates the sciences of all dental disciplines, and who have an understanding of the inter-relationships of the patient, his or her family, and the community.

The Family Dentist practises a holistic approach to oral health care that takes into consideration physical, emotional, psychological, environmental, developmental, and familial influences. Accordingly, Family Dentistry emphasises primary dental care and preventive dentistry, as well as oral and general health promotion. Family Dentists are trained to be cost-effective providers and coordinators of oral health care delivery to the community. When indicated, cases are referred to appropriate specialists.

Our Faculty has three full-time staff and one fractional academic staff in Family Dentistry, who are assisted by honorary and part-time teachers to conduct undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. Our staff are specialists in prosthodontics with expertise in conservative dentistry, implant dentistry, dental materials science, practice management, and education.

In the past 5 years, two undergraduate students under the supervision of staff in Family Dentistry have won the Student Clinician Programme Prize (placing first and third) of the Southeast Asia Division of the International Association for Dental Research.

Our award-winning Discipline regularly publishes in international peer-reviewed journals, and staff members have recently written the following books: Profitable Dental Practice: 8 Strategies for Building a Practice that Everyone Loves to Visit; Restorative Management of the Worn Dentition; and Tooth Erosion: Prevention and Treatment.
Our Discipline is also actively involved in the local community, having established a Dental Clinic at the Integrated Diabetes Mellitus Research and Training Centre of the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, and a Geriatric Dental Clinic at the Kwong Wah Hospital.

Furthermore, Prof Tak-wah Chow is Project Leader and Dr Frederick Chu is Project Coordinator of the Faculty’s ‘Implant Project for the Elderly’, which aims to provide implant-supported dentures to impoverished elderly people who no longer have any of their natural teeth and thus have problems eating properly. The project is generously supported by the HKU Azalea (1972) Endowment Fund, the SK Yee Medical Foundation, and a donation from Dr Peter Wat.

1. Prosthodontic materials and magnets
   Journal articles have recently been published on the usefulness of porcelain and ceramic veneers (International Journal of Prosthodontics, Dental Update, Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry), chemical solubility and flexural strength of zirconia-based ceramics (International Journal of Prosthodontics), and the application of magnets to dentistry (Journal of Dentistry).

2. Oral rehabilitation of elderly patients
   Prof Tak-wah Chow, Dr Frederick Chu, and Dr John Choi were among the authors of the Best Article of 2006 published in the International Journal of Prosthodontics. Collaborating with the Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, the researchers found links between dental status and nutritional status among geriatric patients. In addition, a project is under way, with financial support provided by the SK Yee Medical Foundation and conducted in collaboration with the Discipline of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, into the role of fitting complete sets of implant-supported dentures in the oral rehabilitation of elderly patients without any remaining natural teeth.

3. Assessment of bone quality by ultrasonography
   An ongoing project, in collaboration with the HKU Faculty of Engineering, is investigating the use of quantitative ultrasound methods to evaluate the quality of bone in terms of bone density, bone strength, and other related variables.

4. Oral microbiology
   Our Discipline is examining the microbiology of oral biofilms to characterise phenotypes and genotypes of microflora, especially bacteria, associated with cariogenic and healthy states. The results will have implications for the therapy of oral diseases.

5. Stem cell research
   Mesenchymal stem cells have the potential to differentiate into a variety of tissues, and are being used in studies of bone repair and growth, with potential applications in clinical dentistry.

6. Patient satisfaction
   Projects have examined the level of patient satisfaction after receiving dental treatment and patients’ attitudes towards dental practice, as well as contemporary issues related to dental practice management.
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

The Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Discipline was once called the Department of Oral Surgery and Oral Medicine in the early years of the Faculty. The department’s name was revised in 1988, and the scope of OMS was subsequently extended well beyond dento-alveolar surgery, management of jaw cysts, and oral mucosal diseases, to include orthognathic surgery, maxillofacial trauma, temporomandibular joint surgery, pre-prosthetic and implant surgery, cleft lip and palate surgery, oral and maxillofacial tumour surgery, and reconstructive surgery. With the restructuring of the Faculty into a unitary one in 1997, all departments ceased to exist. The main functions of OMS remained unchanged and continued under the banner of a Discipline.

The Discipline of OMS is supported by six full-time academic staff, two post-doctoral fellows, and part-time and honorary staff. Two new academic staff, one from Switzerland and one from Italy, have just joined us, thus enhancing our international profile. The vision of our Discipline is to strive to be the best OMS centre in Asia. Our missions are to maintain and continuously improve the teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates, as well as our research and clinical services.

We support the student-centred learning programmes of the Faculty by contributing to problem-based learning tutorials and resource sessions. Dental undergraduates also rotate to our Discipline to master clinical skills needed for dental extraction and minor oral surgery, and to receive clinical exposure to major maxillofacial surgery and diseases.

Our Discipline’s out-patient services are located at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and our in-patient services are located at the Queen Mary Hospital. Our in-patient facilities include a total of 14 beds and a dedicated OMS operating theatre that caters for five full days of operating activities. Our staff and students rotate between the two hospitals, and we provide an on-call service to our OMS patients in both hospitals in addition to emergency care of dental and maxillofacial trauma.

The Discipline of OMS offers both taught and research postgraduate programmes. We provide a full range of taught postgraduate programmes, including a 1-year Diploma, a 3-year Master degree and a 2-year Advanced Diploma. Our Discipline also accepts research postgraduates to read for MPhil and PhD degrees. These students are engaged in either basic science or clinical research topics. Currently, 14 taught postgraduates and 8 research postgraduates are enrolled in our Discipline.

Our staff actively contribute to various continuing education activities of the Faculty, including the Oral Health and Science Seminars and Faculty Research Seminars. We also provide regular continuing educational courses to local OMS surgeons. Some of our courses extend to the surgeons in the Asia-Pacific region, such as the upcoming AO Advanced Course on Endoscopic Fixation and Distraction Osteogenesis.
The major research areas in OMS include distraction osteogenesis, orthognathic surgery, cleft lip and palate surgery, reconstructive surgery, pain control, endoscopic fixation, three-dimensional imaging, and dental implantology. Most of our staff are members of the Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Faculty Research Group and the University Strategic Theme of Biomedical Engineering. Through the efforts of our senior staff, our Discipline has established multiple international collaborations that include the University of Kiel, University of Zurich, and Harvard University, among others.

The Discipline is equipped with the latest 3-D photographic system, funded by the University Development Fund, and we have already initiated several multidisciplinary research projects on 3-D imaging, with increasing numbers of Faculty staff and research students participating. Our Discipline also houses the first image-guided implantology system in Asia and the Hong Kong AO Craniomaxillofacial Surgical Training Centre.

Our staff are committed to providing the full scope of clinical OMS services of the highest standard to our patients. Our Discipline is now the key tertiary referral centre for OMS in Hong Kong. In addition to the numerous referrals from our local dentists and doctors, we also receive an increasing number of referrals from China and overseas.

We shall soon introduce a Web-based electronic learning programme for our Master degree postgraduates, and we are offering an electronic learning module on orthognathic surgery between September and December 2007.

Distinguished Research

1. Distraction osteogenesis
   Our Discipline is widely accepted as the top clinical and research centre of distraction osteogenesis in the Asia-Pacific region. More than 20 journal articles have been published, extending from distraction of maxillectomy defects, temporomandibular joint transport and maxillo-mandibular distraction, biochemical modulation of distraction using growth factors to stimulate healing in compromised wounds, and development of a continuous distractor.

2. Orthognathic surgery
   Orthognathic surgery is the most common type of major surgery in our Discipline, and numerous clinical studies have been conducted on topics such as the use of resorbable fixation, sensory changes following orthognathic surgery, blood transfusion need and methods of reducing blood loss, and infection related to orthognathic surgery.

3. Maxillofacial reconstructive surgery
   Our Discipline has been advocating functional reconstructive surgery with implant rehabilitation since the mid-1990s. Innovative techniques published include maxillectomy reconstruction with bone graft supported by a titanium tray sandwiched in a split temporalis flap, mandibulectomy reconstruction with a custom-made titanium mesh, and, most recently, applications of stereomodel planning in reconstruction by a vascularised fibula flap.

4. Cleft lip and palate
   Our Discipline provides a full range of cleft lip and palate treatments and has been focusing on multidisciplinary research in this field. A shining example of our research was a comparison of orthognathic surgery and distraction of cleft maxilla that assessed parameters ranging from surgical morbidities, stability, psychological changes, speech and velopharyngeal changes, as well as quality of life.
The Oral Biosciences Laboratory is the hub of the Faculty’s Infection and Immunity Research Group. The Laboratory started out as a dental anatomy research laboratory, which was initiated by Prof Ron Fearnhead, who was the Faculty’s first Professor of Oral Biology and head of the then Forensic Science Group.

Over the past 25 years or so, the research focus has shifted to oral pathology and now oral microbiology and immunity, with a particular emphasis on fungal genomics and proteomics. Periodontal microbiology and infections in compromised patient groups are additional core research areas. Today, under the academic leadership of Prof Lakshman Samaranayake, Chair of Oral Microbiology, the Laboratory is an international centre in oral mycology.

During the Laboratory’s history, key leaders have also included Prof Else Theilade (Oral Microbiology) and Prof Hans Peter Philipsen (Oral Pathology), both from Aarhus University, Denmark.

The Laboratory is fully equipped and has a scanning electron microscope, a confocal laser scanning microscope, and tools for molecular biology research, such as real-time polymerase chain reaction machines and genetic sequencers. In addition, it houses equipment necessary for routine aerobic and anaerobic microbiology.

The seminal achievement of members working in the Discipline of Oral Biosciences is their record of publications in Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) journals. For instance, between 1996 and 2007, the rate of research output averaged more than one paper per month (total, 147 peer-reviewed papers).

Our major research activities include oral mycology, Candida infection, and periodontal microbiology and immunity, focusing on molecular genomics. In the past, the Laboratory has collaborated or trained researchers from the Netherlands, Australia, Myanmar, Japan, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, India, mainland China, and Brazil. Many more workers on short-term scholarships and visiting researchers seeking assistance with technology transfer have also passed through our doors. The first mainland Chinese student to graduate with a PhD from the HKU Faculty of Dentistry was trained in Oral Biosciences.

The Faculty’s work in Oral Biosciences has attracted international interest, and PhD programmes are keenly sought after. Past graduates now enjoy various academic positions throughout the world, including Australasia, mainland China, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

The academic leader of the Oral Biosciences Laboratory, Prof Samaranayake, has received numerous Hong Kong Research Grants Council Competitive Earmarked Research Grants—totalling more than HK$3 million—and recently a joint award of €3 million from the European Commission to conduct research into Candida. He has also received the HKU Outstanding Researcher Award and the HKU Outstanding Research Student Supervisor Award.
1. Oral microbiology
Our research is primarily focused on the genomics and proteomics of oral microflora, including both bacteria and fungi. Periodontal microbiology, including uncultivable flora from superkingdoms of Archaea and Bacteria; host responses to oral infection; oral microbiology and pathology of immunocompromised individuals; and oral oncology are other promising key areas that researchers are currently exploring.

2. Pathogenicity of candidal infections
Fungi belonging to Candida species are oral opportunistic pathogens with attributes such as the ability to form invasive tentacle-like hyphal elements and the secretion of extracellular enzymes that destroy host tissues. Ground-breaking work on these pathogenic features has led to more than 100 peer-reviewed publications in ISI journals over the past 10 years. The Discipline of Oral Biosciences, together with its archival collection of ‘Candida cultures’, therefore, is justly recognised as an international centre in oral mycology.

3. Host–pathogen interactions of Candida
In the mouth, invasion of hyphae of Candida albicans may be how the fungus bypasses one of our natural defence systems. Our mouth lining can normally produce ‘human β-defensin’ peptides that act as natural antimicrobials and attract immune cells to fight infection. But in vitro studies performed by our Faculty have demonstrated that by 48 hours, C albicans hyphae can switch off this protective response. Mutant C albicans and other Candida species that could not make hyphae did not penetrate the epithelium and were not able to switch off this surveillance mechanism. These findings, published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology in 2006, suggest that beating this special property of C albicans could allow the body to make its own natural antimicrobials to fight this fungus.

4. Uncultivable flora of the oral cavity
The human oral cavity is one of the portals of entry for microorganisms and is infested by more than 600 species of bacteria, half of which are unknown. The recent appreciation of oral archaeae implies that this black box of oral microbes is larger than researchers or scientists had anticipated. A team of dedicated staff and research students are putting their efforts together to isolate, identify, and characterise 16S ribosomal DNA genes from plaque biofilms isolated from various oral niches (from healthy individuals and those with pulpal or periodontal infection) that may contain these uncultivable organisms.

5. Biofilm and artificial mouth research
Faculty researchers are using an artificial mouth culture system to simulate the conditions inside the mouth, as a convenient way of investigating the complex interactions between microorganisms in dental and root caries and plaque biofilms. Our Laboratory is gaining a reputation in research into biofilms of bacteria and fungi, and has won several commercial and Hong Kong Research Grants Council awards to further explore this area.
Oral Radiology

The Discipline of Oral Radiology is based in the Oral Radiology Unit, which is located on the first floor of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and is one of the most comprehensive dental diagnostic imaging units in the world. Imaging modalities range from the traditional to the new, from the simple to the advanced, and from analogue to digital.

Our Unit aims to develop basic and clinical research, provide education in dental radiology, and offer professional diagnostic services to the Hong Kong public. Our clinical service extends to every department in the hospital. Each year, our Unit handles the diagnostic radiology needs of 20,000 patients, of whom around 1000 need advanced imaging examinations such as computed tomography (CT).

In the past 5 years, our Unit has expanded tremendously to meet major global trends in dentistry—for example, the growing use of three-dimensional imaging and digital imaging. Through cone-beam CT, digital panoramic, and digital intraoral systems, we have been able to transform our Unit into a filmless one.

In addition, a helical CT scanner and a Scanora spiral CT system (Soredex, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA) allow us to provide the widest services possible in clinical diagnosis, treatment planning, and outcome assessment.

The Oral Radiology team comprises an Assistant Professor (80% fractional) in Oral Radiology, a Tutor in Radiography, an Instructor in Radiography, and a radiographer employed by the hospital.
The Unit participates actively in university and hospital teaching. We equip undergraduate dental students, trainee dental hygienists, and trainee dental surgery assistants with essential skills for their future careers. And we work closely with other disciplines in the HKU Faculty of Dentistry to enhance the radiology knowledge of their postgraduate students.

The Oral Radiology Unit holds regular continuing education courses to furnish local dental professionals with updates in their skills and knowledge. Oral Radiology is also a popular discipline chosen by international students as an exchange or attachment course.

Research in Oral Radiology is strong, and our research projects involve radiographic and clinical areas. Collaborations with other disciplines, faculties, and universities are common. We proudly present our research findings at international, regional, and local conferences every year, and we regularly publish scientific papers in highly regarded journals.

---

**Distinguished Research**

1. **Bone graft assessment**
   Using a 3D model and cone-beam CT, we have measured the resorption rate of a bone replacement graft and bone quality before and after implant installation and functional loading.

2. **Three-dimensional dental nerve imaging**
   By reformatting computed tomograms, we have located the precise 3-D positions of horizontally impacted third molars and the inferior dental nerve. In such images, the inferior dental nerve is very close to and immediately inferior to the root; nerves are evenly distributed on buccal and lingual sides.

3. **Use of laser-guided collimator in training**
   We have demonstrated in a randomised double-blinded study that a custom-made laser-guided collimator is more effective than a conventional non-laser collimator as a teaching aid during intraoral radiography training for dental hygiene students (Dentomaxillofacial Radiology, 2006).

4. **Accuracy of bone imaging**
   We have conducted a study on the dimensional accuracy of four commonly used imaging modalities (linear tomography, spiral tomography, helical CT, and cone-beam CT) in making cross-sectional measurements of bone. Although linear tomography and helical CT showed the best agreement to actual bone dimensions measured with calipers, all four modalities yielded reasonably accurate bone dimensions.

