Expressions

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In this special issue of *Expressions*, we commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry by presenting highlights of our recent celebrations. Events ranged from the sold-out Gala Concert featuring world-famous violinist Chuanyun Li to the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry, where 500 registrants came from more than 30 countries to mark our historic milestone.

In 25 short years, our Faculty has made its mark on the region and the world, and our Silver Jubilee was the perfect occasion to take stock and reflect on our past while celebrating our future.

As Hong Kong’s only institution offering undergraduate and postgraduate dental education, China’s only dental school that uses English as the medium of instruction, and the dental faculty of the top university in China and the 18th worldwide according to the most recent *Times Higher Education* Supplement, the HKU Faculty of Dentistry has a high reputation to maintain and a major function to perform in Hong Kong and Asia. Indeed, our role is both deep and wide: we provide dental and paradental education of the highest quality, while encouraging life-long learning and providing a wide range of continuing education activities.

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 the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, we have been able to mould generations of dental and paradental professionals and give them the skills and knowledge to meet the world’s ever-changing oral health needs.

The year 2007 was truly a year to remember, and the year ahead looks brighter than ever. Happy reading!
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1982
• The HKU Faculty of Dentistry is established at the Prince Philip Dental Hospital on 1 July 1982

1984
• The Faculty’s BDS degree is granted recognition by the UK General Dental Council

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

1986
• The first MDS candidate graduates

1987
• The first PhD dental candidates graduate

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 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

2007
• The Faculty celebrates its Silver Jubilee and co-hosts the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry with the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, 16-19 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.

Faculty figures
1 Rank in HKU in 2005 for average refereed research output per full-time Faculty research staff, at 5.2
1 Rank in HKU in 2005 for average total monthly income of Faculty postgraduate (PG) alumni (~HK$47K). BDS alumni had the 2nd highest total monthly income (~HK$32K) among HKU undergraduates
100 % of BDS and PG alumni of 2005 working or studying by the end of their graduation year
1618 Alumni so far (1178 BDS, 383 taught PGs, 80 research PGs)

65 % of Hong Kong’s 1800 registered dentists who are Faculty alumni
68 % of the Faculty’s 155 full-time and honorary lecturers who are Faculty alumni; 50% are BDS alumni
15 Different home countries of the Faculty’s current 436 students (255 BDS, 130 taught PGs, 46 research PGs) and 51 full-time/fractional academic staff
87.7 The Faculty’s Research Index in the 2006 Research Assessment Exercise, as the % of full-time staff who have reached or surpassed a “level of research excellence appropriate to the discipline in Hong Kong and showing evidence of international excellence” (cf 85.5% for HKU, 76.3% for all HK universities)
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 Tsang
Chief Executive, HKSAR
Chancellor, The University of Hong Kong

As the only dental school in Hong Kong, the Faculty of Dentistry of The University of Hong Kong has a unique and very important role to play. For the past 25 years, it has made eminent contributions to the education and training of Hong Kong’s dental professionals, provision of private, public, and academic dentists, and improvement of oral health care in the community. The Faculty’s achievements in clinical, basic, and applied research have gained international recognition, and today the Faculty is considered one of the top dental schools in Asia and indeed the world, which is very heartening.

On this joyous occasion of the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee, I congratulate the Faculty on its exceptional achievements and wish it every success for its future endeavours.

Henry Tang, GBS, JP
Chief Secretary for Administration, HKSAR

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. 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 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

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.

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

Dr Homer 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. 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. 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 Leung
President, Hong Kong Dental Association

I 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

Reflections

Read these Congratulatory Messages in full, together with those from other local and overseas dignitaries, current and former Deans, past and present Faculty staff, alumni, and students in the Faculty's souvenir jubilee book, Reflections.

Containing 136 pages and printed in full colour, this special publication also covers the history behind the establishment of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and its developments and main achievements over the past quarter of a century. To order your copy, please contact:

The Secretariat, HKU Faculty of Dentistry,
Prince Philip Dental Hospital, 34 Hospital Road, Hong Kong

E-mail: dent25@hku.hk
Silver Jubilee celebrations

Photo highlights of some of the special events held in November 2007 to mark the HKU Faculty of Dentistry’s 25th anniversary.

