

dental mirror

issue no. 21 • June 2008

newsletter of the Faculty of Dentistry, a member of the National University Health System

Dr Marlene Teo

Launch of the National University Health System (NUHS)



NUHS Board members (seated, from left to right): Dr Lim Suet Wun, Mrs Mildred Tan, Mr Low Wong Fook, Mr Lim Yong Wah (Chairman), Mr Sanjiv Misra, Ms Olivia Lum and Prof Edward Holmes.

NUHS Senior Management (standing, from left to right): A/Prof Yeoh Khay Guan, Prof John Wong, Ms Lee Chen Ee, A/Prof Benjamin Ong, Mr Chua Song Khim (then CEO, NUH), A/Prof Kelvin Foong, Dr Kelvin Loh and Ms Margaret Lee.

Not in photo: NUHS Board members, Ms Yong Ying-I, Prof Tan Chorh Chuan (Chief Executive, NUHS), Mr Sundaresh Menon, and Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, A/Prof Keson Tan.

"The formation of NUHS is a historic and strategically important initiative for NUS, NUH and for Singapore. The close linkage between research and clinical care which NUHS will enable, will result in 'home-grown' innovations and advances which will help advance health and healthcare. It will also enhance the learning environment and opportunities for our students."

~ Professor Tan Chorh Chuan, Chief Executive, NUHS

It was announced in October 2007 that the Singapore Government has decided to unify the governance of NUH, the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (SoM), and the NUS Faculty of Dentistry (FoD). The National Healthcare group (NHG) and NUS have formed a joint venture, called the National University Health System (NUHS), to oversee the operations of NUH, SoM and FoD. The new joint entity, incorporated on 23rd January 2008, has a combined mission of clinical service, education and research.

Professor Tan Chorh Chuan is the Chief Executive of NUHS. He works closely with the Board of NUHS comprising eminent personalities from both the public and private sectors. The Board is led by Mr Lim Yong Wah, Chairman, Inter-Roller Engineering, and former Chair of SingHealth Board and former Chair of the NUH Board. The Board also includes the Permanent Secretary of Health as well as members with extensive expertise in law, finance and HR. Prof Tan Chorh Chuan himself is also a member of the Board.



to be continued...

Editorial

Dear all,

Congratulations to the new batch of graduates as they leave the shelter of the Faculty of Dentistry and try to make it in the harsh world out there. ;)

Whilst you languish by the pool during the June Holidays, we still hope to bring you the latest information on the Faculty of Dentistry through the dental mirror.

Many changes are underway as the National Healthcare group (NHG) and the National University of Singapore (NUS) have formed a joint venture, called the National University Health System (NUHS). How will this impact the Faculty of Dentistry? Read on to find out...

We also welcome the newest additions to the Faculty of Dentistry, Dr Clarisse Ng, Dr Ji Tong and Dr Li Xiaobing, who bring with them a wealth of knowledge from various parts of the world. Find out more on Professor Toh Chooi Gait, a much loved and well respected Alumnus; and Dr Yip Wing Kong, a reticent but renowned pioneer in the field of dentistry in Singapore.

The Faculty of Dentistry has continued to facilitate the exchange of knowledge by inviting eminent speakers and dental students from other parts of the world to visit our faculty. The dental mirror covers some of the highlights of the exchange.

We hope you enjoy reading this publication.

Dr Marlene Teo

continued...



Guest-of Honour PM Lee Hsien Loong (fourth from left) about to launch the groundbreaking ceremony for the Centre for Translational Medicine Building with the press of a button. L to R: VVIP guests Mr Wong Ngit Liong (Chairman, Board of Trustees, NUS), Ms Yong Ying-I (NUHS Board member and Permanent Secretary (Health)), Mr Lim Yong Wah (Chairman, NUHS Board), Prof Tan Chorh Chuan (Chief Executive, NUHS) and Mr Michael Lim (Chairman, NHG Board).

The senior management of NUHS is working to put in place four critical platforms to synergise between the three missions. These are integrated strategic planning, one common budget and resource allocation system, harmonised HR framework and integrated space management. Committees have also been formed to look at specific areas of our strategic plans – including committees on “Research”, “Clinical Strategy and Operations”, “IT” and “Space Oversight and Allocation” – to work towards the creation of an academic medicine environment for clinicians to work closely with research scientists and educators.

As an integrated entity, a new NUHS website (www.nuhs.edu.sg) has been set up and contents include information on the establishment and leadership of NUHS, its work and the latest developments. All staff now have a NUHS email address which provides a common email identification for all NUHS staff.

Two new specialty centres in Cancer and Cardiovascular Medicine – the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore and the National University Heart Centre, Singapore – have also been established. The much needed space to meet expansion of clinical, research and educational needs will be partly met with the new 15-storey, 41,000 sqm Centre for Translational Medicine building when it is completed in 2010. The groundbreaking ceremony for this Centre was just held in April 2008. It is built on the former medical library site (MD6). Meanwhile, other avenues to reorganise existing land use are also being explored besides the long term masterplan for allocation of space in NUHS.

At the 2nd NUHS Management Retreat recently held on 3rd May 2008, the NUHS vision, mission, values and strategic objectives as well as the broad strategic plans for clinical service, research, education and the national centres were discussed. Prof Tan Chorh Chuan and the Executive Group (comprising NUH CEO and CMB and Deans of SoM and FoD) will continue to hold communication sessions with clinicians, allied health professionals, nursing, basic science and administrative staff to keep colleagues updated and hear their feedback. In the meantime, we look forward to working as an integrated team of this new entity with full support from the Dental Cluster.

