

ANNUAL REPORT 2004/05

# FACULTY OF DENTISTRY



*Special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue*



# The People Behind the Organisation

This year's annual report pays tribute to our staff, past-teachers, alumni, partners and students at the Faculty of Dentistry. Over the past 75 years, many generations of well qualified dental surgeons have passed through our portals, and are practicing dentistry both in Singapore and around the world.

## WE CELEBRATE OUR VISIONS



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**Our vision** is to be a dental institution of international distinction.

**Our mission** is to improve oral health through academic excellence, high impact research and quality clinical service.

**OUR MISSION WILL SUPPORT THE THREE THRUSTS OF NUS:** Quality Education; High Impact Research and Entrepreneurship, In Service of Country and Society.

By providing a vibrant and challenging environment, the faculty strives to produce clinically competent, socially and ethically responsible professionals who will be leaders in the community.

Excellence in our educational programs and innovative research with high impact is the foundation upon which we will advance knowledge and nurture students to realize their full potential with a passion and commitment to independent lifelong learning.



**“...remembering our common heritage and strong foundations, linked by our shared experiences and the forging of a common spirit in dental school.”**

**Let us draw on our strengths, our common heritage and our strong foundations. Let us Shape the Future Together!**

The Faculty celebrated a historical milestone in dental education in Singapore with our 75th Anniversary Celebrations in September 2004. A 75th Anniversary commemorative book and CD encapsulated the Faculty's progress over the years with previous anniversaries commemorative publications recorded in the CD. Besides an educational symposium and opening ceremony, as well as dental public health screening and publicity, alumni returned to the faculty for social events which included golf and tennis tournaments, an informal dinner with past teachers, an open house and get together lunch, which were all well attended. The celebrations culminated in a memorable gala dinner showcasing our very own talents - with staff, students and alumni putting up an enjoyable evening of entertainment with humour, song and dance. We also acknowledged our donors with the official opening of the Dr Tay & Partners Seminar Room and the Charlie Lau Kieng Hiong Conference Room, the first two named facilities in the Faculty.

The celebrations, with the theme *Reflecting on the Past, Shaping the Future*, was an opportunity for staff and students to join with alumni in remembering our common heritage and strong foundations, linked by our shared experiences and the forging of a common spirit in dental school. It was evident to all that we need to come together to face the challenges of the future as we strive to achieve the faculty's vision of becoming a leading international institution in education, research and clinical care.

Research at the Faculty received a significant boost with the commissioning of dedicated research laboratories at new premises at the Defence Medical & Environmental Research Institute (DMERI) building in July 2004. Occupying a total of 425 square metres at the 3rd level, facilities include a Biomaterials Laboratory, Cariology Laboratory, Tissue Culture / Cell Laboratory, Microbiology Laboratory, Histology and Molecular Biology Laboratory, Bio-Imaging Laboratory and a Biophotonics / X Ray Room as well as a research students' study area and research staff offices.

A sign of our growing impact in the research arena was our success at the premier regional dental research meeting, the joint 15th Southeast Asian Association for Dental Education (SEAADE) and 19th International Association for Dental Research Southeast Asian (IADR SEA) Division Annual Scientific Meeting, held in September 2004 at Koh Samui, Thailand. Our researchers and research teams clinched three out of a total of five competitive research awards. In addition, we won the IADR Travel Award Competition for the second consecutive year in the Senior Researcher Category leading to Singapore representing the Southeast Asian Division at the Hatton Award Competition at the 2005 IADR General Session. Our undergraduate research project competitors did the faculty proud also by clinching the first prize in the Dentsply Asia Student Clinicians Competition, competing against other dental school teams from all Southeast Asian countries.

The winning student team represented the Southeast Asian region at the Dentsply Student Clinician Programme at the American Dental Association 2004 Annual Meeting.

A major highlight of student activities was the hosting of the Asia Pacific Dental Students Association (APDSA) Conference in August 2004, the 5th time Singapore has hosted it in its 31-year history. Over three hundred students from nine countries participated, making this a great success as this gathering fostered bonding amongst dental students and dental professionals from across the region.

During the past year, the Faculty commenced teaching support for the new Clinical Education Module on Dental Hygiene for Diploma in Dental Therapy students of the Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) School of Health Sciences. Comprising both didactic and clinical observation sessions in our teaching clinics, our Faculty is pleased to support the training of this new class of dental auxiliary personnel that will contribute to the provision of dental health services for our nation.

With the coming move towards full autonomy, NUS has articulated its aspiration to be one of the leading universities in the world, differentiating itself through a strong global orientation and distinguishing itself through impactful synergies between the processes of creating, imparting and exploiting knowledge. NUS President Shih has made this call to the entire NUS community.....

**“Heritage, community, and rootedness in a globalising world must be nurtured. As NUS embarks on our second centennial in 2005, ... Let us build on our rich heritage as we move towards our vision of becoming a leading global university.”**

This past year, the Faculty embarked on a number of renewal exercises, in line with the University’s move towards autonomy in the near future. A Faculty Strategy Review exercise, incorporating a structured and inclusive approach to align strategy, processes, people, skills, technology and knowledge was conducted. Faculty embarked on several iterations and consultations with stakeholders on the way forward, in reviewing our Vision and Mission, setting our long term and short term objectives and identifying our strategic focus to achieve our objectives and vision. In a changing environment, the Faculty must continually evolve to embrace advances in education, achieve peaks of excellence in research, provide leadership and service to the profession and society and meet the expectations of stakeholders. Correspondingly, we endeavor to engage our stakeholders in the implementation plans and enhance a sense of ownership and common purpose to foster the synergies necessary to propel the Faculty to new heights.

NUS celebrates its Centennial in Academic Year 2005/06, commemorating 100 years of tertiary education in Singapore.

To celebrate and mark NUS Centennial, the Faculty of Dentistry will be holding the “Centennial Dental Symposium” on the 4 to 5 November 2005. With this contribution, the Faculty is proud to continue its mission to advance dental education and oral health for our nation.