November was a red-letter month for the Faculty, marking the climax of its dent25 Silver Jubilee year. Events included a Gala Concert at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, organised by Prof Tak-wah Chow and Dr Frederick Chu (Associate and Assistant Deans for External Relations), and the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry, co-hosted with the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong and organised by a team led by Prof Urban Hägg (Associate Dean for Postgraduate and Continuing Education). A Gala Dinner, golf tournament, Faculty Open Day, pre- and post-congress workshops, and special lectures were also held to commemorate this historic milestone. Full photo coverage can be found at the Silver Jubilee Website at <http://dent25.hku.hk>, where you can also leave a congratulatory message in the Guestbook and order jubilee souvenirs.

Stage party: The Guests of Honour at the Congress Opening Ceremony on 17 November 2007 were The Hon Henry Tang, Chief Secretary for Administration, HKSAR, and Prof Lap-chee Tsui, HKU Vice-Chancellor. (Bottom right, L to R) Prof Urban Hägg, Prof Lakshman Samarayake, Prof Frederick Smale, Prof Stephen Wei, The Hon Henry Tang, Dr Victor Fung (Chairman, HKU Council), Prof Lap-chee Tsui, Mr Willy Lin (Chairman, Board of Governors, Prince Philip Dental Hospital), and Dr John Ling (President, College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong).

Noteworthy: Dean Samaranayake addressed a full house at the Gala Concert on 15 November 2007 (left), and an outstanding recital was given by internationally acclaimed violinist Chuanyun Li from China (top right). In attendance at the concert, which marked the start of the Faculty’s November jubilee celebrations, were Prof Frederick Smale (Dean, 1998-2003) and Prof Stephen Wei (Dean, 1989-1997) (immediately above, L and centre).
Just deserts: Thanks to more than a year of planning, the dent25 Congress offered 40 symposia, lectures, and courses delivered by world-renowned speakers, who were invited to a special dent25 dinner on 16 November 2007 (above). In addition, the congress trade exhibition represented 20 exhibitors including the HKU Faculty of Dentistry (near right), and was officially opened by Dr Albert Lee (who assisted in industry liaison), Dr John Ling, Dean Samarayake, and Prof Urban Hägg (immediately above, L to R).

Sign of the times: With the help of Prof Li-jian Jin, the Faculty’s Associate Dean for Mainland and Global Affairs (standing), the HKU Faculty of Dentistry signed Agreements for Academic Collaboration with six major dental schools of mainland China, as well as with Our Lady of Fatima University, Philippines. [Seated, L to R] Prof Jun-qi Ling (Sun Yat-Sen University), Prof Lian Guo (Shanghai Jiao Tong University), Prof Yi-min Zhao (Fourth Military Medical University), Dean Samarayake (HKU), Prof Guang-yan Yu (Peking University), Prof Zhuan Bian (Wuhan University), and Prof Ye-fei Wu (Sichuan University).
Course content: The main 25th Congress of 17-18 November 2007 was held at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and was attended by about 500 delegates from more than 30 countries. The congress included sessions in all the major dental disciplines, as well as poster and oral research presentations, and all seven pre- and post-congress courses were fully subscribed and received very positive audience feedback. The Faculty is deeply grateful to all those who were involved in this successful and memorable congress.

Invited overseas speakers: Prof Korkud Demirel (Turkey), Prof Thomas Flemming (USA), Prof Zhimon Jacobson (USA), Dr Xin-quan Jiang (China), Prof Denis Kinane (USA), Mr Christian Melsen (Denmark), Prof Hideaki Suda (Japan), Dr Nicola West (UK), Dr Dirk Wiechmann (Germany), Prof Bjorn Zachrisson (Norway), and Prof Yi-min Zhao (China).