Welcome... New Faculty Staff

Dr Song Baolun • OMS resident

welcome Dr Ji Tong



The Faculty would like to warmly welcome Dr Ji Tong, who joined the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery as Visiting Senior Fellow on 17th December 2007; taking over from his colleague, Dr Xu Lique, who has since returned to Shanghai after 1 1/2 years with the department.

Born in Beijing, Dr Ji Tong completed both his Masters degree in Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (2000) & MD degree (2004) in Shanghai Second Medical University, and was subsequently appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery in the Affiliated 9th People's Hospital School of Stomatology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. He also had a stint as Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan in 2005.

His clinical specialties include oncology surgery of the oral & maxillofacial region, microsurgery, and reconstruction of large scale defects with composite free flaps. He brings with him a wealth of experience in this area. We hope that during his time with the department, he will be able to share and impart some of his knowledge and skills to us!

Dr Fu Jiahui • Dental Instructor

welcome Dr Clarisse Ng

We are pleased to welcome Dr Clarisse Ng to our Faculty. After completing her dental undergraduate education at the University of Western Australia, she moved to Dallas in the US to pursue an Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency (2002) and subsequently a fellowship in implant and cosmetic dentistry (2003) at the Texas A&M Health Science Center – Baylor College of Dentistry. Inspired by her father who is also a prosthodontist, she went on to complete a Certificate in Prosthodontics and Masters in Oral Biology at the same University (2007). Dr Ng is currently a member of 2 professional international organizations, a fellow in the Academy of General Dentistry, a member of the Pierre Fauchard academy and a reviewer for the dental journal – General Dentistry.



welcome Dr Li Xiaobing, Samuel



Joining the Faculty as the latest member in May 2008 is Dr Li Xiaobing, Samuel. He is Assistant Professor and Senior Registrar in the Dept of Preventive Dentistry and will be involved in teaching, research and clinical service in Orthodontics.

Dr Li obtained his BDS and PhD from West China University of Medical Sciences and M OrthRCed Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh. He has been working in the university hospital of West China University of Medical Science since he graduated in 1989. He is a specialist in Orthodontics, but also interested in the basic science behind orthodontics. He did his post-doctoral research at Eastman Dental Institute, UCL, London, from 2001-2002. Because of his sound Orthodontic knowledge and strength in the clinics, he was the first orthodontist in South-west of China to get the M Orth. RCS Edinburgh in 2002. Dr. Li has sponsored 6 postgraduate students to get their M.D. and published about 20 basic and clinical research papers.

Getting International Exposure in Education

Dr Loke Weiqiang • Dental Instructor

Professor David Ferguson - 28 January 2008 to 1 February 2008



The dental faculty had the privilege of hosting Prof David Ferguson, a well-known authority in fluoride from 28 January 2008 to 1 February 2008.

His lecture entitled 'Fluoride-Protection or Poison' was insightful and gave us a comprehensive overview of the latest research done on fluoride. His teaching was engaging and sincere in style.

Prof David Ferguson is a current honorary fellow at Turner Dental School in Manchester UK. He is an expert in the physiology and pharmacology of saliva, having done extensive research in this area for over 40 years. He also authored and published a textbook on "The Physiology And Biology of Saliva" for preclinical dental students.

Professor Jack Nicholls (RD) - 14 February to 13 April 2008

Prof Jack Nicholls, a familiar figure at the faculty, came as a visiting professor at our faculty from 14 February to 13 April, 2008. An engineer by training, he has been the Professor in the School of Dentistry at the University of Washington, Seattle for the large part of his illustrious career.

Whilst delivering his lecture series on biomechanics at our faculty, he never fails to add spirit and vitality to his teaching. His passion in his work easily infects and captivates his audience.

Prof Jack Nicholls has since retired from full-time teaching at the University of Washington as an Emeritus Professor, and spends his time fishing by the lovely and scenic Washington lake. He has no doubt added to the intellectual ferment of the faculty with his scintillating presence and vivacious nature during his short stint at the faculty. We look forward to his visit next year.



Associate Professor Chris Sissons (RD) - 5 to 19 April 2008

From April 5th to 19th 2008, the faculty welcomed Associate Professor Chris Sissons as a Visiting Professor, who hails from University of Otago, Wellington.

Assoc Prof Chris Sissons research interests are in the microbial ecology of oral biofilms in relation to dental disease, in particular dental caries. His current main objective in research is to identify how plaque microbial communities cause disease and how they could prevent it. He is also the mind behind the unique 'artificial mouth' plaque culture system which is the primary technology used to study plaque microcosm growth and its development and modulation.

The faculty is indeed proud to be part of his nexus of research collaboration, and we look forward to future tie-ups with him and his university. We sincerely thank him for sharing his illuminating insights and trenchant analyses of his ongoing caries research with us.



HMDP

Visiting Experts 2008

Dr. Rino Burkhardt

Dr Ayefa Sheikh • Graduate Periodontics Resident

Dr. Rino Burkhardt, the HMDP expert visited the dental faculty from 2nd to 10th January 2008. He teaches at the University of Berne in the Department of Periodontology and enjoys an international reputation of an astute clinician. He first gave a lecture on microsurgery, followed by a hands-on session. He then demonstrated the use of micro surgery and its use in GTR, papilla reconstruction, soft tissue augmentation, peri-implant soft tissue management and root coverage procedures. In addition, periodontal residents and staff were treated to an exemplary live surgical demonstration of microsurgical procedures.

