



NUS
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Faculty of Dentistry

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DENTAL MIRROR

3

Project Sabai 2010 &
Project Sabai-Lokun 2011

4

Dentistry's Got Talent –
AY2011/2012

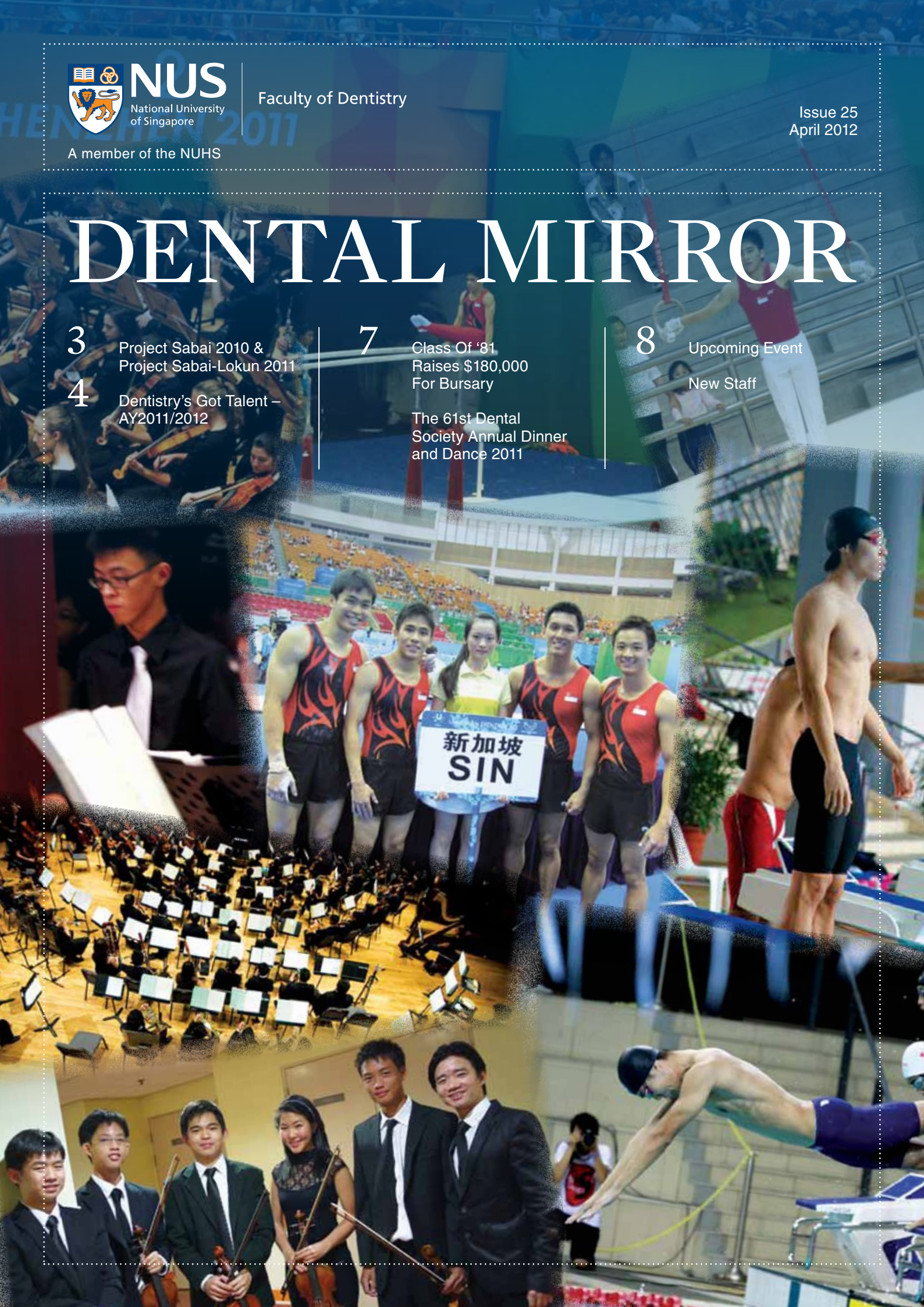
7

Class Of '81
Raises \$180,000
For Bursary

The 61st Dental
Society Annual Dinner
and Dance 2011

8

Upcoming Event
New Staff



Dean's
Message

This issue the Faculty will be featuring our future colleagues in the profession, our dental students. Over the years, each cohort of students joining the faculty, bring with them not only talents, but they come from more diverse backgrounds. Like the rest of Singapore, diversity comes with adjustments to be made. I see this as a positive development for the profession. When people with diverse talents and backgrounds mingle and put their hearts and minds together to build the profession, we will be able to overcome legacy issues, break ceilings and move the profession forward.

