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FACULTY OF DENTISTRY CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY



P10, Publications

The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry: A Comprehensive Overview.

P16, Student Activity

The annual Teacher Appreciation Ceremony under the theme "DENTAL JOURNAL"

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Q&A : Professor Lakshman Samaranayake



Dean's Message

Dear Colleagues, Students, and Friends,

he past quarter has been an inspiring period for our Faculty of Dentistry, as we actively engaged in prominent international meetings that provided both valuable knowledge exchange and opportunities for strengthening global partnerships.

Our faculty members had the privilege of participating in several conferences, such as the Vietnam International Dental Exhibition & Congress (VIDEC) in Hanoi, Vietnam, the FDI World Dental Congress in Shanghai, China, the ISO Meeting in Seoul, South Korea and the IADR Meeting in New Delhi, India. Each of these events offered a unique platform for us to learn from global experts, present our academic and research contributions, and keep pace with the rapid developments in dentistry worldwide.

Our mission: To advance
excellence in dental
education and research while
contributing meaningfully
to global oral health

Beyond the scientific sessions, these conferences also fostered meaningful interactions with leaders, researchers, and educators from many distinguished institutions. We were able not only to reconnect and reaffirm relationships with our long-standing academic partners, but also to establish new connections with universities and research centers that we had not previously engaged with. These encounters were marked by fruitful discussions, the exchange of ideas, and the exploration of collaborative opportunities that will certainly extend beyond the meetings themselves.

Such dialogues reaffirm our faculty's commitment to advancing dental science through collaboration. We firmly believe that by sharing knowledge, experiences, and innovations across borders, we can together



contribute to shaping the future of dental education, research, and clinical practice. The networks we are strengthening and creating today will lead to joint initiatives, research projects, and academic exchanges that benefit not only our faculty but also the broader dental community and the patients we ultimately serve.

As we look ahead, I am confident that the seeds of cooperation planted during these recent international gatherings will grow into strong and sustainable partnerships. Our mission remains clear: to advance excellence in dental education and research while contributing meaningfully to global oral health.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all faculty members, students, and staff who continue to dedicate their efforts toward this mission, and to encourage everyone to remain engaged in fostering international collaboration. \P

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Prof. Pornchai Jansisyanont
Dean, Faculty of Dentistry Chulalongkorn University

Chulalongkorn University Wins Grand Prize at Prestigious International Innovation Expo in Japan!

Congratulations to the research team from Chulalongkorn University for winning the Grand Prize, the highest award granted to the most outstanding innovation of the year, along with other prestigious honors at the 2025 Japan Design, Idea and Invention Expo (JDIE 2025), held in Tokyo, Japan from July 5−6, 2025, among 366 entries from 25 countries around the world.

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Project

A Novel Tongue Pressure
Measurement Instrument:
Chulalongkorn University
Prototype Tongue
Pressure Instrument
(CUPTI)

Research Team

- Asst. Prof. Dr. Boosana KaboosayaFaculty of Dentistry
- Dr. Min ThuFaculty of Dentistry
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Arporn TeeramongkonrasmeeFaculty of Engineering
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Panuwat JanpugdeeFaculty of Engineering

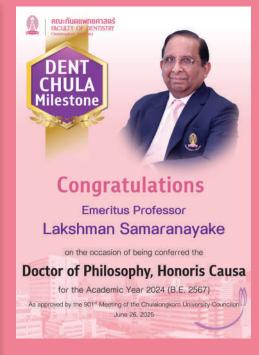
Awards Received

- JDIE Grand Prize and Gold Medal from theWorld Invention Intellectual PropertyAssociations (WIIPA)
- NRCT Special Award from the NationalResearch Council of Thailand (NRCT)

ONGRATULATIONS



Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University congratulates Professor Emeritus Dr. Soontra Panmekiate on the conferment of the title Professor Emerita for the academic year 2024, as approved by the Chulalongkorn University Council at its 901st meeting on June 26, 2025.



Congratulations to Emeritus Professor Lakshman Samaranayake On the occasion of being conferred the Doctor of Philosophy, Honoris Causa for the Academic Year 2024 (B.E. 2567) As approved by the 901st Meeting of the Chulalongkorn University Council on June 26, 2025

Achievements



Congratulations on your outstanding achievements at the ARISTOTLE Global Competition in Taiwan!



Asst. Prof. Pimchanok Sutthiboonyapan from the Department of Periodontology proudly earned the First Runner-Up Award and the Special Award for Excellence in English Presentation with her research titled:

"Impact of Microbiota on Oral Lichen Planus and Desquamative Gingivitis Severity: A Shotgun Metagenomic Study."

Another proud moment for our faculty!



