



Tokyo Medical and Dental University and Chulalongkorn University  
International Joint Degree Doctor of Philosophy Program in Orthodontics

# Self-assessment report

<Term for evaluation: August 2023–July 2024>

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# 1. Mechanism for implementation of JD Program

## 1-1. Joint implementation structure

### 1-1-1. Joint committees

#### Evaluation indicator

Appropriate committees for discussing important matters of education activities and examining curricula and educational methods are organized and active.

#### *Plan*

Tokyo Medical and Dental University (hereafter referred to as TMDU) and Chulalongkorn University (hereafter referred to as CU) will jointly conduct appropriate committee meetings to discuss important matters of education and research and to examine curricula and educational methods.

#### *Current situation*

A few committees with similar matters for deliberation were merged in the academic year 2016. Three committees: the Liaison Council, Course Administrative Committee, and University Quality Assurance System are presently active, based on the rules discussed below.

The meeting of the Liaison Council was held in January 2024, and the result of external assessment was shared.

The Course Administrative Committee meeting is conducted once a month to discuss various issues such as education, program operation and research, thesis defense, etc. So far, things have been progressing as expected.

#### <Committee rules>

##### (1) Liaison Council

Frequency of meetings: at least once a year

Deliberation matters:

The Liaison Council oversees administration of the program, conducts self-assessment, and deliberates the following matters:

- A) Organization of curricula
- B) Formulation of educational organization
- C) Selection of entrants and conferment of degrees
- D) Management of enrollment and student safety
- E) Financial support, welfare and guidance for students
- F) Evaluation of educational and research activities

##### (2) Course Administrative Committee (named JD committee before)

Frequency of meetings: once a month as a general rule

Deliberation matters:

The Course Administrative Committee deliberates the following matters:

- A) Selection of entrants
- B) Student registration and records
- C) Student guidance
- D) Syllabus planning and course registration
- E) Formulation of educational organization
- F) Educational policies and methods
- G) Promotion and course completion certification
- H) Thesis defense
- I) Evaluation of educational and research activities
- J) Other necessary matters relating to education and research

(3) University Quality Assurance System

The University Quality Assurance System comprises external reviewers. Its meeting is held once a year. The System conducts external assessment based on the self-assessment report. The rules of the System have not been agreed upon by TMDU and CU.

<Previous committee meetings>

(1) Liaison Council

TMDU and CU conducted the Liaison Council meeting on January 25, 2024, in which the matters discussed and settled during August 2022 to July 2023 were reviewed and the self-assessment results were approved. Additionally, program-improvement ideas were exchanged.

(2) Course Administrative Committee

TMDU and CU have regularly conducted the Course Administrative Committee meeting once a month.

(Table 1)

Date	
September 5, 2023	76th meeting
October 3, 2023	77th meeting
November 14, 2023	78th meeting
December 27, 2023	79th meeting
February 7, 2024	80th meeting
April 23, 2024	81st meeting
June 5, 2024	82nd meeting
July 3, 2024	83rd meeting

Reference: Minutes of the Course Administrative Committee (Attachment 1)

## 1-1-2. Communication method

Evaluation indicator

Appropriate communication method is established.

### *Plan*

- The CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center in Thailand, which TMDU has established in the Faculty of Dentistry of CU, and the video conferencing system in TMDU will be utilized for communications with each other.
- One faculty member will be assigned as a coordinator to achieve better cooperation between TMDU and CU.

### *Current situation*

There have been three means of communication between CU and TMDU.

First, the video conferencing systems installed at TMDU and CU have been used not only for meetings called by the three committees mentioned above, but also for joint interviews in the entrance examination.

Second, the CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center in Thailand, equipped with a computer, copy machine, tables and chairs, and a video conferencing system, has been used for entrance examination preparations, meetings before and after the entrance examination, and sending answer sheets to TMDU via e-mail. Additionally, it has been used for meetings with TMDU members and students when TMDU members visit CU. Furthermore, the JDP coordinator has used the Center's room for conducting paperwork. One of the equipment in this center was renewed.

Furthermore, TMDU and CU jointly conducted faculty development programs and meetings so that representatives of committees could share a common understanding of issues occurring each year.

## *Evaluation of 1-1. Joint implementation structure*

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

### ➤ **Evaluation of current situation**

- The joint implementation structure was revised. Communication between the two universities is conducted once a month.