5. **Population study of mandibular molar morphology**
   A CT study has been conducted on the morphology of permanent mandibular molars in the southern Chinese population, noting in particular the presence of a third root in lower first mandibular molars and C-shaped canals in second molars, as these features have clinical and anthropological importance.
Oral Rehabilitation is concerned with the achievement and maintenance of oral health for individuals who have lost some or all of their natural teeth and/or other oral and facial hard and soft tissues. This includes the provision of fixed bridges, removable dentures, implant-supported prostheses, and maxillofacial prostheses, as well as the conservative management of temporomandibular disorders.

The area is currently staffed by six full-time teachers (a Chair Professor, three Associate Professors, and two Assistant Professors), and two Honorary Associate Professors and 26 part-time lecturers contribute to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and learning.

Following a review of the Faculty in 1996, the Discipline of Oral Rehabilitation was formed from the former Department of Prosthetic Dentistry. Before then, the Department of Prosthetic Dentistry had been responsible for the teaching and practice of removable prosthodontics (partial and complete dentures), while fixed prosthodontics (bridgework) was covered by the Department of Conservative Dentistry. As part of the reorganisation, new undergraduate courses in Oral Rehabilitation integrating fixed and removable prosthodontics and implantology were introduced in 1997.

Two clinical postgraduate programmes are offered: Master of Dental Surgery (Prosthodontics) and Advanced Diploma in Prosthodontics. These programmes enable postgraduate students to acquire advanced knowledge and competence in different aspects of prosthodontics, including implant prosthodontics, fixed/removable prosthodontics, maxillofacial prosthodontics, and temporomandibular disorders. The programmes are recognised by the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong as a part of its specialist training pathway, and our Discipline is the sole provider of specialist training in prosthodontics in Hong Kong. We also admit research postgraduate students for Master and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

Our Discipline is actively engaged in providing continuing professional education to dental practitioners, predominantly via the Hong Kong Prosthetic Dentistry Society, which organises regular scientific meetings and symposia. The main office bearers of the Hong Kong Prosthetic Dentistry Society are in Oral Rehabilitation.

Research activity in Oral Rehabilitation is focused on the core themes of Healthy Ageing and Biomedical and Tissue Engineering, and includes the following major topics:
- Assessment of oral therapy outcomes using clinical and patient-centred measures
- Epidemiology of oral diseases
- Prevention and treatment of oral diseases in medically compromised individuals
- Clinical trials on innovative preventive methods and treatments of oral diseases
- Functional and psychosocial impact of oral diseases (oral health–related quality of life)

Projects are ongoing in the areas of implantology, dental handpiece performance, maxillofacial reconstruction, motor control of the human jaw muscles, pathogenesis and management of temporo-mandibular disorders, quality of life measures in gerodontology, resin-bonded bridges, patient-based assessment of fixed/removable prosthodontic treatments, and glass ionomer cements.
1. **Intensity-modulated head and neck radiotherapy in the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma**

Cutting-edge research has been conducted in collaboration with the HKU Department of Clinical Oncology on the efficacy of parotid gland-sparing intensity-modulated radiotherapy in the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma. This approach dramatically reduced xerostomia—the major oral complication of conventional radiotherapy treatment—and substantially improved patient quality of life.

2. **Impact of oral disease among the institutionalised elderly in Hong Kong**

We are engaged in community-based studies and patient-centred intervention studies, in collaboration with the Discipline of Dental Public Health, on the prevalence and impact of oral diseases among institutionalised and community-dwelling elderly people in Hong Kong.

3. **Psychological effect of tooth loss**

A transcultural investigation of the oral health and emotional effect of tooth loss among elderly populations in Hong Kong and the United Kingdom has been conducted in collaboration with the GKT Institute, University of London, the University of Dundee, the National University of Ireland at Cork, and the Universities of Aarhus and Aalborg in Denmark. The emotional effect of tooth loss was significant in all groups. Restrictions on daily living activities were generally greater in the Hong Kong group and were most likely due to different cultural values and expectations.

4. **Orofacial pain conditions and impact on quality of life in community-dwelling elderly people in Hong Kong**

Population-based studies are being performed in collaboration with the HKU Family Medicine Unit to investigate the prevalence and psychosocial impact of orofacial pain in the elderly, as well as barriers to treatment-seeking for pain management.

5. **Role of descending neural inputs in the control of mastication and voluntary biting**

Experimental studies using transcranial magnetic stimulation, electromyography, and an exogenous model to induce jaw muscle pain have been conducted in collaboration with the Universities of Aalborg and Aarhus, Denmark.

Research collaboration occurs locally, regionally, and internationally. Within the University, we are involved in two of the 21 interfaculty research themes. We have links with the Department of Clinical Oncology; the Family Medicine Unit; the Centre of Heart, Brain, Hormone and Healthy Ageing and the Department of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine; and the Sau Po Centre on Ageing. There is extensive collaboration on stroke rehabilitation with the Tung Wah Hospital, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong. There are also international collaborations with the GKT Institute, the University of London, the University of Birmingham, the University of Dundee, the National University of Ireland at Cork, and the Universities of Aarhus and Aalborg in Denmark.

Research activities are supported by external funding from the Hong Kong Research Grants Council, industrial funding (Nobel Biocare), and university-based seed funding. We have developed an extensive publication portfolio in medical, basic science, and dental journals with good impact factors.

Staff in our Discipline are committed to providing service at faculty, university, and community levels. The Geriatric Outreach Programme is an exemplar project that provides dental treatment to residents of elderly care facilities. The project also aims to raise dental awareness among the institutionalised elderly and their care providers.

Staff and research students have won a number of international research prizes, including the British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry Research Prize, the TC White Prize Lecture (Royal College of Surgeons of Glasgow), and the International Association for Dental Research Junior Investigator Award for Geriatric Oral Research.

Key positions are held in various professional organisations and scholarly journals, including the Hong Kong Dental Association, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, Dental Council of Hong Kong, the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the International Association for Dental Research, and the Journal of Oral Rehabilitation.

**Distinguished Research**

1. **Intensity-modulated head and neck radiotherapy in the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma**

Cutting-edge research has been conducted in collaboration with the HKU Department of Clinical Oncology on the efficacy of parotid gland-sparing intensity-modulated radiotherapy in the treatment of nasopharyngeal carcinoma. This approach dramatically reduced xerostomia—the major oral complication of conventional radiotherapy treatment—and substantially improved patient quality of life.

2. **Impact of oral disease among the institutionalised elderly in Hong Kong**

We are engaged in community-based studies and patient-centred intervention studies, in collaboration with the Discipline of Dental Public Health, on the prevalence and impact of oral diseases among institutionalised and community-dwelling elderly people in Hong Kong.

3. **Psychological effect of tooth loss**

A transcultural investigation of the oral health and emotional effect of tooth loss among elderly populations in Hong Kong and the United Kingdom has been conducted in collaboration with the GKT Institute, University of London, the University of Dundee. The emotional effect of tooth loss was significant in all groups. Restrictions on daily living activities were generally greater in the Hong Kong group and were most likely due to different cultural values and expectations.

4. **Orofacial pain conditions and impact on quality of life in community-dwelling elderly people in Hong Kong**

Population-based studies are being performed in collaboration with the HKU Family Medicine Unit to investigate the prevalence and psychosocial impact of orofacial pain in the elderly, as well as barriers to treatment-seeking for pain management.

5. **Role of descending neural inputs in the control of mastication and voluntary biting**

Experimental studies using transcranial magnetic stimulation, electromyography, and an exogenous model to induce jaw muscle pain have been conducted in collaboration with the Universities of Aalborg and Aarhus, Denmark.
Orthodontics

Orthodontics is the oldest specialty in dentistry and deals with the management of malocclusion and dentofacial deformities to improve aesthetics, function, and quality of life.

The Discipline of Orthodontics is staffed by four full-time Faculty members and a team of part-time staff, of which an increasing proportion are Faculty graduates. From 1989 onwards, all full-time staff have been actively involved in both clinical and research supervision, with clinical supervision support provided by orthodontic specialists from the private sector.

The undergraduate course provides a basic understanding about facial growth and development, aetiology of malocclusion and dentofacial deformities, how to obtain orthodontic records, how to make a diagnosis, and treatment planning.

In 2003, the course’s clinical orthodontic content was revised to expose students to ‘real-world’ orthodontic problems and solutions. The basic component, taught in year 3, provides orthodontic knowledge that is useful in the polyclinic. The advanced component is taught in year 5, when specific clinical situations are introduced, such as how dentists can include specialist orthodontic treatment to optimise conditions for restorative treatment and improve the aesthetics of periodontally treated patients.

Local training of orthodontic specialists started in 1986. Until a few years ago, to become an orthodontist, it was sufficient to have passed a 2-year postgraduate course and gained 3 years of experience in the private sector in specialist practice. Today, one has to follow a supervised, structured training pathway endorsed by the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, comprising 4 years of basic training with an intermediate examination and 2 years of higher training with an exit examination. Continuous education has become compulsory.

The Faculty offers a 3-year full-time Master in Orthodontics course as part of basic specialist training and a 2-year part-time Advanced Diploma in Orthodontics as a part of higher training. The intermediate examination is jointly conducted by the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Our graduates have done very well in this examination, reflecting on themselves and the quality of our programme.

The director of the taught postgraduate programme was Prof Peter Yen from 1986 to 1988 and Prof Urban Hägg from 1989 to 2006. Since 2006, the director has been Prof Bakr Rabie. So far, 51 dentists have graduated at Master’s level and 21 at diploma level, many of them from overseas.

The first two PhD students were actually staff. The first non-locals were recruited from mainland China after the Faculty signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the three prime mainland dental schools in the mid-1990s and with another three mainland dental schools a couple of years later. Research has been based on prospective clinical studies, as well as basic science research, mostly related to condylar growth manipulation.
1. Local data on dentofacial morphology

In 1983 and 1984, a large population survey on 12-year-old children was conducted to obtain information on dentofacial morphology and to define the need for orthodontic treatment among Hong Kong Chinese children. The data obtained were used for the first two PhD theses in the orthodontic field in Hong Kong. Journal publications emerged, and still emerge, in the orthodontic literature using this unique material.

2. Condylar growth modification

In the 1990s, research was focused to a large extent on condylar growth modification, initially mainly in prospective clinical studies and later in an experimental setting, especially on the condylar response after manipulation of the position of the mandible. For example, in rat studies, a bite-jumping device spurred growth of mandibular condylar cartilage through the activation of \( \text{PTPrP} \) and \( \text{SOX9} \) genes. Most recently, a non-pathogenic adeno-associated viral vector has been used to deliver the gene encoding vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) to induce bone growth; this protocol has the potential to help treat children born with craniofacial anomalies.

3. Bone induction

Bone induction studies have been conducted using bone morphogenetic protein and various chemicals such as naringin, simvastatin, and quercetin. Research has also involved Traditional Chinese Medicines. The results have implications in the search for alternatives to harvested bone grafts in the management of many diseases, ranging from gum disease to tumour resection and osteoporosis.

4. New research projects under way

Genome research to identify associations between genetic markers and oral disease risk has recently commenced and promises to make the Faculty a leader in ‘personalised’ dentistry and bioinformatics. Other research projects under way include quality of life aspects related to malocclusion and orthodontic treatment, and how oral biofilms and microflora are affected by various orthodontic devices.

Visibility is also important for our global standing. Each year from 1991, our postgraduate students and staff have presented their research at the largest research-oriented meeting in orthodontics—the Congress of the European Orthodontic Society—and at various other meetings, such as those of the International Association for Dental Research and FDI World Dental Federation. Our students and their supervisors regularly win prestigious international awards and prizes. A number of students have also won awards for performance in the clinically oriented orthodontics examination for membership to the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Our Discipline regularly organises continuing education seminars and advanced orthodontic courses. All full-time staff have been invited to give lectures and courses at prestigious meetings and institutions overseas.
Paediatric Dentistry

The Discipline of Paediatric Dentistry places an emphasis on the broader scope of Paediatric Dentistry, which aims to deliver quality care to children including those who are medically compromised or physically disabled.

Accordingly, the Faculty has a specialist referral system and provides three sessions per week to treat, under general anaesthesia, children with special needs or behavioural problems or those requiring minor surgical procedures. Frequently, our Discipline is called upon to treat special-needs adults because of the difficulties they face with obtaining oral health care.

In the early 1980s, the then Department of Children’s Dentistry and Orthodontics also established a multidisciplinary clinic known as the ‘Joint Clinic’, which met once a month to screen and arrange multidisciplinary treatment for children with cleft lip and palate. This clinic subsequently evolved into the Cleft Lip and Palate Centre, and now meets twice a month, bringing together specialists in paediatric dentistry, orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, speech pathology, and audiology. Other expertise is drawn from the Faculty when required.

The teaching and development of Paediatric Dentistry into a specialty and the introduction of the postgraduate courses owe their success to the enthusiastic full-time staff who have all had diverse backgrounds before joining the Faculty. Staff have come from countries such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Thailand, and Taiwan. The clinical success of the Discipline has been due to the dedicated part-time staff, who have always given generously of their time and knowledge; without them, it would have been very difficult to establish the early sound base of our specialty.

The undergraduate curriculum in Paediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics focuses on total patient care and is closely integrated into the orthodontic curriculum so that dental students, and their child and adolescent patients, can benefit from the joint expertise of Faculty staff.

Postgraduate education in Paediatric Dentistry takes the form of a 2-year Master of Dental Surgery and a 1-year Advanced Diploma. Our lively postgraduate students, who come from all parts of the world, along with the Dental Surgery Assistants, contribute to the friendly and happy atmosphere in our clinic.

The major emphasis of the Postgraduate Diploma in Paediatric Dentistry is to enhance students’ knowledge and level of clinical competence in Paediatric Dentistry. Students are also expected to give seminars, in some depth, on topics related to child dental health and to prepare a dissertation based on the published literature or on a small research project.

The Master in Dental Surgery course trains candidates to be clinically competent paediatric dentists. Furthermore, the project and thesis component aims to equip candidates with skills to critically analyse the literature, pursue a course of
1. Dentine adhesives
The nature of the interface between dentine adhesives has been the focus of much research, and has considered such factors as temperature, fluid movement, and long-term storage.

2. Remineralisation
A wide range of toothpastes manufactured around the world, especially those formulated for children, have been subjected predominately to a laboratory cycling model. Chewing gum has also been tested using this model and in vivo studies. Currently, fluoridated milk is being tested, using the same laboratory model.

3. Cleft lip and palate
Several studies have been conducted on the dental condition of children with cleft lip and palate.

4. Developmental defects and anomalies
Numerous publications and two PhD and two MDS theses have been produced on the prevalence and nature of developmental defects of enamel and the various anomalies of teeth of the southern Chinese.

5. Oral health
Studies have and are currently under way to look into different aspects of the oral health of children, especially those affected by early childhood caries.
Periodontology

Periodontology is concerned with the study, diagnosis, treatment, and long-term management of diseases of the periodontium (the tissues surrounding the teeth). Nowadays, Periodontology also covers the placement of dental implants in individuals missing some but not all of their teeth, supportive care for dental implants, and management of biological complications around dental implants.

Since the inception of dental education at The University of Hong Kong, Periodontology has been grouped with Dental Public Health, and the School of Dental Hygiene is within its remit. This grouping has fostered an approach to Periodontology that views periodontal diseases in a public health context, with the prevention and management of these diseases being centred on high standards of oral hygiene.

Periodontology is taught to undergraduate dental students throughout their curriculum, now in an integrated fashion along with other areas of adult dentistry through a problem-based learning approach and in a polyclinic context.

At postgraduate level, Periodontology is taught in a 2-year Master’s course and a 1-year Advanced Diploma programme. So far, 32 Master of Dental Surgery and nine Advanced Diploma candidates have graduated. Many of our postgraduates complete a pathway of higher training supervised within the Periodontology Clinic to allow them to become specialists in Periodontology.

Periodontology also contributes significantly to the education of research postgraduates reading for MPhil and PhD degrees. To date, six PhDs have been primarily supervised in Periodontology and more have been co-supervised with other disciplines.

The current staff in Periodontology consists of two Professors, a fraction of one Associate Professor, who is also the Director of Polyclinics, one full-time Assistant Professor, and one more who will soon be joining. One Honorary Associate Professor and three part-time clinical teachers, all specialists in Periodontology, are involved in the delivery of our postgraduate courses. A further nine part-time clinical teachers, all with postgraduate education and training in Periodontology and four of whom are registered specialists in Periodontology, contribute to undergraduate education and to the delivery of the 2-year course in Dental Hygiene.