Faculty and alumni speakers: Dr Michael Botelho, Dr Alex Chan, Dr Gary Cheung, Prof Lim K Cheung, Dr William Cheung, Dr James Chow, Prof Tak-wah Chow, Dr Tak-kun Chow, Dr Frederick Chu, Prof Esmonde Corbet, Dr Daniel Fang, Prof Urban Hägg, Prof Li-jian Jin, Prof Nigel King, Dr Paul Lau, Dr Dae-hyun Lee, Dr Thomas Li, Prof Edward Lo, Dr Henry Luk, Dr Colman McGrath, Dr Edmond Pow, Prof Bale Rabie, Prof Lakshman Samararachve, Dr Patrick Wu, Dr Ricky Wong, Dr Kevin Yip, and Dr Cynthia Yu.

Pre- and post-congress course organisers: Prof Zhimon Jacobson, Dr Patrick Wu, Prof Tak-wah Chow, Dr Gary Cheung, Edmond Pow, Dr Peter Wat, Dr Henry Luk, Prof Bjorn Zachrisson, Prof Thomas Flemming, and Dr Dirk Wiechmann.

Organising Committee: Prof Urban Hägg, Prof Lakshman Samararachve, Mr Rupert Chan, Prof Li-jian Jin, Dr John Ling, Prof Tak-wah Chow, Dr Frederick Chu, Dr Wilson Lee, Dr Ricky Wong, Prof Edward Lo, Ms Betty Lo, Dr Trevor Lane, and Ms Edith Ng. Congress Secretariat services were provided by Mr Daniel Chok and Ms Justin Ng on behalf of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.
Jubilee cheers: More than 200 delegates, guests, alumni, and past and present Faculty teachers attended the Cocktail Reception and Gala Dinner, held on 18 November 2007 at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. The Guest of Honour was HKU Vice-Chancellor Prof Lap-chee Tsui. Present at the dinner with Dean Samaranayake were three former Deans (Profs F Smales, S Wei, and E Schwarz). The evening was light-hearted and enjoyable, aided by the live entertainment provided by a Filipino band and musical treats from a barber shop quartet of delegates (left), and Faculty Secretary Mr Rupert Chan (nearest left).
Exhibiting dental innovation

Did you know that when George Washington became US President in 1789, he had only one natural tooth left and wore dentures made of hippopotamus ivory and human teeth? Or that false teeth date back as far as 700 BC?

These facts and others were included in an eye-opening exhibition in the Faculty Dental Library in November 2007, titled *Dental Inventions and Their Stories*. Organised by the HKU Libraries to celebrate the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee, the exhibition covered three different topics: “Amazing stories of artificial teeth”, “The evolution of the dental chair”, and “Dental machines in the 18th century”. The latter section of the display featured an actual ASH Number 1 Travelling Engine with Cable Head—a portable dental drill and lathe system driven by a foot-operated spindle.

Greetings from London

Former dean Prof Ian Davies would like to send all colleagues, staff, alumni, and students of the HKU Faculty of Dentistry his best wishes for the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee.

Unable to attend the November celebrations owing to ill health, Prof Davies relayed his message to Dr Tin-chung Wong, an orthodontist in private practice in Hong Kong and friend of the Faculty, who visited him in London on 26 November 2007 to present a copy of the Faculty’s souvenir publication *Reflections*. Prof Davies (pictured left, with Dr Wong) was Faculty Dean from 1983 to 1989 and HKU Vice-Chancellor from 2000 to 2002, and a formal Congratulatory Message written by him had been included in the book. The Faculty wishes Prof Davies a speedy recovery.