### ➤ **Proposals for improvement**

- There exists no proposal to improve the joint implementation structure.
- The online document tool is used for collaborative efforts such as self-assessment report preparation.

## 1-2. Policies

### 1-2-1. Diploma Policy

#### Evaluation indicator

Diploma Policy is determined based on the educational objectives and published, and completion of the program is approved in a fair and strict manner.

#### *Plan*

Establish Diploma Policy in the light of the Human Resources Development Goals of this program and confer degrees.

#### <Human Resources Development Goals>

The program is devoted to developing researchers who are well-versed in specialized knowledge that spans the life sciences, especially orthodontics, and who act as global leaders and cooperate closely with their counterparts in other fields; educators who are rich in spirit and have highly developed expertise in devising and implementing effective educational strategies; highly specialized medical professionals who have uncompromising ethical views and passionate interest in research; and opinion leaders who will act as pioneers in a new and more progressive era.

#### *Current situation*

The Diploma Policy was determined as below based on the Human Resources Development Goals, with the mutual consent of TMDU and CU.

#### <Diploma Policy>

The program confers the degree of Doctor of Philosophy on students who attain the required credits and pass the dissertation defense and final examinations. Degree recipients must also fulfill the following requirements.

- (1) Ability to acquire technical knowledge in English as a common language, and communicate smoothly in English.
- (2) Ability to continue learning in one's specialty field for life.
- (3) Ability to understand and speak on current issues in the fields of dentistry, especially orthodontics, not only in Japan and Thailand but also in Southeast Asia; prioritize critical problems; plan research and formulate proposals needed to solve such problems.
- (4) Ability to be a leader in research, education and dental treatment, coordinating with the respective people overseas in the fields of medical and dental sciences, especially orthodontics.

The Diploma Policy is usually explained by TMDU and CU faculty members in guidance for new students. For this year, TMDU and CU have reached a decision to confer a doctoral degree on three students in July 2024.

## 1-2-2. Curriculum Policy

### Evaluation indicator

- Curriculum Policy is clearly indicated and published based on the educational objectives.
- Academic curricula are organized and implemented based on Curriculum Policy.

### *Plan*

Establish the Curriculum Policy to provide an environment for students to acquire essential knowledge, skills, experience and leadership for their degree and to become highly specialized medical professionals and formulate curriculum.

### *Current situation*

The Curriculum Policy has been established as follows with the mutual consent of TMDU and CU. TMDU and CU add a Curriculum Policy (7).

#### <Curriculum Policy>

The curriculum has been designed based on the following policies in order to create an environment in which students can acquire the knowledge, skills, experience and leadership abilities necessary to obtain a degree and become a highly specialized medical professional.

- (1) Establish basic and special subjects related to orthodontics to foster professionals with strong capabilities in research, in-depth specialized knowledge, thinking skills and high standards of ethics, who can contribute to the world through research.
- (2) Establish clinical subjects that enable students to acquire expert knowledge and skills in clinical orthodontics.
- (3) Organize presentation-style participatory seminars to enable students to acquire fundamental capabilities in orthodontics.
- (4) Organize special lectures on special subjects that enable students to define problems in various situations which can be objects of study, scientifically analyze them, create science-based solutions for them, and evaluate the results of solving them.
- (5) Establish Practice of Research as a special subject to enable students to plan and carry out research which contributes to the world, and establish Experimentation and Thesis Writing as a subject to aid writing dissertations with the essential content.
- (6) Evaluate student academic performance based on formative and summative criteria, as described in the syllabus, in order to achieve educational goals.
- (7) Evaluate thesis/dissertation strictly based on diploma policy, and conduct thesis/dissertation defense and final examination appropriately.

5-year academic curricula were formulated and implemented based on the Curriculum Policy (Table 2). The Curriculum Policy is publicly available on websites.