Over the years, the main research areas of interest have been to do with the following:
- Epidemiology of periodontal conditions in Hong Kong and southern China
- Appraisal of index systems to record periodontal conditions
- Molecular mechanisms of periodontal pathogenesis
- Risk factors and biogenetic markers for periodontal diseases
- Contribution of non-surgical periodontal therapy to therapeutic outcomes
- Co-infection of periodontopathogenic bacteria
- Host responses during untreated periodontitis and periodontal therapeutic intervention
- Associations of periodontal diseases with systemic diseases/states (eg diabetes mellitus, post irradiation or organ transplantation, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, and pregnancy)
- Use of Traditional Chinese Medicine as a means of host modulation in periodontal therapy
Much of our research has been well supported by the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong and The University’s Committee on Research and Conference Grants. Research excellence has been recognised by international and regional research awards.

Research collaboration occurs with a wide range of institutions, including the following:

- Several departments of the HKU Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine (Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, Microbiology, Clinical Oncology, Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology)
- Department of Rheumatology, Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Tung Wah Eastern Hospital and Kwong Wah Hospital, Hong Kong
- Peking University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Wuhan University, China
- Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Hiroshima University, Japan
- Universities of Michigan and Washington, USA
- Universities of British Columbia and Toronto, Canada
- University of London, UK
- Massey University, New Zealand
- Karolinska Institute, Sweden

Staff in Periodontology have contributed significantly to the administration of the University and the Faculty. One former member, a previous Dean of this Faculty, became the University’s Vice-Chancellor. The Hong Kong Dental Association has also been well served by our staff (one of whom is the association’s current journal editor), as has the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and the Dental Council of Hong Kong. Our staff have held or currently hold key positions in the Southeast Asian Division of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), Southeast Asian Association for Dental Education, Asian Pacific Dental Federation, Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology, Periodontal Research Group of IADR, and FDI World Dental Federation. Our staff also hold editorial board memberships in many international journals, and one staff member is a Fellow of the International Team for Implantology.

The major future development in Periodontology at the Faculty is a newly approved joint 2-year postgraduate programme in Periodontology to be mounted in Peking University. Graduates will be awarded a Master’s Degree from The University of Hong Kong and a Certificate from Peking University. This is the first ever joint programme in a clinical discipline between a Hong Kong and a mainland Chinese University. The programme is modularised, and seven distinguished overseas academics have pledged to teach on this groundbreaking course, which aims at the internationalisation of postgraduate education in Periodontology in the People’s Republic of China.

Distinguished Research

1. **Possible genetic marker of periodontitis**
   A single nucleotide polymorphism in the matrix metalloproteinase 1 gene has been found to be associated with generalised aggressive periodontitis in a Chinese population, and may represent a useful disease marker (Journal of Periodontal Research, 2005).

2. **Periodontal microbiology**
   Commercially available DNA probes have shown decreased colonisation of certain microbes after non-surgical treatment of chronic periodontitis, so analysing subgingival colonisation of these microbes could help assess the effectiveness of periodontal therapy (Periodontology, 2006).

3. **Periodontal risk assessment**
   A spider-web approach to chart periodontal risk according to answers to a questionnaire on behaviour and oral hygiene is being developed as a method of assessing the periodontal risk of adults in Hong Kong.

4. **Epidemiological research**
   A recent longitudinal study of adults in Stockholm County, Sweden, conducted in collaboration with the Karolinska Institute, showed that periodontitis is associated with an increased risk of early death (Journal of Periodontal Research, 2007).
The Cleft Lip and Palate (CLP) Centre is one of the officially recognised Centres of Excellence at The University of Hong Kong and is based at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, on the second floor of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

For more than 20 years, interest in CLP management has been nurtured and coordinated from this Faculty for much of Hong Kong. Initially under the guidance of Prof Nigel King and now under the direction of Prof Nabil Samman, the CLP Centre today has a major teaching, research, and service role within the Faculty and benefits from the contribution of all Faculty Disciplines. The CLP Centre has also developed significant collaborations with various University disciplines and has been especially strengthened by the ongoing commitment of the Speech and Hearing Sciences Department of the Faculty of Education.

The Centre’s teaching role is predicated on the needs of CLP patients attending the Prince Philip Dental Hospital for long-term care of consequences of their cleft deformity. Undergraduate students are shown the value of coordinated multidisciplinary treatment, while postgraduate students and specialty trainees are taken through the accepted training protocols of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine with regard to CLP care by all specialties. It is important to understand that teaching and training go hand in hand with patient care and the delivery of treatment of the highest quality and standard. Treatment includes comprehensive surgical, orthodontic, paediatric, and restorative dental care, as well as speech and hearing care.

Research is a major component of the Centre, and all levels of research—basic and clinical—are conducted by the academic staff members of the Centre. Substantial achievements in this avenue have been recorded.

The coordinated diagnostic and therapeutic speech clinic conducted at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital is unique in Hong Kong. Advanced coordinated techniques for the surgical and orthodontic correction of skeletal deformity in CLP are at a world leadership standard.

The CLP Centre has an active programme of community engagement, which includes local community efforts by staff to link up with the CLP Parents’ Association and the general population through various local media. The Centre also contributes to charity work in India, the Philippines, Cambodia, and Indonesia.
The AO Craniomaxillofacial Surgical Training Centre was established at the Faculty in November 2006 during the 7th Asian Congress on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, which was held in Hong Kong from 5 to 9 November 2006.

This surgical training centre accepts clinical attachments from young surgeons from all over the world. AO Education, a global non-profit educational foundation, provides support to these young surgeons during their stay in Hong Kong. We have received one trainee from New York and soon will have a second from Sweden. This arrangement also provides a good opportunity for our postgraduates to interact with surgical trainees from different countries.

The Discipline of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery has been equipped with the first image-guided implantology system in Asia. Soon, this facility will be augmented with a surgical navigation system designed for craniomaxillofacial surgery, from Brain Lab, which will allow advanced research in oral and maxillofacial surgery. A postgraduate student has just started a research project on navigational surgery for ear implant-supported prosthesis manufactured by CAD/CAM technology.
The last decade has witnessed tremendous technological advances in the practice of endodontics. To stay at the forefront of clinical practice and endodontic specialist training, the Advanced Endodontics Centre was set up on Floor 3A of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and was formally inaugurated on 9 December 2003.

The Advanced Endodontics Centre is dedicated to the clinical management of endodontic and related conditions, as well as for teaching and demonstration purposes.

The Centre is a dedicated area that has four semi-open surgeries and a separate X-ray room for digital radiography. Each surgery is fully equipped with an operating microscope, state-of-the-art apparatus for root canal instrumentation and obturation, and the latest materials for the clinical management of endodontic and related problems. All microscopes carry a video camera that is connected via a video link to broadcast the images to a small conference room.
Training in Dental Surgery Assisting first started in Hong Kong in 1980 and was initially organised by the then Hong Kong Polytechnic in the form of physiology, first aid, anatomy, and language classes. After 6 months, the course was gradually transferred to the Prince Philip Dental Hospital (PPDH), where students also learnt about the theory behind clinical techniques, practised procedures, and assisted HKU Faculty of Dentistry students to gain clinical experience.

At the beginning, the Dental Surgery Assisting course was a 2-year full-time programme. It was changed to a 1-year full-time programme in 1983. It is currently also available as a 2-year part-time day-release course.

The first batch of certificated dental surgery assistants (DSAs) graduated in 1984. All certificated DSAs were employed by the PPDH from 1982 to 1999. From 2000 onwards, DSAs have had to look for jobs in the open market after their training.

The current teaching staff include a Tutor and an Instructor in Dental Surgery Assisting, who are both staff of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry. These two people are responsible for the teaching and administration of the course. A Tutor in Radiology and Senior Certified DSAs working in different disciplines help to teach and supervise the work of students who are rotated to their disciplines. In addition, the Senior Instructor in Dental Technology and lecturers at the Faculty contribute to student learning.

Training in Dental Surgery Assisting consists of lectures, small-group demonstrations, and chairside assisting sessions. Students rotate to different disciplines for a 2-week period each, undergoing assessment between each rotation.

During the course, students go on arranged visits to observe the treatment carried out in the operating theatre in the Queen Mary Hospital and the Duchess of Kent Children’s Hospital. A dental health education project and local private dental practice visits are also organised.

There is an intermediate examination and a final examination after students have completed their rotations in the first and second semester, respectively. The Certificate of Proficiency in Dental Surgery Assisting is awarded if a student passes all parts of the examination.

There are currently more than 1700 dentists registered with the Dental Council of Hong Kong. There is no statistic of how many DSAs are working in Hong Kong, but there should be more than 2500; yet, fewer than 500 have received formal training from the PPDH. To guarantee the service provided by DSAs to their dental teams, it is hoped that statutory registration of DSAs will be required in the future.
Dental hygienist training aims at producing high-standard dental hygienists who will become effective members of the dental team and help it to meet the challenge of controlling and preventing periodontal disease and dental caries.

Dental hygienist training started locally by the Hong Kong Government in 1978 and was then taken up by the School of Dental Hygiene at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital. The course tutor is the Faculty’s Tutor in Dental Hygiene, Ms Cordelia KP Chan. Other Faculty members and an Instructor also contribute to the training.

Originally, the course comprised 1 year of full-time training and led to the Certificate of Proficiency in Dental Hygiene and qualification by the Dental Council of Hong Kong to enrol as a dental hygienist.

In 2001, the School started to use problem-based learning as a mode of teaching, to follow the world trend as well as changes within the Faculty. After discussions in the same year with the HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education (HKU SPACE), the course was both upgraded and extended. And since September 2002, it has been a 2-year full-time course, leading to a Higher Diploma in Dental Hygiene, awarded jointly by HKU SPACE and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

The Higher Diploma course especially aims to prepare secondary school leavers for a career in dental hygiene. Students study not only dental subjects, but also general subjects such as English, Chinese, Putonghua, basic information technology, quantitative skills, and interpersonal and communication skills.

As of July 2006, a total of 149 dental hygienists have graduated from the Prince Philip Dental Hospital and have enrolled with the Dental Council of Hong Kong.

Since its establishment, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has been very supportive of dental hygiene training, and it is hoped that the next step in the advancement of the profession in Hong Kong is for Dental Hygiene to become a degree course.
Meeting of the minds:
Faculty Retreats have allowed Faculty staff and representatives to share ideas with each other and guest speakers, and to plan how we can continue our tradition of excellence. In 2006 (top), the topic was ‘Dentistry@334: The Road Ahead’, about the new curriculum in 2012, with guest Prof Amy BM Tsui, Chairman of the Steering Committee on the 4-Year Undergraduate Curriculum. In 2007 (bottom), the topic was ‘From Good to Great Research: Nurturing Our Potential’, with guests HKU Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof Paul KH Tam and colleagues from other HKU Faculties, Prof Kathryn Cheah, Prof Paul Cheng, and Prof YS Chan.
As part of a research-led university that was globally ranked 39th in 2005 and 33rd in 2006, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry is committed to inspiring creativity and encouraging cross-disciplinary research of an international standard.

According to the 2006 Hong Kong-wide Research Assessment Exercise, nearly 90% of Faculty staff (full-time equivalents) have reached or surpassed a “level of research excellence appropriate to the discipline in Hong Kong and showing evidence of international excellence”.

The Faculty is consistently among the top performers in the University in terms of research productivity and currently occupies one of the top three places in the HKU Faculty Research League Table.

To maintain its position at the forefront of scientific advancement, the Faculty revised its research strategy in 2004 by having three research groups—in Biomedical and Tissue Engineering, Infection and Immunity, and Public Health and Healthy Ageing—to align the Faculty’s research programme with the newly established University Strategic Research Themes. The Faculty also centralised its research funds and management of its research laboratories to optimise efficiency and maximise interdisciplinary and interfaculty synergy. Our researchers currently contribute their knowledge and expertise to six of the University’s 21 research themes: Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics; Drug Discovery and Synthesis; Biomedical Engineering; Infection and Immunology; Healthy Ageing; and Public Health.

Already, our three research groups have published findings in numerous peer-reviewed journals and gained our staff and students international recognition, including the largest number of awards for a single institution at the 2006 annual meeting of the International Association of Dental Research in Brisbane, Australia.

As part of a research-led university that was globally ranked 39th in 2005 and 33rd in 2006, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry is committed to inspiring creativity and encouraging cross-disciplinary research of an international standard.

According to the 2006 Hong Kong-wide Research Assessment Exercise, nearly 90% of Faculty staff (full-time equivalents) have reached or surpassed a “level of research excellence appropriate to the discipline in Hong Kong and showing evidence of international excellence”.

The Faculty is consistently among the top performers in the University in terms of research productivity and currently occupies one of the top three places in the HKU Faculty Research League Table.

To maintain its position at the forefront of scientific advancement, the Faculty revised its research strategy in 2004 by having three research groups—in Biomedical and Tissue Engineering, Infection and Immunity, and Public Health and Healthy Ageing—to align the Faculty’s research programme with the newly established University Strategic Research Themes. The Faculty also centralised its research funds and management of its research laboratories to optimise efficiency and maximise interdisciplinary and interfaculty synergy. Our researchers currently contribute their knowledge and expertise to six of the University’s 21 research themes: Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics; Drug Discovery and Synthesis; Biomedical Engineering; Infection and Immunology; Healthy Ageing; and Public Health.

Already, our three research groups have published findings in numerous peer-reviewed journals and gained our staff and students international recognition, including the largest number of awards for a single institution at the 2006 annual meeting of the International Association of Dental Research in Brisbane, Australia.

Through the insights and collaborations of its staff and students, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has made great strides in clinical and basic dentistry-related research since its establishment in 1982. The Faculty prides itself in its multidisciplinary approach to discovery and knowledge creation, and is today recognised internationally for its dental research excellence.
Members of the Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group come from various disciplines and specialties, including Orthodontics, Paediatric Dentistry, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery; many members of the group have earned an international reputation. The group is supported by up-to-date laboratory and operative equipment, as well as extensive human resources.

Mission and Goals

Our research group aims to bridge the gap between basic scientific research and its clinical application in the field of bone induction and dental biomaterials, in order to strengthen our research standing and to ensure publications in reputable international journals. Our research covers three of the 21 HKU interfaculty research themes—namely, Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics; Drug Discovery and Synthesis; and Biomedical Engineering.

Main Research Topics

- ‘Personalised’ dentistry
- Gene therapy to regulate jaw growth
- Molecular analysis of growth factors controlling asymmetrical mandibular growth
- Bone induction with Traditional Chinese Medicine
- Soft- and hard-tissue reconstruction of the upper and lower jaws
- Dentinogenesis, phosphophorins, and chondrogenic inducing factors
- Bonding agents to both dentine and enamel
- Distraction osteogenesis
- Dental biomaterials
- Three-dimensional imaging
- Immediate loading implants
- Nerve regeneration following injury

Collaborations

Our group has collaborated with different departments at The University of Hong Kong, including the Molecular Biology Institute, Department of Chemistry, and Department of Biochemistry. We have also collaborated with the National University of Singapore and various universities in mainland China, including Beijing University, Sichuan University, Fourth Military Medical University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Wuhan University, and Xian Jiaotong University.
Awards and Recognition

Selected research achievements can be found within the section on the Faculty’s Disciplines. The following are some examples of awards and recognition won by members of the Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group:

- **Prof Bakr Rabie** received the Best Article Award from the *International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery* in 1996 for his article titled ‘Integration of endochondral bone grafts in the presence of demineralized bone matrix’.

- **Dr Ricky Wong, Dr Margareta Bendeus, and Prof Bakr Rabie**, with co-authors from the University of Cairo, were the first runners-up of the Harold Ellis Prize in Surgery in 2006, for the article “Vascular endothelial growth factor augments the healing of demineralized bone matrix grafts”.

- **Prof Bakr Rabie, Prof Lim K Cheung, and Dr Ricky Wong** were among those awarded a Hong Kong Research Grants Council Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 2006 to conduct the project “A novel treatment for skeletal class II malocclusion in young adults: a bone-borne mandibular distractor”.