It was not only his clinical skills and knowledge but his very humble and helping personality that earned Dr. Rino accolades and respect from all the Graduate Periodontology residents.



- Prof Ron Ettinger and A/Prof Jane Chalmers



From 19th to 26th March this year, we were privileged to have Prof Ron Ettinger and A/P Jane Chalmers from the University of Iowa share their experiences on Geriatric Dentistry and Minimal Intervention Dentistry. Their invaluable visit was made possible by the sponsorship of MOH as Singapore has a growing ageing population with increasing oral health related needs. Hence, geriatric dentistry will definitely play an increasingly important role in the oral health scene in Singapore. Even though many of the seminars were held on the weekday and over the Good Friday weekend, response for registration was overwhelming and organizers had to look for a larger venue to accommodate the registrants

The HMDP visiting experts did not disappoint. Despite having travelled half way round the globe across many time zones, Prof Ron Ettinger and A/P Jane Chalmers delivered a series of very stimulating seminars. Their lively stories, vivid experiences and practical advice on treating and caring for elderly patients were very well received by the attentive audience of dental professionals. Certainly, if there was one thing that would be left in our hearts long after the visiting experts left would be how Prof Ron Ettinger broke the ice and warmed the hearts of the audience by speaking Teochew!

Ms Perina Chiang • Assistant Manager

Overseas Student Attachment – Chonnam University, Korea (11-15 February 2008)

For 2 consecutive years, we saw students from the Chonnam University visiting our school for a 1-week clinical attachment. For 2008, we were delighted to host 4 undergraduate students for the period from 11 to 15 February 2008 and there was 1 couple among them who was newly weds. Our warm congratulations to them!

During this period, they had the opportunity to interact with our friendly students and staff as well as able to observe the myriad of treatment being carried out in the faculty.



Mrs Gn Soon Lay • Senior Manager

Visitors from School of Stomatology, Kabul Afghanistan (26 February 2008)

A group of dentists, mainly from the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery specialty visited the Faculty in February 2008. They were eager to learn about our undergraduate and postgraduate training and view our facilities. They were treated to a special session on "Update on Endodontics" by CI A/P Patrick Tseng at their request.



9th

Dental Students' Scientific Conference Faculty of Dentistry University of Malaya

(12-13 December 2007)

Ms Jasmine Ye • Administrative Officer



4 dental undergraduates, Mr Hu Shijia, Ms Vanessa Chia, Ms Joanna Ngo and Mr Daniel Teo, were awarded 4th place during the 12th Faculty Research Day for their oral presentation on their UROP project entitled "Clinical Evaluation of Class II Restorations using Resin Modified Glass Ionomer". The project was supervised by Dr. Anil Kishen.

They were nominated to participate in the 9th Dental Students' Scientific Conference, which was organized by the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya. The event was held from 12th to 13th December 2007, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The students won third place in the International Poster Competition at the Conference. Congratulations to all for doing Dentistry proud!

Starting from the left, Dr. Joanne Uy, A/P Varawan Sae-Lim, Prof Robert Bergenholtz, Ms Vanessa Chia, Ms Joanna Ngo, Mr Daniel Teo, Prof Murray Meikle, Mr Hu Shijia, Dr. Anil Kishen and A/P Hien Ngo

Volunteers for Alumni Mentorship Scheme

(launched in AY2006 by Guild of Dental Graduates and Faculty of Dentistry)

Be part of an expanding group of alumni who share their experience in dental practice and play a very important role in coaching, guiding and moulding future colleagues in dental surgery.

Call hotline: 6772-4987

email: dencip@nus.edu.sg (Ms Perina Chiang)

Interview with

By Dr Bertrand Chew

Dr Yip Wing Kong

Dr Yip completed his BDS in 1964. He joined NUS after graduation and rose through the ranks to Associate Professor, Vice-Dean and Head of the Department of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery in the ensuing 16 years. He is currently in private practice at Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre. Dr Yip has the distinct honour of being the Chairman of the Congress and Education Committee of the FDI World Dental Federation from 1994-1995 and the President of the Academy of Dentistry International (ADI) in 2004-2005. He is currently the President of the Singapore Dental Council.

BC: Hi Dr Yip, you were mentioned in the previous dental mirror article by Dr Choo Teck Chuan. He mentioned that you were his pillar of strength for many of the activities. How did you get to know Dr Choo?

DY: Dr Choo was being kind when he said I was his pillar of strength. The truth is, he was my inspiration and the inspiration of anyone who had the good fortune of working with him. My first encounter with Dr Choo was during my NUS undergraduate days. He was my teacher in orthodontics. At one point, I was his "inside man" assisting him in the preparation of orthodontic cases and models when he came in to conduct the undergraduate orthodontic classes. He was dynamism personified, so full of zest and action. As the last Honorary General Secretary of the Southern Branch of the Malayan Dental Association and founding Honorary General Secretary of the Singapore Dental Association, I had the honour of working closely with the then president, Dr Jamie Robertson. Coincidentally, Dr Robertson and Dr Choo were both founding members and senior partners of a very famous private practice in Singapore, Drs Robertson, Choo, Oehlers, Lee & Lye. From then, we went on to SDA, FDI and finally the WDES. The rest is history.