(Table 2)

Field	Subject	Credits
(1) Basic subjects	• Bone Biology	2
	• General Orthodontics	1
	• Essential Orthodontics	2
	• Seminar in Basic Orthodontics	1
(2) Special subjects	• Doctoral Dissertation Seminar	24
	• Orthodontic Sciences special lecture	6
	• Orthodontic Sciences research practice	8
	• Orthodontic Sciences Experimentation and Thesis Writing	10
	• Maxillofacial Orthognathics special lecture	6
	• Maxillofacial Orthognathics research practice	8
	• Maxillofacial Orthognathics Experimentation and Thesis Writing	10
(3) Clinical subjects	• Orthodontic Techniques	3
	• Multidisciplinary Treatment Procedures	2
	• Orthodontic Practical Exercise	1
	• Seminar in Advanced Orthodontics	1
	• Orthodontic Clinical Training I	2
	• Orthodontic Clinical Training II	1
	• Orthodontic Clinical Training III	4
	• Advanced Orthodontic Clinical Training I	1
	• Advanced Orthodontic Clinical Training II	3
	• Advanced Orthodontic Clinical Training III	1
	• Photography and Computer in Orthodontics	1
	• Skill in Orthodontic Teaching	1
	• Writing a Research Proposal in Dentistry	1
	• Writing a Research Report in Dentistry	1

### 1-2-3. Admission Policy

#### Evaluation indicator

Clear Admissions Policy is established and entrance examination is conducted in accordance with the policy.

#### Plan

Establish the Admission Policy in the light of Human Resources Development Goals (refer to item 1-2-1), and conduct entrance examinations.

#### Current situation

The Admissions Policy was established as follows with the mutual consent of TMDU and CU. TMDU and CU add Basic Entrance Examination Policies on Admission Policy.

#### <Admissions Policy>

##### 《What We Expect of Our Students》

This program aims to foster highly skilled experts as well as global leaders who possess a wealth of knowledge and techniques in the field of dentistry, especially orthodontics, not only in Japan and Thailand but also in Southeast Asia. Qualified applicants who meet any of the following criteria are therefore highly encouraged to apply for our program.

- (1) Eager to acquire advanced clinical abilities, basic knowledge and techniques in the field of orthodontics, or understanding grounded in the latest research in the field of orthodontic sciences and maxillofacial orthognathics.
- (2) Eager to be an independent basic-clinical researcher in the fields of orthodontics with the capacity to take the lead in national/international clinical research projects or clinical education upon completion of course.

#### 《Basic Entrance Examination Policies》

Applicants are evaluated in a comprehensive manner through various examinations, including a written examination to appraise basic knowledge and essay ability required for research in specialized fields, a practical examination to evaluate basic technical capabilities, and an oral examination and application document to assess aptitude and motivation.

TMDU and CU conduct entrance examinations in accordance with the policy. The policy and details of the entrance examinations are available in the Student Application Guide and on TMDU and CU Websites.

The entrance examination subjects were determined based on the Admissions Policy. The entrance examination comprises a written test on orthodontics, a wire-bending test, an essay-writing test, and a joint interview. The written test and the wire-bending test aim to determine whether the candidate possesses basic knowledge and techniques related to the field of orthodontics. The essay-writing test and joint interview determine whether the candidate is eager to acquire high-level clinical abilities, knowledge, and techniques related to orthodontics, or is keen to understand orthodontic sciences and maxillofacial orthognathics based on the latest research in these fields, and possesses the potential to become an independent basic clinical researcher in orthodontics with the capacity to take the lead in national/international clinical research projects or clinical education.

All entrance examinations were conducted in accordance with the Admissions Policy. Two candidates passed the examination.

## Evaluation for 1-2. Policies

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

### ➤ Evaluation of current situation



The current policies for both diploma and curriculum are performing very well. The Diploma Policy, Curriculum Policy, and Admissions Policy have been well-applied and conducted.

➤ **Proposals for improvement**

The recruitment of future Ph.D. candidates should be announced earlier and more persuasively to attract a larger number of eligible and promising applicants. Although the firm diplomas have been established, it is important to advertise the JDP by using social media to recruit more students.

### 1-3. Quality assurance system

#### 1-3-1. Self-assessment

<b>Evaluation indicator</b>
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Self-assessment is implemented and the results are published, and reflected in the educational and research activities.
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#### *Plan*

TMDU and CU will evaluate the educational and research activities of this program, and write self-assessment reports.

#### *Current situation*

To compose the self-assessment report, program evaluation by the students will be implemented. The result of this evaluation will be shared with TMDU and CU faculty members and utilized for preparing the self-assessment report. The report is jointly prepared by the two universities based on the evaluation categories, providing an evaluation of the current situation and proposals for improvement. This report will be published on the universities' Websites and will be reviewed by the Course Administrative Committee for improvement of the JDP.