- **Prof Bakr Rabie** received individual donations totalling HK$800,000 in 2006 to conduct clinical trials of methods to induce bone formation, and another HK$1,000,000 to create the V Leung Foundation to sponsor PhD students.

- **Dr Cynthia Yiu** was awarded a Hong Kong Research Grants Council Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 2007 to characterise and study the biodegradation of the resin-dentine interface in restored teeth.

Research Group Members

- **Convenor**
  - Prof Bakr Rabie

- **Deputy Convenor**
  - Dr Cynthia KY Yiu

- **Primary Members**
  - Prof Lim K Cheung
  - Prof Tak-wah Chow
  - Prof Urban Hägg
  - Prof Nigel King
  - Prof Nabil Samman
  - Dr Margareta Bendeus
  - Dr Ken WK Chiu
  - Dr Raymond Chow
  - Dr John Dyson
  - Dr John Lo
  - Dr Danny CY Low
  - Dr Ricky WK Wong

Targeting jaws: Gene therapy has been used to deliver the vascular endothelial growth factor gene and induce jaw bone growth in rats. A similar approach could be used to treat children born with craniofacial disorders.

Shaping the future: Facial deformities are being treated with the help of developments in distraction osteogenesis, 3-D modelling, and stem cell therapy.
Infection and Immunity

The core members of the Infection and Immunity Research Group come from various disciplines and specialties, including Oral Biosciences, Periodontology, Family Dentistry, and Oral Rehabilitation. Many members of the group have gained an international reputation in multiple research fields, and all have won awards at conferences or received grants from major funding bodies or industry.

Mission and Goals

Our group conducts cutting-edge basic, translational, and clinical research in the field of oral infection and immunity, as well as in related biomedical and clinical sciences. Through strong team work and local and international collaborations, we focus on characterising oral pathogens, from gross to molecular levels, understanding mechanisms and causes of oral infections, and exploring new treatments.

The Infection and Immunity Research Group is well supported by state-of-the-art research laboratories and committed research staff of both the Faculty of Dentistry and HKU. In particular, we work closely with colleagues from other HKU faculties involved in the University Strategic Research Theme of Infection and Immunology.

Main Research Topics

- Oral microbiology of medically compromised individuals (eg those with HIV infection, those with diabetes, patients undergoing irradiation, and renal transplant patients)
- Molecular pathogenesis and epidemiology of oral Candida infections
- HIV/AIDS and candidiasis
- In vitro studies of candidal and bacterial biofilms
- Basic and applied research in microbiology related to periodontal diseases, endodontic infections, and caries
- Molecular mechanisms of periodontal pathogenesis
- Risk factors and biological and genetic markers of periodontal diseases
- Periodontal medicine
- Development of appropriate therapeutic modalities to control common oral diseases (eg periodontal diseases, caries, endodontic infection, and candidal infections)
- Application of Traditional Chinese Medicine in oral health care

Collaborations

Collaborating institutions include various faculties at The University of Hong Kong (eg Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Engineering), local universities and hospitals (eg Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, and Kwong Wah Hospital), various universities in mainland China (eg Peking University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, and Wuhan University), and overseas universities (eg the University of Michigan and University of Washington in the USA, the University of British Columbia and University of Toronto in Canada, the University of London in England, Humboldt University in Germany, and the Karolinska Institute in Sweden.)
Awards and Recognition

Selected research achievements can be found within the section on the Faculty’s Disciplines. The following are some examples of awards and recognition won by members of the Infection and Immunity Research Group:

- **Prof Lakshman Samaranayake** has been awarded six Hong Kong Research Grants Council (RGC) Competitive Earmarked Research Grants totalling more than HK$3 million to conduct a series of research projects on the molecular pathogenesis and epidemiology of oral *Candida* infections.

- **Prof Li-jian Jin** has been awarded three RGC Competitive Earmarked Research Grants totalling more than HK$2 million (in 1997, 2000, and 2005) to conduct a series of research projects on the molecular mechanisms of periodontal pathogenesis and their potential clinical implications.

- **Dr W Keung Leung** received an RGC Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 2000 to study maintenance care for patients with advanced periodontal disease.

- **Dr Kevin Yip** received an RGC Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 1999 to establish an artificial mouth culture system for in vitro caries studies, and a Listerine Research Award in 2006 from Pfizer Corporation (USA) to investigate biofilms using this system.

- **Prof Lakshman Samaranayake**, with 15 other collaborators in Europe and the USA, as part of the ‘EURAPS’ consortium, shared a major research grant of €3 million from the European Commission in 2006 to conduct a study on autoimmune polyendocrine syndrome type 1 in children, concentrating on the chronic candidal infections often seen throughout the skin and nails of patients.

- **Prof Lakshman Samaranayake**, with Prof Peter Reichart of Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, has been awarded two grants through the Germany–Hong Kong Joint Research scheme for collaborative studies on oral fungal infections in medically compromised patient groups.

- **Prof Li-jian Jin**, with three collaborators in the USA and UK, shared a grant of US$800,000 from the United States National Institutes of Health in 2007 for a 4-year study on bacterial modulation during the periodontal innate host response.

Research Group Members

- **Convenor**
  Dr W Keung Leung

- **Primary Members**
  Prof Li-jian Jin (Convenor, 2004-2006)
  Prof Lakshman Samaranayake
  Dr Yuthika Samaranayake
  Dr Peter CS Tsang
  Dr Kevin HK Yip

Increasing evidence suggests that periodontal diseases are associated with systemic disease and early mortality.

Peering into periodontitis: A patient before and after periodontal treatment.
Public Health and Healthy Ageing

Members of the Public Health and Healthy Ageing Research Group come from various disciplines and specialties, including Dental Public Health, Family Dentistry, Oral Rehabilitation, Paediatric Dentistry, and Periodontology. Several members of the group have an international reputation in their research field.

Mission and Goals

A key operating principle of the Public Health and Healthy Ageing Research Group is to encourage research collaboration locally, regionally, and internationally, and to involve a wide range of disciplines.

Within The University of Hong Kong, the research group is involved in two of the 21 interfaculty research themes—namely, Public Health and Healthy Ageing.

Main Research Topics

- Epidemiology of oral diseases
- Clinical trials on innovative preventive methods and treatments of oral diseases
- Assessment of oral therapy outcomes using clinical and patient-centred measures
- Prevention and treatment of oral diseases in medically compromised individuals
- Oral health care services, issues related to human resources, and utilisation of services
- Functional and psychosocial impact of oral diseases (oral health–related quality of life)
- Statistical modelling of oral health data

Collaborations

Our group has links with the Centre of Public Health Research and the Centre of Heart, Brain, Hormone and Healthy Ageing in the Faculty of Medicine, and also the Sau Po Centre on Ageing at The University of Hong Kong.

The group collaborates with a number of universities in mainland China, including the Peking University School of Stomatology; School of Stomatology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University; School of Stomatology, Wuhan University; and the Guanghua School of Stomatology, Sun Yat Sen University.

In addition, members of the group are actively involved in collaborative projects with University College London (UK), King’s College London (UK), University of Leeds (UK), University College Cork (Ireland), University of Aarhus (Denmark), University of Melbourne (Australia), University of British Columbia (Canada), University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (USA), and the University of Washington (USA).
Awards and Recognition

Selected research achievements can be found within the section on the Faculty’s Disciplines. The following are some examples of awards and recognition won by members of the Public Health and Healthy Ageing Research Group:

- **Prof Edward Lo** was awarded a Hong Kong Research Grants Council Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 2007 to conduct a randomised controlled trial on the effectiveness of fissure sealant and topical fluoride application in preventing dental caries.

- **Dr May Wong** was awarded a Hong Kong Research Grants Council Competitive Earmarked Research Grant in 2007 to investigate trends in oral health from childhood to early adulthood.

- **Dr Colman McGrath** was awarded a grant by the Hong Kong Health and Health Services Research Fund in 2007 to investigate inequalities in oral health and oral health care delivery in Hong Kong.

- **Dr May Wong** was awarded the HKU Faculty of Dentistry Research Output Prize in 2006 for publishing a paper with co-authors Dr KF Lam and Prof Edward Lo on how to use a well-known statistics software program to analyse complex data to predict the timing of multiple related events. For example, tooth decay can occur between dental visits and can affect more than one site in a tooth and more than one tooth in the same person.

Research Group Members

- **Convenor**
  Dr Colman McGrath

- **Primary Members**
  Prof Anne McMillan (Convenor, 2004-2006)
  Prof Edward CM Lo
  Prof Esmonde Corbet
  Dr Philip Newsome
  Dr Michael Botelho
  Dr May CM Wong
  Dr Katherine CM Leung
  Dr Edmond HN Pow
  Dr Yan Luo

Caring for the underserved: Groups receiving special attention from the Faculty of Dentistry’s Public Health and Healthy Ageing Research Group include the homeless and the elderly.
The University of Hong Kong last year honoured Prof Esmonde Corbet (Professor in Periodontology), Dr John Dyson (Associate Professor in Oral Rehabilitation), Prof Nigel King (Professor in Paediatric Dentistry), Prof Brian Darvell (Professor in Dental Materials Science), and Mr Wayne Robinson (Instructor in Dental Technology) [pictured above, left to right] for each having served the University for 25 years. They were presented with Long Service Awards from HKU Vice-Chancellor Prof Lap-Chee Tsui at a special awards ceremony on 28 April 2006, and the Faculty also acknowledged their invaluable contribution at the 2006 Graduation and Prize Presentation Ceremony on 5 December 2006.

Writing in the Faculty newsletter Expressions, the Dean, Prof Lakshman Samaranayake, said, “The Faculty deeply appreciates the hard work and unfailing loyalty of these outstanding individuals. They have been, and are, a key reason for the Faculty’s continued success.”

The following four honorary members of staff were also recognised recently for their loyal service to the Faculty: Mr Yung-yi Cheng (Honorary Research Associate), Drs Peter Wat and William Yung (Honorary Clinical Associate Professors), and Dr Joseph Chan (Honorary Clinical Lecturer).

Following are some reflections from several of the Faculty’s longest-serving members.
**Plus Ça Change...**

The more things change, the more they stay the same, as the saying goes. In my humble and befuddled opinion as one of the ‘surviving originals’, Faculty colleagues who have been here for the long haul have not changed much. Rather, they have become even more like themselves than they ever were, if that makes sense. And colleagues who joined the Faculty after having studied here seem to me to be the same as teachers as they were as students.

The Prince Philip Dental Hospital building has changed only superficially over the past quarter of a century, and then after a revamp of the sixth and seventh floors, these subsequently reverted to something nearer their original state. The Faculty staff’s collective distance from the main University campus remains an inevitable constant.

However, having interviewed and selected late applicants for the first batch of HKU dental students admitted, having been a Principal Clinical Tutor in charge of the Personal Tutor and Continuous Assessment systems, having been an Admissions Tutor over a difficult time in student recruitment for long university courses, having been an Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, and having served as a Personal Tutor to at least eight student groups to date, I have been able to observe closely each successive student intake. And I have noticed how the undergraduate student body has evolved over the years.

In fact, in our sea of constancy, really the only thing that has changed over the years is the student body, and that is because the world and Hong Kong, the centre of the world as we view it, have changed and, I suppose, will continue to do so. Obvious differences are shortened attention spans and the increased need for tech-savviness.

At this Faculty, students and teachers now share the responsibility for student learning, and teaching methods and technology have evolved. Nevertheless, when we assess and discuss students and their progress, some comments still sound strikingly familiar each year.

Nowadays, when listening to staff—particularly those who were students here themselves—discuss the Faculty’s students, I am reminded of the following lyrics by Lee Adams from the song *Kids*, from the 1960 musical *Bye Bye Birdie*: “Kids! You can talk and talk till your face is blue...But they still just do what they want to do! Why can’t they be like we were, perfect in every way?”

**First-day Jitters**

The idea of travelling half way around the world to set down new roots and take up an appointment in a university dental school that was still under construction was a true adventure, and one that was to produce many memorable incidents, some of which have been consigned to the depths of memory, and others that are worthy of retelling.

The initial group of appointees were assigned to ‘Departments’: basically two desks, a bookcase, and a nameplate in a large communal room above the old Medical Library at Sassoon Road. Inter-departmental communications were excellent, because we could clearly hear each other’s conversations! Telephone calls were also easily audible, especially when staff were trying to locate their shipments of household goods,
some of which had been accidentally diverted to the Costa Brava for long periods of time.

However, one of the most memorable things was the true sense of camaraderie that pervaded that early group. We all helped each other and exchanged information on how to get things done, how to find things, and even where to eat. Everyone was in the same boat, and the excitement of exploring such a fascinating city was experienced by us all.

The very first day of the first term for ‘Dental Studies’ was memorable but a bit shaky for the multinational staff. It was a tram party! The event proved to be a great way for us all to let our hair down and get acquainted, while trundling around Hong Kong Island. Certain people even felt the urge to exit from the top deck of the tram, finding themselves stranded on the rooftop of the tram stop.

The birth of the Faculty of Dentistry was like any birth: anticipatory, exciting, and traumatic. After 25 years of contributions from staff, both full- and part-time, short- and long-term, the Faculty has matured into a world-renowned dental school. The forefathers of our Faculty, who had the vision to create it, and our colleagues, past and present, who have helped nurture it, should all be proud to have played a part in shaping this unique institution of ours.

Although the present celebration is the 25th anniversary of the Faculty, it is actually the 27th anniversary of the introduction of dental education in Hong Kong. The early days before the founding of the Faculty were certainly exciting, with everyone working with obvious vigour to build a new dental academic structure. We were a curious mixture of personnel—from extremely senior and experienced, through all shades, down to the brightest of green.

The open-plan office in Sassoon Road that the majority of the troops occupied for the first 6 months or so was a great way to start—instant contact, immediate sociability, and a total lack of privacy! The opposite happened when we moved to the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, and it was easy not to see colleagues for days on end. In addition, despite the plethora of pantries, there was nowhere to sit to sup, and the timetable seemingly barely acknowledged the existence of lunchtime. Thankfully, that situation has changed, and now we even have a bar on Friday nights.

The Faculty has had its fair share of excitement in various ways—some very public, some less so. There has also been considerable variation in the extent to which selfless dedication to the advancement of dentistry and the Faculty has been demonstrated. But it is easy to be critical when a style of doing business varies from one’s own, and the recognition of clay feet should be a cause for tolerance rather than depreciation.

When I first arrived in Hong Kong, I imagined dealing with the culture shock, heat, and humidity for only about 3 years. But each year seemed to fly by, and the decision whether to stay kept getting put off. Then, after 7 years, I was too busy and productive and was enjoying teaching too much to think about moving. Besides, the annual leave period was long enough to regain sanity and re-establish equilibrium after the mania of the exams each June and July.

Overall, I have enjoyed the opportunities afforded me in pursuing my teaching and research. I do not subscribe to the ‘greener grass’ movement just because of teething problems and a few setbacks; it is the same the whole world over! The Faculty can always do better; that is the way things are. With a will on all sides, it shall do just that.
Just Deserts

It seems hard to believe that it is now more than 27 years since I first arrived in Hong Kong as part of an influx of dental academics from around the world, all recruited to work on a new project to establish the first undergraduate dental programme in Hong Kong.

When our group arrived, in the summer of 1980, the Prince Philip Dental Hospital was still under construction, so we were all accommodated in an open-plan office in Sassoon Road. Staff were allocated groups of tables corresponding to the former clinical Dental Departments and Units. As we were all newcomers sharing the same space, an excellent team spirit quickly developed and we were able to collaborate closely to develop the new BDS curriculum, which was implemented from autumn that year.

We began to move into the partly completed Prince Philip Dental Hospital in the spring of 1981. Although our time at Sassoon Road had been relatively brief, that period remains clear in my memory as being particularly special and enjoyable, albeit hard-working to finish the curriculum in time. That hard work was well worth it, however. In 1984—two years after we had become established as an independent Faculty—we were visited by the UK General Dental Council, who, to our delight, subsequently announced that our BDS degree met the standards for automatic registration in the UK.