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RCSEd honours Faculty staff

Congratulations to the following Faculty members, who were honoured by the Faculty of Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh at a conjoint diploma ceremony with the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong, on 23 November 2007:

- Prof Li-jian Jin (Professor in Periodontology), Fellowship in Dental Surgery ad honorem, RCSEd
- Prof Esmonde Corbet (Professor in Periodontology), RCSEd Dental Faculty Overseas Medal and Fellowship in Dental Surgery, RCSEd
- Dr Gary Cheung (Associate Professor in Endodontics) and Dr Gordon Chiu (Hon Clinical Associate Professor), Fellowship in Dental Surgery, RCSEd
- Dr William Yung (Hon Clinical Associate Professor), RCSEd Dental Faculty Medal

Awards and recognition

- The HKU Faculty of Dentistry’s Silver Jubilee was featured in special supplements in the South China Morning Post and Ming Pao newspapers in November 2007.
- Dr W Keung Leung (Associate Professor in Periodontology) has been appointed the Associate Dean for Research and Discovery, taking over from Prof Lim K Cheung; his previous position as Assistant Dean for Research and Discovery will be assumed by Dr Roger Zwahlen, Associate Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
- Prof Lim K Cheung (Chair Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery) has been appointed the Convenor of the Faculty’s Biomedical and Tissue Engineering Research Group for 2008, taking over from Prof Bakr Rabie.
- Prof Edward CM Lo (Professor in Dental Public Health) has received the HKU Outstanding Research Student Supervisor Award 2006-07.
- Prof Li-jian Jin (Professor in Periodontology) was elected as a Science Committee Member of the FDI World Dental Federation by the FDI General Assembly during its annual meeting in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 26 October 2007. The FDI Science Committee develops position and policy statements on the basis of scientific information for practising dentists worldwide; the FDI World Dental Federation website address is <www.fdiworldfederation.org>.
- Prof Bakr Rabie (Professor in Orthodontics) and Dr Ricky WK Wong (Associate Professor in Orthodontics) have written the chapter “Chinese medicinal plants in arthritis” in the book Phytopharmacology and Therapeutic Values II, which is volume 20 of the series Recent Progress in Medicinal Plants, published by Studium Press LLC, Houston, Texas, USA (website, <www.studiumpress.com/books.html>). Dr Ricky Wong has also recently been appointed to the editorial boards of the Open Anthropology Journal and the Open Orthopaedics Journal, two new open-access online journals published by Bentham Science Publishers (website, <www.bentham.org/open>.
- Ms Terri PS Chan (MPhil student) received the Best Integrative Chinese and Western Medicine Award, Second Prize, and was also named the 2007 Postgraduate Symposium Session Champion at the 2007 Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Eddie Wang Symposium on Integrated Chinese & Western Medicine Postgraduate Presentation Session, on 2 November 2007 (pictured [L] with Mrs Wang [R]).
- Dr Hannah Daile P Chua (PhD student) was presented with an Oral Abstract Scientific Presentation Award at the 89th Annual Meeting, Scientific Sessions, and Exhibition of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, held in conjunction with the Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the Korean Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, in November 2007.
- Dr Wilson Lee (AdvDip Ortho student) has been awarded the Gold Medal for best performance in the Orthodontics examination RCSEd held in Hong Kong.
- The following won Outstanding Oral Presentation Awards at the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry, Hong Kong, 16-19 November 2007:
  - Dr Andrew TC Ow (AdvDip Oral Maxillofac Surg student)
  - Dr Li-wu Zheng (Postdoctoral Fellow in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery)
- The following won Outstanding Poster Awards at the Second International Conference on Evidence-based Advanced Dentistry, Hong Kong, 16-19 November 2007:
  - Dr Margareta Bendeus Hägg (Part-time Clinical Lecturer)
  - Dr Parahitiyawa N Bandara (PhD student)
  - Dr Ruby MS Wong (AdvDip Perio student)
  - Dr Qian Lu (PhD student)
  - Dr Tony CK Lee (AdvDip Ortho student)

For the Record
From Asia to the world

Prof Nabil Samman, Professor in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, was inducted as President of the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (IAOMS) at the 18th International Conference on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Bangalore, India, in November 2007. He told Expressions about this new international appointment.