Mr. Annop Krasaesin, Ph.D. candidate, was selected as a Finalist and received a Travel Award from the research title:

"Exploring the Microbial and Metabolic Signature Associated with X-linked Agammaglobulinemia."

This prestigious competition was organized by Taipei Medical University (TMU), College of Oral Medicine, Taiwan.

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Proud Achievement at UIP 2025 in China!

From June 29 – July 11, 2025, our team from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, joined the Campus Asia Plus Symposium & University Immersion Program (UIP) at West China School of Stomatology, Sichuan University, People's Republic of China.



Assoc. Prof. Sirawut Hiran-us delivered two international lectures.

Our students won 2nd Place (Team) and 1st Place (Individual Wire-Bending)

This exchange program fostered global collaboration and strengthened academic excellence in dentistry.



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University proudly congratulates to Dr. Naruephorn Choosen, alumna of Class Dent Chula 63, on receiving the First Prize Award for her outstanding project driving primary school communities toward a "cavity-free society." The award was presented at the 11th National Public Oral Health Conference.



OUTSTANDING DENTAL SPECIALIST



Prof. Dr. Krassanai Wangrangsimakul

■ Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Prof. Dr. Pornchai Jansisyanont

N Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nualchavee Hongprasong Outstanding Dental Specialist in Periodontology



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Amput Intaraprasong
Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Pediatric Dentistry



Asst. Prof. Dr. Kamolthip Hutasingh
Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Orthodontics



Dr. Pongjai Virarat

7 Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Orthodontics



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rumpai Rochanakit

Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Prosthodontics



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Waranuch Pitiphat

Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Dental Public Health





Asst. Prof. Dr. Pisha Pittayapat

Outstanding Dental Specialist in
Forensic Dentistry

The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn
University, extends its heartfelt
congratulations to our esteemed faculty
members and alumni who have been honored
with the "Outstanding Dental Specialist" awards in

various disciplines by the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Thailand (8th edition). This prestigious recognition marks a significant milestone and serves as an inspiring example of excellence in the Thai dental profession.



The Faculty of
Dentistry, Chulalongkorn
University, extends
its congratulations to
four alumni who have
been honored with the
2025 Southern Region
"Exemplary and
Outstanding Dental
Personnel" Awards:





Recipient of the 2025 Southern Region Exemplary Dentist Award





Dr. Chananya Jiranantanakorn (Class of 54)

Recipient of the 2025 Upper Southern Region Outstanding Dentist Award



Dr. Phisut Amnuaiphanit (Class of 70)

Recipient of the 2025 Lower Southern Region Outstanding Dentist Award





Dr. Thawatchai Madlang (Class of 73)

Recipient of the 2025 Southern Region Outstanding New Dentist Award

Achievements

CONGRATULATIONS



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, extends its congratulations to **Dr. Sanporn Namano**, on receiving the 2nd Runner Up Award – Straumann Next Gen Vol.2 at the ITI Congress Thailand 2025, on 20 August 2025



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, extends its congratulations to **Dr. Oraphan Rungrojwittayakul**, on receiving the 4th Runner Up Award – Straumann Next Gen Vol.2 at the ITI Congress Thailand 2025, on 20 August 2025







The Faculty of Dentistry,
Chulalongkorn University, extends
our congratulations to Dr.Theeradon
Phongphet, the postgraduate resident
from Department of Periodontology
for winning the first prize award in the
poster competition in the Clinical case
report category at the ITI Congress
Thailand 2025, on 22 August 2025.
Under the guidance of Assoc.Prof.
Kajorn Kungsadalpipob, Dr. Kantapon
Rattanaprukskul. We are immensely
proud of this international recognition.



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, extends our congratulations to Dr. Xin Hui Yeo, an ITI Scholar for winning the first prize award in the poster competition in the Clinical research category at the ITI Congress Thailand 2025, on 22 August 2025. Under the guidance of Professor Nikos Mattheos, Assoc. Prof. Kajorn Kungsadalpipob, Assoc. Prof. Keskanya Subbalekha and Prof. Atiphan Pimkhaokham. We are immensely proud of this international recognition.

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"Outstanding Teaching Award" for the Academic Year 2025







Assoc. Prof. Waleerat Sukarawan

Outstanding Teaching Award in
Recognition of Over Five Years of
Faculty Service



Assist. Prof. Phoonsuk Limraksasin
Outstanding Teaching Award in
Recognition of Under Five Years of
Faculty Service



Prof. Kitti Torrungruang

▼ Outstanding Teaching Award for
Excellence in Theoretical Instruction



Assoc. Prof. Nareudee Limpuangthip
Outstanding Teaching Award for
Excellence in Clinical, Laboratory, and
Field-Based Teaching



Assist. Prof. Wichuda Kongsong ♥ Outstanding Faculty Award in Morality and Ethics

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Assist. Prof. Napat Nalamliang
Outstanding Faculty Award in
Student Support and Well-Being



Assoc. Prof. Suphot Tamsailom
Outstanding Faculty Award as a Role
Model and Source of Inspiration for
Dental Students and Faculty

aculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn
University proudly congratulates our
devoted faculty members who have been
honored with the Outstanding Teaching
Awards for the Academic Year 2025,
presented by the Academic and Graduate
Affair.