In the last issue, I mentioned that the Faculty will be embarking on a building fund project to raise funds for a new building. It is heart-warming to see alumni and friends who have begun showing their support to this initiative, both in their time and donations. It was a real encouragement that the MDS Orthodontics Class of 2012, have all pledged their first orthodontic patient fees to the Faculty Building Fund!

We will continue to share with you the exciting challenges coming our way and look forward to engaging our friends and alumni in the Faculty's development.

Assoc Prof Grace Ong
Dean

Opening of UG Lounge on 16 Jan 2012

By Chng Weihong, Year 1



Dean A/P Grace Ong and 62nd DenSoc President Joshua Lee releasing the Kong Ming Lantern

"Night Under the Stars" was the showcase for the official opening of the newly refurbished Undergraduate Student Lounge on 16 January 2012. Held at the faculty's rooftop garden, it created opportunities for student and faculty staff interaction. The programme that evening included live performances by students, a movie screening, Xbox Challenge and a sumptuous dinner. The Guest of Honour was A/P Grace Ong, Dean of the Faculty, who together with the 62nd Dental Society (DenSoc) President, Joshua Lee, released the Kong Ming lantern into the sky amid the delightful applause of the staff and student body.



Performance by Year 2 UG students



UG students at the Lounge Opening

Overseas Exchange Programme

By Perina Chiang

The Faculty not only provides opportunities for our students to go overseas on exchange programmes, but also host students from overseas universities. This fosters multi-cultural ties and friendships, providing yet another facet of our dental students' education.

From July 2011 to February 2012, for a period of 1-2 weeks, the Faculty hosted nine overseas dental undergraduate students from the following universities in the table below. During the attachment, many expressed keen interest in learning more about our undergraduate training as well as the opportunity to interact and share experiences with our students and staff.

Country	University
Australia	University of Adelaide
	University of Western Australia
	University of Melbourne
	University of Queensland
	James Cook University
Canada	University of Toronto
Hungary	University of Szeged
India	Shree Bankey Bihari Dental College
Korea	Dankook University
United Kingdom	University of Dundee
United States	University of North Carolina

Project Sabai 2010 & Project Sabai-Lokun 2011

By Benjamin Ng, Year 4; Jason Chua, Year 4 & Foo Cher Li, Year 3

Project Sabai started in December 2008 with four dental students conducting oral health education for school children in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Unfortunately, dental treatment was not part of the planned trip and the team had to turn away Cambodian children with agonizing toothaches. The team attempted another trip in December 2009. This time with one dentist and a few dental students, they offered dental treatment. This trip was so well received that another was planned in December 2010 – with eight dentists and 30 dental students.

The primary objective of this trip was to offer comfort and pain relief to the underprivileged Cambodian children. The dentists provided the treatment, while the students assisted in areas such as sterilization and offering oral hygiene instructions. The secondary objective was to expose dental students to other aspects of dentistry besides always staying in labs.

We were very grateful for the invaluable advice and words of encouragement from many academic staff, especially A/Prof Robert Yee. Acknowledgement must also go to the Lee Foundation for their financial support. This is a chapter of dental school life that we will always be proud of.

Building the experiences from Project Sabai 2010, a joint effort was made to bring oral health education and free dental treatment to the less privileged children and villagers in both Sabai and Lockun, in Cambodia. Known as Project Sabai-Lokun 2011, the event took place in 10-21 December which involved clinical work and field clinics.



Project Sabai 2010: Faculty UG students assisting dentist during dental treatment for school children in Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Project Sabai 2010: Dental UG students conducting oral health education for school children in Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Faculty students providing assistance in dental treatment on Cambodian patient in Phnom Penh during Project Sabai-Lokun 2011

One of our main objectives for the trip was for students to experience dental work in the field, without the comforts of modern technology in the hope that they will be more appreciative of the convenience, cleanliness and accessibility of the modern clinics in the faculty. The second objective was to inspire the students to volunteer their time and effort towards the less privileged in future.