#### <History of self-assessment>

	Term for evaluation	Implementation
1 <sup>st</sup> self-assessment	August 2016-July 2017	January 2018
2 <sup>nd</sup> self-assessment	August 2017-July 2018	January 2019
3 <sup>rd</sup> self-assessment	August 2018-July 2019	January 2020
4 <sup>th</sup> self-assessment	August 2019-July 2020	January 2021
5 <sup>th</sup> self-assessment	August 2020-July 2021	December 2021
6 <sup>th</sup> self-assessment	August 2021-July 2022	September 2022
7 <sup>th</sup> self-assessment	August 2022-July 2023	September 2023
8 <sup>th</sup> self-assessment	August 2023-July 2024	September 2024

Regarding external assessment, please refer to the next item, 1-3-2.

## 1-3-2. External assessment

### Evaluation indicator

After carrying out the external assessment, the results are published and reflected in educational and research activities.

### Plan

TMDU and CU will undergo an external evaluation by the University Quality Assurance System based on the self-assessment report. External evaluators will consist of outsourcing veterans and professors from other universities, which have doctoral programs in relevant fields and experience in granting doctoral degrees.

### Current situation

External assessments have been conducted by two external assessors based on the self-assessment report. Their assessments will be combined into one assessment report. The report will be published on the universities' Websites, and also fed back to TMDU and CU faculty members for improvement of educational and research activities. Since the 6<sup>th</sup> external assessment, TMDU has provided a new external assessor to compose the report from a fresh perspective. In 2023, CU and TMDU agreed to modify the frequency of external assessments from annually to once every five years.

#### <History of external assessment>

	Term for evaluation	Implementation
1 <sup>st</sup> external assessment	August 2016-July 2017	February 2018
2 <sup>nd</sup> external assessment	August 2017-July 2018	February 2019
3 <sup>rd</sup> external assessment	August 2018-July 2019	February 2020
4 <sup>th</sup> external assessment	August 2019-July 2020	February 2021
5 <sup>th</sup> external assessment	August 2020-July 2021	February 2022
6 <sup>th</sup> external assessment	August 2021-July 2022	December 2022
7 <sup>th</sup> external assessment	August 2022-July 2023	December 2023

In the previous external assessment, generally good ratings are received, but external assessors indicated decline in the number of candidates. In accordance with this, TMDU and CU actively recruited students. As a result of the recruitment, there were three applicants and two were expected to be admitted.

## 1-3-3. Feedback of assessment results

### Evaluation indicator

- Opinions of university members (students and faculty members) obtained in order to ensure proper use of the results in concrete, sustainable improvement of educational quality.
- Opinions of external parties are utilized properly toward concrete, sustainable improvement of educational quality
- Faculty development is properly managed, and leads to improvement of educational quality and coursework.

## *Plan*

In this program, students will be asked to complete questionnaires on the subjects. Also, supervisors will listen to students' opinions via the video conferencing system. Questionnaire results and opinions will be fed back to faculty members, and utilized for improvement of educational quality. The Liaison Council will examine educational effectiveness, and reflect the findings in the curriculum, supervising method and entrance examination.

In order to develop faculty members' educational skills, TMDU and CU plan to conduct faculty development seminars to exchange relevant information such as on curriculum planning and making teaching materials.

## *Current situation*

CU administered a questionnaire survey to students and supervisors. The results were presented and examined at a meeting called by the Course Administrative Committee. Furthermore, TMDU and CU conducted a video workshop on faculty development seminars jointly with Mahidol University and University of Chile, which also manage the Joint Degree Programs with TMDU. In concrete terms, we shared information related to Artificial Intelligence and its application in Medical and Dental Sciences during the 7<sup>th</sup> Faculty Development Seminar.

### <History of Faculty Development Seminar>

	Implementation
1 <sup>st</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2018
2 <sup>nd</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2019
3 <sup>rd</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2020
4 <sup>th</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2021
5 <sup>th</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2022
6 <sup>th</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2023
7 <sup>th</sup> Faculty Development Seminar	February-March 2024

## *1-3-4. Information publication*

### Evaluation indicator

Information such as that on educational activities (including the items defined in paragraph 2, article 172 of the Enforcement regulations of the school education Law, MEXT) will be publicized.

## *Plan*

The Public Relations Section of TMDU will carry out planning of publicity, provide an overview of TMDU and issue PR brochures. They will provide information on industry-academia-government collaboration, educational and research activities and TMDU activities that contribute to society. CU will also provide information proactively. Once the JD program is established, information on the program will be provided to students and the public in English.

