

HKU–Peking University Conjoint International Postgraduate Programme in Periodontology officially launched

The University of Hong Kong–Peking University Conjoint International Postgraduate Programme in Periodontology, the first-ever joint international clinical degree programme in China, was officially launched at a Commencing Ceremony on 26 May 2008.

More than 160 guests, including Prof Lakshman Samaranayake (HKU Dean of Dentistry), Prof Li-jian Jin (Associate Dean for Mainland and Global Affairs), Dr Gordon Chiu (Honorary Clinical Associate Professor), and Ms Isabella Wong (Director of China Affairs, HKU), attended the special function, held at the Marco Polo Hotel, Beijing.

Also attending the ceremony, and celebration dinner that followed, were Prof Guang-yan Yu (Dean, Peking University School of Stomatology) and senior officers representing the Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China, the Chao-Yang District of Beijing, and the Peking University Health Science Center.

During the evening, the first batch of postgraduate students, comprising seven dentists from mainland China, Taiwan, and India, were formally admitted to the 2-year full-time degree course. "The occasion marked a historic milestone in postgraduate dental education through the collaboration between Hong Kong and mainland China," says Prof Li-jian Jin, who is the Postgraduate Programme Director in Periodontology (Conjoint Programme).

This new taught postgraduate programme, jointly offered by the HKU Faculty of Dentistry and the Peking University School of Stomatology, is based on HKU's well-established Master of Dental Surgery (MDS) degree in Periodontology. Conducted in Beijing in purpose-built premises, the course consists of seven modules, with 50% of time being spent in clinical practice and 50% in course work and research. The medium of instruction is English. After passing the final examination and successfully defending a research dissertation, students will be conferred with an MDS (Periodontology) degree from HKU and a certificate from Peking University. The world-class faculty team running the programme includes teachers from the two universities, as well as eminent professors in periodontology from several dental schools in the USA, Europe, and Australia.

The next intake will be in 2009 and applications are welcome from mainland Chinese and international applicants. Full details and application procedures for the MDS (Periodontology) via *The University of Hong Kong–Peking University Conjoint International Postgraduate Programme in Periodontology* can be found at the following website:

www.facdenthk.org/postgraduate_prospectus.htm#mdsper2

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