As we reflect on a century of development and achievements by NUS, we also remember our predecessors, whose commitment, dedication and pioneering spirit to dental education has brought the profession to its present stature. It leaves this generation of faculty and students, together with the support from a strong alumni, to emulate them to bring the dental profession to new heights. Together, Alumni, Friends, Students and Staff can look forward to the next 100 years of the university. Let me repeat my call to the NUS Dental community that I made in my 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner speech, **“The Faculty has come a long way since 1929. As we face the challenges of the future, in order to achieve our vision of becoming a leading international institution in dental education, research and service, we will need the support of our alumni and the dental profession. Let us draw on our strengths, our common heritage and our strong foundations..... Let us shape the Future Together!”**



**Assoc Prof Keson Tan**  
Dean

**Seated, L - R:**

Prof Loh Hong Sai  
 Assoc Prof Lim Lum Peng  
 Assoc Prof Yeo Jin Fei  
 Assoc Prof Keng Siong Beng  
 Assoc Prof Keson Tan  
 Assoc Prof Kelvin Foong  
 Assoc Prof Jennifer Neo  
 Prof Chew Chong Lin  
 Dr Betty Mok

**Standing, L - R:**

Dr Joanne Uy  
 Dr Hilary Thean  
 Assoc Prof Adrian Yap  
 Dr Willy Chang  
 Dr Mohamed Azharashid  
     bin Mohamed Tahir  
 Dr Cao Tong  
 Dr Khurram Ataulah  
 Dr Anil Kishen  
 Assoc Prof Ho Kee Hai  
 Dr Neo Tee Khin  
 Dr Victor Fan  
 Dr Soh Jen  
 Assoc Prof Varawan Sae-Lim  
 Assoc Prof Teresa Loh

**DEANERY**

Dean                   **Assoc Prof Keson Tan Beng Choon**

Vice-Dean  
 (Academic Affairs) **Assoc Prof Grace Ong Hui Lian**

Vice-Dean  
 (Research)           **Assoc Prof Kelvin Foong Weng Chiong**

Assistant Dean  
 (Clinical Affairs)   **Assoc Prof Keng Siong Beng**

**DEAN'S OFFICE**

**Assoc Prof Keson Tan Beng Choon** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Kelvin Foong Weng Chiong** Associate Professor

**Dr Cao Tong** Assistant Professor

**DEPARTMENT OF ORAL &  
MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

**Assoc Prof Yeo Jin Fei** Head of Department

**Prof Loh Hong Sai** Professorial Fellow

**Assoc Prof Ho Kee Hai** Associate Professor

**Dr Victor Fan Tai Weng** Assistant Professor

**Dr Narendran Andrew Robinson** Adjunct Assistant Professor



## DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY

**Assoc Prof Grace Ong Hui Lian** Head of Department

**Assoc Prof Teo Choo Soo** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Lim Lum Peng** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Kelvin Foong Weng Chiong**  
Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Stephen Hsu Chin-ying** Associate Professor

**Dr Betty Mok Yuen Yue** Senior Lecturer

**Dr Soh Jen** Assistant Professor

**Dr Mohamed Azharashid bin Mohamed Tahir**  
Assistant Professor

**Assoc Prof Teresa Loh-Lee Woon Oi**  
Adjunct Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Stevenberg Berglund Lena**  
Adjunct Associate Professor

**Dr Khurram Atallah** Visiting Fellow

## DEPARTMENT OF RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY

**Assoc Prof Jennifer Neo Chiew Lian** Head of Department

**Prof Chew Chong Lin** Professor

**Assoc Prof Keng Siong Beng** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Keson Tan Beng Choon** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Adrian Yap U Jin** Associate Professor

**Assoc Prof Varawan Sae-Lim** Associate Professor

**Dr Hilary Thean Pik Yen** Assistant Professor

**Dr Chng Hui Kheng** Assistant Professor

**Dr Anil Kishen** Assistant Professor

**Dr Willy Chang Shian Wei** Assistant Professor

**Dr Neo Tee Khin** Adjunct Assistant Professor

**Dr Joanne Ngo Uy** Visiting Fellow

### Faculty celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Faculty of Dentistry started out as a Dental Department within the then King Edward VII College of Medicine in 1929 and turned 75 in the year 2004. **The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations were held from 17 to 19 September 2004.** The Opening Ceremony was held at the Dental Auditorium, during which the official unveiling and naming of the Drs Tay & Partners Seminar Room and the Charlie Lau Kieng Hiong Conference Room was done. Other activities included a golf tournament held in

conjunction with the Guild of Dental Graduates, a tennis match, an informal night held at the NUS alumni house, an educational symposium, the Gala Dinner held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront ballroom and a Dental Public Health Screening held at the Suntec Convention Centre. **In total, over 500 staff, students, alumni and guests** participated in the celebrations. The event was supported by generous sponsorships from friends of the faculty and alumni contributions.



A reunion of former staff and students

DATE	ACTIVITIES	VENUE / DETAILS
<b>Friday, 17 September 2004</b>	<b>Registration Begins</b> Golf Tennis Informal Dinner	Faculty of Dentistry Raffles Country Club NUS alumni house, Office of Alumni Relations, NUS
<b>Saturday, 18 September 2004</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> <b>Educational Symposium /</b> <b>Faculty Tour / Lunch</b>  <b>Gala Dinner and Dance</b> Guest of Honour, Prof Shih Choon Fong President, NUS	Faculty of Dentistry, Level 4 Faculty of Dentistry, Level 4  Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel
<b>Sunday, 19 September 2004</b>	<b>93.8 FM Radio Talk Show / Public Forum /</b> <b>Dental Public Health Screening</b>	Suntec Convention Centre





Mrs Charlie Lau and Dr Peter Tay officiating the opening of the Charlie Lau Kieng Hiong Conference Room (left) and the Drs Tay & Partners Seminar Room (right) respectively



Prof JA Jansen, Prof Shih Choon Fong, A/Prof Keson Tan and Prof Edmund Tay.