In the near future, with the improvement in dental conditions of the children, the emphasis for Project Sabai will be on a preventive programme to encourage lower caries incidences, and to enlist the Cambodians themselves in our efforts to improve dental health in Cambodia. For Project Lokun, we hope to be able to treat more villagers via enhanced collaboration with the local personnel and our medical colleagues, and to improve oral hygiene through proper dental health education. We hope to eventually attain the same success as that of Project Sabai.

Faculty of Dentistry Community Outreach Programme 2011

By Soh Shean Han, Year 4

In 2010, as part of our Faculty's Community Outreach Programme, the Dental Society of the Faculty of Dentistry organized an oral health screening, in collaboration with the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS), and the Health Promotion Board (HPB). This year it was held at the Jamiyah Home this being our second collaboration.

The aim of this programme was to address the residents' oral health needs as well as to increase awareness of good oral hygiene. Dental care in the form of removal of unsalvageable teeth, management of existing oral infections and other minor oral surgical procedures, were rendered to the residents at the home. Those Residents in need of non-emergency dental care were referred to polyclinics or the National Dental Centre. Patients with suitable indications for undergraduate student dental treatment were referred to the Faculty of Dentistry's (FOD) undergraduate dental treatment.

Within one day, 83 residents were screened, of whom 18 required extractions of one or more teeth, and 23 had consented to undergo undergraduate student treatment at our faculty. The screening services were also extended to the staff of the home. In total, about 31 students and five faculty staff were involved in this project. This outreach programme was very meaningful for the students who participated. It was no doubt heartwarming and fulfilling to provide dental services to underprivileged individuals whose financial and physical access to dental care was very limited. This project is a reflection of our faculty's commitment to serve the whole spectrum of our community by providing them access to quality dental care.

I truly hope this project will serve as a stepping stone for many such similar ventures with MCYS or other Voluntary Welfare Organizations in the near future.

Dentistry's Got Talent – AY2011/2012

Andrew Lim Awarded the Inaugural NUS Sports Scholarship (2011/12)

The Faculty is proud to have Year 1 dental student Andrew Lim as one of the five recipients of the inaugural NUS Sports Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to outstanding sportsmen to help them achieve excellence in their sporting and academic pursuits while studying at the University. It covers tuition fees, living and accommodation allowances.

ANDREW LIM (YEAR 1) – SWIMMING



Competitive swimming is a sport where only a hundredth of a second can differentiate you from another athlete. It is an intense race that requires many hours spent in the pool and the weight room all year round in preparation for just a few minutes or even seconds of swimming.

I've represented Singapore in competitive swimming, and my specialty is the 50m and 100m breaststroke events.

Why I like swimming? It is a highly technical sport where everything matters: Head and body position, arm and leg movement coordination, force generation, decreasing resistance all play major roles in producing speed. And moving fast through the water gives me a sense of freedom.

Over the years, I have been blessed with many opportunities to compete overseas and the most notable competition I have raced in would be the 16th Asian Games in Guangzhou, China, in November 2010. There, I met and raced against some of the world's best in my pet events. I was placed 10th and 18th overall in the 50m and 100m breaststroke respectively.

I am also deeply honored to be a recipient of the NUS sports scholarship. When I graduate, I aspire to impact patients' lives as a proficient and caring dentist and to one day compete again at the international level.

HOE WAH TOON (YEAR 2) – GYMNASTICS



Gymnastics is a sport that requires a great deal of physical strength, flexibility, agility, coordination, and balance. Being termed the "Mother of all Sports", gymnastics is definitely one of the hardest and most challenging sports one can participate in. Besides being physically demanding, it builds up one's confidence, resilience, determination and discipline.

I started doing gymnastics at the age of seven, took part in my first overseas competition at 11. Since then, I have participated in the 2005, 2007 and 2011 SEA

Games. In 2006, I was the first Singaporean to represent the nation in Gymnastics at the Commonwealth Games. In 2011, I was the Floor and Vault champion at the Singapore Open Gymnastics Championships.

