

# Newsletter

Vol. 11



**CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center,  
Thailand**



**December 21st, 2018**

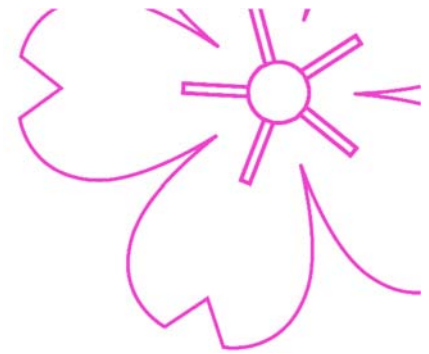
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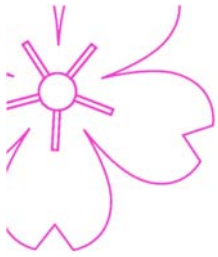
Chulalongkorn University (CU) and Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU) have a shared history of over 25 years of academic exchange, having agreed to exchanges between our faculties of dentistry in 1991 and our faculties of medicine in 2002. Now, TMDU also has an exchange agreement with CU's Faculty of Allied Health Sciences and Faculty of Engineering. Based on the results of these exchange efforts, the university established an overseas base in the form of the CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center at CU on November 23, 2010.

The CU-TMDU Center conducts programs including the promotion of joint research and education in the medical and dental fields, faculty and student exchanges, information sessions for prospective exchange students to Japan, support activities for alumni associations of former exchange students to Japan and health support activities for Japanese expatriates. Dr. Atiphan Pimkhaokham of CU's Faculty of Dentistry (Visiting Associate Professor) and Dr. Issareeya Ekprachayakoon (Visiting Assistant Professor) coordinate these programs.

Currently, approximately 50 Japanese universities have established bases in Thailand, forming JUNThai (the Japanese Universities' Network in Thailand). As a participating member of JUNThai, the CU-TMDU Center conducts information exchanges with other universities' overseas satellite offices in Bangkok. The CU-TMDU Center also acts as base for the development of networks in the medical and dental fields—not just for CU, but also for other universities and research institutions in Thailand and Southeast Asia. ■



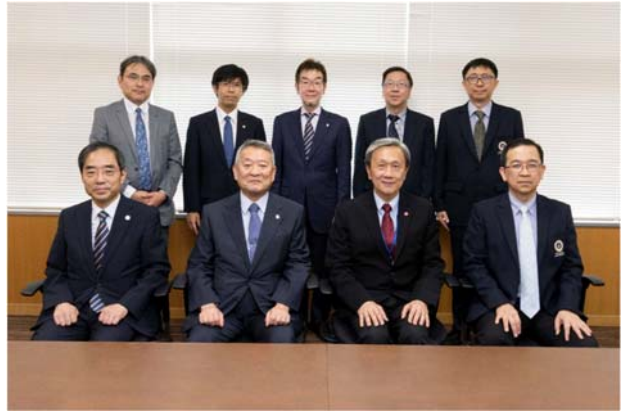
✧ Director, TMDU Overseas Satellite Office in Thailand  
Department of Oral Health Promotion  
Professor Yoko Kawaguchi



# ① Joint Degree Program with the Mahidol University Siriraj Hospital Faculty of Medicine



Surgery Director (center) with other related teaching staff at Siriraj Hospital Faculty of Medicine Surgery



Faculty of Medicine Dean Prasit (front row, second from the right) and visiting party

**P**rofessor Tetsuya Taga, Director of the Institute of Global Affairs, served as the TMDU mission team chief on the university visit to Mahidol University’s Siriraj Hospital Faculty of Medicine in June 2018. While there, Professor Taga participated in discussions on the Joint Degree Program (JDP), which is still under negotiation. Views were exchanged concerning the strengths of both universities, the potential benefits of the JDP for both sides and the educational programs that could be conducted under the JDP.

Professor Taga and Professor Minoru Tanabe of TMDU also gave lectures introducing the strengths of the university’s surgery and basic research divisions, research topics and an overview of the JDP currently being discussed between the two universities. In addition to Dr. Prasit Watanapa, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, and individuals from the surgery division, over 200 interns, residents and medical students attended the lectures. Furthermore, Dean Prasit, Dr. Thawatchai Akaraviputh, Deputy Dean for International Relations, Dr. Vitoon Chinswangwatanakul, Chairman of Siriraj Cancer Center, and Dr. Asada Methasate from the Department of Surgery visited the TMDU campus in August to continue discussions on the establishment of the JDP and exchange student programs. On the day of their visit, TMDU President Yasuyuki Yoshizawa bestowed upon Dean Prasit the title of Visiting Professor at TMDU, with Executive Director Yujiro Tanaka, Professor Taga, Professor Keiichi Akita (Division Head, JDP Advancement Division) and Professor Satoshi Miyake (Palliative Care) in attendance. ■