The curriculum at the time was regarded as being very innovative: it had a high level of cross-disciplinary integration, emphasis was placed on providing patients with comprehensive dental care, and teaching/learning occurred mostly in small groups. These same principles were again applied in the design of our new problem-based learning curriculum. I feel privileged to have had the chance to be involved in the development of our world-class programme, which in turn has created generations of well-rounded, home-grown dentists.

Working and living in Hong Kong has been, and still is, a tremendously exciting and rewarding experience, and I am very glad to have made the move out here. It has been extremely gratifying over the years to see the Faculty go from strength to strength, reaping awards and international acclaim, as well as to witness the many achievements that our graduates have made in the profession.

Perpetual Studies

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry has a key role to play in the continuing education and professional development of the local dental community. By being a perpetual student in the past 25 years, I have been able to keep my dental knowledge in sync with the advancements and developments of modern technology. My sincere thanks to the Faculty and the Prince Philip Dental Hospital for fulfilling an important function for practising dental professionals—and also for giving me the opportunity, in turn, to share my knowledge and skills in implant prosthodontics with the Faculty’s postgraduate dental students. The process of teaching and seeing students put into practice what they have learnt is actually a valuable part of my own continuing professional education.

My hearty congratulations and best wishes to the HKU Faculty of Dentistry for a successful Silver Jubilee Celebration!
The Faculty has so far produced more than 1175 BDS graduates, 330 taught postgraduates, and 80 research postgraduates. As expected, the vast majority of BDS graduates remain in Hong Kong. They are in fact among the University’s most highly paid graduates and their employment rate is consistently virtually 100%. In 2005, some 26% of graduates sought work experience at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, 46% worked in a private, solo, or shared practice, 26% joined a commercial organisation, and the remainder joined a non-profit agency.

Faculty alumni are supported by the HKU Dental Alumni Association (HKUDAA), which maintains strong bonds among alumni and between alumni and the Faculty. The HKUDAA holds regular social and continuing education events, and supports current students by way of career talks, a mentorship scheme, and student prize sponsorship.

At the establishment of the Faculty, nearly 90% of the 46 full-time staff came from overseas. But a quarter of a century later, about 40% of the Faculty’s 35 full-time academic staff are from overseas, with the rest coming from Hong Kong, mostly Faculty alumni. More than two-thirds of today’s approximately 160 part-time and honorary teaching staff are Faculty alumni.

Below, six alumni share their memories of their student days at the Faculty.

**Inspirational Teaching**

Dr Siu-fai Leung (BDS 1986) is an endodontist in private practice and is the current President of the HKUDAA.

There are good teachers and there are great teachers. I remember primary school teachers who stood tall and cast big shadows over me. Yet, these giant images faded as I grew up and matured. By the time I entered the Faculty of Dentistry, my perception of teachers was that of technical forerunners who would pass on their wisdom, expertise, and useful tricks of the trade. I was also fortunate enough to have encountered a few full-time as well as part-time teachers at the Faculty who were especially inspirational and enlightening, and who helped shape my career.
Interestingly, none of the teachers in those days were in the trade in which I practise today. Although skills and techniques evolve with the wheel of progress, the right professional attitude remains a constant, and this is exactly what this Faculty provided me with. The Faculty has come a long way since its inception, when it was a newly set up local dental school that offered only an undergraduate programme. The students and staff collaborated diligently to implement a new style of curriculum, which became known as the Diagonal Integrated Curriculum, and constructive feedback and interactions were contributing elements to its successful execution. The admissions committee also had the foresight to admit a substantial number of degree holders in its inaugural year to establish a more mature student body.

On top of our regular classes, there were also more relaxed opportunities for learning, such as Friday evening sessions in the senior staff common room, picnics in the New Territories, and even sunbathing with our moral tutor at Repulse Bay.

These, together with the Christmas parties, student-staff football matches at Sandy Bay, and performances at the Dental Festivals, all form the rich tapestry of my student memories. During its first 25 years, the Faculty has gone from strength to strength. It is now an internationally renowned institute for both undergraduate and postgraduate education, as well as a centre of dental excellence in the Asia-Pacific region.

Even after the return of sovereignty of Hong Kong to China, the cosmopolitan nature of the teaching faculty and its students has been sustained. The Faculty has also taken big steps forward by strengthening ties to major mainland dental schools. At the same time, the international standard has been maintained and cross-checked by well-regarded independent examiners. I hope all of our alumni over the years feel as lucky as I have felt, and that the teachers they encountered will be remembered not only in their minds, but also in their hearts. On behalf of all Faculty alumni and the HKUDAA, I wish the Faculty another 25 years of excellence!
I can remember the usual scene in my student days, with dental students walking around the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, each carrying a big box. That was our own box of instruments, weighing a few kilogrammes, for use in patient treatment. I had to bring it to different clinics every day, depending on where the patients were. It was good exercise for my arm muscles, but not so for my poor back.

On the day when our final examination results were released, our teachers kindly invited us to the seventh-floor Senior Common Room for drinks to celebrate our success. We had a good evening and chatted freely with a glass in hand. I will always remember that evening, as I felt it was the first time that there were no more barriers between staff and students. Congratulations to our Faculty, and especially to Class of 1985!

Endodontic Vision

In my student years in the first cohort of dental undergraduates, I have stayed the longest among all members in my discipline since the inception of the Faculty. And having been attached to the then Department of Conservative Dentistry since my graduation from the BDS and then MDS degree, I have witnessed many changes and seen many events, new faces, and visitors of the department (now Area).

In the late 1990s, the former Conservative Dentistry Department went through a ‘great break-up’ into the disciplines of Conservative Dentistry (or, more accurately, Operative Dentistry and Endodontics) and Oral Diagnosis. Recently, it experienced the ‘great reunion’ to become the Area of Family Dentistry and Endodontics. The new Area also acquired the Oral Radiology Unit under its administrative arm.

Over the past quarter of a century, a number of staff members in the Area have decided to leave or retire. Sadly, our founding Head of Department, Emeritus Prof Ted Renson—my mentor and supervisor during my time as an MDS student in the department and during my initial years as a dental educator—has passed away. I have experienced times with a ‘powerful’ department head (Prof Ted Renson), without a department head, and with myself acting in that position. Willingly giving up the custody of the Conservative Dentistry Clinic to facilitate the setting up of the 3A Polyclinic for the problem-based learning curriculum, I owe the ancillary staff a big Thank You for their loyalty and hard work. I can only hope that some measures will be implemented to alleviate their heavy workload, as they are probably the most heavily utilised clinical resource of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital.

In 1990, I went to London for my training in Endodontics, mainly because of the global trend then of not recognising Operative Dentistry as a specialty. This has made me one of the few who have gained two Master’s degrees in clinical dentistry. On my return to Hong Kong, I vowed to invest time into developing the specialty and subsequently founded the Hong Kong Endodontic Society and set up the postgraduate programmes in Endodontics at HKU. I am very proud to be a member of the first cohort of graduates from the Faculty of Dentistry, and I hope the Faculty and the specialty of Endodontics continue to grow and mature in this vibrant city.
Deep Impressions

Time flies! As a member of the first batch of local dental graduates, I have now practised dentistry for more than two decades. At a recent alumni anniversary reunion, my classmates indeed appeared senior, not only in their professional capacity, but also by their refractive silvery hairs and the warm and sizeable families that accompanied them.

A picture that flashes through my mind periodically is Lecture Theatre I of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital, which became a second home for the Class of 1985. We seemed to live there, at our inauguration ceremony, at lectures—whether enlightening or sleep-inducing—and through to our graduation presentation. This grand five-star lecturing facility astonished most of us as students, and it really was the place of metamorphosis for HKU dental graduates.

I remember that during my university life, visits from international lecturers created a distinct environment for me to develop global views and be inspired to pursue postgraduate training. The Faculty’s own lecturers and professors, too, were enthusiastic and approachable, and helped to lay a sound clinical foundation for the first 20 years of my professional career in the public sector. During that time, I have been privileged to witness the evolution of the public medical health care system from within the Medical and Health Department and the Hospital Authority. Moreover, I have had the dual honour of being appointed as Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon and Chief of Service under the Hospital Authority in 1996. That achievement marked a milestone both for me personally and for the professional recognition of HKU dental graduates.

I would like to close by saying that after many visits to many different places, I have witnessed the clear and undisputed growth in the Faculty’s international reputation. Long may that last!

The Pursuit of Quality

The celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry gives me the opportunity to express my warmest congratulations for the Faculty’s stunning achievements. The dental profession has been tested by a severe economic downturn in the past few years, in particular during the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome.

But the pursuit of quality service and continuous development has helped the sector emerge from those dark days stronger than ever.
Looking back at the good old school days, I cannot but admire the invaluable guidance and enlightenment given by the professors and lecturers of the Faculty. I am so proud of being an alumnus of the Faculty. Thanks to the intensive and all-round training during my years of study, I have acquired various skills in treating oral diseases and dental problems.

The first preclinical year at the Sassoon Road campus and the following years of study at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital were hard but fruitful. Throughout that time, we laid down a solid foundation for ourselves to strive for service excellence. What is more, all the practical techniques that we acquired during the learning process have equipped us well to be competent dentists, capable of addressing different challenges after graduation.

Dental students are now educated under a problem-based learning approach, which places much emphasis on nurturing students’ strategic thinking and initiative in problem solving through independent and team research. I have every confidence that our new blood can also exhibit resilience and continue our role as exemplary citizens and health care professionals in the community.

The pursuit of quality dental service is a never-ending journey. Being highly responsible and ethical are two basic core values that help in the attainment of higher levels of achievement, and the Faculty is instrumental in instilling these values.

I would like to once again express my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the Faculty. The sustained growth of the local dental profession would not have been possible without its magnificent support.
New Beginnings

My Day Zero at the Faculty of Dentistry started at 09:30 on a summer’s day in 1980. The place was the Patrick Manson Building of the Faculty of Medicine of The University of Hong Kong at Sassoon Road. I was about to attend an interview for admission as a dental student to HKU. On the other side of the interrogation bench were Prof Ted Renson (then Admissions Tutor), Prof Alan Brook, Dr (and later Prof) PC Wu, and Ms Meriel Spooner (then ‘Faculty’ Secretary). Somehow, I managed to bluff my way through the interview and ended up, together with 75 others, as a member of the first ever intake of BDS students.

Before long, and before I even noticed it, my first year of study had started. Dental Studies, as it was known then, started as part of the HKU Faculty of Medicine. I happened to be the only Student Representative of Dental Studies, and attended the Faculty Board meetings of the Faculty of Medicine, thereby witnessing the birth of the Faculty of Dentistry. One and a half years later, the Faculty of Dentistry declared its independence and claimed its sovereignty. This was indeed an interesting beginning that has often been overlooked, and I am happy that the occasion is being celebrated with flying colours this Silver Jubilee year.

Life as a Student

While the Hong Kong University Student Union (HKUSU) Dental Society was nothing more than a concept in the early 1980s, the HKUSU Medical Society had already been up and running for decades. Nevertheless, there were ample opportunities for dental students to mingle with medical counterparts. I remember always bumping into several medical student ‘activists’—among them, a former Hospital Authority Chief Executive, a Legislative Council Member, a Hospital Chief Executive, and a Cardiology Consultant—at all sorts of student functions. How those individuals managed their time at HKU was a mystery to me, and still is, even up to today.

Life for the dental student was, I dare say, actually rather cozy back then. I think the first few batches of BDS students must have been looked upon with curiosity in a way not dissimilar to how the pandas in Ocean Park are viewed. Still, a noteworthy and very effective feature of the course was the didactic teaching in small groups of six to eight students.

Most of our teachers were enthusiastic UK expatriates, still recovering from jet lag and culture shock—especially when faced with the wide variety of Chinese cuisine here, in contrast to their previous encounters, probably limited to take-away chop suey. Admittedly, our teachers were quite young. The very green Dr Roger Green was in his mid-20s. Even the heavily bearded Prof Esmonde Corbet was younger than 30. The student-to-teacher ratio was the highest ever in the history of the University.

Memorable Meetings

It is amazing that 25 years have flown by since the Faculty’s establishment, and 26 years since the opening of the dental hospital. In the tradition of naming hospitals in Hong Kong after members of the ruling British Royal Family, the dental hospital was named after and opened by HRH Prince Philip. All students were issued with an all-white uniform on that occasion. After meeting HRH Prince Philip in person, I suppose I can now criticise the performance of James Cromwell in the film The Queen.

I recently had a chance to meet fresh BDS graduates from Class of 2007. The group remarked on the age-old inevitability that unlike students in other faculties, we all grew up in isolation in an island of student life at the hospital, and had to make a special effort to do things at campus. Like all new graduates, Class of 2007 were raring to join the real world. No doubt when we all meet up again in another 25 years’ time, that cohort will have learned a great deal through real-world problem-based learning.
Student Reflections

At any one time, there are about 250 BDS students taking their studies at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, in addition to more than 150 postgraduates from 15 different countries—all learning how to prepare themselves to make a difference in people’s lives in Hong Kong and beyond.

The Faculty offers widely recognised dental qualifications through world-class courses that are student-centred, are taught in English, and use modern techniques and state-of-the-art facilities. That explains why our courses are consistently oversubscribed and how we can hand-pick the best candidates. In return, we offer students the highest quality dental education, delivered by an internationally renowned Faculty from more than a dozen countries and supported by committed teams of ancillary staff.

Our courses are in great demand throughout the world and are periodically further refined through international benchmarking and assessment under very rigorous standards. Our diverse mix of students and Faculty and the ongoing HKU mission of internationalisation reflect the cosmopolitan ethos of Hong Kong and encourage cross-cultural, whole-student learning.

Ultimately, as expressed by former Government Chief Secretary Mrs Anson Chan at our 2006 Faculty graduation ceremony, students of our dental faculty are very fortunate to enjoy ideal studying environments in Hong Kong, putting them in the unique position of being able to actively participate in community service and to help the needy when they graduate.

On behalf of all BDS students, I would like to congratulate our Faculty on its Silver Jubilee. As a direct result of all the endeavours of our Faculty staff and students, the Faculty of Dentistry has turned into a world-renowned school in the field of dentistry, in terms of both education and research.

We all feel very honoured to be students at the Faculty, and are very mindful of our privileged position, not only as students in a world-class university and all the enriching experiences we enjoy, but also regarding the future, when we graduate and become real dentists in the real world.

Sharon WY Chung
is a first-year BDS student and is the Chairperson of the HKU Student Union’s Dental Society.
Being a dentist has been my dream since I was small. I remember when I made my first visit to my dentist for the removal of my milk teeth; I was especially intrigued by the instruments that the dentist used. They were such small objects, yet, they could be used to extract and clean my teeth. Later, during my teenage years, I received orthodontic treatment and, once again, I was amazed by the manual skills of my dentist. Another lasting memory is that my dentist’s care soothed my fear during each visit.

Since then, I have come to believe that dentistry is an occupation that is full of fun and challenges and would be suitable for me as a life-long career. I also want to offer oral health and dental services and care to my patients in the future, in a way to let them know that visiting a dentist does not have to feel like a nightmare.

Fortunately for me, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry is providing me with an opportunity to engage in the profession I have chosen. The facilities at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital are advanced and high-tech. In particular, we students can practise four-handed dentistry, which is not very common in other dental schools around the world.

The Faculty of Dentistry adopts problem-based learning as the basis of the undergraduate student curriculum. Problem-based learning is an entirely new learning system for me, and for many others, and it is totally different from the spoon-fed education we traditionally receive at school. Students can plan how to spend their study time, and never rely on only one source for study. Through searching by ourselves, our learning resources become diverse in content, approach, and media. We can gain different and unique viewpoints on the same issue; yet, by sharing our ideas we can all develop our teamwork skills. Our critical skills are also improving, as we need to filter information as we read and analyse the different materials.

I truly believe I am receiving an all-round education and my dream is coming true. After 5 years at the Faculty, I will be trained to be a dentist with confident manual skills and strong ethical values to deliver bright, happy smiles.

Asia’s World Dental School

I realised during my undergraduate years at the Faculty that I wanted to become an orthodontist. As a home student, applying for the MOrth course seemed the only choice for me.

But my applications were declined twice before I got my offer in 2004. As a relatively fresh graduate in dentistry, I had no idea why it was so competitive to get onto the course. Now I am well into my training, I understand why it is so competitive, and I feel very lucky and proud to receive my postgraduate training in this Faculty.