Dental Public Health Screening at Suntec Convention Centre

## Educational Symposium



Dr Chua Ee Kiam



Dr Djeng Shih Kien



A/Prof Kelvin Foong



Dr Myra Elliot



Prof Toh Chooi Gait



Dr Victor Fan

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book and CD

## NUS Centennial Celebrations ( May 2005 –June 2006 )

The National University of Singapore began its humble beginnings in 1905. Today, we're 100, let's celebrate! And there are 100 events lined up along **5 themes - strengthening global links, honouring academic excellence, celebrating cultural vibrancy, scaling sporting heights and saluting our heritage.**

The year-long NUS Centennial Celebrations was ushered on 25 June 2005. Gracing the occasion was Guest-of-Honour Mr Wong Ngit Liong, NUS Council Chairman. The event, which was held at the new University Hall, included the raising of the new NUS flag, unveiling of the NUS Centennial Sculpture, performing of the inaugural NUS song as well as a photo exhibition showcasing the NUS Centennial Everest Expedition team and achievements of NUS alumnus Dr William Tan. Staff and students of the Faculty of Dentistry supported and participated in the Medical Centennial Dinner which was held on 3 July 2005. It will be hosting a symposium on 4 to 5 November 2005 as one of the events listed in the celebrations.



### New Tutorial and Seminar Rooms

Following the shift of the research laboratories to the DSO building, the vacated space was converted into much needed teaching space. The renovation increased the number of available tutorial rooms and seminar rooms to seven and four respectively. A Postgraduate Lounge was also created. The Faculty currently occupies 5866 square metres in the National University Hospital and 450 square meters in the Faculty of Dentistry Research Laboratories at the DSO National Laboratories (Kent Ridge).

### New Academic Awards

With effect from the AY2004, the "IADR Medal" will be awarded towards the best student for the Final MDS (Periodontology) Examinations. The "Prosthodontic Society Singapore Medal" was also approved for award to the best student for the Final MDS (Prosthodontics) Examination from AY2005 onwards. These two medals were a first towards recognition of academic excellence in the postgraduate clinical residency training programme.

### Expanding Student Financial Assistance

The Faculty also received contributions towards two Faculty-level Bursary Awards (titled "Dental Bursary"), increasing the total amount of bursary awards from four to six, including three "Dental Bursary", one "SmileWorks Bursary" and two "Q&M Dental Surgery Bursary" awards.

### Forging Links with Local Polytechnic

The Faculty of Dentistry welcomed twenty-seven students from the Diploma in Dental Therapy programme offered by the Nanyang Polytechnic School of Health Sciences. The students, who were in their second year of training, were attached to the Faculty as part of their "Clinical Education Module on Dental Hygiene" from 11 to 22 April 2005. During their 2-week attachment, they were briefed on infection control and dental hygiene issues through didactics and small group discussions facilitated by dental faculty as well as nursing staff. They also observed various undergraduate and periodontal postgraduate clinics in periodontics.

### Faculty Strategy Retreat



Group discussion at the Faculty Retreat in Le Meridien Changi Village Hotel.

As part of a comprehensive university-wide strategic review, President Shih Choon Fong stated that this exercise "aims to ensure that our NUS' strategic intent as encapsulated in our vision, mission and key objectives remain relevant in a rapidly changing and increasingly competitive external environment."

Our Faculty embarked on several consultation sessions with stakeholders as members in focus groups, Academic Staff meetings, Faculty Board and the Faculty Advisory Committee, since March 2005. Following the Faculty Retreat on 8 April 2005, the various groups continue to meet to further discuss suggestions made.

Our stakeholders reached a consensus on short and long term objectives and identified strategic focus to propel our Faculty to its next phase of global excellence. Our key strategies include improving educational experience for our students, enhancing staff quality, improving research impact and output and ensuring effective management and administrative processes to support implementation. The immediate focus would be on expanding provision of continuing education for the profession and developing research centres.

The final Faculty Strategy Review document has been submitted for approval.



From left to right: A/Prof Kelvin Foong, Prof John Langdon, Dr Go Wee Ser, A/Prof Keson Tan, Prof James MacDonald, A/Prof Yeo Jin Fei, Prof Andrew Sandham, Prof Cheung Lim Kwong, Prof Chew Chong Lin and Prof Richard Ibbetson.

## **Faculty hosts the RCS Ed Quincentennial Celebrations in Singapore** *Theme: "Restoring Facial Aesthetics through Dentistry"*

The Faculty of Dentistry was the host and co-organizer of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) Quincentennial Celebrations 2005 in Singapore. The theme for the College's Quincentennial Celebration was "500 years of Innovation and Excellence in Surgery". The local meeting, themed "Restoring Facial Aesthetics through Dentistry", was held on 22 May 2005 at the Dental Auditorium. About 50 people registered and attended this meeting. We are honoured to have Prof James McDonald, Dean, Faculty of Dental Surgery, RCSEd to grace this meeting.

**The speakers** included Prof Andrew Sandham, Prof Richard Ibbetson, Prof John Langdon, Prof Cheung Lim Kwong, A/Prof Kelvin Foong and Dr Go Wee Ser.



Prof Challacombe delivering his lecture on recent advances in oral medicine

## **6th NUS-SDA Distinguished Speaker Programme - Prof Stephen Challacombe**

Professor Stephen Challacombe, a well-known expert in the field of Oral Medicine and Immunology from Guy's, King's and St Thomas' Medical and Dental School, UK, was invited under the auspices of the NUS-SDA Distinguished Speaker Programme for 2005. This year's programme highlighted the importance and relevance of Medicine, Immunology and Microbiology in the field of Dentistry. Over the 3-day programme from 11 to 13 April 2005, participants were treated to a set of informative lectures on various topics in Oral Medicine. Prof Challacombe covered topics including current controversies in Oral Medicine, latest findings in treatment modalities for common oral mucosal lesions, Candida, HIV, etc. Interactions with staff included also various aspects of research, management of selected Oral Medicine clinical cases, presented by the department of OMS. Prof Challacombe also shared experiences with the Communicable Diseases Centre and Tan Tock Seng Hospital on the HIV situation and the epidemiology of other infectious diseases in Singapore.