I like gymnastics because I find it exhilarating, fast-paced and challenging. Being able to have full control of one's body in mid-air and perform a flip is an awesome feeling.

Hopefully school will not be too taxing so that I can take part in the 2013 SEA Games as well as the Asian and Commonwealth Games in 2014.

I have been a gymnastics coach for children aged 3-9 yrs for the last three years. I hope to become a Paedodontist, as I like kids and I believe it is a career which I will find joy and fulfillment.

NATALIE TAN (YEAR 3) – ORCHESTRA OF MUSIC MAKERS



Although I had the privilege to learn the violin from a young age, I did not have much interest in it as a solo player, until I joined the school orchestras in my secondary school and high school. To me, playing an instrument alone was not as fun and satisfying as playing with a group of musicians, and that is exactly what the Orchestra of the Music Makers (OMM) does for me.

The OMM started out in 2008 as a group of like-minded high-school orchestra alumni who wanted to continue making music and playing big orchestral works

because of their love for music. With our handful of concerts a year, the rehearsals and the gatherings leading up to the concert dates breaks the monotony of school and is an avenue for stress relief as well.

The OMM has since evolved into a not just another orchestra, but a volunteer orchestra. It now comprises a group of musicians with diverse careers outside of music, driven by the same passion for classical music and volunteerism. To date, through our many concerts, we have benefitted a number of charities, including the Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund and the Children's Cancer Foundation. In 2009, the

orchestra was awarded the HSBC Youth Excellence Award for Musical Excellence, and this has created many more opportunities and helped us further our goals for philanthropy through music.

Last year, I became a committee member of OMM, and it has certainly changed my perspective and role in the orchestra. From being a musician and contributing to the orchestra's cause with my musical skill, I now have a part to play in the growth and development of the orchestra as we continue to contribute to society. Being in the OMM has definitely brought new meaning to music and volunteering. It has made all the years playing the violin worthwhile, fulfilling and all the more enjoyable in every possible way.

TAN BING LIANG (YEAR 2) – RAFFLES ALUMNI CHINESE ORCHESTRA



My love affair with percussion and the Chinese orchestra music began in 2003 when I joined the Raffles Institution Chinese Orchestra (RICO). At the time, the only Chinese music I was exposed to were the Jiangnan Si Zhu (traditional folk music from the Jiangnan province in China) through my grandparents. How wrong I was when I began learning the yangqin (a Chinese dulcimer) and then took up percussion. It



A Chinese Yang Qin

felt as though I was in the Mongolian highlands, dancing with celestial beings, and reliving the stories of Chinese folklore heroes and legends through the music.

In 2009, some of my Raffles Junior College Orchestra cohorts and I came together to form an alumni Chinese Orchestra, known as the Raffles Alumni Chinese Orchestra (RACO). I am proud to announce that on 4 Aug 2012, RACO will be putting up its third concert, to be held at the Singapore Conference Hall.

The love for this type of music also engendered the opportunity for me to arrange and compose for other orchestras. In 2011, I felt honoured when the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) performed my arrangement, "Medley: The Phantom of the Opera" in 2011. Most recently, I adapted a musical piece from "Ambush from Ten Sides" by the Silk Road Ensemble, a group formed by Yo-Yo Ma (well known cellist with multiple Grammy Awards); the piece is to be premiered in our concert on 4 Aug 2012.

In recent years, the SCO has been in search of Singapore's own "unique blend of sound". It is very exciting when one discovers certain blends that create new textures and sounds that would carry Singapore's signature and identity. Upon my graduation from Dentistry, in my spare time, I hope to take up composing lessons and to play a role in shaping our local music in the years to come.