Firstly, the MOrth programme is well organised and structured, and has a very good reputation in the dental community. The Professors and all the teaching staff are dedicated to high-quality research and education. In a never-ending pursuit for higher standards, our Professors keep bringing innovative ideas to improve the standard of the course and deliver the greatest benefits to students and, in turn, patients.

Moreover, the teaching not only focuses on orthodontic subjects, but, to generate competent clinicians, it also integrates a multidisciplinary approach in treatment planning. As a consequence, I have learned to look at issues from multiple viewpoints and to improve patients’ well-being in a holistic way.

The guided research project has been another memorable experience. And after attending several international conferences, I now

"By sharing our ideas we can all develop our teamwork skills"

Dr Vicky WK Tsui (BDS 2001) is a third-year MOrth student at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry.

“The MOrth course goes beyond teeth and braces”
understand that the Faculty is regarded highly overseas and the quality of its research is also very high.

The MOrth course goes beyond teeth and braces. The multinational backgrounds of the teachers and students have broadened my vision and opened up my circle of friends. This has been a precious experience, and I treasure the friendships that I have built in the seventh-floor Postgraduate Habitat. I have gained a lot more than I ever expected from my postgraduate course. The Faculty nurtures taught postgraduate students by providing professional education and skills training, as well as opportunities for personal growth.

The Faculty is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. This milestone will be an occasion to both count our blessings and look forward to a brilliant future.

I wish to thank all the Professors, teachers, and auxiliary staff for making the Faculty what it is today and I wish the Faculty much success for the future.

---

**Total Experience**

I found out about the postgraduate orthodontics programme of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry through a friend, while I was finishing my DDS degree at Trisakti University, Indonesia. After 2 years of work experience, I decided to apply for the MOrth course because it offers an excellent programme entailing both clinical and research work in the field of orthodontics.

Working for the degree has come with a price, though: there are many clinical sessions, with a total of about 140 patients, all eager to be treated, as well as months of hard work in the laboratories, waiting for experiment results until late at night. But, I know, ‘no pain, no gain’, and I have indeed gained a lot, not only in academic terms but also in friends from all corners of the globe and many memorable experiences. I am also making great networks for my future career.

In the blink of an eye, 3 years have already passed! My time here has been one of the most wonderful times in my life, and I wish the Faculty a Happy 25th Birthday.

---

**Love at First Bite**

When I finished my BDS in Bangalore, India, I contemplated setting up my practice there but was advised by one of my teachers to pursue postgraduate studies in Hong Kong. I heeded his advice, my application to read for the MDS was accepted, and I became a part of this reputed University.

The MDS in Paediatric Dentistry inherently demanded a great degree of initiative and self-direction. It helped me to learn about the latest proven concepts, methods, and practices. Professors and supervisors provided continued guidance and feedback.

Studying here was so exciting and satisfying, that I stayed on to do my Advanced Diploma in Paediatric Dentistry, and now, despite being offered a position in an equally acclaimed university abroad to do my PhD, I have decided to stay and pursue my PhD at the Faculty, which says it all. Thank you, HKU!
It has been 10 years since I first visited this dental faculty and hospital, and first made my decision to move back to Hong Kong.

I was born in Hong Kong but went to New Zealand in 1992 to finish my secondary schooling and then attend university. In 1997, the year of the handover, I returned to Hong Kong by taking part in a 1-week dental student visiting programme held jointly by The University of Otago and The University of Hong Kong. It was the penultimate (fourth) year of my BDS degree at The University of Otago, and, out of curiosity, I wanted to visit my home city’s only dental school.

I was so impressed with what I saw, with the Faculty staff I met, and with the friends I quickly made, that from then on, my dream was to pursue my postgraduate dental studies in Hong Kong.

I returned to New Zealand and finished my BDS degree in 1998. The visit to the HKU Faculty of Dentistry had left a deep impression, and I vowed to return after I had gained some work experience. Three years later, after working in a private practice and then at a medical and dental centre in South Auckland, I was ready for the move. By then, I had also decided to specialise in Dental Public Health.

In 2002, I returned to Hong Kong to pursue a Master’s degree in Dental Surgery, specialising in Dental Public Health.

I was immediately surprised by the warm welcome, high standard of teaching, and support given by all the staff and colleagues during my studies. In particular, I received excellent guidance from Prof Edward Lo, Dr Colman McGrath, and Dr May Wong. I liked the place and people so much that I stayed on after my Master’s degree to read for a PhD.

During the 5 years that I have been around at the Faculty, there has been an immense improvement in terms of facilities for research students. For example, the seventh-floor Postgraduate Habitat is a great place where postgraduate students can relax and take some time out. The laboratories are well organised and now offer 24-hour access.

The office that I am working in was once a small laboratory that fit only two to three research students. But after a recent renovation, around 13 to 14 students now occupy this laboratory. Indeed, the population of research postgraduates enrolled with the Faculty has steadily grown over the past 5 years, making the place intellectually stimulating and conducive to lively discussion and mutual support. I have also noticed that research collaborations between mainland China and the Faculty have intensified, and there are more mainland research students here than 5 years ago, which gives me useful Putonghua practice.

I am glad I made the move back to Hong Kong. Even in the past 5 years, the Faculty has taken increasingly good care of its research students. I have no doubt that the Faculty is not only the best dental school in Asia, but also is striding forwards to the very pinnacle of dentistry in all aspects.
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry would like to express its deep appreciation to all its donors and supporters. The generosity of alumni, faculty, students, parents, friends, as well as companies and societies, helps ensure that the Faculty continues providing dental excellence.

The Faculty is grateful for the donations it receives and the generosity of those who share in the Faculty’s missions of serving the people of Hong Kong and the region by advancing their oral health and well-being through excellence in learning, discovery, patient care, and engagement. Individual and corporate donations are an important source of income that is needed to maintain and advance our world-class standard of education, research, and delivery of oral health care.

Sound Support

Events initiated by Prof Tak-wah Chow and Dr Frederick Chu, the Associate and Assistant Deans for External Relations, respectively, have energised fund-raising efforts and strengthened community relations, as mentioned in the ‘Sustaining Excellence’ chapter of this book. High-profile events include Faculty concerts—two during the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee year—organised with the help of Global Cultural Services Co Ltd, and sponsored by Tom Lee Music, Sino Group, Shun Hing Group, and Young Chi Wan Foundation. These concerts have proven effective in both fund- and friend-raising, while letting the Faculty give something back to the community by bringing smiles to the audience through music.

Be Inspired

We continually seek funds to support the modernisation of our facilities, enhance teaching and clinical services, and sustain our research tradition. We hope you will use this Silver Jubilee year as an opportunity to consider making a regular gift and playing a part in shaping our next 25 years (please see <www.hku.hk/giving>).

In the following pages, we are proud to pay tribute to those individuals, corporations, and groups who have already chosen to help the HKU Faculty of Dentistry maintain its culture of dental excellence. Through their investments in the future of Hong Kong’s sole dental school, the Faculty will be able to continue to nurture future generations of dental clinicians, educators, and researchers.
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry whole-heartedly thanks:

**Platinum Donors**

Mr Lawrence SP Fung & Mrs Alexandra LSW Fung  
for establishing the HKU Azalea (1972) Endowment Fund;  
HK$3.7 million of first-year dividends earmarked for the Faculty  

Sir Run Run Shaw  
for his generous donation of HK$2 million to the Faculty  

**Gold Donors**  
(HK$50,000 and above)  
Anonymous  
AO Research Commission  
Borrow Foundation  
Dentsply Asia  
Hong Kong Baptist Hospital  
McNEIL-PPC, Inc  
Nobel Biocare Asia Ltd  
Noble Honour Consultants Ltd  
Shiu Sang Property Limited  
Shun Hing Group  
Sino Group  
Synthes (Hong Kong) Limited  
SK Yee Medical Foundation  
Tom Lee Music  
Unilever Research Port Sunlight  
Yao Yiu Sai Education and  
Charitable Memorial Fund  
Young Chi Wan Foundation  
Zambon (HK) Limited  

Dr Patrick Leung-sam Chee  
Mr KP Cheung  
Dr Peter CK Chung  
Dr the Hon Sir Michael Kadoorie  
Dr Vincent Fun-shing Leung  
Dr Nam-chu Shum  
Dr Anthony Chi-keung So  
Ms Mo-han Tsoi  
Mr Cham-to Tsui  
Dr Peter Young-pak Wat  
Dr William Ching-wah Yung  

**Silver Donors**  
(below HK$50,000)  
Anonymous  
Biotech Dental Ltd  
Bisco Inc  
Cinotech Consultants Ltd  
Colgate-Palmolive (HK) Ltd  
DenX Limited  
Gillette Hong Kong Limited  
Healthcare Dental Ltd  
Kudos International Holdings Ltd  
Mathys (Hong Kong) Ltd  
Procter & Gamble (HK) Ltd  
3M Hong Kong Limited  
University of Hong Kong Dental  
Alumni Association  

Mr S Akita  
Dr Robert Chi-min Bong  
Dr Hon-fai Chan  
Mr Raymond Wai-kit Chan  
Dr Shu-yu Chan  
Dr Susan Chan  
Dr Anne Chee  
Miss Caroline Chee  
Prof Kai-ming Cheng  
Mr Kwong-sang Cheng  
Professor LK Cheung  
Mr Chung-kwong Chiu  
Mr Tai-chuen Foo  
Dr Peter William Garland  
Miss Susie Shuk-yeo Ho  
Ms Kam-to Kan  

Mr Godwin Chi-shing Kiu  
Mr Kam-to Kwan  
Mr Ming-wa Lam  
Dr Henry Chun-tao Law  
Dr Aaron Kwok-lun Lee  
Dr Raymond Kin-man Lee  
Dr Siu-fai Leung  
Dr Wai-keung Leung  
Mr Wun-kan Leung  
Dr Haston Wai-ming Liu  
Dr Edward Lo  
Dr Johnny Kam-chuen Ma  
Dr Chi-hong Ng  
Mrs Rachel Poon  
Prof Michael Scott Rogers  
Prof LP Samaranayake  
Dr Yuthika H Samaranayake  
Dr Peter Wai-woon So  
Mr Henry Hung-hung Soong  
Prof Grace WK Tang  
Dr Jeffrey Yick-sang Tsang  
Dr Michael Tsang  
Prof Stephen HY Wei  
Dr Fai Wong  
Dr Yvette Jasmine Chak-yam Yeung  
Mr Ewan Yim  

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this page. We apologise for any errors or omissions.
In 2006, Mr. Lawrence SP Fung and Mrs. Alexandra LSW Fung donated shares of Hong Kong Economic Times Holdings Ltd to HKU to establish the Azalea (1972) Endowment Fund, which yielded HK$4.7 million in dividends in 2006-2007. The first project to be supported will be the HKU Faculty of Dentistry's Implant Dentistry and Research Centre.

Mr & Mrs Lawrence SP Fung

We are grateful to have had the opportunity to give something back to our alma mater through our donation. It is very meaningful to have been able to do more for our University in this way. We are only following what other alumni at the University have done, and we can all make such a gesture to give something back to whichever university or school we belonged to.

We wish the HKU Faculty of Dentistry a Happy Silver Jubilee! We believe the University and the Faculty will scale even more new heights in the years ahead. We will make it an important point to keep our dental hygiene in a good state in the coming years, and may also consider tooth implants if needed, so that we can enjoy chewing the birthday cake 25 years later.

Dr Vincent FS Leung

For me, Orthodontics is a wonderful profession that I have practised for more than 25 years. I wanted to give back to the profession and to society, and I hope others will do likewise to support the education of dentists in Hong Kong.

The year of the Faculty’s establishment, 1982, was when I returned to Hong Kong after my orthodontic training in the United States. At that time, there were fewer than 500 dentists in Hong Kong and the newly opened Prince Philip Dental Hospital had just started to take in students. Since then, the Faculty has grown by leaps and bounds, its dental education and training have become world-renowned, and the number of dentists has nearly quadrupled. I salute the Faculty for 25 years of excellence in dental education!
Dr & Mrs Patrick LS Chee and Mr Philip Yao

We are happy to have the opportunity to support the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and its many worthwhile activities through our donations.

Our understanding is that dental hygiene is essential to keep oneself in a healthy state overall. The HKU Faculty of Dentistry strives to educate and train dental surgeons to serve our community and, in so doing, is helping to improve the health of Hong Kong. We really appreciate your hard work but are also mindful of your hardship, and we will continue to proudly support your Faculty.

We wish you all a very successful year in 2007 and hope you have many more to come. Happy Silver Jubilee!

Dr Anthony CK So

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry offered me opportunities to broaden my mind and knowledge, and the experience has proven to be invaluable in my dental career. Why is it important that Faculty alumni and others support and contribute to the Faculty? So it can continue to offer an exceptional learning environment in the future. Congratulations to the Faculty on its 25th anniversary!
Honouring the Past

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry would like to take this opportunity to remember certain individuals who helped the Faculty grow into today’s renowned institution. It is by reflecting on our past that we can nurture our legacy and reflect on the future.

The Faculty and Prince Philip Dental Hospital are indebted to the contributions made by former members, students, and staff who each in his or her way played a part in the Faculty’s history and development. The following names are those known to current Faculty who have passed away, and whom we would like to honour in this book. The lists are not exhaustive and we apologise for any errors or omissions.

Faculty Staff

- Dr H Birn
- Prof Ronald William Fearnhead
- Prof Odd Preben Lind
- Dr JJ Iain McKenna
- Dr Duncan R McMillan
- Dr T Michael Moles
- Dr Michael Dominic Murray
- Dr Larry E Quackenbush
- Prof Cecil Edward Renson
- Dr Frank H White
- Dr Peter K Yen

Students/Technicians

- Dr Harris Kam-fai Chen, BDS (1991), MDS (Ortho)
- Mr Man-tung Lee (Technician, former Oral Biology Unit)
- Dr Yu-tak Lee, BDS (1985)
- Dr Sany Yu Ngai, PDipDS (Paediatric Dent)
- Dr Chung-shun Wong, BDS (1989)

Prince Philip Dental Hospital Staff

- Mr Peter J Finlay (Former Comptroller)
- Ms Cho-kiu Tang (Dental Surgery Assistant)
- Ms Shuk-fong Yuen (Dental Surgery Assistant)

The lives of three former Faculty members who passed away recently—Prof Odd Preben Lind, Prof Cecil Edward Renson, and Dr T Michael Moles—are celebrated on the next page.
Prof Odd Preben Lind

Known as Preben Lind in Hong Kong and Odd Lind in Denmark, his native country, Odd Preben Lind, DDS (R Dent Coll, Copenhagen), JD (Copenhagen), MPH (Calif), joined the HKU Faculty of Dentistry as Reader in Dental Public Health in 1982 and was promoted to Professor in 1986. Before coming to Hong Kong, he had worked in the Danish Public Health Service and had been a senior academic in Public Health Dentistry in Denmark. While at the Faculty, Prof Lind established undergraduate teaching in dental public health, basing it on active participation through the planning, conduct, and reporting of community health projects. This model for dental public health teaching is still used at the University and has been emulated in many countries. Prof Lind also helped to design and deliver the Master’s programme in Dental Public Health and instituted student Community Health Projects, which have provided much information on the oral health scene in Hong Kong and the region. He moved to Malaysia in 1988 and retired in Spain, where he passed away in late 2005. Odd Preben Lind influenced greatly his students and colleagues, and worked tirelessly for better oral health for all the communities in which he served.

Prof Cecil Edward Renson

Prof Cecil Edward Renson, BDS, PhD, DDPH, LDS RCS, FICD, FRSMed (Conservative Dentistry), was Chair in Conservative Dentistry at HKU, one of the founding professors of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, and its first Emeritus Professor. He also helped establish the Prince Philip Dental Hospital. Before coming to Hong Kong, Prof Renson was Reader in Conservative Dentistry at the University of London, where he had graduated in 1957 and attained a PhD in 1970 in the mechanical properties of dentine. Known as Ted to his colleagues, Prof Renson was a helpful, sympathetic, and knowledgeable teacher who made an enormous contribution to the dental profession, both in Hong Kong and worldwide. He retired to Spain in 1987 and passed away in mid 2005. His readiness to help and friendly guidance will sadly be missed.