### *Current situation*

Given the cooperation between TMDU and CU, information on educational and research activities is available on the universities' Websites in Japanese, Thai, and English. TMDU overhauled its Website (English and Japanese) in 2019 (\*1).

Moreover, newsletters are regularly published to inform the public about the current situation of the JD program operation. TMDU and CU have been considering different types of publicity to facilitate admission guidance for graduate school.

Website URL:

[https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmnn/jdp/tmd\\_u\\_cu.html](https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmnn/jdp/tmd_u_cu.html)

<https://www.dent.chula.ac.th/en/programs/48012/>

(\*1) Information on educational and research activities provided on the JDP Website

- University's educational objectives
- Basic organization for education and research
- Faculty members' information
- Number of admissions, admission quota, number of enrolled students
- Subjects' details, teaching method, curriculum
- Facilities, research environment
- Tuition fees, admission fees

### *Evaluation for 1-3. Quality assurance system*

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

#### ➤ **Evaluation of current situation**

- The program has a well-designed quality-assurance system comprising self-assessment, external assessment, feedback of assessment result, and publication. The timeline is as follows: self-assessment was conducted in September 2023, and external assessment was conducted from October 2023. The external assessment report was submitted in December 2023. The feedback on external assessment was published on the TMDU Website and shared with faculty members.
- The quality assurance system will be implemented during the first quarter of 2024 based on the schedule of the previous one.

➤ **Proposals for improvement**

- Comments of external reviewers and stakeholders are carefully considered. The improvement plan is immediately established and implemented based on the feedback. Assessment result is shared with associated faculty members.

## ***2. Operation of JD Program***

### ***2-1. Progress of JD Program operation***

<b>Evaluation indicator</b>
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Program is operated properly as planned.
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#### ***Plan***

TMDU and CU will jointly conduct the entrance examination. After the successful applicants have matriculated into the program, both universities will provide the students with appropriate guidance, confirm the completion of course registration and assign research supervisors to them. At the end of each semester, credits for subjects will be recognized upon approval by the Course Administrative Committee. The students will develop their own research projects, receive advice from their supervisors and present their dissertation proposal to the Course Administrative Committee. The students have to pass the qualifying examination by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> academic year and the dissertation proposal by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> academic year. TMDU will prepare for accepting students so that they can start their research at TMDU in June.

#### ***Current situation***

Entrance examinations were jointly conducted, and as discussed on page 21 of this report, students have matriculated into this program.

After new students enroll, guidance is provided by TMDU and CU faculty members. CU covers the following topics: JDP history, MOU, Diploma Policy, course structure, tuition fees and payment methods, subjects, and TMDU's dormitory. After the guidance, the students register for subjects for the first semester. TMDU provides information about orthodontic science and maxillofacial orthognathic laboratories, conducts interviews with students, and discusses students' research plans with them.

Based on these discussions, each student is assigned one TMDU supervisor and one CU supervisor. As steps toward earning their diploma, the supervisors interview students in the qualifying examination at the end of the first year and Thesis/Dissertation Proposal Exam by the end of the third year, providing guidance and advice on their research progress.

All students have acquired credits for the compulsory subjects so far. This year, three students who matriculated in 2019 have passed the dissertation defense and completed this JD program.

The students who matriculated in 2021 arrived in Japan in October 2022, later than planned owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. They passed the Thesis/Dissertation Proposal

Examination at TMDU in November 2023. After completing their studies at TMDU, they returned to Thailand in February 2024.

The students who matriculated in 2023 arrived in Japan and started their research at TMDU in June 2024. They are expected to complete their studies at TMDU by May 2025.

- Scholarships  
To secure financial assistance, students applied for university scholarships from CU. They were provided budgets for attending academic meetings. TMDU successfully applied for JASSO (Japan Student Services Organization) scholarships for the two students.
- Housing  
TMDU provided two rooms at TMDU Ichikawa Dormitory. TMDU administrative staff and the coordinator helped the students to complete the moving-in procedure and gave them a tour of the dormitory.
- Others  
TMDU tutors supported students by helping them with resident registration, opening bank accounts, and signing up for health insurance.