BC: Could you tell us more about your post graduate studies?

DY: Upon graduation in 1964, I joined NUS almost immediately. Here I was fortunate to come under the influence of two very capable surgeons; Professor F A C Oehlers, an inimitable, thought provoking teacher and Professor F M S Lee, a quietly skillful surgeon. As their first assistant for many years, I really had the golden opportunity of learning a tremendous amount of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery from these two highly gifted teachers. In 1969, I was awarded the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship for postgraduate studies in the United States. Being interested in research, I chose to read Oral Pathology as it offers the best training in research methodology. Another reason is that while Oral Surgery can be learnt in Singapore, biomedical research was a totally new thing then in the 1960s. Nowadays the students are able to learn this from their teachers as biomedical research has gained prominence in Singapore. I trained in Oral Maxillofacial Pathology at Indiana University under Distinguished Professor Dr William G Shafer of the textbook fame. I also worked as a Research Fellow in Experimental Oral Pathology with Professor Newell Johnson at the London Hospital Medical College, University of London from 1977-1978.

BC: So Dr Yip, what would you say of the students nowadays compared to your time?

DY: The students nowadays are a lot smarter. Judging from the grades I saw at the interviews, they had better academic grades than we had. They are definitely more "book smart". Also, judging from the number of book prizes that they are getting during commencement, their grades must definitely be better.

BC: Wow, being smarter, what would your advice be for the current batch of students?

DY: Actually, I was mulling over this idea. The students are smarter academically. They have been through a school which is better staffed and with better infrastructure. They should come out better equipped with all the knowledge and the latest technology. Dentistry, however, is not just about acquiring knowledge and techniques. It is how you put into practice all the knowledge and techniques that matters. They must use their skills with passion and compassion, with integrity and responsibility, act professionally and never commercially. My other advice is for students to be more computer savvy as more and more of our techniques and technology are computer-driven, especially in the areas of 3D imaging and CAD-CAM.

BC: Witnessing so many changes over the years, what would you say about dentistry, especially, being President of the Singapore Dental Council?

DY: Dentistry has come a long way over the years. Dentists are well educated, better informed and highly skilled. They command a good income and are well regarded by society as important members of the health profession. Our predecessors have done well to bring this about. Let us not take this for granted but continue to build on the high esteem that our patients and the public has accorded us. Let us act professionally and not succumb to anything that will tarnish the image of this honourable profession. Be proud of Dentistry!



Spotlight on

Professor Toh Chooi Gait

Dean, Faculty of Dentistry of International Medical University

Assoc Prof Jennifer Neo • Head, Restorative Dentistry

One cannot meet Prof. Toh and not be awed by her presence. I heard her belting out "Summertime" in Konstanz in 1998 and witnessed her boogieing on the dance floor till the wee hours on the dental faculty's 75th anniversary.

Prof. Toh is no ordinary lady. Her career spanning 34 years is nothing short of a fascinating story which started when Prof. Toh obtained her BDS at the then University of Singapore in 1974. It is no coincidence that this lady was marked for bigger things when she achieved her BDS with Honours, a feat only accomplished by 5 others since the dental school/faculty was set-up in 1929.

She has spent over 30 years in the Department of Conservative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya contributing in many aspects— teaching, research resulting in numerous publications, and is repeatedly invited locally, regionally and internationally for her expertise as a clinician, researcher and educator. Her tireless efforts are not just restricted to these activities as Prof. Toh is also highly active in numerous local and regional organizations, the most notable being IADR and SEEADE and was the first and only Malaysian and woman in Asia to date to be nominated to be Vice President of the main International Association of Dental Research.

She has since left the University of Malaya, having held positions as Deputy Dean and Head of Department. Prof. Toh was head hunted and assumed her role as Dean, Faculty of Dentistry of the International Medical University, Kuala Lumpur.

Having known her for over 2 decades, I am willing to bet that Prof. Toh will yet deliver a stunning contribution in her new role and we wish her well.

Prof Toh (left) and A/P Neo

Bowling Good Times 2008

Dr Terence Jee

The annual Bowling Good Times, organized by the Guild of Dental Graduates, was held on 9th March 2008, Sunday. This year, there were about 20 teams in all, with strong support from the bowlers of the Singapore Dental Trade Association (STDA) as well as our very own first year dental undergraduates. It was a successful event and the attendance was encouraging.

The morning started with a sponsored lunch by Dr Susan Ang, President of the Guild of Dental Graduates. It wasn't before long that the practice session for the 9-pin tap competition begun. The event swung into action with the team competition commencing first, followed by the singles competition. All ladies had a 20 points advantage!

The winning team was lead by Dr Chua Ee Kiam from the National Dental Centre. The individual events were won by Dr Chua Ee Kiam and Miss Eva Cheung. The individual high game winner was Mr Zen Chang who had almost a perfect score of 293!!! He was also the youngest participant this year.

The event ended with a lucky draw (courtesy of Prof Loh). We would like to take the opportunity to thank Dr Chua Ee Kiam for sponsoring the trophies once again.

We hope to see again next year. As Prof Loh always say, may the strike be with you... ..!!!



Dentistry Wins the NUS Inter-Faculty Golf Tournament

Office of Alumni Relations, NUS

Three cheers to the Dentistry Team! After more than 10 years, the Dentistry Team has finally won the Inter-Faculty Championship in the 16th NUS Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament.