Dr T Michael Moles

Dr T Michael Moles, MB, BS (Lond), DTM&H (Lond), FFARCS, was Reader in Anaesthetics and Head of the former Anaesthetics Unit at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry. He moved to Hong Kong in 1980 from England, where he received his training in anaesthesiology. During his specialty training, he devoted 5 years to military service, which had a profound effect on his career. At HKU, Dr Moles specialised in the care of victims of trauma and of patients undergoing major maxillofacial surgery. An expert in the management of difficult airway problems and a humanitarian at heart, Dr Moles became known for his interest in and knowledge of trauma and mass-casualty management, anti-terrorism, and humanitarian aid, and he was to be found at almost every meeting or conference on disaster, emergency, or trauma medicine anywhere in the world. While at HKU, he was instrumental in founding the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists and was its first President. He also played a key role in the development of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine, for which he continued to work until the time of his death in Hong Kong in 2001. Dr Moles will be remembered for his great intelligence, humour, and charisma.
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry is fortunate and proud to have internationally acclaimed and award-winning academic experts and teachers among its staff, together with fine teams of well-qualified technical and support professionals.

The following pages contain brief descriptions of our current full-time and fractional academic staff, according to affiliated Discipline. (Please see the Faculty website at <www.factenthk.org> for names of part-time and honorary personnel.)

Listed below are the individuals involved in Faculty management. Administrative and ancillary personnel are listed after the academic staff profiles; other personnel are listed in the ‘Special Facilities’ section of the ‘Building on a Firm Foundation’ chapter.

**Faculty Executive Committee**

**Dean**
Prof Lakshman P Samaranayake

**Associate Deans**
Prof Lim K Cheung (Research & Discovery)
Prof Tak-wah Chow (External Relations)
Prof John E Dyson (Undergraduate Education)
Prof Urban Hägg (Postgraduate & Continuing Education)
Prof Li-jian Jin (Mainland & Global Affairs)
Prof Edward CM Lo (Elected Member)

**Faculty Board Members**

Prof A Bakr M Robie (Chairman)
Dr Susan Bridges
Dr Michael G Botelho
Dr Alex WK Chan
Ms Cordelia KP Chan
Dr Garry SP Cheung
Prof Lim K Cheung
Mr MF Cheung
Dr Ken WK Chiu
Prof Tak-wah Chow
Dr Chun-hung Chu
Dr Frederick CS Chu
Prof Esmonde F Corbet
Prof Brian W Darvell
Dr John E Dyson
Prof Urban Hägg
Prof Li-jian Jin
Prof Nigel M King
Ms Jenny LK Leung
Dr Katherine CM Leung
Dr W Keung Leung
Dr Thomas KL Li
Prof Edward CM Lo
Dr John Lo
Dr Danny CY Low
Dr Henry WK Luk
Dr Colman McGrath
Prof Anne S McMillan
Dr Philip RH Newsome
Dr Edmond NN Pow
Dr Yuthika H Samaranayake
Prof Nobil Samman

**Assistant Deans**
Dr W Keung Leung (Research & Discovery)
Dr Frederick CS Chu (External Relations)
Dr Ricky WK Wong (Postgraduate & Continuing Education)
Dr Cynthia KY Yiu (Undergraduate Education)

Dr A Torroni
Dr Peter CS Tsang
Dr Gloria HM Wong
Dr May CM Wong
Dr Ricky WK Wong
Dr Yen-qi Yang
Dr Kevin HK Yip
Dr Cynthia KY Yiu
Dr Roger A Zwahlen
Dental Materials Science

Prof Brian W Darvell  
DSc (Birmingham), CChem, CSci, FRSC, FiM, FSS, FADM  
Professor in Dental Materials Science  
Research interests:  
- Mechanical test method design  
- Chemistry of saliva  
- Numerical techniques and modelling  
- History of assumptions

Dental Public Health

Prof Edward CM Lo  
BDS, MDS, PhD (HK), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Professor in Dental Public Health  
Research interests:  
- Epidemiology of oral diseases  
- Prevention and treatment of dental decay (clinical trials)  
- Oral health care services, human resource issues, and utilisation of services

Dr Colman McGrath  
BA (Dub), BDentSc (Hons)(Dub), FDSRCS (Eng), DDPHRCS (Eng), MSc, FFDRCS (Ire), PhD  
Associate Professor in Dental Public Health  
Research interests:  
- Social impact of oral health; oral health–related quality of life  
- Impact of society on oral health; oral health inequalities  
- Research in dental education

Dr May CM Wong  
BSocSc, MPhil, PhD (HK)  
Assistant Professor in Dental Public Health  
Research interests:  
- Biostatistics  
- Clinical trials  
- Multilevel survival analysis  
- Quality of life research  
- Geriatric research
Dr Henry WK Luk
MPhil, PhD (HK), MIMPT, FBIDST
Tutor in Dental Technology

Dr Luk first joined as a dental technician, obtained all four Advanced Certificates in Dental Technology of the City and Guilds of London Institute in 1983-1986, and was promoted to Instructor in 1990 and Tutor in 1994. He is also an Honorary Assistant Professor at the Faculty, and is a Member of the Institute of Maxillofacial Prosthetists & Technologists, UK, and a Fellow of the British Institute of Dental and Surgical Technologists. Dr Luk has been the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Society of Dental Technicians since 2000.

Mr Wayne Robinson
DipEd (Sur), C&G Final (UK), AdvOrthoCert (UK), AdCr&BrCert (UK), LGCI (Lond)
Instructor in Dental Technology

Research interests:
- Dental technology
- Class II functional appliance development
- Dental education
- Acquisition of dental skills

Dr Gary SP Cheung
BDS, MDS, MSc, PhD (HK), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDHK, FiCD, FRACDS, FAMS
Associate Professor in Endodontics

Dr Cheung is also an Honorary Professor at the stomatological schools of Wuhan University and Sichuan University in China, and the Chairman of the Specialty Board in Endodontics of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong. He received specialist training at the Eastman Dental Institute, London, founded the Hong Kong Endodontic Society, runs an intramural private practice on a referral basis, and has authored more than 60 publications, including 7 dissertations or book chapters.

Dr Alex WK Chan
BDS, MDS (HK), MSc (HKPU), FRACDS, FiCOI, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDHK
Assistant Professor in Endodontics

Research interests:
- Dental trauma
- Resin-bonded bridges
- 3-D observation of root canal morphology
Dr Danny CY Low  
BDS (Syd), MScDent (Syd), MScMed (Pain Mgt) (Syd), AdvDipEndodont (HK), MRDRCS (Edin), FRACDS, FPFA, FADI  
Assistant Professor in Endodontics  
Research interests:  
- Dental traumatology and sports dentistry  
- Morphological properties of teeth  
- Dental materials in endodontics  
- Precision dental casting theory

Prof Tak-wah Chow  
BDS, MSc, PhD (Lond), DRD, FDSRCS (Edin), FRACDS, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Professor in Family Dentistry  
Prof Chow has been involved in problem-based learning and clinical teaching of conservative dentistry, prosthodontics, and dental implants, and is currently the Postgraduate Programme Director for the Postgraduate Diploma in General Dentistry and MSc in Implant Dentistry. He is also a Visiting Professor at the Zhongshan University, Guangzhou, China, and Chairman of the Specialty Board for Family Dentistry of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong. Prof Chow has authored more than 190 publications in books and peer-reviewed journals.

Dr Philip RH Newsome  
PhD (Bradford), MBA (Warwick), BChD (Hons) (Leeds), FDSRCS (Edin), MRDRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Associate Professor in Family Dentistry  
Research interests:  
- Patient evaluation of dental practice  
- Antecedents and consequences of patient dis/satisfaction  
- Prevention and management of sports-related orofacial injuries

Dr Kevin HK Yip  
BDS, PhD (Glas), FRACDS, MRDRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Associate Professor in Family Dentistry  
Research interests:  
- Oral biofilms  
- Mesenchymal stem cells
Dr Frederick CS Chu
BDS (Hons) (HK), MSc (Lond), PhD (HK) MRDRCS (Edin), FRACDS, FADM, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Associate Professor in Family Dentistry

Research interests:
- Microbiology of oral diseases
- Clinical and laboratory evaluation of dental implants and prosthodontic materials

Dr Chun-hung Chu
BDS, MDS, PhD, PDipDS (HK), MAGD, ABDG, FRACDS, FDSRCS (Edin)
Associate Professor in Family Dentistry

Dr Chu graduated from The University of Hong Kong and was conferred with Bachelor of Dental Surgery, Master of Dental Surgery, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. His research interest is dental caries. Dr Chu is a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in Dental Surgery. He is also a Master of the Academy of General Dentistry and a Diplomate of the American Board of General Dentistry.

Prof Lim K Cheung
BDS (Glas), PhD (HK), FFDRCS (Ire), FDSRCPs (Glas), FRACDS, FRACDS (OMS), Hon FDSRCS (Edin), FFGDP (UK), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Chair Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Prof Cheung’s main research interests are distraction osteogenesis, reconstructive surgery, and implantology. He has published more than 150 papers and 225 abstracts, and is currently the associate editor of the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. In recognition of his academic contributions, Prof Cheung has received 10 honorary professorships from universities in China, two from Thailand, two from India, and one from Australia.

Prof Nabil Samman
BDS (Syd), MRCS (Eng), LRCP (Lond), FRCS (Edin), FDSRCS (Eng), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Research interests:
- Pathology of odontogenic tumours
- Prospective long-term evaluation of cleft lip and palate treatment
Dr Roger A Zwahlen  
MD (Berne), DMD (Zurich), FEBOMFS (Barcelona)  
Associate Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Research interests:  
- Head and neck surgery; quality of life in tumour patients  
- Microvascular reconstruction techniques and implantology in tumour patients  
- Craniofacial surgery  
- Cleft lip and palate  
- Application of nanotechniques in oral and maxillofacial surgery

Dr John Lo  
BDS, MDS (HK), MOSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Assistant Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Research interests:  
- Endoscopy-assisted surgery  
- Orthognathic surgery  
- Distraction osteogenesis  
- Cleft lip and palate  
- Implantology (immediate loading)

Dr Ken WK Chiu  
BDS, MBBS (HK), DipMed (CUHK), MOSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Assistant Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Research interests:  
- Implantology  
- Oral reconstruction

Dr Andrea Torroni  
MDS (Italy)  
Assistant Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Research interests:  
- Head and neck oncology  
- Maxillofacial reconstruction  
- Microvascular flaps
Prof Lakshman P Samaranayake  
**BDS, Hon DSc (Sri Lanka), DDS (Glas), MRCPath (UK), FRCPath (UK), MIBiol, CBiol (UK), Hon FDSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FHKAM (Path), FHKCPath, FCDSHK**  
**Chair Professor in Microbiology**  
Research interests:  
- Biology and clinical epidemiology of oral *Candida* infections  
- Oral microbiology and pathology of HIV-infected and other compromised individuals  
- Periodontal microbiology  
- Oral oncology

Dr Yuthika H Samaranayake  
**BSc, MSc (Sri Lanka), MSc (Med Sci) (Glas), PhD (HK)**  
**Research Assistant Professor in Oral Biosciences**  
Research interests:  
- *Candida* biofilms on denture acrylic surfaces: their architecture and resistance to natural and synthetic antifungals  
- Molecular epidemiology of *Candida* in health and disease  
- Microbiological and ultrastructural studies of the invasive phase of *Candida* species

Dr Thomas KL Li  
**BDS (HK), MSc (Lond), DGDP (UK), DDRRCR, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK**  
**Assistant Professor in Oral Radiology**  
Research interests:  
- Clinical radiology  
- Radiation protection  
- Forensic odontology

Mr MF Cheung  
**BSc (Anglia Polytech), BBA (OUHK), Med (OUHK), DCR (UK)**  
**Tutor in Oral Radiology**  
Research interests:  
- Quality assurance in dental radiography  
- Dental radiographic techniques
Miss Anson CM Chau
BSc, MPhil (HKPolyU)
Instructor in Radiography
Research interests:
- Magnetic resonance imaging
- Functional magnetic resonance imaging

Prof Anne S McMillan
BDS (Dundee), PhD (Br Col), FDSRCPS (Glas), FDSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Chair Professor in Oral Rehabilitation
Research interests:
- Oral neurophysiology
- Gerodontology
- Oral health–related quality of life
- Assessment of oral therapy outcomes using clinical and patient-centred measures

Dr Michael G Botelho
BDSc, MSc (Lond), PhD (Wits), MRDRCs (Edin), FRACDS
Associate Professor in Oral Rehabilitation
Research interests:
- Antibacterial glass ionomer cements and polymers
- Clinical audit of resin-bonded bridges
- Tooth whitening
- Dental education

Dr John E Dyson
BDS, PhD (Lond), FADM
Associate Professor in Oral Rehabilitation
Research interests:
- Air turbine handpiece performance
- Gerodontology
Dr Edmond HN Pow  
BDS, MDS, PhD (HK), FRACDS, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Associate Professor in Oral Rehabilitation  
A certified prosthodontist in Hong Kong, Dr Pow is the Faculty’s Postgraduate Programme Director in Oral Rehabilitation and the Deputy Director of the MSc (Implant Dentistry) programme. He is also an Examiner in Prosthodontics of the Dental Council of Hong Kong’s Licensing Examination, and was a Specialty Advisor of the Hong Kong Dental Association and the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Prosthetic Dentistry Society. Dr Pow has published more than 60 scientific articles and abstracts. His research interests include medically compromised patients, dental implants, and biomaterials.

Dr Katherine CM Leung  
BDS, MDS, PhD (HK), FRACDS, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Assistant Professor in Oral Rehabilitation  
Dr Leung is a registered specialist in Prosthodontics in Hong Kong and is currently the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Prosthetic Dentistry Society. Her major research interests include oral health and oral health–related quality of life in medically compromised patients, oral stereognosis and oral motor function in dentate and edentulous subjects, and clinical techniques in prosthodontics.

Dr Peter CS Tsang  
BDS, PhD (HK), FRACDS  
Assistant Professor in Oral Rehabilitation  
Dr Tsang’s research interests include various aspects of oral microbiology, in particular the oral biology of HIV and pathogenicity of oral Candida species in medically compromised patients. Ongoing research projects include studies on the effect of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) on oral candidiasis in HIV-infected individuals in Hong Kong, the effect of different protease inhibitors on C albicans SAP1-SAP10 gene expression, the clinical significance of Epstein-Barr virus in oral samples of Chinese HIV/AIDS patients undergoing HAART, and Candida biofilm antifungal resistance.

Prof Urban Hägg  
DDS (Lund), CertCompOrth (Sweden), Odont Dr (Lund), Hon FDSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Chair Professor in Orthodontics  
Research interests:  
- Clinical trials of orthodontic treatment  
- Experimental and clinical studies on growth modification  
- Impact on quality of life of orthodontic treatment
Prof A Bakr M Rabie
PhD, MSc, CertOrtho (Northwestern), Hon FDSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Professor in Orthodontics

Prof Rabie is the Postgraduate Programme Director in Orthodontics, Founder and Convenor of the Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group, and Director of the Centralised Research Laboratories. He is also an editorial board member of the Journal of Dental Research and Orthodontics and Craniofacial Research. Among Prof Rabie’s prizes are the HKU Outstanding PhD Supervisor Award, the Best Article published in the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in 1997, and the Runner-up Award of the International Journal of Surgery in 2006.

Dr Ricky WK Wong
BDS, MOrth, PhD (HK), FRACDS, MOrthRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Associate Professor in Orthodontics

Dr Wong’s major research area is bone biology, and his research findings on bone induction were chosen by the Hong Kong Science Museum in 2006 for a public exhibition lasting more than half a year. He has received more than 10 local and international awards for his research work. Dr Wong is a reviewer of more than eight international journals and an editorial board member of the Open Biomedical Engineering Journal, and has published more than 100 research, clinical, and review articles and abstracts in local and international journals and books.