A section of the attentive audience at one of Prof Challacombe's lecture

### 1st Singapore-China Symposium on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS)

*Theme: "Oral and maxillofacial reconstruction"*

The inaugural Singapore-China Symposium on OMS, jointly organised by the Department of OMS, Faculty of Dentistry and the Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (Singapore), was held at the Dental Auditorium, NUS on 26 February 2005. The keynote speaker was Prof Zhang Chen Ping, Vice Director of the Affiliated Ninth People's Hospital of Shanghai Second Medical University. The local speakers were A/Prof Luke Tan, A/Prof Ho Kee Hai, Drs Victor Fan, Chan Siew Luen, Ansgar Cheng, Go Wee Ser, Cao Tong, Andrew Tay and Myra Elliot. A total of 75 participants attended the symposium. The symposium covered a range of topics on reconstruction surgery of the orofacial region including case demonstrations of radial forearm free flap and vascularised free fibula reconstruction.



Dean with Prof Zhang Chen Ping (right)



From left to right: Dr Andrew Tay, Dr Chan Siew Luen, A/Prof Luke Tan, Prof Zhang Chen Ping, A/Prof Keson Tan, A/Prof Yeo Jin Fei, Dr Victor Fan and A/Prof Ho Kee Hai

### Winning five out of eight competitions at the IADR SEA Division and SEAADe Annual Meeting at Koh Samui, 2004

The 19th International Association for Dental Research Southeast Asian (IADR SEA) Division and 15th Southeast Asian Association for Dental Education (SEAADe) Annual Meeting was held at Koh Samui, Thailand from 3 to 6 September 2004. NUS was represented by the Immediate Past President of the IADR SEA Division and current Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, A/Prof Keson Tan and a team comprising of academic staff, post-doctoral fellows and postgraduate students. Competing with several other Dental Schools from around the Southeast Asia region, the team from NUS performed extremely well in all the research categories and emerged winning five of the possible eight competitions contested:



Poster presentations at the IADR

- IADR SEA Division Travel Award Competition (*Senior Researcher*),
- IADR SEA Best Paper Awards for
  - Cariology & Mineralised Tissues,
  - Dental Materials-Laboratory Research,
  - Craniofacial Biology,
- Dentsply Asia Student Clinicians Competition.

The awards were noteworthy recognition for our recent research thrust and the quality of work done by NUS Dentistry staff and students.



Representatives from Dentistry at the Conference.



NHG Annual Scientific Congress 2004

### **NUS Faculty of Dentistry wins Best Oral Science Poster award at the 3rd NHG Annual Scientific Congress**

The 3rd National Healthcare Group (NHG) Annual Scientific Congress 2004 was held from the 9 to 10 October 2004 at the Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore. The theme of the congress was "Merging Medicine with Science". The topic of Oral and Maxillofacial Cancers, Dentistry was represented by local speakers A/Prof Yeo Jin Fei, Dr Andrew Robinson and Dr Victor Fan, as well as Dr N Ravindranathan from Brunei Dharusalam. Dr Liu Hua from the Faculty of Dentistry won the best oral science poster award in this conference for her work entitled "Early Separation of MSC Differentiated Osteogenic Cells for Osteogenesis in Local Implantation". The co-authors were Dr Heng Boon Chin, Ms Saw Tzuen Yih, Mr Ouyang Hongwei and Dr Cao Tong.



Mr Loke Weiqiang and his supervisor, A/P Jennifer Neo.

### **Final Year Dental Student represents Asia at International Ceram-X Case Competition**

The Ceram-X Asia Case Competition for dental students was held in April 2005. The competition, organized by Dentsply Asia, received a total of 128 cases from 36 universities across the region. Mr Loke Weiqiang, our Final Year Dental student won the country prize for the Duo category in Malaysia & Singapore. His work was supervised by A/Prof Jennifer Neo. Weiqiang then went on to represent Malaysia & Singapore to compete for the Asia Prize, winning 2nd place in this competition. He received a cash award of \$1000 and NUS received Dentsply restorative material worth \$1000. As one of the Asia winners, Weiqiang will join the other prize winners to represent Asia in the DeTrey competition to be held in Europe.

### **BioMers - Innovation in aesthetic orthodontic archwires**

BioMers is a student-researcher professional team with an international make-up, including a PhD student and research assistant from Faculty of Dentistry and Bioengineering of NUS, as well as business development manager from Centre for Scientific Enterprise and Imperial College in London. The team developed a complete aesthetic alternative to unsightly metallic braces with the necessary mechanical properties to straighten improperly malaligned teeth. BioMers aim to capture a significant portion of the one million orthodontic patients in the U.S. who are currently seeking an aesthetic treatment for their malocclusion. BioMers beat more than 200 other entries to clinch the S\$30,000 grand prize for the General Category of the Sixth Start-Up@Singapore National Business Plan Competition and Enterprise Launcher. In addition, the same team also received Honorable Mention at the University of San Francisco - Pacific Specialty Insurance International Business Plan Competition in March 2005.

**NUS Dental Society hosts the 2004 APDSA Congress**

The 31st Asia Pacific Dental Student Association (APDSA) Congress was held in Singapore from 16 to 21 August 2004. The congress involved members of the dental fraternity from around the Asia Pacific region. The theme of this year's congress was "Bridging Worlds". Through the plethora of activities organized for the delegates, such as the Opening Ceremony, Cultural night, Scientific talks and presentations, Gala Ball and the Faculty tour, the event presented an opportunity for delegates to better understand and appreciate diverse cultures. Exchange of knowledge through the scientific talks and presentations by successful regional researchers and clinicians was also achieved.



City Tour



Tour of Faculty of Dentistry's facilities



Cultural Night



Gala Night



### Commencement 2004

The commencement ceremony for the graduating class of 2004 was held on 8 July 2004 at the NUS University Cultural Centre (UCC). Thirty-two BDS and thirteen MDS graduates received their degree scrolls.

### First Dentist Pledge Ceremony for BDS graduates

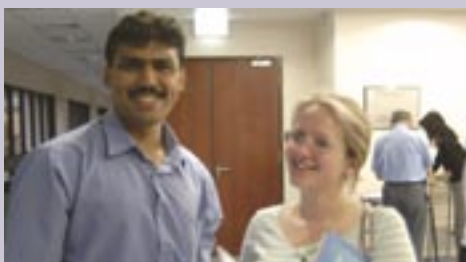
The First Dentist Pledge Affirmation Ceremony was held on 8 November 2004 at the College of Medicine Building. Thirty-one newly registered dentists from the graduating BDS class of 2004 were the first to take the pledge. The guest of honour for the ceremony was Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister of Health.

