

Newsletter

Vol. 13



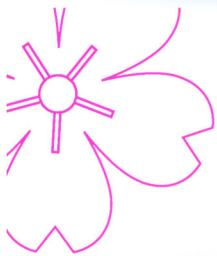
**CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center,
Thailand**



November 30th, 2019

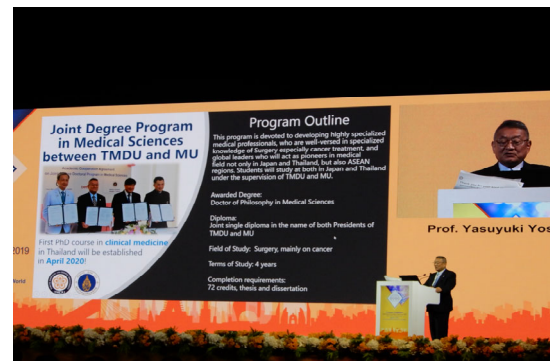
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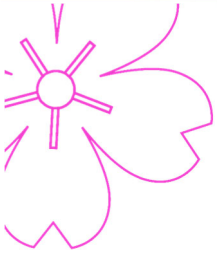


① Keynote speech at International Oncology Conference

TMDU's president, Dr. Yasuyuki Yoshizawa, gave the keynote speech on Cooperation in Education and Research between Japan and Thailand at the Princess Chulabhorn International Oncology Conference, which took place in Bangkok on August 8, 2019. This oncology conference was attended by surgical personnel from across Thailand and led to lively academic exchange. Following the speeches, Dr. Yoshizawa and other foreign speakers were presented with commemorative gifts by Princess Chulabhorn at a special ceremony. ■



TMDU President Dr. Yasuyuki Yoshizawa giving his keynote speech



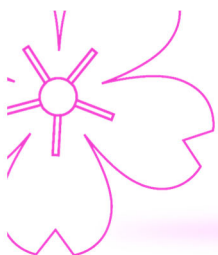
② JDP Agreement with Mahidol University Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital

Establishment of the TMDU and Mahidol University Joint Degree Doctoral Program in Medical Sciences with Mention of a Medical Specialty (JDP), the joint degree program that TMDU and Mahidol University (MU) have been working on, has been approved by authorities in both Japan and Thailand: by Japan’s Ministry of Education on June 26, 2019 and in July by the Mahidol University Council. On August 7, a delegation from TMDU that included its president visited MU to attend a ceremony at Siriraj Hospital to mark the signing of the agreement on the establishment of this program. The agreement, which formalizes the establishment of the JDP in April 2020, was signed by Banchong Mahaisavariya, President of MU, Somchai Trakarnrung, Vice Dean of Graduate Studies, Prasit Watanapa, Director of Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, and TMDU President Yasuyuki Yoshizawa.



The JDP agreement signing ceremony

The JDP is a four-year doctoral program that gives students surgical expertise in the treatment of cancer and the research mindset necessary to address diversifying treatment needs, and that cultivates medical personnel with a high level of expertise to drive medical science and treatment in Japan and the ASEAN region. The JDP gives students a practical education drawing on TMDU’s expertise and powerful research capacity, training medical personnel highly specialized in cancer treatment. Their principal education is facilitated by large numbers of cancer patients at the MU Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital and the clinical research achievements that have been made there. We hope that physicians who complete the JDP will participate actively across a wide range, crossing borders in the resolution of problems that are shared by Japan and the ASEAN region. Recruitment of new students commenced at both universities in fall 2019, with plans to admit the first cohort of students in April 2020. ■



The Mahidol University JDP admission consultation booth

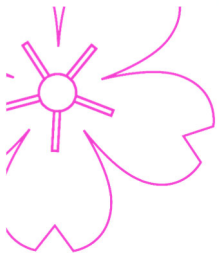


Dr. Issareeya Ekprachayakoon lending a hand at the TMDU JDP admissions consultation booth