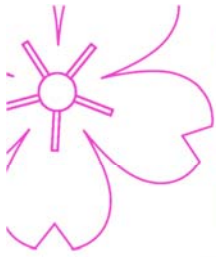
✧ International Exchange Section, JD & MPH Unit

**I**n May 2018, Dr. Pisol Senawongse (graduate of TMDU’s postgraduate doctoral program) of Mahidol University’s Faculty of Dentistry visited TMDU for discussions on the establishment of a new dentistry JDP between TMDU and Mahidol University’s Faculty of Dentistry. In October, both universities signed a memorandum to commence discussions on the establishment of the JDP. ■



Pisol先生（中央）をお迎えし歯学系JDPの開設について協

✧ International Exchange Section, JD & MPH Unit



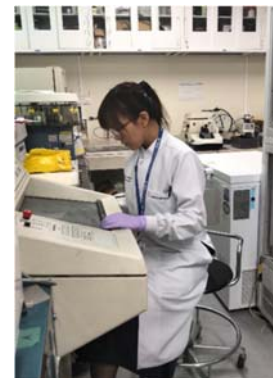
## ② Joint Degree Program with the Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Dentistry

### A second cohort of students began research in June 2018

In June 2018, three Thai students admitted to university in 2017 began their research in the Department of Maxillofacial Orthognathics and the Department of Orthodontic Science. They gathered research data, performed analyses and wrote their theses over a one-year period ending in May 2019. Besides their research, the students also had the opportunity to learn about the Japanese language and culture by mingling with other exchange students and Japanese students at TMDU.



In the lab



### New Students

A student selection exam for university entrance was held from April to May 2018, with seven applicants. Three students were selected based on the results of a written test, wire-bending test, short essay test and interview. The successful applicants started in August, bringing the total number of Thai students in this major to nine. Shortly thereafter, Professor Keiji Moriyama (Department of Maxillofacial Orthognathics) and Professor Takashi Ono (Department of Orthodontic Science) visited Chulalongkorn University to give the new students guidance. At that time, they also interviewed the first round of students admitted in August 2016 to find out how their research was progressing. ■

✧ International Exchange Section, JD & MPH Unit



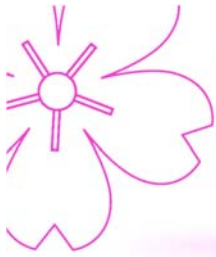
With the August 2018 students



With the August 2016 students



With the Chulalongkorn teaching staff



### ③ Exchange Student Consultation Booth in Da Nang, Vietnam

From September 11–14, 2018, TMDU exhibited at the 29<sup>th</sup> SAADE and 32<sup>nd</sup> IADRSEA in Da Nang, Vietnam to consult with exchange students. The TMDU booth was very popular during these events.

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The 29<sup>th</sup> SAADE and 32<sup>nd</sup> IADRSEA were held in Da Nang, Vietnam from September 11–14, 2018. In addition to participating in this academic conference, TMDU also exhibited at the event to provide information to exchange students. A total of 157 people visited the booth, including former exchange students who graduated from TMDU programs, individuals associated with the university and/or dental field and students from universities in Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries, as well as those from the host country, Vietnam. While giving exchange students advice, our staff introduced the International Faculty Development Course (IFDC), which boosted interest in the university. Of the 20 former exchange students that visited the booth, a number had become teaching staff at institutions including Chulalongkorn University and Srinakharinwirot University. They recalled their experiences at TMDU fondly. Through these exchange programs with students and university faculty interested in Japanese dentistry education, we believe more people will become interested in our university, leading to our goal of increasing exchange student numbers. ■



The TMDU exchange student consultation booth

✧ International Exchange Section, General Affairs Team



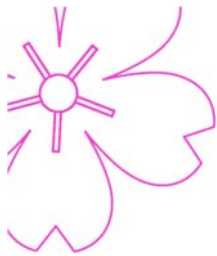
Advising students interested in exchange



TMDU faculty and students advising students interested in exchange



TMDU pamphlets for distribution



## ④ Master's Research in Gerodontology and Oral Rehabilitation at Chulalongkorn University

For two weeks from July 9-20, 2018, a Gerodontology research course was conducted for Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Dentistry master's students in the Department of Gerodontology. There were ten master's students (2<sup>nd</sup> year) who participated.