### Orientation 2004

A series of events was organized by the second year dental students to welcome dental freshmen in the months of July and August 2004. The Freshman Orientation 2004 programme started with a 3-day dental camp in Sentosa, during which the senior class and junior class interacted over fun and games. The camp was followed by two weeks of rigorous float building and rehearsals for the NUS Rag Day on 7 August 2004.



Rag & Flag 2004



Dr Rayna Stryukova (right) from Moscow State Medical and Dental University

#### International Student Attachments

The faculty played host to 11 students from overseas dental schools who opted to come to NUS as part of their elective programmes. These students were from the University of Melbourne, the University of Sydney, the University of Adelaide and Moscow State Medical and Dental University.

#### Faculty Outreach



Showcasing our strength in research at the NUS Open House



Interactive station for public participation

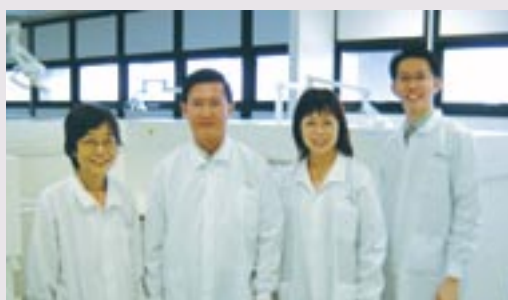
The Faculty of Dentistry was actively involved in outreach initiatives to raise the profile of the faculty as well as Dentistry as a profession. The faculty had set up a booth at the annual NUS Open House held on 12 March 2005 and among others, highlighted the admission requirements into the faculty and the career prospects for young graduate dentists to potential students.

The faculty also received 148 job shadowing students who were from various secondary schools and junior colleges in Singapore. These students spent on average two days in the faculty to observe dental students and dental officers as they go about their daily activities. Our undergraduate students who were alumni of Tampines Junior College were also invited to conduct a career talk for their students in April 2005.





Dr Heng Sopanha (left)



Dr Vorn Vutra (Second from left)



Prof Jon Suzuki

## Faculty Visitors

As part of our strategic focus, enhancing international relations plays an important role in opening doors to international practices and strengthening ties with renowned institutions. Faculty welcomed the visits of several visitors, including:

- Representatives from Lille 2 University, France (1 November 2004)
- Staff as well as dental technician and dental hygiene students from Fukuoka College of Medical and Dental Technology, Japan (3 June 2004 and 26 August 2004)
- Dental hygiene students from Kumamoto Hygiene & Technology School, Japan (7 December 2004)
- Prof Peter Marquis, Dean of the Life & Health Sciences, School of Dentistry, The University of Birmingham, UK (26 November 2004)
- Prof Jon Suzuki, Professor of Periodontics and Microbiology, Temple University, Philadelphia, USA (17 to 19 April 2005)
- Prof Malgorzata Kujawska, President of the SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering (29 April 2005)

The Faculty, under the MOE Education-Train-The-Trainers programme, received Dr Vorn Vutra, Cambodia from 8 November to 27 November 2004 as well as Dr Heng Sopanha, Cambodia from 20 September 2004 to 9 October 2004.




Indonesian visitors under Dentsply Asia Visitorship Programme



Prof Malgorzata Kujawska (middle)

Under the Dentsply Asia Visitorship Programme, Faculty welcomed representatives from the Prof Dr Moestopo University and Triksakti University, Indonesia from 30 January to 5 February 2005. The Institute of Dental Medicine from both Yangon and Mandalay in Myanmar visited under the same programme from 14 to 18 March 2005.



By providing a vibrant and challenging environment, the faculty strives to produce clinically competent, socially and ethically responsible professionals.

### Total Student Enrolment

#### UNDERGRADUATE

Year 1	34
Year 2	34
Year 3	35
Year 4	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>136</b>

#### POSTGRADUATE (Clinical Specialties)

MDS (Endodontics)	5
MDS (Oral Maxillofacial Surgery)	7
MDS (Orthodontics)	10
MDS (Periodontics)	4
MDS (Prosthodontics)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>

#### POSTGRADUATE (Research)

<b>Full-Time</b>	
MSc	12
PhD	8
<b>Part-Time</b>	
PhD	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

### Staff Teaching Awards

#### Faculty Excellence in Teaching Awards

- A/P Kelvin Foong Weng Chiong (*left picture*)
- Dr Hilary Thean Pik Yen (*right picture*)



### Student Scholarships

#### BDS71 Scholarship (AY2004/05)

- Mr Tan Kian Meng (*left picture*)
- Mr Chye Chuan Hee (*right picture*)



#### President Graduate Fellowship

- Ms Soh Mui Siang  
PhD Research Scholar with the Department of Restorative Dentistry





Dr Ng Yuk Ching (back row, third from left) and fellow competitors at the International Dentsply Student Clinician Meeting in Orlando, Florida

#### Undergraduate Research Project Represents Southeast Asia at International Competition

The undergraduate team representing the National University of Singapore was placed first in the Dentsply Asia Student Clinicians Competition at the 15th Southeast Asian Association for Dental Education (SEAADE) and 19th International Association for Dental Research Southeast Asian (IADR SEA) Division Annual Scientific Meeting. The team comprised of Miss Ng Yuk Ching, Miss Selvajothi d/o Veerasamy, Miss Cecilia Zheng Hongyan, Mr Jeffrey Sng Hong Cheong and Mr Eugene Wee Chun Kheng. Their project was entitled "In situ evaluation of laser effect on the prevention of enamel demineralisation using an intra-oral model". The team also represented the Southeast Asian region for the International Dentsply Student Clinician Programme at the Annual Meeting of the American Dental Association, Orlando, Florida, held on September 2004.

Two other projects, which won the 1st and 2nd runner-up prize at the Faculty Research Day also went on to represent NUS at the Asia Pacific Dental Student Congress 2004. The project entitled "The effect of food simulants on the bond strength of orthodontic bracket using resin modified glass ionomer cements" won the 1st prize. The team comprised of Miss Low Hwee Hiang, Miss Tong Hwei Jinn, Miss Florence Wong Liping and Mr Lim Sze Kheng. The project entitled "Effects of surface treatment and materials on class II open sandwich technique" won the 2nd prize. The team comprised of Mr Low Gim Hong, Mr Peh Gek Chuan, Mr Seetoh Yoong Liang and Mr Alvin Tan Cheng Boon.