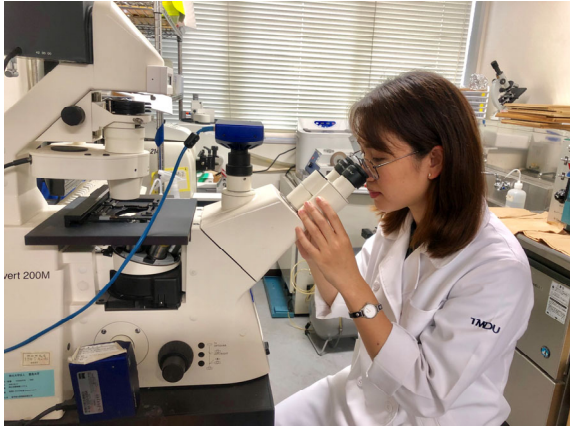
Following the signing of the agreement on the establishment of a JDP with MU on August 7, 2019, an admission consultation booth was set up for two days (August 8–9) inside the venue of the Princess Chulabhorn International Oncology Conference. Dr. Issareeya Ekprachayakoon, visiting assistant professor, used tablets and fliers to provide information on the program in both Thai and English, and gave advice on admission to the JDP. The booth provided access to many different individuals, including medical student participants at the conference, residents and faculty members. ■

✧ Professor Keiichi Akita

Division Head, JDP Advancement Division



③The JDP at Chulalongkorn University (Doctor of Philosophy Program in Orthodontics)



A JDP student engaged in research at TMDU (Ms. Phanchanit)

In June 2019, three Thai students who were admitted to the JDP in 2018 commenced their research in the Department of Maxillofacial Orthognathics and the Department of Orthodontic Science at TMDU. These students will spend the next year (through May 2020) collecting and analyzing research data at TMDU and writing their doctoral theses. The year they spend at TMDU will not only be dedicated to research, we also hope it will offer students a great opportunity to meet other foreign students and Japanese students as well as to absorb the language and culture of Japan.

Newly enrolled students

Applications were received from five students for admission in 2019, and admission screening and entrance exams took place between February and April. Applicants took a written examination, a practical examination and an essay test, and were then interviewed, resulting in the selection of three students for admission in August, bringing the number of JDP students—new and existing—to twelve. Following this, professors Takashi Ono and Keiji Moriyama visited CU to give guidance to the new Thai students. They also talked with the students who enrolled in 2016 and 2017 to ascertain how they were progressing with their research. ■



A JDP student engaged in research at TMDU (Ms. Panida)



A JDP student engaged in research at TMDU (Mr. Kitanon)

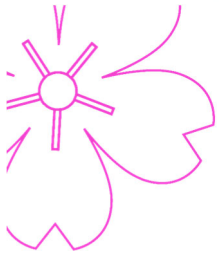
✧ Professor Takashi Ono
Department of Orthodontic
Science



JDP students and faculty members from the two universities



With the students who were admitted in August 2019



④ Training for postgraduate students from Chulalongkorn University in the TMDU Department of Gerodontology and Oral Rehabilitation

From July 1–11, the Department of Gerodontology and Oral Rehabilitation at TMDU hosted an eleven-day training course in dental care of geriatric patients for students from CU who are studying for a master's degree in dentistry. This summer course was first held in 2017 and is now in its third year. Four second-year doctoral students from CU participated in the 2019 course.

As has become the norm, this year's program featured a general lecture on geriatric dentistry, a lecture on general care, eating and swallowing, and a clinical tour (outpatient care and home-visit treatment). Members of the Department of Gerodontology and Oral Rehabilitation planned and provided a journal club on various fields of research.

Examples of this include abstracts from the literature on patients who require anticoagulants to treat bleeding after tooth extraction and root surface caries, which is common among the elderly. The clinical conference, which was initiated last year to discuss the cases of CU Master's students, was again held this year. Following presentations prepared by the students on their clinical cases, there was a discussion on the treatment policies employed by dentists in Japan and Thailand in providing dental care to geriatric patients, giving participants an opportunity to share and affirm their views on geriatric dentistry and the points to consider when establishing treatment policy.