The Guest-of-Honour, Pro-Chancellor Dr Cheong Siew Keong, NUS President Prof Shih Choon Fong, NUS Golf Captain Assoc Prof Teo Choo Soo and NUSS Vice-President Mr Johnny Tan, together with 136 golfers took to the greens on 30 November 2007 for the 16th NUS Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament at the Raffles Country Club, Lake Course.

This annual event sets out with the common goals of strengthening existing bonds between the university and alumni, and cultivating new friends. In addition, this year's event aimed to garner support and gain participation for the Shaw Foundation Alumni House Donors' Wall. A good head start came from Building and Estate Management Alumni (BEMA) with a donation of \$50,000. Dr Teo Ho Pin, President of BEMA, presented the cheque to NUS President Prof Shih Choon Fong during the Prize Presentation Dinner held at NUSS Kent Ridge Guild house.

During the Inter-Faculty tournament, there was a close fight between the Dentistry and Engineering faculties, where both teams were tied with a total score of 141 points for their top 4 golfers. Although the Dentistry Team had only 7 golfers, they managed to win the Vice-Chancellor's Challenge Trophy based on count back.

The top 4 scorers for the Dentistry Team were:

- 1) Dr Chin Yee Fatt (37 points)
- 2) Dr Chan Thian Sang (36 points)
- 3) Assoc Prof Teo Choo Soo (34 points)
- 4) Dr Chen May Lin (34 points)

The Prize Presentation Dinner was held at the NUSS Kent Ridge Guild house where about 140 golfers and sponsors attended. The winner for the "Best Individual Alumni Golfer" was Dr Ang Hoon Siang (Medicine), who was awarded with the Chancellor's Challenge Trophy. The "Best Lady Golfer" who walked away with the Captain's Challenge Trophy was Dr Chen May Lin (Dentistry).

Overall, it was an enjoyable and memorable occasion for all participants – good weather, good food and good company!



Ms Joanne Goh • Senior Administrative Officer

3rd

Faculty of Dentistry Symposium

The Centre for Advanced Dental Education held its Third Faculty of Dentistry Symposium at the Orchard Hotel on 12&13 January 2008.

The theme this year was "Endodontics & Management of Dental Emergencies". We were very privileged to have, as our speakers, Dr Arnaldo Castellucci, Dr Stanley Malamed and Dr Cheng Sim Kim.

Over the two days, Dr Castellucci gave our dentists insights into "Access Cavity Preparation and Modern Concepts for Shaping the Root Canal System" and "The Use of MTA in Clinical and Surgical Endodontics". While Dr Malamed presented on "Local Anesthetics: Dentistry's Most Important Drugs" and "Emergency Medicine: Sudden Cardiac Arrest and Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)".

Our local speaker Dr Cheng also spoke about "Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) & Dentistry".

A total of 373 participants attended the symposium.

We are very grateful to our sponsor Dentsply Asia and co-sponsors (3M, GC Asia, KaVo, Shofu and Straumann) and the organizing committee who contributed to make this event an overwhelming success.



Left to right: A/P Keson Tan, Dr Arnaldo Castellucci, Dr Stanley Malamed, A/P Jennifer Neo and Prof Chew Chong Lin.

NUS Safety & Health Improvement Projects (SHIP) Scheme 2007

Mr Mohd Khair Bin Abu Yamin

Last year, the dental Lab 4 team submitted a project for the NUS Safety & Health Improvement Projects (SHIP) competition. It is a competition to promote safety in the work place organized by Office of Safety, Health & Environment (OSHE). The team members comprised Richard Tan, Catherine Tan and Mohd Khair Bin Abu Yamin as the team leader. We won a bronze award for this competition.

Our team determined the safety of the eye as top priority. Although there have been no reported incidences of serious eye injury from the failure to use goggles, many incidences have occurred where particles dislodged by the pneumatic drill have gone into the eye and caused pain, discomfort and delay in the affected personnel's work.

We managed to submit the project despite a tight work schedule. This was done with help from our IT department and students from lab 4.

We tried to create a useful product that was not too costly. We managed to create a face shield as a substitute to wearing goggles. The face shield is made with mostly recycled material amounting to only \$11.00. The most unique thing about our face shield is that it must be used before the pneumatic drill can be activated.

This face shield is also unique because it does not occupy much space. The concept where the "machine will only work if shield is used" makes this effective at preventing workplace accidents because users are "forced" to use the faceshield before the pneumatic drill can be activated.



The NUS Open House 2008

Ms Perina Chiang • Assistant Manager

The NUS Open House 2008 was held on 15-16 March 2008 from 9am to 5.30pm at the Sports and Recreation Centre. The guest-of-honour for the Open house was NUS President Prof Shih Choon Fong. The Dental booth, manned by both staff and students, received a great number of visitors and enquires. Most of the visitors were Junior College students accompanied by friends or parents. The on-line application for the Job Shadowing Programme at the Faculty met with overwhelming response from the visitors. The faculty admission talk held during both days was also well attended. Overall, this was a very successful event with the visitors to the Open House understanding more about Dentistry. We hope this will guide them in choosing the right course of study / career.