Research mentor A/Prof Stephen Hsu and the two Victoria Junior College Students

#### Mentorship of Junior College Student Research Project

The student research project by two Victoria Junior College students under the supervision of A/Prof Hsu Chin-ying, Stephen was awarded one of the 11 gold awards, out of the 258 entries in the 2005 Singapore Science and Engineering Fair Research (SSEF) Competition. The SSEF Competition is a national competition organised by Ministry of Education, the A\*STAR, and the Singapore Science Centre (SSC). Their project entitled "In vitro study of the inhibiting effect of Er: Yag laser on enamel demineralisation in adverse pH condition", was conducted from January to December 2004.

### Student Exchange Programme

In Academic Year 2004/05, a total of nine undergraduate students went on a 2-week attachment to overseas universities under the Student Exchange Programme.

All of the nine undergraduate students were sponsored by either dental companies or the Office of Alumni Relations in the Student Exchange Programme 2004.



Our undergraduates at the Loma Linda University, USA.

Host University Visited	Sponsor(s)
Loma Linda, USA	Dentsply, Shofu, GC Asia, Office of Alumni Relations
Guys, Kings and St. Thomas, UK	Kavo, Office of Alumni Relations
Melbourne, Australia	RACDS Australia (Travel grant)

Academic Year	No. of Students	Host Universities
2002 / 03	16	University of North Carolina (USA) Loma Linda University (USA) Karolinska Institute (Sweden) Tokyo Medical and Dental University (Japan)
2003 / 04	17	Karolinska Institute (Sweden) University of British Columbia (Canada) University of North Carolina (USA) Guys, Kings and St. Thomas University (UK)
2004 / 05	9	Loma Linda University (USA) Guys, Kings and St. Thomas University (UK) Melbourne University (Australia)

**Basic Medical Science Course & Part 1 MDS Examinations**

The Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) course is a preparatory course offered by the Faculty of Dentistry to prepare candidates for the Part 1 MDS Examination, which is conducted for the following specialties – Endodontics, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Orthodontics, Periodontology and Prosthodontics.

In the Academic Year 2004/05, the Faculty accepted 10 students for the BMS course and 8 candidates sat for the corresponding Part 1 MDS Examination.

Academic Year	BMS COURSE		PART 1 MDS EXAM	
	Residents	Private	Residents	Private
2001	4	8	4	6
2002	3	4	3	7
2003	4	3	4	4
2004	4	6	4	4

**Conjoint MDS Examinations**

The Division of Graduate Dental Studies is an examination centre with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and conducts the Membership in Orthodontics (MOrth RCS Edinburgh) as well as the Membership in Restorative Dentistry (MRD RCS Edinburgh) Examination for Endodontics, Periodontology and Prosthodontics.

Conjoint MDS Examinations	No. of candidates for Academic Year 2004 / 2005
Orthodontics	8
Endodontics	3
Periodontology	2
Prosthodontics	2



MDS (Periodontology) graduates with Programme Director, A/Prof Lim Lum Peng

**First Conjoint MDS-MRD Examination in Periodontology**

The Division of Graduate Dental Studies conducted the first conjoint MDS-MRD Examination in Periodontology from 16 to 19 May 2005. There were two candidates sitting for the examination and both successfully completed the examination. Our first batch of graduates from the Periodontology Residency Training Programme, Dr Tan Wah Ching and Dr Khurram Ataullah, were conferred with the Master of Dental Surgery (Periodontology) programme on 30 June 2005. Dr Tan was also awarded the IADR Bookprize for good academic performance.

### Continuing Professional Education


The Division of Graduate Dental Studies (DGDS) mounted an active continuing professional education (CPE) programme for dentists in Singapore and the region. This is in line with the forthcoming move to make CPE compulsory in Singapore.

### List of CPE Events Organized in AY2004/05

Date	Topic	Speaker(s)
18 Sept 2004	75th Anniversary Celebrations Educational Symposium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dentistry Without Borders</li> <li>• The tooth and something other than the tooth</li> <li>• Celebration of Life</li> <li>• Bleaching of Vital Teeth</li> <li>• Maxillofacial Surgery - Singapore's unwanted child?</li> <li>• Research in Dentistry</li> </ul>	Dr Myra Elliot Dr Djeng Shih Kien Dr Chua Ee Kiam Prof Toh Chooi Giat Dr Victor Fan A/Prof Kelvin Foong
16 Oct 2004	Orofacial Pain: From Fundamentals to Clinical Practice	Dr Tan Hee Hon A/Prof Yeo Jin Fei A/Prof Adrian Yap
3 Feb 2005	Endodontic Bugs and Drugs	Prof Craig Baumgartner
28 Feb 2005	Safe and Predictable Root Canal Preparation with Rotary and Hand NiTi Files	Dr Julian Webber
11 - 13 April 2005	NUS-SDA Distinguished Speaker Programme 2005 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture 1 : Controversies in Oral Medicine</li> <li>• Seminar 1 : Common Oral Mucosal Lesions-What's New?</li> <li>• Open Lecture: Update on the Role of Molecular Biology and the New Technologies in the Diagnosis and Management of Oral Mucosal Disorders</li> <li>• Seminar 2 : Trends in Oral Medicine/ Oral Pathology Research</li> <li>• Lecture 2 : Candida Lesions of the Oral Mucosa</li> <li>• Lecture 3 : Update on HIV Infection in Asia</li> </ul>	Prof Stephen Challacombe
18 April 2005	Periodontal Management of Immunocompromised Patients undergoing Chemotherapy	Prof Jon Suzuki
22 May 2005	Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh (RCSEd) Quincentennial Celebrations 2005 - Singapore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maxillofacial Cancer and Reconstructive Surgery</li> <li>• Restoring Facial Aesthetics - Role of Prosthodontists</li> <li>• Changing Faces - an orthodontist's perspective</li> <li>• Refinement of maxillofacial reconstruction with stereomodelling"</li> <li>• Restoring Facial Aesthetics - Role of Orthodontists</li> <li>• Restoring Facial Aesthetics - Role of Orthognathic Surgery</li> </ul>	Prof John Langdon Prof Richard Ibbetson Prof Andrew Sandham Prof Cheung Lim Kwong  A/Prof Kelvin Foong Dr Go Wee Ser
30 May 2005	Oral Health Related Quality Of Life  Psychological Profile of Patients with Dentofacial Deformity and Its Post-Surgical Changes	Prof Robert Bagramian  Dr John Loh
1 June 2005	Treatment of the Complicated Denture Patient	A/Prof Carl Driscoll

## INITIATIVES

### CLINICAL SERVICES



Producing clinically competent graduates with a sense of professionalism, ethical and social responsibility.





