



# Newsletter

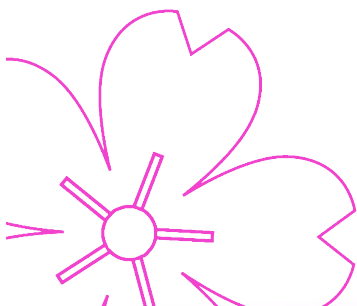


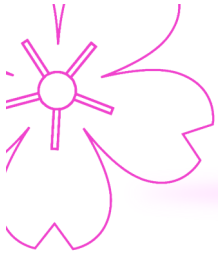
**Vol. 19**

Chulalongkorn University (CU) and  
Tokyo Medical and Dental University (TMDU)  
Research and Education Collaboration Center in Thailand  
**CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center, Thailand**  
**September 30th, 2022**

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# ① First Trip to Thailand since the COVID-19 Pandemic

Although this newsletter is focused on activities based in Thailand, the COVID-19 pandemic has made mutual exchange visits impossible. Despite this, we have continued to accept new students to the Joint Degree Program (JDP) with Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Dentistry. We are grateful for the efforts of everyone involved in this endeavor. As the pandemic enters its third year, however, such visits are finally becoming a little less complicated. In the first instance, we were able to dispatch one fourth-year medical student to Chulalongkorn University for a project semester starting in June. In addition, three students from Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, who are in the first phase of the JDP, will come to Japan in October to receive training in the Department of Surgery at TMDU.

As these interactions progress, at times email exchanges and online meetings may not suffice to adequately convey pertinent information, or there could be lags in response. To address this, Professor Keiichi Akita visited Chulalongkorn University Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry, Siriraj Hospital and Ramathibodi Hospital of Mahidol University and HRH Princess Chulabhorn Royal Academy College of Medical Science over a two-day period spanning August 9-11, to exchange views on the future of the JDP and student exchange.

While the evolution of online technology has made international exchange much easier and more accessible, the benefits of face-to-face meetings are still immeasurable. In the future, we will strive to return to the in-person exchanges we once enjoyed, and find ways to improve them even further. ■

\*Professor Keiichi Akita, Department of Clinical Anatomy

Operations Manager, TMDU Overseas Satellite Office in Thailand



At Chulalongkorn University



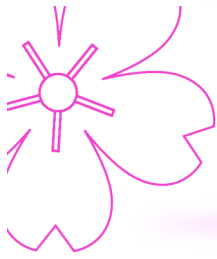
At Mahidol University Siriraj Hospital



At HRH Princess Chulabhorn Royal Academy



At Mahidol University Ramathibodi Hospital



## ② The delegation from Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University Visits TMDU President Yujiro

On Friday September 2, 2022, Professor Prasit, Mahidol University Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital Dean, and his delegation of nine members visited TMDU.

In the morning, three Mahidol University JDP professors visited the University for a meeting on the Mahidol JDP with JDP faculty members of TMDU. They were also able to meet with faculty members in charge of JDP clinical training and research activities and to share information about incoming students.

In the afternoon, Prof. Prasit, MU Faculty of Medicine Dean, Prof. Apichaht, incoming MU Faculty of Medicine Dean, and their delegation paid a courtesy visit to TMDU President, Prof. Yujiro Tanaka. President Tanaka shared memories of his visit to Thailand as a member of the board of trustees of TMDU for the signing of the JDP agreement with Mahidol University. TMDU Executive Directors, the Faculty of Medicine Dean, and other key personnel joined the session to discuss the personal relationships fostered through exchange between the two universities and enthusiastically discuss future collaboration. ■

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JDP professors from the two universities in their meeting

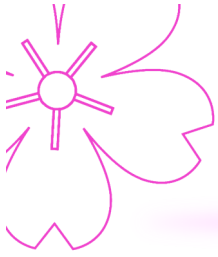


President Tanaka delivers his opening address



Front row, from left:  
Prof. Thawatchai, Prof. Apichat (incoming Dean, Faculty of Medicine), Prof. Prasit (current Dean, Faculty of Medicine), President Prof. Tanaka, Executive Director Prof. Okawa, and Executive Director Prof. Wakabayashi

Back row, from left:  
Assoc. Prof. Vitoon, Prof. Kulkanya, Prof. Sith, Assoc. Prof. Asada, Prof. Tohda, Assoc. Prof. Prapat, Prof. Akita, and International Affairs staff



### ③ Chula-JDP Commencement Ceremony

Chula JDP produced its first two graduates in July 2021. After being postponed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the commencement ceremony was finally held at Chulalongkorn University in May 2022. Although it was not possible for JDP professors from TMDU to attend this ceremony, it appeared to be an exciting and lively event.

As of July 2022, the second cohort of students has completed the JDP, with a commencement ceremony to be held in November. We can only hope that the seventh wave of COVID-19 infections will have passed its peak and that our faculty members will be able to attend this ceremony. ■

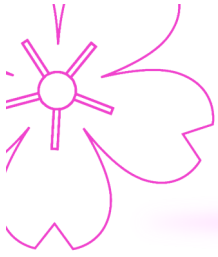
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The first JDP graduates



The first JDP graduates with their professors at Chulalongkorn



## ④ Mahidol JDP PR Activities at Royal Society of Thailand

The 47th Annual Scientific Congress of The Royal College of Surgeons of Thailand (RCST) was held in Pattaya, Chonburi Province Thailand from July 13 to 16, 2022.

At the venue, which was packed with surgeons and other academics, a PR booth was set up for the Joint Degree Doctoral Program in Medical Sciences of TMDU and Mahidol University, where professors from Mahidol University and the coordinator of this program enthusiastically promoted the JDP to congress participants. ■

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JDP professors and the program coordinator promoting the JDP to congress participants

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Tokyo Medical and Dental University, National University Corporation (E-mail: [kokusai.adm@tmd.ac.jp](mailto:kokusai.adm@tmd.ac.jp))

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【TMDU' s satellite office in Thailand】

CU-TMDU Research and Education Collaboration Center,

11F Navamaracha Building, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University,

Henri-Dunant Rd. Patumwan, Bangkok, Thailand