New head of IAOMS
The IAOMS was founded in 1962 by Sir Terrence Ward (UK) and Fred A Henry (USA) as the International Association of Oral Surgeons, which was then renamed in 1986. The mission of the IAOMS is “to elevate the quality of health care worldwide through the advancement of the art and science of oral and maxillofacial surgery”. As the IAOMS President for 2007-09, and with the help of a strong Executive Committee, I am committed to lead the organisation in promoting regional and national development of oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS) by providing guidance in specialty education, training, advocacy, and representation.

Because the specialty of OMS straddles the boundary between dentistry and medicine, the organisation’s scope is understandably very wide. The same can be said for its geographical coverage. With more than 3700 individual members, the IAOMS (website, www.iaoms.org) is also the umbrella organisation for six regional associations (in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, North America, and Oceania) and 74 affiliated national associations of oral and maxillofacial surgeons, including the Hong Kong Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (website, www.fmshk.com.hk/hkaoms), of which I am also currently President.

Supporting education
Thorough education in both dentistry and medicine is required as the basis for OMS specialty training and for the clinical practice of the specialty. The scope of practice includes trauma, tumour, and congenital deformities of the oral, maxillofacial, and head and neck regions, but varies from country to country and from continent to continent. Although this may pose a logistical challenge to the promotion of OMS education around the globe, the IAOMS is making great progress in customising programmes to each locale. Fortunately, this approach is familiar to me: my first post on the IAOMS Executive Committee from 2001 to 2005 was the Chair of the Education Committee. And from 2002 to 2004, Dr Paul Stoelinga and I piloted an international educational programme in Thailand, in which educational standards in OMS were harmonised. The programme was a success and was subsequently repeated in Peru. Similar programmes are now running in Indonesia, Kenya, and Tanzania.

Raising interest
In addition to furthering the educational agenda of the IAOMS, I have been active in my capacity as 2005-07 IAOMS President-Elect, in the broader role of advancing OMS globally, starting with the establishment of Special Interest Groups in (1) Cleft Lip and Palate and Craniofacial Anomalies, and (2) Head and Neck Cancer and Reconstructive Surgery. The intention is to support training in these areas through training fellowships, Web-based education, and clinical management guidelines, as well as to support research by coordinating multicentre collaboration.

Worldwide exposure
Asia plays an important role in the above schemes. Indeed, Asia in general and China in particular are the current focus of IAOMS, with the 7th Asian Congress on OMS held in Hong Kong in 2006, the 18th International Conference on OMS held in Bangalore in 2007, and the 19th to be held in Shanghai in 2009. Training fellowships have also already been introduced in Beijing and Shanghai in China and Kochi in India. As an “Asian” president of the IAOMS, I am pleased to be able to continue maximising Asian exposure to international collaboration in OMS.
Congratulations, Class of 2007!

The Faculty welcomed 47 new BDS graduates to its alumni family on 27 November 2007 at the 2007 Graduation and Prize Presentation Ceremony, held at the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

Presided over by Dean Samaranayake and attended by Faculty and alumni representatives and graduands’ families and friends, the Graduation and Prize Presentation Ceremony saw the formal conferment of 47 BDS degrees, as well as 63 Postgraduate Diploma, Master, Advanced Diploma, and PhD degrees.

In attendance were the Guest of Honour The Hon Mrs Rita Fan (President of the HKSAR Legislative Council), Prof JA Spinks (Senior Advisor to the HKU Vice-Chancellor and HKU Director of Undergraduate Admissions and International Student Exchange), Dr Homer WK Tso (Chairman of the Dental Council of Hong Kong), and Dr Vincent FS Leung (President of the Hong Kong Dental Association). The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr Suet-hing Chan.

In addition to the presentation of more than 50 prizes and awards to students of various BDS years, the event recognised achievements of several Faculty staff—namely, Dr Cynthia KY Yiu (Faculty Research Output Prize 2007 and HKU Outstanding Research Postgraduate Student Award 2005-06) and Prof Edward CM Lo (HKU Outstanding Research Student Supervisor Award 2006-07). Distinguished Service Awards were also presented to Dr Gordon KC Chiu (Honorary Clinical Associate Professor) and Dr John YK Ling (Honorary Clinical Assistant Professor and President of the College of Dental Surgeons of Hong Kong).