This award is a testament to the dedication, selflessness, and inspiration that our faculty members have imparted to students and the Thai dental profession.

We take great pride in and deeply admire the achievements of all award recipients. \P

CONGRATULATIONS



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, congratulates **Dr. Panatcha Weerapol** on receiving the Second Prize in the Scientific Oral Presentation at the Asean Geriatric Dentistry Conference 2025 (AGDC 2025)

This conference, held for the first time in the ASEAN region, took place at the Faculty of Dentistry, Universiti Malaya, Malaysia, from 14–16 August 2025.



The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Dr. Ruchanee Ampornaramveth, on her royal appointment as "Professor" in Oral Biology

International Relationship





Agreement on Student Exchange, Academic and Research between Chulalongkorn University and Hasanuddin University, Indonesia Signed Date: February 21, 2025 at Claro Hotel Makassar, Indonesia



Memorandum of Understanding between Chulalongkorn University and Solventum (Thailand) Limited Signed Date: February 21, 2025 at Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University



June 30, 2025

D elegates from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, visited Universitat Internacional de Catalunya Campus Barcelona - Immaculada, Barcelona, Spain (UiC Barcelona) to strengthen institutional relations.

The delegation was led by Professor Dr. Pornchai Jansisyanont, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalong-korn University, who visited the university's facilities and buildings, including a visit to the Faculty of Dentistry, an internationally recognized dental education institution. The delegation also met with the executive team of UiC Barcelona to reinforce ties between the institutions and explore possibilities for

future collaboration.

UiC Barcelona is a globally recognized university in the field of dentistry. In 2025, its Faculty of Dentistry was ranked among the top 50 dental schools in the world by the QS World University Rankings by Subject. This meeting marks a significant step for Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Dentistry in expanding a global network, reinforcing its role as a leader in international dental education.

The executive team and faculty members from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, visited and met with the executive team of the College of Stomatology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University.



n September 10, 2025, the executive team and faculty members from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, led by Professor Dr. Pornchai Jansisyanont, paid a visit to the executive team and toured the College of Stomatology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. This visit served to reaffirm and strengthen





the long-standing academic relationship that has flourished for over 15 years, fostering collaborations in education, research, and student exchange. These partnerships have greatly benefited both institutions and have played an important role in advancing dental science as well as enhancing the capacity of future dental professionals.

FDCU Faculty Members Attend Academic Conference at the University of Sydney to Exchange Knowledge and Present Research at the International Level



aculty members from the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, led by Prof. Pornchai Jansisyanont, Dean, attended the International Conference for Future Dentistry in conjunction with the Sydney Dental School Research Day, hosted by the University of Sydney School of Dentistry, Sydney, Australia, on 25–26 August 2025. The delegation participated in academic sessions, presented research works, and strengthened collaborations among four universities: The University of Sydney (host), Seoul National University, and Osaka University.

On this occasion, Prof. Thantrira Porntaveetus, Associate Dean for Research and Innovation, was invited to deliver a keynote address. In addition, several faculty members and administrators presented their research and engaged in academic exchanges, further advancing dental knowledge for future clinical applications.

A highlight of the event was the achievement of Dr. Phan Bhongsatiern from Department of Periodontology, who was awarded for Best Oral Presentation.









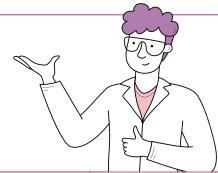
Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, was greatly honored to attend as a distinguished witness at the Shanghai Ninth People's Hospital, Shanghai liaotong University Medical **Innovation Showcase & International** Medical Service Showcase

rofessor Dr. Pornchai Jansisyanon, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, was greatly honored to attend as a distinguished witness at the Shanghai Ninth People's Hospital, Shanghai Jiaotong University Medical Innovation Showcase & International Medical Service Showcase, held in conjunction with the FDI World Dental Congress Exhibition 2025 in Shanghai, China, on September 9, 2025.

This event served as

an important platform to reaffirm the commitment to advancing collaboration in medical and dental innovations, with the goal of translating them into practical applications.

The showcase brought together deans from leading universities and representatives from prominent companies in China. Our Dean was deeply honored to be recognized as one of the key international representatives at this prestigious event.



The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry: A Comprehensive Overview.