Dentistry's Got Other Talents

Name	Talent	Name	Talent
Zhang Hui Kelly Year1	<u>Synchronized Swimming</u> 14th FINA World Championship, 2011 26th SEA Games Synchronized Swimming, 2011 (Silver & Bronze Medals)	Ho Wan Zhen Year1	<u>Shooting</u> 12th Asian Shooting Championships 2012, Doha, Qatar 11th NUS Invitational Shoot 2012, Women's Pistol ♦ Silver (Individual) ♦ Bronze (Team)
Willis Lin Heng Zong Year2	<u>Water Polo</u> NUS Water-Polo team	Caslin Ong Year3	<u>Rugby</u> Former Captain of NUS Contact Rugby Team NUS Interclub Rugby 10s Games Champions for 2009 & 2010
Ian Pang Jian Wen Year3	<u>Entrepreneurship</u> Events Management Company www.vouluevents.com	John Tay Rong Hao Year1	<u>Violin</u> Spotlight Singapore 2012 to Czech Republic, Slovakia and UK, 26 Jun to 10 July 2012

25th IADR-SEA Division Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) & 22nd SEAADE Annual Meeting

By Nurazreen

This year, the 25th IADR-SEA Division Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) & 22nd SEAADE Annual Meeting was held in Singapore from 28 - 30 October 2011.

On the pre-congress day, 28 October 2011, a string of activities were held at the Faculty of Dentistry, NUS. This included the Colgate/SEAADE Dental Leadership Experience Program (DLEP), SEAADE Council meeting, Briefing for GC Prevention Competition and Dean's Forum.



Colgate/SEAADE Dental Leadership Experience Program (DLEP)

Winners from Faculty of Dentistry

IADR/UNILEVER HATTON DIVISIONAL (IADR-SEA) TRAVEL AWARD (SENIOR CATEGORY) - 1ST RUNNER UP



Dr Fahad Karim
Kidwai

Presentation: Construction of an Organotypic Model from Human Embryonic Stem Cells

Team Members: F.K. Kidwai (Presenter), X. Fu, H. Liu, W.S. Toh, K. Lu, Y. Zou, J.F. Yeo, L. Mingming, I. Islam And T. Cao

SEAADE OUTSTANDING EDUCATION POSTER AWARD - DR RAHUL NAIR

Presentation: Learning Cariology through Collaboration and Content Creation using a Wiki Website

Team Members: Dr Rahul Nair (main presenter) & A/P Robert Yee

IADR-SINGAPORE SECTION MEETING - BEST ORAL PRESENTATION AWARD



Project Title: Fluoride Content in Infant Milk Formulas

Team Members: Lim Suq Ping, Ng Sze Hwee, Yeo Hwee Hsien Samantha and Chan Xiu Ling Grace (main presenter)

Supervisors: Dr Joanne UY, A/P Adrian Yap U-Jin and Ms Yap Puay Yen

From L-R: Lim Suq Ping, Ng Sze Hwee, Yeo Hwee Hsien Samantha, Chan Xiu Ling Grace and A/P Cao Tong

SEAADE-GC STUDENT TABLE PREVENTION COMPETITION 2011 (RESEARCH CATEGORY) - GOLD



Project Title: Development and Validation of a Questionnaire for Nursing Home Caregivers in Singapore

Team Members: Dr Toh Hui En (main presenter), Dr Melissa Quay, Dr Lim Shy Min, Dr Lim Mei Yan and Dr Loke Shu Yi

Supervisor: A/P Robert Yee and Dr Rahul Nair

From L-R: Dr Melissa Quay, A/P Robert Yee and Dr Toh Hui En

38th Asia Pacific Dental Students Association (APDSA)

By Nurazreen

Dr David Lim came in as 2nd Runner Up for the Scientific Research Competition (Oral) at the 38th APDSA Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 15 – 28 August 2011. The topic was: An In-vitro Study Comparing Fobss and Hardness Test in the Detection of Enamel Demineralisation.



Dr David Lim (in white, seated on extreme right) with his prize

CLASS OF '81 RAISES \$180,000 FOR BURSARY FUND

By David Chan



Class of '81 presents the cheque of \$180,000 to A/P Grace Ong, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry

In conjunction with their 30th anniversary reunion, the BDS Class of '81, with support from the faculty, organized a symposium cum fund raising event. Entitled "30 Years of Dentistry - Staying Relevant & Current", the event was held on Sunday, 17 July 2011 at the Shaw Foundation Alumni House. Featuring six speakers from the class, it attracted the support of more than 240 participants and 10 industry partners.