Dr Yan-qi Yang
BDS (Beijing Med), PhD (PKU), MOrthRCS (Edin)
Assistant Professor in Orthodontics

Research interests:
- Bone biology
- Metabolism of tooth movement

Prof Nigel M King
BDS, MSc (Lond), PhD (HK), LDSRCS (Eng), Hon FDSRCS (Edin), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK
Professor in Paediatric Dentistry

Prof King was previously the Associate Dean for Facilities and Educational Resources, and Director of the Prince Philip Dental Hospital; he was also the Director and a founder member of the PPDH/HKU Cleft Lip and Palate Centre. Currently, he is the Director of Postgraduate Studies in Paediatric Dentistry and a member of the Dental Council of Hong Kong, and is on the Board of Examiners for the Dental Council of Hong Kong’s Licensing Examination. Prof King has lectured worldwide and has published 15 chapters and more than 160 papers.
Dr Cynthia KY Yiu  
BDS (Lond), MDS, PhD (HK), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Associate Professor in Paediatric Dentistry  
Research interests:  
- Dentine bonding  
- Dental caries and restorative management in paediatric dentistry  
- Oral health of children

Dr Gloria HM Wong  
DDS (TW), MDSc (UK), PhD (HK)  
Assistant Professor in Paediatric Dentistry  
Research interests:  
- Developmental defects of enamel  
- Social impact of child oral health  
- Children with special health care needs

Dr Celine HL Cheong  
BDS, MDS, AdvDipDS, MPaedDent (Edin), FRACDS, FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Assistant Professor in Paediatric Dentistry  
Research interests:  
- Dental materials in paediatric dentistry  
- Hospital dentistry

Prof Esmonde F Corbet  
BDS (NUl), FDSRCS (Eng), FFDRCS (Ire), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK  
Professor in Periodontology  
Research interests:  
- Periodontal epidemiology and risk assessment  
- Clinical periodontology  
- Dental implant treatment in periodontally at-risk partially dentate subjects  
- Dental education
Prof Li-jian Jin  
**DDS (Zhejiang Med), PhD (Beijing Med), MMedSci, Odont Dr (Karolinska Inst), Hon FDSRCS (Edin)**  
**Professor in Periodontology**  
Prof Jin is a founding member of the Periodontology Specialty Board of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong. He also serves as a Councillor of the Asian Pacific Society of Periodontology, member of the FDI World Dental Federation Science Committee, and member of the editorial boards of the *Journal of Periodontology* and *Journal of Periodontal Research*. Prof Jin has published more than 190 papers, abstracts, and book chapters, and shared the 2006 IADR/GSK Award with the renowned Prof CY Wang from the USA.

Dr W Keung Leung  
**BDS, MDS (HK), PhD (Br Col), FHKAM (Dent Surg), FCDSHK**  
**Associate Professor in Periodontology**  
Dr Leung is also Director of Polyclinics and Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, HKU Faculty of Medicine. His research interests include human periodontal microbial ecology and virulence, effects of altered human oral physiology on the corresponding microbial ecology, and clinical trials of periodontal care strategies including anxiety modulation. Dr Leung has authored more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the *Hong Kong Dental Journal* and a Council Member of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Society of Immunology.

Dr Stanley ML Lai  
**BDS, MDS, AdvDip (HK), MRDRCS**  
**Assistant Professor in Periodontology**  
**Research interests:**  
- Adjunctive therapy in periodontal treatment, eg Traditional Chinese Medicine, low-power laser  
- Clinical periodontology  
- Dental implant treatment in periodontally compromised subjects

Ms Cordelia KP Chan  
**CertDH (HK), CertDH (Canada)**  
**Tutor in Dental Hygiene**  
**Research interests:**  
- Dental hygiene training  
- Periodontology  
- Dental health promotion
Miss Jenney LK Leung  
CertDSA (HK), BBA (OUHK), DipEDDSA (HK)  
Tutor in Dental Surgery Assisting

Ms Winkie Yeung  
CertDSA, DipEDDSA (HK)  
Instructor in Dental Surgery Assisting

Dr Susan Bridges  
BA, DipEd (Qld), GradCertTESOL, MA(AppLing), EdD (Griffith)  
Assistant Professor, Dental Education and E-Learning

Dr Bridges has 25 years of experience in mainstream and higher education. Her current role with the Faculty of Dentistry focuses on problem-based learning (PBL) curriculum design and e-learning. Prior to this, she was a Research Fellow with the Faculty of Education at Griffith University. Dr Bridge's research focuses on pedagogy, cultural and linguistic diversity, and interaction. In 2007, she was awarded the International Award for Excellence by the International Journal of Diversity.

Prof Stephen HY Wei  
BDS, MDS (Adel), MS (Ill), DDS (Iowa), DipAmBoard, FRACDS, FICD, FACD, FAAPD  
Emeritus Professor

Prof Henk Tideman  
DDS (Utrecht), MD (Nijmegen), PhD (Amst), FRACDS  
Emeritus Professor
The HKU Faculty of Dentistry sincerely thanks its teachers, past and present, for their contributions to excellence in teaching and learning. The Faculty is also indebted to the role played by its partners in education in the HKU Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine over the past 25 years, as well as loyal cadres of part-time and honorary teachers. On the hospital side, a team of more than 300 ancillary staff unflinchingly tend to the administrative, clinical, and other service needs of the hospital, thus supporting the infrastructure of the Faculty, while Dental Surgery Assistants and Junior Hospital Dental Officers provide quality care through their chairside expertise. A big Thank You goes to you all.

Last but not least, the Faculty would not be able to function without the outstanding services of all its administrative, support, and technical personnel. Faculty administration takes the form of many disparate activities, ranging from academic affairs to human resources management, event logistics, faculty development, and effective corporate and public relations. These invaluable efforts, together with those of Faculty support and technical staff, ensure the smooth running of our cosmopolitan and vibrant dental school. The following lists (as of September 2007) are intended to recognise the dedication of the personnel behind the scenes who are not already listed elsewhere in this book.

Dean's Office
Dean's Assistant: Miss Idy Chan

Faculty Office
Faculty Secretary: Mr Rupert Chan
Secretary to Faculty Secretary: Ms Winnie Choi
Communications Manager: Ms Edith Ng
Technical Writer: Dr Trevor Lane
Administrative Assistants: Ms Vivien Chan, Ms Joyce Chan, Ms Betty Lo
Executive Officer: Miss Beatrice So
Office Manager: Miss Beatrice So
Office Assistants: Ms Vivien Chan, Ms Joyce Chan
Clerical Staff: Miss Anita Leung, Ms Polly Huong, Miss Janet Chan, Miss Winnie Kwok
Senior Driver: Mr Bonny Wong
Cleaner: Ms SL Chan

Reception & Primary Care, Family Dentistry & Endodontics
Secretary: Ms Brenda Leung
Senior CDSA: Ms Ruby Yung
Reception: Ms Alison Lee
Oral Radiology, Family Dentistry & Endodontics
Reception: Ms Gigi Chan
Paediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics
Secretary i/c: Mrs Sandy Li
Office: Ms Sue Cheung, Ms Frances Chow, Ms Zinia Pang, Ms Irene Yam
Senior CDSAs: Ms Lorna Lee, Ms Fiona Cheng
Reception: Ms Connie Yeung, Mr Raymond Lou

Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Secretary i/c: Mrs Winnie Chiu
Office: Mrs Sybil Kwan, Ms Teresa Chow, Ms Annie Li, Mr Barry Leung
Nursing Officer: Sister Elsa Chan
Senior CDSA: Miss Georgia Choy
QMHT OT Appointments: Ms Candy Wong, Ms Helen Wong, Ms Irene Cheng, Ms Jessica Fu, Ms Jenny Pang

Oral Biosciences
Secretary: Ms Connie Che
Endodontics, Family Dentistry & Endodontics
Secretary i/c: Ms Clara Choy
Office: Ms Cathie Chui, Ms Cynthia Lee, Ms Meibo Pang
Senior CDSA: Ms May-ying Chung

Periodontology & Dental Public Health
Secretary i/c: Ms Nerissa Chan
Office: Ms Tammy Tse
Senior CDSA: Miss Carpi Wong
Reception: Ms Alice Wong, Ms Danna Yuen

Oral Rehabilitation
Secretary i/c: Miss Regina Chan
Office: Miss Jennifer Ho, Ms Carrie Cheung, Miss Allison Ip
Reception/Registration: Ms Alice Chow, Ms Elaine Cheung
Senior CDSA/Supplies Store: Ms Kara Wong

Family Practice Clinic, Family Dentistry & Endodontics
Senior Secretary: Ms Doris Lee
Senior CDSA: Ms Ruby Yung
Reception: Ms Sindy Hui
### Faculty Figures

- **Numbers of Students & Graduates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Type</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Graduated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught Postgraduate</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Postgraduate</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Faculty Website**

  - www.facdenthk.org

- **Faculty Silver Jubilee Website**

  - dent25.hku.hk

- **Faculty Donations**

  - www.hku.hk/giving

- **HKU Dental Alumni Association**

  - www.hku.hk/dentalum

- **HKUSU Dental Association**

  - www.hku.hk/dentsoc

- **Prince Philip Dental Hospital**

  - www.ppdh.org.hk

- **E-mail for Faculty enquiries**

  - dental@hkusua.hku.hk

- **Tel. No. for Faculty enquiries**

  - (852) 2859 0376

- **Fax No. for Faculty enquiries**

  - (852) 2517 0544

- **Directory**

  - [Sources: HKU Vice-Chancellor’s Management Information Unit, PPDH, <www.hku.hk/cepc/survey/ges>.

- **Dentistry in China: Fast Facts**

  - **According to the Ministry of Health, mainland China has about 38,000 registered dentists; Hong Kong has about 1800**

  - **Ratio of dentists to population:**

    - China: 1:33,000
    - Hong Kong: 1:4000
    - USA: 1:1600
    - Sweden: 1:800

  - **In China, 50% of adults and 70% of children have decayed teeth, and more than 90% of people have periodontal disease**

  - **China would need to build 10 times as many dental hospitals as it has today, to match the coverage of dental treatment and protection found in developed countries**

  - **The HKU Faculty of Dentistry has forged strong ties with mainland China, such as mutual collaborations with dental and stomatological schools in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chengdu, Xian, and Wuhan**

  - **Many HKU Faculty of Dentistry staff hold honorary appointments in mainland universities and editorships or memberships of editorial boards of mainland dental journals**

Taught Postgraduate Courses

The following taught postgraduate courses are currently offered by the HKU Faculty of Dentistry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Research Studies</td>
<td>MPhil and PhD research degrees at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry are offered in the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Materials Science</td>
<td>Master of Science in Dental Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Public Health</td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endodontics</td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Endodontics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Dentistry</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma in General Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implantology</td>
<td>Master of Science in Implant Dentistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma in Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Radiology</td>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma in Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodontics</td>
<td>Master of Orthodontics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Orthodontics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paediatric Dentistry</td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Paediatric Dentistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodontology</td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Periodontology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosthodontics</td>
<td>Master of Dental Surgery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Diploma in Prosthodontics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Website: www.facdenthk.org
Contact: Prof Urban Hägg (euohagg@hkusua.hku.hk) or Ms Betty Lo (bshlo@hkucc.hku.hk)

Postgraduate Research Studies

MPhil and PhD research degrees at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry are offered in the following:

(1) The Faculty’s multidisciplinary research areas:
- Biomedical and Tissue Engineering
- Infection and Immunity
- Public Health and Healthy Ageing

(2) The Faculty’s specialty-based research areas:
- Dental Materials Science
- Dental Public Health
- Family Dentistry/Endodontics
- Implantology
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Oral Biosciences
- Oral Rehabilitation
- Orthodontics
- Paediatric Dentistry
- Periodontology

Website: www.facdenthk.org
Contact: Prof Edward Lo (edward-lo@hku.hk), Prof Lim K Cheung (lkcheung@hku.hk), or Ms Betty Lo (bshlo@hkucc.hku.hk)
Acknowledgements

This publication was compiled, edited, and designed by Dr Trevor Lane, Technical Writer of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry, on behalf of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry. Assistance in the preparation of the graphics and photographs was provided by Ms Sau-wan Cheng; photographic archives and photographic assistance were provided by Mr Raymond Leung and Mr Ronny Chan. Logistic and administrative assistance was provided by Prof Lakshman Samaranayake, Mr Rupert Chan, and Ms Idy Chan.

The cooperation of Faculty members in the preparation of this publication is gratefully acknowledged, particularly Discipline heads, who supplied the text for the Discipline profiles in the ‘Profiles of Excellence’ section; named staff who drafted the material in ‘Special Facilities’, ‘Special Centres’, ‘Sustaining Excellence’, and ‘Pioneering Innovation’ sections; and staff who commented on the drafts or who supplied photographs or information. Authors of special messages in the ‘Congratulatory Messages’, ‘Charting Our Roots’, ‘Building on a Firm Foundation’, ‘Faculty Reflections’, ‘Alumni Reflections’, ‘Student Reflections’, and ‘Tribute to Donors’ are thanked for their contributions and encouraging words. The name lists in the ‘Honouring the Past’ section were compiled by Prof Nigel King and Prof Brian Darvell, and added to by Prof Esmonde Corbet and Dr John Dyson; these individuals also assisted in the drafting of the Milestones boxes. Prof Tak-wah Chow, Dr Frederick Chu, and Ms Edith Ng helped compile the donor list.

Note: In this publication, the term ‘Discipline’ is used in relation to the matrix organisation of the unitary Faculty, and refers not only to each main subject area taught at the Faculty, but also to the group of personnel affiliated to each subject area and the physical premises occupied.

General References

• A Decade of Dental Education, Faculty of Dentistry, The University of Hong Kong. EMG Piette (ed). Hong Kong: HKU Faculty of Dentistry, 1992.
• E Corbet. 20th Anniversary of the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Hong Kong. Eur J Dent Educ 2003;7:77-9.

Acknowledgement of Sponsors

The Faculty thanks the following sponsors who generously helped cover the printing costs of this publication:

Anonymous
Bauhinia Dental Ltd
Dentsply Asia

INCOGNITO
Johnson & Johnson (Hong Kong)
W&H Dentalwerk Burmoos GmbH

Disclaimers

Although every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the contents in this publication, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributing authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Faculty, University, or institutions with which the authors are affiliated, unless this is clearly specified. Appearance of advertisements does not represent an endorsement; reference to course content or courses on offer reflects an expression of intent only and does not represent a firm offer or undertaking; the Faculty reserves the right to alter or revise such information periodically. Faculty staff have made every effort to trace the copyright holders for borrowed material; if they have inadvertently overlooked any, they will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements at the first opportunity.
Post-Congress Course
INCOGNITO Certification Course
Presented by Dr. Dirk Wiechmann
November 20-21, 2007
Prince Philip Dental Hospital
Hong Kong

Meet the TOP-Service Team at:

Asian Pacific Orthodontic Society
6th Asian Pacific Orthodontic Conference
March 28-30, 2008
Bangkok, Thailand

American Association of Orthodontists
108th Annual Session
May 16-20, 2008
Denver, USA

European Orthodontic Society
84th Congress
June 10-14, 2008
Lisbon Congress Centre
Lisbon, Portugal

8th ESLO Congress
July 3-6, 2008
Congress Hotel Hilton, Croisette
Cannes, France

Incognito
by TOP Service
changing orthodontics

TOP - Service für Lingualtechnik GmbH · Schiedehauser Straße 81 · D - 49152 Bad Essen · Germany
Phone +49 5472 9491-10 · Fax +49 5472 9491-19 · top@lingualtechnik.de · www.lingualtechnik.de

Lingual System
invisible treatment
minimum treatment time
maximum patient comfort
aesthetic orthodontics for every age
individual gold brackets

Please contact us for more details.
Just What
The Dentists Want!

LISTERINE Teeth & Gum Defence

All the clinically proven benefits of Listerine:
• Prevent & reduce gingivitis
• Reduce plaque
• Fight malodor
• Kill germs

NOW with Fluoride
• Prevent dental caries
• Reverse early tooth decay
• Remineralize tooth enamel

• Improve gingival health by up to 34%
• Reduce plaque by up to 56%
• Kill 99.9% of bacteria within 30 seconds
• Increase surface microhardness recovery by 26%
• Deliver 20% more fluoride than conventional fluoride rinse
• Strengthen and remineralize tooth enamel in only 2 weeks


www.listerine.com.hk