"Time flies! The past 5 years were fruitful and memorable. I would like to take this precious opportunity to express my gratitude to my tutors, group mates, and fellow colleagues for their kind support. Best wishes to you all!"—Dr Ka-shing Suen

"Best wishes to everybody. I wish you all a bright future and a desirable life. Thanks to all our professors and doctors for their teaching and guidance."—Dr Ivan CH Ying

"The BDS was tough, challenging, and meaningful: tough, as it was 5 years long and we had to master certain clinical skills; challenging, as problem-based learning was so different from school but it allowed us to develop life-long and self-directed learning skills; meaningful, as we actually provided oral health services during the course, which gave me satisfaction. Today, we are all dentists. I wish Class of 2007 great success in the future!"—Dr Ben HB Choy

"Congratulations to Class of 2007! To my classmates: I am so happy to have met you all; Class of 2007 is so friendly and funny. To my tutors: thank you for your teaching, I hope everyone has a bright future."—Dr Carmen KM Chu

CD-ROMs of photo coverage of the 2007 Graduation and Prize Presentation Ceremony and copies of the Graduation Yearbook 2007 can be obtained by e-mailing the Faculty Secretariat, at <dental@hkusua.hku.hk>
It has been a busy year for the HKU Dental Alumni Association (HKUDAA), and I would like to give an update to readers of Expressions of our recent activities, beyond our ongoing regular continuing education evenings.

In June 2007, under the leadership of Dr Haston Liu (BDS 1988), a team of HKUDAA alumni participated in the 2007 Hong Kong Dragon Boat Races, both at Tsimshatsui East and at Discovery Bay. Our team was well supported at the two venues by families and friends. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Hong Kong Dental Association, we all had a good feast in Discovery Bay afterwards.

On 2 July 2007, the HKUDAA gave a careers talk with the graduating BDS Class of 2007. Alumni shared work and life experiences with the soon-to-be dentists and discussed the personal and professional advantages of becoming a member of the HKUDAA. All BDS alumni are encouraged to join the HKUDAA, at <www.hku.hk/dentalum>, as the rates are very reasonable and there are generous discounts on the Faculty’s continuing education courses and the Oral Health and Science Seminar series.

Once again, the HKUDAA, under the leadership of Immediate Past President Dr Wilson Lee (BDS 2001), took part in the annual oral health exhibition of the Dental Public Health Committee of the HKU Students’ Union Dental Society. This public education event was held in conjunction with the Hong Kong Dental Association in the shopping arcade of Olympian City, Kowloon, on 27 and 28 October 2007, and was very successful.

Most recently, many alumni attended the Faculty’s Silver Jubilee Gala Dinner on 18 November 2007, including a cohort of 20 from Class of 1985. We were all proud to be a part of the Faculty’s jubilee celebrations, and I hope alumni do not feel the need to wait another 25 years to organise a reunion! Please e-mail me if you are interested in being a year-group representative.

I hope to see you and your families in 2008 at events of your alumni family, which will start with a bird-watching day at the Mai Po Marshes. Happy New Year!

Dr Siu-fai Leung (BDS 1986; e-mail: <cswleung@netvigator.com>), is HKUDAA President and an endodontist in private practice. Alumni queries, news, and notices can be sent to him, or to <dentalum@www.hku.hk>.

Dr Sai-kwing Chan (BDS 1985) is the Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon of the Department of Health, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

“It is amazing that 25 years have flown by since the Faculty’s establishment, and 26 years since the opening of the dental hospital. 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.”
Supporting the Faculty’s next 25 years

The HKU Faculty of Dentistry would like to take this opportunity in this 25th anniversary issue of *Expressions* to show its grateful appreciation to the following Faculty members, alumni, students, friends, foundations, companies, and organisations, who have recently made generous donations to support the missions of the Faculty. Thank you!

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