61st Dental Society Annual Dinner & Dance 2011

By Natalie Tan, Year3 and Wan Hui Wei, Year2



The 61st Dental Society Dinner and Dance was held at the Kent Ridge Guild House ballroom on 7 August 2011. Combining with the Year 1 Orientation buffet night, it was to be a culmination of all the Orientation events of the year. The theme was Mafia Night and the event saw students and staff dressed up as different variations of the term "Mafia". The newly welcomed Year 1s came as a mob gang, whilst various other individuals from the other different years dressed up as gangsters from different parts of the world – the Russian mafia, the American mafia, and even the Singapore "Ah Longs" (illegal moneylenders) were present.

The night's entertainment came from the students themselves, with each cohort putting up diversified performances that showcased their talents and creativity. But what is a Dinner and Dance event without the lucky draws to entice the guests? Prizes ranged from electric toothbrushes, shopping and dining vouchers, and the Grand Prize was an iPad 2. The best dressed male and female students were also awarded with exciting prizes for the efforts put into their costumes. The night ended with satisfied tummies, memorable photos and vivid memories of what was a thoroughly entertaining and enjoyable evening.



UPCOMING EVENT

3rd Alumni Reunion

Fri 28 Sep 2012

This year's event will feature the wide-ranging (and surprising) talents of our dental alumni.

Please block your diaries for another fun-filled evening of renewing friendships and acquaintances.



For enquiries, kindly contact
Ms Sharon Lim, Senior Asst Manager,
Dean's Office at Sharon_Lim@nuhs.edu.sg,
or at DID: 6772-4937

DONATIONS Apr 2011 to Mar 2012

Breakdown of Donations Received

FOD Development Fund	\$53,008
Student Bursaries	\$266,047
Others	\$13,962
Total	\$333,017

Activities Funded From Donations

Bursaries (28 awarded)	\$58,000
UG Research	\$3,455
Student Development	\$15,395
Staff Development and Research	\$14,988
Others	\$26,718
Total	\$118,556



Welcome New Faculty Staff

Dr Roxanna Jean Nicoll joined the Faculty as an Assistant Professor and Registrar in the Discipline of Prosthodontics on 13 December 2011. She earned her Doctorate of Dental Surgery and Bachelor of Arts (Hons) with a double major in Biological Sciences-MCD and Psychology from the University of Colorado. She has also completed her Prosthodontic Certificate in the Advanced Dental program at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

MDS Orthodontics Class Pledges First Patient Earnings

"I have always believed in giving, because when you give, you will also receive. This is a philosophy which I have also shared with my MDS students, and I am proud to hear that the graduating MDS Orthodontic class (at right) has pledged to contribute their very first patients' earnings to the faculty's new building fund. This would amount to an estimated \$30,000 (about \$6,000 from each MDS student). I hope this gesture would be an example and an encouragement for others to follow.



From left: Dr Chua Khim Thai, Dr Salmeh Kalbassi, Dr Lih Wei Song, Dr Mohanarajah and Dr Seow Yian San

Even though I did not graduate from NUS, it has become my adopted alma mater since 1997 when I started part time teaching at the Orthodontic Postgraduate Unit. As a member of the NUS FOD Fundraising Committee, I urge all the alumni, both undergraduate and postgraduate, to give generously to their very own alma mater."



Dr Hwang Yee Chau is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer in the faculty's Orthodontic Training Programme. She obtained her degree from the Dental Institute in Kings College, London, and her postgraduate degree from Guy's Hospital, London. The faculty offers its heartfelt appreciation to Dr Hwang and her MDS students for their generous contributions and pledges.

New Adjunct Staff

Title	Name	Designation
Dr	Ng Hsiao Piau	Adjunct Senior Research Fellow
Dr	Sherine Yang Shi Lian	Clinical Teacher

Staff Promotions

2011

Dr Intekhab Islam	Associate Consultant
Dr Fu Jia Hui	Registrar
Dr Teoh Khim Hean	Clinical Associate Professor
Dr Sum Chee Peng	Clinical Associate Professor
Dr Ng Jing Jing	Clinical Lecturer
Sharon Lee	Manager
Nurazreen	Assistant Manager
Goh Guan Yee	Assistant Manager
Doris Wong	Management Assistant Officer 1

2012

Dr Victoria Yu	Senior Consultant
Dr Marlene Teo	Adjunct Senior Lecturer
Dr Ong Hoe Boon	Adjunct Senior Lecturer
Jane Ong	Management Assistant Officer 3
Sim Puay Eng	Specialist Associate