Donation from WDES-FDI World Dental Federation

Mrs Gn Soon Lay • Senior Manager



Prof Tan (left) receiving the cheque from Dr Choo

The World Dental Education Society (WDES) donated \$250,000 to support dental students from the National University of Singapore to participate in the Overseas Enrichment Programme. The government has matched the sum dollar for dollar so the total endowed sum will come up to \$500,000. The donation was presented to Prof Tan Chorh Chuan (Chief Executive, NUHS and Senior Deputy President, NUS) at the International Dental Exhibition and Meeting on 4th April 2008. The WDES, chaired by Dr Choo Teck Chuan, was formed in 1995 to provide Dental Continuing education to underserved countries in the Asia Pacific region. This kind donation will allow more students to gain global exposure through short term attachments.

Raising Public Awareness of Mouth Cancer

(19 to 24 November 2007)

Dr Victor Fan • Assistant Professor



Together with the Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons (Singapore), our Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery co-organised the Mouth Cancer Awareness Week (19 to 24 November 2007). Its aims were to raise awareness of the devastating consequences of late detection of oral cancer and to educate the public on how early diagnosis holds the key to improved care and treatment outcomes. The activities which were specially lined up for the event included public lectures at the NUH Health Education Hub, a public forum, an open house and free mouth cancer/oral health screening.

Activities included:

- 1) Lecture by Dr Victor Fan to general dentist practitioners on Oral Cancer Diagnosis and Management on 3 November 2007.
- 2) Public Lectures at NUH Health Education Hub on 19 November 2007 by Dr Victor Fan and 21 November 2007 by Dr Xu Liqun.
- 3) Lecture on Mouth Cancer in Ang Mo Kio Community Centre on 23 November 2007.
- 4) Public Forum on oral cancer by multidisciplinary specialist team on 24 November 2007
- 5) Free Mouth Cancer/Oral Health Screening Clinics on 22 and 23 November 2007 with Velscope examination in NUH, Dentistry Clinic 1, other screenings in 17 clinics throughout the island of Singapore
- 6) News and media coverage: 938 Live Radio Talkshow (Dr Fan with late Ms Deborah De Souza on 19 November 2007), Good Morning Singapore TV interview (Dr Xu on 20 November 2007), Newspaper articles (Strait Times 21 November 2007) and LianHe Wanbao on 19 November 2007)

Desaru Trip

Dr Anil Kishen • Assistant Professor



It was not the usual sunny day in Singapore. There was slight drizzle in the air, but the enthusiastic group of around thirty members, which included academic staff, non-academic staff, research staff and some family members set off to Johor on 14th July 2007. In this custom tour we had planned to visit the Durian farm, Desaru fruit farm and fireflies' sanctuary along Johor River.

Desaru fruit farm which is about 100 hectares planted with different tropical fruits. The place specializes in "we pick fresh" or "pick yourself" tropical fruits such as rambutan, mangosteen and of course the durian. Adults and children equally enjoyed the farm fresh flavor of the harvest. A day in these fruit farms was packed with old-fashioned fun. After a sumptuous seafood dinner, we reached Kota Tinggi to experience one of nature's intriguing phenomenon: the glow worms or the fireflies. It was a spectacular one-hour journey along the Johor River. Thousands of these fascinating insects were found on the Berembang trees along the bank of the river. I should admit that for everyone of us, it was a memorable and relaxing day. Having spent significant part of my life in cities, this stroll through the farm and cruise through the river was a nostalgic country experience.



Apologies!

Dr Tong Huei Jinn, Dental Instructor, Department of Preventive Dentistry was omitted in issue 20 (page 16) of the Dental Mirror.
The Faculty was wrongly listed as "The Deanery" for Graduating Class Party 2007 in Issue 20 (Page 12) of the Dental Mirror.

Annual Dental Health Talk at NUH

Dr Fu Jiahui • Dental Instructor



Jointly organized by the Faculty of Dentistry, NUH Dental Services and NUH Total Lifestyle Connection (NTLC) Club, the NUH Dental Health Awareness Month (April 08) aimed to promote dental awareness among the public. Participants were able to gain dental information such as causes of caries and periodontal disease from the poster gallery held in the Health Education Hub. In addition, speakers from NUH were invited to give bi-weekly lunchtime dental educational talks with topics ranging from obstructive sleep apnoea, orthodontic treatment, oral cancer, bisphosphonate therapy, periodontal plastic surgery, aesthetic and preventive dentistry. Over 200 people attended these talks. The Faculty would like to thank all for making this event a success!

To our donors & sponsors...

Thank you for supporting the Faculty of Dentistry, NUS!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all donors for their constant support and contribution to the Faculty from January 2008 to May 2008:

Special Donation

World Dental Education Society,
WDES-FDI World Dental Federation

Donors towards Student Bursaries (\$1000 - \$4999)

Dr Quek TC Matthias
Dr Tan Kim Poon
Le MinT's

Donors towards Class 73 Funds (\$1000 - \$4999)

Dr Chan Nyat Chee
Dr So Choh

Donors towards Dental Society Funds

Ace Dental Centre
Alfred Cheng Orthodontic Clinic
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Ascension Dental Clinic
B.K. Lim Dental Surgery
Bishan Healthway Dental Surgery
Boon Lay Dental Surgery Pte Ltd
Bright Dental Surgery
Canaan Dental Surgery Pte Ltd
Clementi Dental Surgery
Dr Chan Jong Dental Surgery
Dr Chan Thian Sang
Dr Ghows & Associates
Dr Lam Ying Keat
Dr Ng Beng Lee
Dr Phng Hwee Leng Mervin
Dr Tan Shuh Chern
Dr Tan Yew Poh, Joel
Dr Tay Khoon Mei
Drs Teng & Partners Dental Surgeon

