HKU Faculty of Dentistry explains the genetic code to children

28 October 2006

Some of Hong Kong's children were given a hands-on lesson in the genetic code, thanks to members of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry who ran a public workshop in Tai Koo Shing City Plaza on 28 October 2006.

Drs Dai Juan and Ricky Wong were among Faculty members who took part in the workshop as part of the Hong Kong Innovation Festival 2006, organised annually by the Hong Kong Government Innovation and Technology Commission.

Participating children were given a chance to extract DNA from living tissue and look at light-microscope and X-ray pictures of how gene therapy can stimulate jawbone growth in rats—findings of research conducted by the Faculty's Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group.

“Gene therapy could offer new cures. In dentistry, children with craniofacial anomalies could have a better quality of life,” says Research Group Convenor Prof Bakr Rabie.

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Knowledge exchange (KE) at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry (http://facdent.hku.hk) aims to maintain a two-way dialogue between the Faculty and all sectors of the community. The Faculty’s KE strategy, public education, and community activities form part of the Faculty’s fourth mission of “engagement”. We will be pleased to consider any suggestions or comments, or community/school invitations; please e-mail dentktu@hku.hk

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