Visiting consultant Dr Loh Fun Chee (*seated in center*) with periodontology resident performing implant surgery.

#### Combined Implant Clinic

Clinical Training in Implant Surgery is conducted with a Combined Implant Clinic at the General Practice Unit (GPU). Faculty and Visiting Consultants, provide consultations to patients referred in by the restoring dentist after a prior prosthodontic consultation. Residents, primarily from Graduate Periodontics, manage each patient from commencement to case completion under close supervision in a structured teaching environment. They undertake observation and surgical assisting before performing implant surgery in the 2nd and 3rd year of the MDS program. The residents work with prosthodontists and prosthodontic residents on coordinating the joint treatment plan for each patient and following the pre-operative work-up. Every surgical case will have a restorative treatment plan in place before the surgical placement of implants is undertaken.

Since 2001, around 250 implant fixtures have been placed in 130 patients. The clinic accepts referrals from the Undergraduate clinics, NUH clinical staff as well as external referrals from the private sector and provides a cost-effective option for patients.

#### Updates on NUS-NUH Community Dental Project

The project was initiated in 1999 with the objective of providing free basic dental care to the elderly poor from the Lions Befrienders. Over the past 6 years, a total number of 302 patients have been treated. With effect from July 2004, the NUS-NUH Community Dental Project was shifted from the usual Saturday afternoons to weekday slots. The change enabled a better coordination of services provided to the beneficiaries of the project - currently the elderly from the Lions Befrienders. The elderly patients were seen by dental undergraduate students, prosthodontic postgraduate residents as well as academic staff. Through the project, students and staff contribute to the community as well as nurturing an appreciation of volunteerism and community spirit.

#### Clinical Imaging Room

A Clinical Imaging Room has been setup at level 2 of the faculty to acquire and document 2D and 3D soft tissue craniofacial images as part of the improvement and advancement of diagnostic dental imaging for clinical application. The room is designed for basic 2D dental photography of the face and dentition as well as 3D capturing of facial soft tissue using FaceVision 600 imaging system. The room will also be used for computer-assisted treatment planning of orthodontic-surgical cases and multimedia integration of facial soft tissue motion as part of orthodontic diagnosis.

#### Dental Public Health Screening

On 21 May 2005 the Dental Society organised the annual Dental Public Health Screening & Exhibition at Toa Payoh HDB Hub Mall. The aim of the event was to provide free dental screening and oral health education to members of the public.

There was a constant stream of visitors and our students were kept busy carrying out dental screenings and giving oral health advice. The event was well attended and 446 people participated in the oral health screening.





## Research Focus Areas

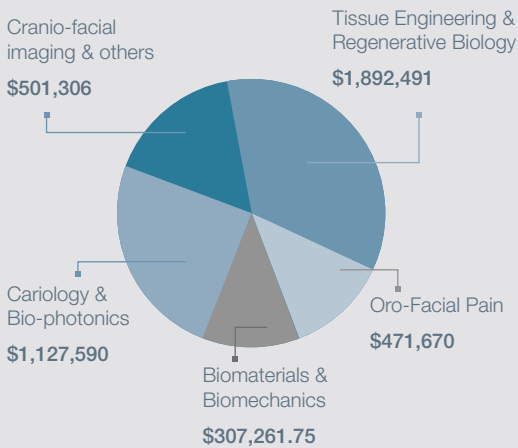
The faculty remains committed to the five key research focus areas of:

- Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Biology
- Oro-Facial Pain
- Biomaterials and Biomechanics
- Cariology and Biophotonics
- Craniofacial Imaging

## Research Grants

A sum of \$522,678 has been allotted from the Academic Research Fund in Financial Year 2004. The distribution of the funding procured for these research focus areas are shown in *Figure 1*.

**Fig 1. Cumulative Funding for key research focus areas from FY2001 to FY2004**



For AY2004/5, there were 30 ongoing projects and six new projects funded by the Academic Research Fund. Seven projects were successfully completed.

## Research Infrastructure Development

In 2004, dedicated research laboratory space was established at the DSO (Kent Ridge) building. This laboratory houses facilities for Bioimaging, Cariology, Biophotonics, Biomaterials, Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Cell-culture research. Thirteen MSc (Research) and thirteen PhD students conduct research under their mentors within this laboratory.

## Faculty Publications

There was a significant increase in the faculty publications in peer referred premier and leading international journals in 2004/2005. The faculty publication figures are shown in *Figure 2*.

**Fig 2. Number of Refereed Publications for AY2001 to AY2004**



# INITIATIVES (CONT'D)

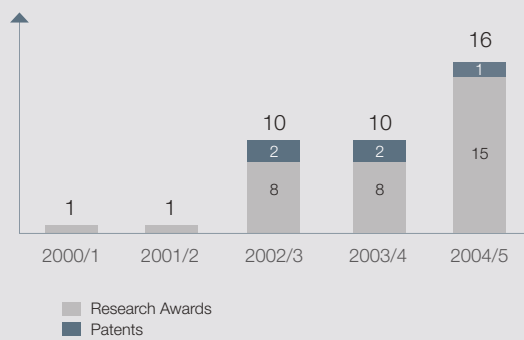
## RESEARCH

Annual  
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### Research Achievements

The Faculty won 16 research awards at various local, regional and international conferences in AY2004/05. One patents were also filed.