Eden Dental Surgery
Family Dental Surgery
Friends Dental Surgeons
Glory Dental Surgery
Le MinT's
Lim Dental Surgery
Meng Dental Clinic
Pang & Ng Dental Surgery (Bishan)
Pang Dental Surgery
Phang Dentist
Rocher Dental Clinic
Shalom Dental Group
Si-Hoe Dental Surgery
Singapore Dental Surgery
Still Road Dental Surgery
Sydney Dental Clinic
Thong Hoe Dental Surgery
Trinity Dental Surgery
Tropical Dental Surgery
United Dental Surgery
Universal Dental Surgery
Wong, Ong & Partners Dental Surgeons

FOD General Purpose Account (\$1000 - \$4999)

Shofu Inc. (Singapore Branch)

Freshman Orientation Camp

Bedok Town Dental Surgery
Care Dental Surgery
Chong & Associates Dental Surgeons
Chua Dental Surgery
Colgate-Palmolive (Eastern) Pte Ltd
Combined Dental Surgery
Community Dental Care
Dr Goh Kah Yee Jeremy
Dr Tan Yoke Meng

G. H. Goh Dental Surgery
Junction 8 Dental Surgery
Jurong Dental Group
Kuan Dental Surgery
Lakeside Dentist
Lee & Associates Dental Care
Lim's Dentist
Lo Song Leng Dentist
Loh Dental Surgery
Mandarin Dental Centre
Maritime Dental Surgery Pte Ltd
Miho Dental Clinic
Nam Ah Dentist
People's Dental Surgery
Perfect Dental Clinic
Q & M Dental Surgery (Admiralty) Pte Ltd
Rainbow Dental Surgery
Smile Dental Group Pte Ltd
Straits Dental Group
The Edinburgh Dental Surgery Pte Ltd
Wong Dentist
Yu Dental Surgery

Tay Teck Eng Bursary Fund

Dr Chin Soon Siang Philbert
Dr Lim Hwee Leng
Dr Thevathasan, Ivor G
Dr Vivian Balakrishnan
Miss Tay Eng Ern Evangelin
Mr John Chapman
Mr Ong Yong Kee
Mr Rattakul, Bhichai
Mr Rufino, Antonio
Mr Tan Hian Tsin
Mr Tay Wei Lien
Mrs Tay Poh Imm
Total Co Pte Ltd

If you are interested in making a contribution to the Faculty of Dentistry, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Gn Soon Lay, Senior Manager (Tel: 6772 4902 or dengnsl@nus.edu.sg).

Continuing Professional Education Course/Lecture (1 January to 30 June 2008)

For a listing of upcoming seminars, please visit our website at www.dentistry.nus.edu.sg

Date	Event Name/ Lecture Title(s)	Speaker(s)
3-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Micro-surgery • Mucogingival surgery seminar 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
4-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach to Aesthetic Dentistry • Basic Aspects of Flap Preparation • Recession Coverage 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
7-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTR 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
8-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Surgical Demonstration 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
9-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft Tissue Augmentation • Live Surgical Demonstration • Microsurgery in Dentistry 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
10-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implant Surgery Pt I & II 	Dr Rino Burkhardt
12-1-08 13-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd Faculty of Dentistry Symposium – Endodontics and Management of Dental Emergencies 	Dr Stanley F Malamed Dr Arnaldo Castellucci Dr Cheng Sim Kim
19-1-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Periodontal (Gum) Aesthetics 	Dr Marlene Teo
12-2-08	Determinants of Early Childhood Caries among WIC-enrolled Children in Linn County, Iowa	Dr Rahul Nair
20-3-08	Seminar 1 1. Biology of Aging 2. Initial Assessment and Rational Treatment Planning of an Aging Frail Patient Lecture MID products for use with Geriatric and Special Needs Patients Seminar 2 Geriatric Minimal Intervention Dentistry – Identify, Prevent, Restore	<u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Prof Ronald Ettinger University of Iowa <u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Assoc Prof Jane Chalmers University of Iowa <u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Assoc Prof Jane Chalmers University of Iowa
22-3-08	Seminar 3 Prosthodontic Treatment for Older Adults and Treatment of Patients who have Teeth with a Poor Prognosis	<u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Prof Ronald Ettinger University of Iowa
23-3-08	The Aging Dentition “Public Health Perspectives and Clinical Rehabilitation for the Elderly”	<u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Prof Ronald Ettinger University of Iowa Assoc Prof Jane Chalmers University of Iowa Dr Gerald Koh Dept of COFM, NUS
25-3-08	Lecture “Restoring the Aging Dentition – Repair or Replacement” Seminar 4 “The Oral Health Care Triad for Adults with Special Needs – Assessment, Oral Hygiene Care and Dental Delivery Systems”	<u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Prof Ronald Ettinger University of Iowa <u>HMDP Visiting Expert</u> Assoc Prof Jane Chalmers University of Iowa
5-4-08	Oral Infections Can Affect Systemic Health	Prof Steven Offenbacher
1-5-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar on Endodontics 	Dr James Gutmann
25-5-08	12th Clinical Dentistry Symposium	Prof Richard Palmer King's College London Dental Institute Dr Michael Razzoog University of Michigan Prof Tateyuki Iizuka University of Bern Assoc Prof Hien Ngo NUS Assoc Prof Kelvin Foong NUS
18-6-08	Adhesive Esthetic Restorations on Anterior Teeth	Professor Marco Ferrari Dean, School of Dental Medicine University of Siena