### *Evaluation for 2-1. Progress of JD Program operation*

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

#### ➤ **Evaluation of current situation**

- Written test, wire-bending test, and essay-writing test were conducted at CU. The subsequent joint interview was conducted via video conferencing. CU and TMDU jointly conducted the entrance examination for 2024 with two applicants; both were accepted. However, one of them has withdrawn owing to personal reasons; so, only one student will matriculate in this program.
- Qualifying Examination and Thesis/Dissertation proposal examination, which are compulsory for graduation, have been conducted, and all students have passed the exams so far.
- Dissertation defense has been conducted, and all three students who matriculated in 2019 successfully passed. In total, CU and TMDU have produced 11 graduates via this JD program.

#### ➤ **Proposals for improvement**

TMDU professors will resume visits to CU for student guidance. The students will be given the opportunity to visit TMDU and tour the laboratories, as this will be informative and beneficial to their research. CU will endeavor to provide scholarships to students at the earliest opportunity. Feedback from self-assessment by staff, students, and external

evaluators will be considered for the ongoing improvement of program operations. TMDU professors will take preparatory actions to facilitate the filing of ethical approval before the commencement of research, if necessary.

## 2-2. Fulfillment of student capacity

### Evaluation indicator

- Admissions Policy, Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy are properly publicized and disseminated.
- Number of enrollments versus admissions quota is appropriate.

### *Plan*

- Information such as the awarded degree, requirements for completion, curriculum, academic calendar, fees, hours per credit, scholarships and student welfare and student support will be notified in the Admission Guide and on the website.
- The admission quota for this program will be three, and it is expected that 1 - 2 Japanese and Thai candidates will apply.

### *Current situation*

Both universities publicize important information, including the Admissions Policy, Curriculum Policy, and Diploma Policy on their respective Websites. All up-to-date information is also available in the Application Guide and on the Websites in both Japanese and English.

- Awarded diploma
- Completion requirements
- Content and method of education
- Academic calendar
- Tuition fees
- Credit hours
- Student support (scholarships, student benefits)

The high tuition fee of 98,000 THB per year and the relatively low necessity of obtaining a Ph.D. in Thailand hinder the recruitment of Thai students. Furthermore, owing to the extended duration of the program in Thailand, it is difficult to recruit Japanese students. As this program accepts students only in the field of orthodontics, the burden on the Department of Orthodontic Science and the Department of Maxillofacial Orthognathics of TMDU is immense. Although discussions were held between faculty members of both universities regarding the expansion to other fields, it was concluded that securing students in fields other than orthodontics would be difficult. Thus, it was agreed at the Course Administrative Committee Meeting in December 2023 to reduce the enrollment capacity from three students to two. This was approved at the Liaison Council Meeting in January 2024. TMDU consulted with the Ministry of Education on this matter in June 2024; a response is awaited.

Number of admissions versus admissions quota has been appropriate (Table 3).

(Table 3) +Admissions quota = 3

Year	Period of exam	Number of applications	Number of Successful applicants
2016	May-June	9	3
2017	April-May	6	3
2018	April-May	7	3
2019	March-April	5	3
2020	April-May	5	3
2021	February-March	4	2
2022	April-May	0	0
2023	April-June	3	2
2024	February-March	2	2*

\* One of the two successful applicants for 2024 entrance exams withdrew from admission.

## *Evaluation for 2-2. Fulfillment of student capacity*

Assessment criteria	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV Achieved more than was planned.					
III Plan was achieved.	✓	✓		✓	
II Plan was not achieved sufficiently.			✓		✓
I Plan was not achieved.					

### ➤ **Evaluation of current situation**

- The ratios of successful admission/number of applicants were 3/9 in 2016, 3/6 in 2017, 3/7 in 2018, 3/5 in 2019, 3/5 in 2020, 2/4 in 2021, 0/0 in 2022, 2/3 in 2023, and 2/2 in 2024. There were two successful applicants for the 2024 entrance exam; however, one withdrew because of personal reasons. Student capacity was fulfilled in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. There was one vacancy in 2021, three in 2022, one in 2023, and two in 2024.
- For increasing the number of applicants, one of the application qualifications about English ability test was modified from “CU-TEP 80 or more” to “CU-TEP 75 or more.” This modification was applied to the entrance examination in 2020.
- Curriculum is accessible on the first page of CU’s Website. Applicants can access greater details on the graduate school office Website when they start the application process.
- For publicizing the JDP at the international level, the brochure introducing the JDP will be distributed at the international conference.

### ➤ **Proposals for improvement**

- Recruitment of international students will remain a challenging issue. However, the multimedia clip for publicizing the JDP at the international level has been successfully produced and will be distributed and posted online across several social platforms.