**Fig 3. Number of awards received and patents filed between AY2001/02 to AY2004/05**



Patent Subject	Team	Status
<b>Advanced Non Invasive Light Activated Therapy to Eliminate Microbes in Teeth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Anil Kishen (Department of Restorative Dentistry),</li> <li>• Mr Saji George (Department of Restorative Dentistry),</li> <li>• Dr Song Keang-Peng (Department of Microbiology),</li> <li>• A/Prof Jennifer Neo (Department of Restorative Dentistry)</li> </ul>	US provisional patent filed on 13 June 2005

## Staff Appointments

### Department of Restorative Dentistry

#### PROF CHEW CHONG LIN

- Chief Dental Officer, Ministry of Health
- Registrar, Singapore Dental Council

#### A/PROF KENG SIONG BENG

- President, South East Asia Association for Dental Education (SEAADE), 2004-2006

#### DR ANIL KISHEN

- Secretary, International Association of Dental Research Singapore Section, 2005-2006
- Vice Chairman, Singapore Chapter of the Internal Society of Optical Engineering (SPIE), 2005-2006

#### A/PROF NEO CHIEW LIAN, JENNIFER

- Member, Singapore Dental Council

#### A/PROF SAE-LIM VARAWAN

- Chairperson, Chapter of Dental Surgeons, Academy of Medicine, 2003-2005
- Hon Secretary, South East Asia Association for Dental Education (SEAADE), 2004-2006

#### A/PROF TAN BENG CHOON, KESON

- Immediate Past-President, International Association for Dental Research South-East Asian Division

- Visiting Consultant, SAF Medical Corps, 2001-2004
- Member, Singapore Dental Council

#### A/PROF YAP U JIN, ADRIAN

- Immediate Past -President, International Association for Dental Research Singapore Section
- Secretary, TMD/RDC International Consortium

### Department of Preventive Dentistry

#### A/PROF FOONG WENG CHIONG, KELVIN

- Chairperson, Dental Specialty Board for Orthodontics, Chapter of Dental Surgeons, Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

#### A/PROF HSU CHIN-YING, STEPHEN

- Chairperson, International Association for Dental Research Singapore Section

#### DR MOK YUEN YUE, BETTY

- Board of Directors, Pediatric Dentistry Association of Asia, 2002-2006

#### DR MOHAMED AZHARASHID BIN MOHAMED TAHIR

- Vice-President, International Association for Dental Research (IADR) Singapore Section

#### A/PROF TEO CHOO SOO

- Consultant, Conference & Education Committee, FDI World Dental Federation, 2001-2004

### Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

#### DR FAN TAI WENG, VICTOR

- Hon Secretary, Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

#### A/PROF HO KEE HAI

- Member, Singapore Dental Council

#### PROF LOH HONG SAI

- President, Guild of Dental Graduates, 2003-2004
- President, International Society for Laser Dentistry, 2002-2004
- Council Member, International Society for Lasers in Surgery and Medicine, 2002-2004

#### A/PROF YEO JIN FEI

- Dental Regional Advisor (Overseas) to Faculty of Dental Surgery, RCS Edinburgh, 1999-2006
- Regent, Section 24 (Singapore & Indonesia), International College of Dentists, 2005
- Member, Singapore Dental Council

## Staff Awards

Name	Award
Prof Chew Chong Lin, <i>Restorative Dentistry</i>	The Public Administration Medal (Silver), National Day Awards 2004
Prof Loh Hong Sai, <i>Oral &amp; Maxillofacial Surgery</i>	Roll of Honour, Singapore Dental Association 2004
A/Prof Grace Ong, <i>Preventive Dentistry</i>	Service to Ministry of Education Award 2004

## Visiting Professors

### Department of Restorative Dentistry



Prof Baumgartner giving a lecture on "Endodontic Bugs and Drugs"

**Professor Craig J. Baumgartner**, Professor in Endodontics with the Oregon Health Sciences University, was appointed to the department from 3 January to 26 February 2005. Prof Baumgartner was involved in reviewing undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in Endodontics and also conducted advanced research seminars and provided guidance for dental graduate students. He also shared his expertise at the continuing professional development courses organized by the department.

**Visiting Professors (CONT'D)**

Prof Nicholls (second from right) at a seminar



Prof Swain (centre) at a golf game

**Professor Jack I. Nicholls**, Professor in Biomaterials with the University of Washington, was appointed to the department from 13 October to 13 December 2004. During his stay, Prof Nicholls held small group research seminars and worked with dental staff and graduate students on their research projects.

**Professor Michael V. Swain**, Professor in Biomaterials with the University of Otago, New Zealand, was appointed to the department from 29 June to 26 July 2005. Faculty research staff took the opportunity to build collaborations in research projects of mutual interest. Prof Swain also held seminars for graduate students in the related research fields.

**List of Editorial Board Memberships**

Name of Staff	Name of International Journal	Editorial Position Held
Dr Anil Kishen	Singapore Dental Journal	Section Editor (International publications)
Prof Chew Chong Lin	Journal of Dentistry	Editorial Board
A/Prof Foong Weng Chiong, Kelvin	Singapore Dental Journal	Section Editor (Preventive Dentistry)
A/Prof Ho Kee Hai	Asian Journal of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery	Editorial Board
A/Prof Lim Lum Peng	Oral Health & Preventive Dentistry	Editorial Board
Prof Loh Hong Sai	Singapore Dental Journal	Section Editor (Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)
Dr Mohamed Azharashid bin Mohamed Tahir	Singapore Dental Journal	Associate Editor
A/Prof Neo Chiew Lian, Jennifer	Operative Dentistry Asian Journal of Aesthetic Dentistry	Editorial Board Editorial Board
A/Prof Ong Hui Lian, Grace	European Journal of Dental Education	Editorial Board
Dr Soh Jen	American Journal of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	Editorial Review Board
A/Prof Tan Beng Choon, Keson	Journal of Oral Rehabilitation	Editorial Board
A/Prof Varawan Sae-Lim	Journal of Dental Traumatology Journal of Endodontics	Editorial Board Scientific Advisory Panel
A/Prof Yap U-Jin, Adrian	Practical Procedures and Aesthetic Dentistry Current Nanoscience Indian Journal of Dental Research Operative Dentistry American Journal of Dentistry Singapore Dental Journal	Editor-in-Chief  Editorial Board Editorial Board Editorial Board Editor



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