The students received general theory lectures on Gerodontology, whole-body management and dysphagia, and performed clinical observations of outpatients and home visits. They also founded an academic journal club focused on research fields in the Department of Gerodontology, supported by respective department faculty. Furthermore, in 2018 Chulalongkorn University students held a clinical conference for the first time based on their own clinical cases. After the students gave presentations on the clinical cases they prepared, they shared points to be considered regarding attitudes and treatment policy for Gerodontology through discussions with Japanese and Thai dentists

Just as they did in 2017, the Chulalongkorn University students participated enthusiastically, and although it was just two short weeks, they were extremely satisfied with the course content. The department will continue to review the course content to keep it up to date. We expect this wonderful exchange to continue next year and into the future.■

✿ Department of Gerodontology

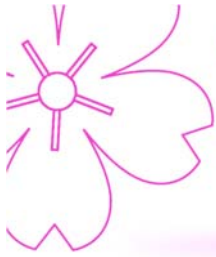
Assistant Professor Masanao Onokoshi



Master's students and medical staff who participated in the research course



Newly-added clinical conference FY2018



## ⑤ Research in Health Care Science at Chulalongkorn University

For ten days from August 9–18, 2018, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Health Care Science students Risa Ito, Marie Iwasawa and Akari Konda participated in short-term study abroad research in the Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Health Care Science.

The first half of the students' study abroad was spent observing Thailand's leading-edge medical institutions, including the Thai Red Cross Hospital and the King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital. The students learned that the facilities here are technologically on par with those in Japan and others worldwide. During the second half, the students participated in lectures and research at the university, and also took part in a Thai research expo, learning about research specific to Thailand, such as that involving herbs used in the country.

During their time abroad, the students received a warm welcome from local students and generated meaningful cultural exchange through their extra-curricular activities.

✧ Immunopathologist and Assistant Professor Yuko Kato



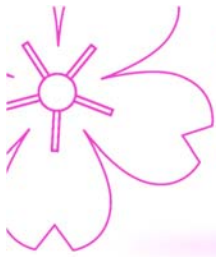
Tour of the Thai Red Cross Hospital



Participating in practical study with Thai students



Together with the Thai students



# © Research in Dentistry at Srinakharinwirot University

During summer break, four dentistry students participated in a short-term dentistry research program at Srinakharinwirot University (SWU).



SWU Faculty of Dentistry

Between August 22–31, 2018, two 3<sup>rd</sup> year dentistry students (Yuki Mori and Hajime Nakade) and two 2<sup>nd</sup> year dentistry students (Yugo Nomura and Kentaro Harada) participated in the Dentistry Research Program at Srinakharinwirot University’s Faculty of Dentistry, located in the capital of Thailand, Bangkok.

local students and teachers and enjoyed cultural exchange activities.

At the University hospital, the students observed their respective specializations, including preservation, prostheses, oral surgery, pediatrics, correction and radiation. They also learned about the Young Dentists’ Research Program, which helped them understand the differences between Thai and Japanese dental circumstances. This experience will certainly motivate the students for their studies down the road. A tour of a private medical clinic separate from the University hospital was also very stimulating.

Seven days of their nine-day stay were spent observing at the University hospital, joining local students in denture molding exercises and simple orthodontic wire-bending practice. Over the weekend, the students visited sightseeing spots in Bangkok with



Practical experience (wire-bending)

The students gave presentations in English on their experiences at TMDU and SWU. It was another opportunity for everyone to learn about the cultural differences between Thailand and Japan. Sports dentistry, which is not prevalent in Thailand, was also introduced.

The students had a wealth of experiences, including opportunities to experience traditional Thai culture (musical performances and dancing in traditional costume on day six) and participate in the SWU’s Faculty of Dentistry’s 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Teacher’s Day Ceremony. I believe the students who participated can now see themselves serving as bridges between Japan and Thailand in the future. ■

✧ Faculty of Sports Dentistry

Assistant Professor Hiroshi Churei



English presentation



Receiving completion certificates



## ⑦ Research in Oral Health Care Science at Mahidol University

From September 15–23, 2018, six oral health care majors (4<sup>th</sup> year students Misaki Sumiya and Kyoko Haruda and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students Seina Kozawa, Yuko Hirota, Shiori Togura and Hinata Yashima) participated in a short-term study abroad program at Mahidol University.



With participants from the Sirindhorn College of Public Health

The content of the nine-day program was planned in consultation with Dr. Pornpoj Fuangtharnthip from Mahidol University's Faculty of Dentistry. The students attended Mahidol University Faculty of Dentistry lectures, visited the University hospital (Golden Jubilee Dental Hospital), a community health center and Sirindhorn College of Public Health. They also observed and assisted the Faculty of Dentistry students at an elementary school with preventative measures study. As part of the cultural exchange, Mahidol

University Faculty of Dentistry students gave a traditional music performance, and TMDU students gave a presentation about student life and dental hygienists, and taught participants how to make kaleidoscopes.

The students who attended learned a lot about the health situation in Thailand through their profound cultural exchange experience. ■

✿ Track of Oral Health Care Sciences  
Assistant Professor Masayo Yasuda



With doctors at Golden Jubilee Dental Hospital



Teaching participants how to make kaleidoscopes during culture exchange



Observing and assisting with a preventative measures study at an elementary school

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