As was the case last year, the students from CU participated enthusiastically in all aspects of the program, including the advance preparations, and while this year's program was slightly shorter than usual, its contents were of high interest. TMDU plans to continue providing this course for dental master's students from CU. We are currently reviewing the content of this year's course, making the necessary improvements and preparing for next year's program. We hope that this training course will continue to provide a valuable opportunity for academic exchange. ■

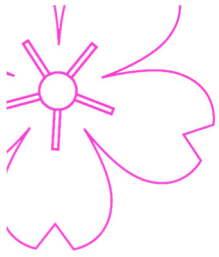


Master's students on the 2019 training course and departmental personnel



With Prof. Orapin from the Graduate Program in Geriatric Dentistry at CU

✧ Prof. Masanao Inokoshi
Department of Gerodontology
and Oral Rehabilitation



⑤ Research Day at the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University

Under the guidance of Associate Professor Shigenori Nagai (Department of Molecular Immunology), three members of the TMDU Graduate School of Medical and Dental Sciences Doctoral Program—Kaori Iwanami (Department of Maxillofacial Orthognathics), Takahiko Yamada (Department of Maxillofacial Surgery), and Akane Wada (Department of Oral Pathology)—underwent training in the Faculty of Dentistry at CU for the week of February 7–14, 2019. They also participated in the 31st Research Day, which took place on February 13th.

This training included a tour of hospitals attached to CU Faculty of Dentistry to inspect facilities used in oral surgery outpatient services, operating rooms, geriatric outpatient services, aesthetic dentistry, implant outpatient services, orthodontic outpatient services and pediatric outpatient services, along with volunteer activities at a facility for disabled children outside the university. CU Faculty of Dentistry research day began with research presentations from undergraduate and graduate students of the faculty, which were then examined and reviewed by faculty members. The three students from TMDU gave oral presentations in English, with Akane Wada and Takahiko Yamada achieving first and third place, respectively. Associate Professor Nagai gave a lecture and an oral presentation on the induction of dendritic cells and histiocytes in sublingual immunotherapy, and presided over a poster presentation.

This training session gave the students an opportunity to give oral presentations and to ask and answer questions in English. Visiting specialized outpatient services and discussing the differences in their respective fields in Japan and Thailand with Thai professors was very valuable for the students.

None of the Japanese individuals involved speak Thai, and in closing I would like to express a debt of thanks to Professor Prim of the International Exchange Division, to undergraduate tutors Earth and Palm, and to all the faculty members and students from CU whom we met on our hospital tour and at the research day, for the kindness they extended to us and for providing an extremely rewarding one-week training program. Like Japan, Thailand is not an English-speaking nation and there were many points in their contact with foreign students and researchers that I hope to apply in relation to students and other individuals who visit Japan. I hope to repay all the kindness we received during this training program over the course of time. ■



At the Research Day venue

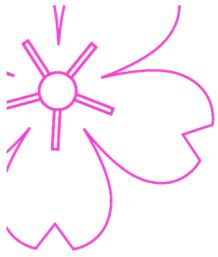


The Research Day award ceremony



The Research Day award ceremony

✧ Associate Professor, Shigenori Nagai
Department of Molecular Immunology



© Short-term exchange program for TMDU dentistry students at Srinakharinwirot University



SWU Dean and students with participating TMDU students and their accompanying teacher



Participating in dental cast training

Six third and fourth-year dental students (Miyuki Tanimoto, Mayu Mizu, Ayu Sugiyama, Junnoske Takahashi, Yuki Taguchi and Satoshi Nakamura) visited the dental faculty of Srinakharinwirot University (SWU) in the Thai capital, Bangkok, to participate in a short-term dental training course which ran from August 21 through August 29 this year. They were accompanied by Professor Tatsuya Akizuki of the Department of Periodontology until August 27.

The training course included a tour of outpatient services at the university hospital (pediatric dentistry, general dentistry, oral surgery, orthodontics and more); dental cast training making temporary crowns with fourth-year SWU students; an oral biology lecture and different experiments with SWU students.

TMDU students gave a presentation to SWU students on student life at TMDU and spoke with SWU students regarding their presentations, allowing them to exchange information in English and deepening their understanding of the language. On the final day of the course, TMDU students attended a Teachers' Day Ceremony where they were awarded certificates of completion.