Farewell

We wish to bid farewell and thank the following staff for their services and contributions to the Faculty:

Prof Jack Nicholls • Visiting Professor • Restorative Dentistry
Dr Liu Hua • Research Fellow • Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Dr Gao Xiaoli • Research Fellow • Preventive Dentistry
Mr Saji George • Research Fellow • Restorative Dentistry
Miss Amy Kang • Management Assistant Officer • Dean's Office
Miss Ong Swee Kim, Juliana • Management Assistant Officer • Dean's Office
Miss Tan Shu Fen, Wendy • Management Assistant Officer • Dean's Office
Ms Rekha Anand • Specialist Associate • Dean's Office
Miss Siti Rozianah Bte Amat • Specialist Associate • Dean's Office
Miss Mathiana Begum Binte Sarip • Specialist Associate • Dean's Office
Mr Wu Zehe • Systems Analyst • Dean's Office

Welcome

A warm welcome to the following new staff:

Department of Preventive Dentistry

Dr Li Xiaobing • Assistant Professor
Mr Bui Nhat Linh • Research Engineer
Mr Hiew Litt Teen • Research Fellow

Department of Restorative Dentistry

Prof Jack Nicholls • Visiting Professor
Dr Clarisse Ng • Assistant Professor

Dean's Office (Dentistry)

Miss Siti Roziana Bte Amat • Specialist Associate
Miss Mathiana Begum Binte Sarip • Specialist Associate
Ms Rekha Anand • Specialist Associate
Mr Chua Kia Seng • Laboratory Technologist (Trainee)
Miss Sabariah Binte Matalip • Laboratory Technologist (Trainee)
Mr Ong Tung Hock • Systems Analyst
Ms Erica Yiong • Systems Analyst

Academic Staff of the Faculty of Dentistry

DEAN'S OFFICE

Dean	- A/P Keson Tan
Vice-Dean (Academic Affairs)	- A/P Kelvin Foong
Vice-Dean (Research)	- A/P Varawan Sae-Lim
Assistant Dean (Clinical Affairs)	- A/P Keng Siong Beng
Director, Division of Graduate Dental Studies	- Prof Chew Chong Lin

DEPARTMENT OF ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Head of Department	- A/P Yeo Jin Fei
Professorial Fellow	- Prof Loh Hong Sai
Associate Professor	- A/P Cao Tong
Assistant Professor	- Dr Victor Fan
Visiting Senior Fellow	- Dr Ji Tong

DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY

Head of Department	- A/P Grace Ong
Associate Professor	- A/P Teo Choo Soo
Associate Professor	- A/P Lim Lum Peng
Associate Professor	- A/P Kelvin Foong
Associate Professor	- A/P Stephen Hsu
Assistant Professor	- Dr Marlene Teo
Assistant Professor	- Dr Noeen Arshad
Assistant Professor	- Dr Samuel Li Xiaobing
Senior Lecturer	- Dr Betty Mok
Dental Instructor	- Dr Fu Jia Hui
Dental Instructor	- Dr Tong Huei Jinn
Visiting Professor	- Prof Toshio Deguchi
Visiting Professor	- Prof Murray Clyde Meikle

DEPARTMENT OF RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY

Head of Department	- A/P Jennifer Neo
Professor	- Prof Chew Chong Lin
Associate Professor	- A/P Keng Siong Beng
Associate Professor	- A/P Keson Tan
Associate Professor	- A/P Varawan Sae-Lim
Associate Professor	- A/P Hien Ngo Chi
Assistant Professor	- Dr Anil Kishen
Assistant Professor	- Dr Joanne Ngo Uy
Assistant Professor	- Dr Clarisse Ng
Senior Lecturer	- Dr Hilary Thean
Dental Instructor	- Dr Joel Khoo
Dental Instructor	- Dr Loke Weiqiang

Appointments/ Re-appointments

Prof Loh Hong Sai

- Reappointed Professorial Fellow, Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Reappointed Consultant, Office of Alumni Relations
- Appointed Consultant, International Relations Office
- Appointed Chairman, Southern Branch, Alumni Association

Prof Murray Clyde Meikle

- Reappointed Visiting Professor, Department of Preventive Dentistry

Prof Toshio Deguchi

- Reappointed Visiting Professor, Department of Preventive Dentistry

Dr Ji Tong

- Reappointed Visiting Senior Fellow, Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Student Achievements

- At the International Dental Exhibition and Meeting (IDEM) held in Singapore from 4th to 6th April 2008, Dr. Christina Cheok (Master of Dental Surgery, Periodontology) was awarded third place in the Poster Competition, for her research project, "Tumor Necrosis Factor - α in Diabetics and Healthy Individuals with Untreated Periodontal Disease". which was supervised by A/P Lim Lum Peng.
- Also at the IDEM held in Singapore, Dr. Chang Kok Meng (Master of Dental Surgery, Periodontology) was awarded fourth place in the Poster Competition for his project, "The Relationship between Periodontal Parameters and Halitosis in Patients with Untreated Periodontitis". This project was also supervised by A/P Lim Lum Peng.