## 2-3. Syllabuses

### Evaluation indicator

Appropriate syllabuses have been prepared and are in operation.

### *Plan*

Syllabuses which include important information such as that on Admissions Policy, Curriculum Policy, Diploma Policy and assessment will be publicized on the website. Syllabuses will be written in both Japanese and English.

### *Current situation*

The syllabus, both in Japanese and English, is available on both universities' Websites. The syllabus includes the Human Resource Development Goal, Admission Policy, Curriculum Policy, Diploma Policy, Course Registration, Assessment, and Information for Students. The syllabus is revised every year.

<Syllabus in the TMDU website>

[https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmn/jdp/tmdu\\_cu/syllabus.html](https://www.tmd.ac.jp/cmn/jdp/tmdu_cu/syllabus.html)

<Syllabus in the CU website>

<http://www.dent.chula.ac.th/programs/17217/>

## *Evaluation for 2-3. Syllabuses*

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

### ➤ Evaluation of current situation

- The JDP syllabus is published and updated every year on CU's Website in English and Thai and on TMDU's Website in English and Japanese.

### ➤ Proposals for improvement

- Self-assessment and external assessment on the contents included in the syllabus will be performed to improve the program.

## 2-4. Evaluation method and criteria

(Grading, recognizing credits and completion of the course)

### Evaluation indicator

Evaluation methods and criteria (grading, recognition of credits, and completion of the course) are established for each subject. They are being conducted properly in a fair manner, and have been disclosed to students.

### *Plan*

- Credit recognition will be examined and approved through deliberation by the faculty members of both universities on the Course Administrative Committee.
- The performance of each student in courses at TMDU will be graded on a 6-point scale, as follows, in order to make each student's level of attainment more visible. This is based on the TMDU Graduate School Regulations, paragraph 19.  
4.0=A+, 3.5=A, 3.0=B, 2.0=C, 1.0=D, 0.0=F  
Grade 2.0 (=C) will be deemed to be the minimum pass grade.  
In English, grades are fixed as A+= Superior, A= Excellent, B=Good, C=Fair, D and F= Failing.
- The performance of each student in courses at CU will be graded on an 8-point scale, as follows, to make each student's level of attainment more visible.  
4.0=A, 3.5=B+, 3.0=B, 2.5=C+, 2.0=C, 1.5=D+, 1.0=D, 0.0=F  
Grade 2.0 (=C) will be deemed to be the minimum pass grade.  
In English, grades are fixed as A=Excellent, B+=Very Good, B=Good, C+=Fairly Good, C=Fair, D+=Poor, D=Very Poor, and F=Failing.
- Standards for Specific Behavioral Objectives (SBOs) are set as follows (Table 4).
- The performance of each student for the subjects evaluated as S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory) will be calculated based on the criteria in Table 5, notwithstanding the provision stated above.
- Both universities will record students' performances after converting their grades using the conversion table.
- Standards for Specific Behavioral Objectives will be indicated in the syllabuses, and also posted on the websites of both universities.

### *Current situation*

Grades for each subject are assigned by the university that established the subject. The grades are approved at the Course Administrative Committee meetings jointly conducted by TMDU and CU. After approval, the grades of TMDU and CU are converted to the other party's grading system based on the grade conversion Table 4 and Table 5.

Regarding recognition of credits, the Course Administrative Committee arranges a meeting to confirm assessments, and in case the assessment is higher than the C grade of TMDU and CU, credits for the subject are recognized.

Evaluation standards and the methods are shared with the students on the Websites.

(Table 4)

TMDU			CU			Standards for Specific Behavioral Objectives (SBOs)
GP	Grade		GP	Grade		
4.0	A+	Superior	4	A	Excellent	
			3.5	B+	Very Good	All SBOs were achieved beyond expectation.
3.5	A	Excellent	3	B	Good	All SBOs were achieved.
3.0	B	Good	2.5	C+	Fairly Good	Most SBOs were achieved.
2.0	C	Fair	2	C	Fair	The minimum SBOs necessary were achieved.
1.0	D	Failing	1.5	D+	Poor	The minimum SBOs necessary were not achieved.
			1	D	Very Poor	
0.0	F			0	F	Failing

(Table 5)

TMDU			CU		
GP	Grade		GP	Grade	
NA	S	Satisfactory	NA	S	Satisfactory
NA	U	Unsatisfactory	NA	U	Unsatisfactory

### *Evaluation for 2-4. Evaluation method and criteria*

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.					
III	Plan was achieved.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

#### ➤ **Evaluation of current situation**

- The grading system has been used effectively. A comparison table for grade conversion has also been practically applied.