The students also had the opportunity to gain some hands-on experience of traditional Thai culture, including both dance and music (with traditional instruments), giving them an intercultural experience in addition to their dental studies.

In addition, the students also visited a clinic within the hospital that specializes in privately-funded treatment and offers cutting-edge medical treatment, allowing them to compare and learn about the differences between Japan and Thailand in dental treatment and education.

This course will run again in the summer of 2020. ■

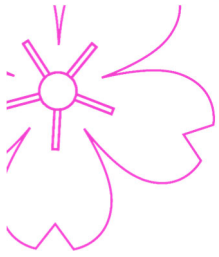
✧ Assistant Professor Naoko Seki
Institute of Global Affairs



At the Teachers' Day Ceremony



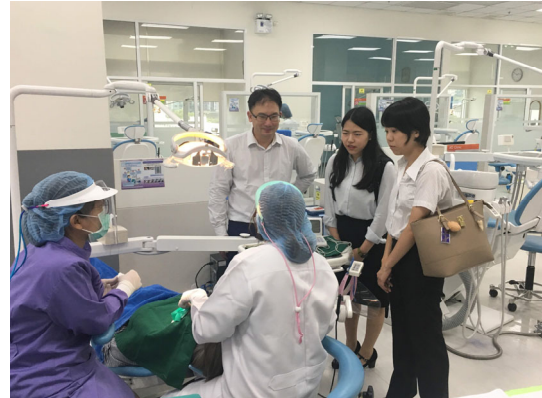
Students perform a traditional Thai dance



⑦ School of Oral Health Care Sciences student dispatched to Mahidol University



A presentation by TMDU students



Visiting the MU Faculty of Dentistry Hospital (students receiving clinical training)

This program, in its third year in 2019, was developed by Professor Yuji Kabasawa in consultation with Professor Pornpoj of Mahidol University Faculty of Dentistry. Participating students attended lectures at the Faculty of Dentistry, toured the MU Dental Hospital, Golden Jubilee Hospital, Ban Wang Nam Khiao Health Center and an opened dental clinic in Thailand (Doctor Dentist). They observed MU faculty of dentistry students receiving on-site preventive dental treatment training at Wat Samananab Borihan School, a local elementary school. TMDU students also participated in an international class lecture at the MU Faculty of Dentistry, where they gave presentations on their impressions of the training course, on student life in Japan and on dental hygienists.

The course gave participating students a valuable opportunity to study and gain knowledge of the realities of the oral healthcare system in Thailand and the nation's culture. Our hope is that this experience will facilitate the development of an international network of dental treatment in the future. ■

✧ Professor Yuji Kabasawa

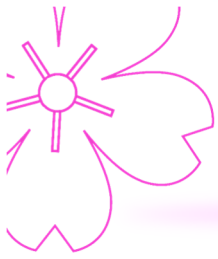
Department of Oral Care for Systemic Health Support



With the staff of the Ban Wang Nam Khiao Health Center



Student exchanges



⑧ Bestowing official titles on Visiting Professors

A list of visiting Thai professors at TMDU in 2019 is provided below.

① Dr. Thiravud Khuaprema, Visiting Professor

Graduated from the school of medicine at TMDU, has held successive posts as director of the National Cancer Institute of Thailand, and is currently Hospital Director at Wattanosoth Cancer Hospital in Bangkok.

② Dr. Prasit Watanapa, Visiting Professor

Mahidol University Siriraj Hospital Faculty of Medicine Director

③ Dr. Atiphan Pimkhaokham, Visiting Associate Professor

Completed post-graduate studies at TMDU and is currently employed as an associate professor at Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Dentistry. He has also been commissioned to serve as the coordinator between TMDU and CU-TMDU for the duration of his time here.

④ Dr. Issareeya Ekprachayakoon, Visiting Assistant Professor

Studied as a postgraduate at TMDU Graduate School and is currently active in multiple dental hospitals in Bangkok as a Japanese-speaking dentist. ■



Professor Thiravud (left) and President Yasuyuki Yoshizawa (right)

✧ Tetsuya Taga, Director
Institute of Global Affairs

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Location of TMDU'S Satellite Office in Thailand

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