#### ➤ **Proposals for improvement**

- Until now, there have been no issues to propose for improvement.

## 3. Student Support

### 3-1. Student support system

#### 3-1-1. Accommodation

Evaluation indicator
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Appropriate housing support for students is ensured.
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#### *Plan*

Accommodation will be provided to students from both TMDU and CU.

#### *Current situation*

TMDU provides rooms in TMDU Ichikawa Dormitory to students while they conduct research in Japan. Both TMDU and CU provide necessary support for students to begin their journeys in Japan through cooperation between coordinators and administrative staff. The support includes an introduction to the dormitory, assistance with filling out registration forms, consultation on dormitory life, provision of necessary items such as bedclothes, and an explanation of the Wi-Fi service.

#### 3-1-2. Research environment

Evaluation indicator
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Educational environment that provides education according to instruction goals is established.
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#### *Plan*

- One supervisor from each university will be assigned to each student before starting courses so that the student can receive research guidance from both universities.
- Both universities will make their respective facilities and properties available, including TMDU's Yushima campus and CU's Faculty of Dentistry campus. Thus, the necessary environment for graduate education and research under the JDP will be established, enabling multifaceted instruction and research to be conducted.

#### *Current situation*

- Students' research work has progressed smoothly on account of assigning one supervisor from each university to each student. While the students conduct their research at TMDU, TMDU faculty members supervise them for utilizing cutting-edge equipment, and provide opportunities to join seminars both inside and outside the university. Students are provided with desks in the Common Research Room to help them conduct research more effectively. For the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> year students, TMDU and CU conduct interviews

- to assess their research progress and provide appropriate advice.
- While students conduct research at CU, TMDU supervisors contact them via e-mail or video conferencing once a month to discuss their work progress.

### 3-1-3. Financial support

#### Evaluation indicator

Adequate financial support for students is ensured.

#### Plan

- In order to support JDP students who matriculated at TMDU financially, TMDU plans to award scholarships from the TMDU fund to students with outstanding research performance.
- For those who matriculated at CU, TMDU plans to provide financial support from the TMDU fund.

#### Current situation

- Before students who matriculated at CU started their 1<sup>st</sup>-year research activities at TMDU, TMDU applied for JASSO scholarships (80,000JPY/month) for them. Scholarships were granted. Even if the students extend their stay in Japan by a few months, they will receive the JASSO scholarships.
- TMDU and CU continue to seek additional financial support, such as private scholarships or the Student Exchange Support Program (Scholarships for Short-term Study in Japan).

### Evaluation for 3-1. Student support system

Assessment criteria		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
IV	Achieved more than was planned.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
III	Plan was achieved.					
II	Plan was not achieved sufficiently.					
I	Plan was not achieved.					

#### ➤ Evaluation of current situation

- 5<sup>th</sup>- and 4<sup>th</sup>-year JDP students have received the scholarship called the “100th Anniversary Chulalongkorn University Fund for Doctoral Scholarship.” This is with the exception of one 4<sup>th</sup>-year student who receives financial support from his workplace (School of Dentistry, Mae Fah Luang University) as a faculty member. Regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup>-year students, one has received scholarship from Chulalongkorn University, known as the “60/40 support for tuition fee,” to waive the fee, while another receives financial support from her workplace (Institute of Dentistry, Suranaree University of Technology)

as a faculty member. Regarding 1<sup>st</sup>-year students, one has received scholarship from Chulalongkorn University named “H.M. the King Bhumiphol Adulyadej’s 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Anniversary Scholarship,” while another has declined the scholarship. There is no 2<sup>nd</sup>-year student during this term of assessment.

- One 4<sup>th</sup>-year student attended the publication camp held by the Office of Research Affairs, Faculty of Dentistry, CU, to prepare her research manuscript and receive language editing service from native English professors.
- While JDP students stay in Japan, TMDU is flexible about scholarships and accommodations, depending on the number of students and duration of stay.

➤ **Proposals for improvement**

- CU and TMDU should continue to cooperate to secure scholarships from their respective governments or other organizations to support students.
- The advisor and co-advisor for each research project should frequently share information on the progress of students’ research projects to promptly address any issues.