Part 1: Fundamentals of AI, and its Contemporary Applications in Dentistry



Lakshman Samaranayake Nozimjon Tuygunovd Falk Schwendickee Thanaphum Osathanona Zohaib Khurshida Shukhrat A. Boymuradovg Arief Cahyanto

Abstract

rtificial intelligence (AI) holds immense promise in revolutionising dentistry, spanning, diagnostics, treatment planning and educational realms. This narrative review, in two parts, explores the fundamentals and the multifaceted potential of AI in dentistry. The current article explores the profound impact of AI in dentistry, encompassing diagnostic tools, treatment planning, and patient care. The Part 2 of the article delves into the potential of AI in patient education, ethics and the FDI communique on AI in dentistry. The review begins by elucidating the historical context of AI, outlining its recent widespread use in various sectors, including medicine and dentistry. The narrative delves into the fundamental concepts of AI, which entails developing machines capable of executing tasks that typically necessitate human intellect. In the biomedical realm, AI has evolved from exploring computational models to constructing systems for clinical data processing and interpretation, aiming to enhance medical/dental decision-making. The discussion delves into the pivotal role of AI models in dentistry, such as Large Language Models (LLM), Large

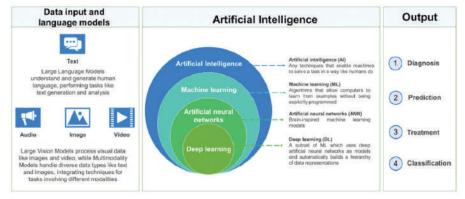


Fig. 1-The working of AI in a schematic format.5

Vision Models (LVM), and Multimodality Models (MM), revolutionizing processes from clinical documentation to treatment planning. The narrative extends to the applications of AI in dental specialties such as periodontics, endodontics, oral medicine and pathology, restorative dentistry, prosthodontics, paediatric dentistry, forensic odontology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, and orofacial

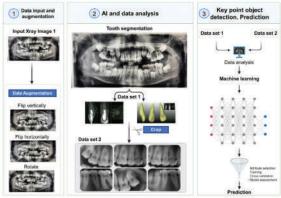
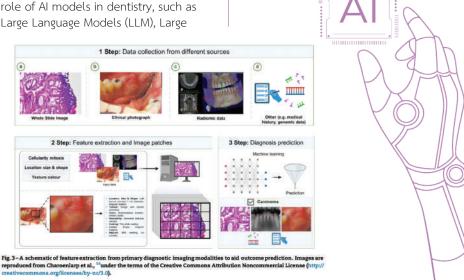


Fig. 2 – Schematic representation of working Al in Dentistry.

pain management. Al's role in improving treatment outcomes, diagnostic accuracy, and decision-making processes is evident across these specialties, showcasing its potential in transforming dental care. The review concludes by highlighting the need for continued validation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and regulatory frameworks to ensure the seamless integration of Al into dentistry, paving the way for enhanced patient outcomes and evidence-based practice in the field.





Shape adaptive bacterial cellulose-based sponge for hemostasis applications



Yuwaporn Pinyakit Vorapat Trachoo Yaneenart Suwanwong Theerapat Chanamuangkor Pannagorn Sae-ear Anucharte Srijunbarl Voravee P. Hoven

Abstract

emostasis stands as a crucial medical procedure aiming to prevent a risk of severe complications and death. Despite the availability of various commercial hemostats, i.e. oxidized regenerated cellulose (ORC) and gelatin sponge, limitations still persist. ORC-based products are highly acidic that often inhibit healing process whereas the gelatin sponge suffers from insufficient

mechanical stability upon blood contacting. Hence, there is certainly need to desire a new hemostatic material that can overcome those constraints through an uncomplicated and cost-effective process. Herein, we developed a polysaccharide-based sponge comprising

Cellulent Pixal Pi

"CelluDent" for winning the Gold Medal at IPITEX 2025, organized by the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT). The event, held from February 2–6, 2025, at BITEC Bangna, showcased Thailand's innovations under the theme "Inventions and Innovations: Thailand's National Challenges."

acyl gellan gum (LG), and hyaluronic acid (HA). This OBC/LG/HA sponge is flexible and shape-adaptive, while maintaining its structural integrity. Additionally, the acidity of the sponge can be manipulated by a controlled grafting of poly(acrylic



Developed by
Prof. Dr. Voravee Hoven,
Dr. Yuwaporn Pinyakit,
and Assist. Prof. Vorapat
Trachoo from Chulalongkorn University, Cellubent
presented an innovative
hemostatic material for
oral surgery. This solution
was highly praised by
international judges and
participants.

acid) (PAA). The PAA-grafted OBC/LG/HA sponge having low acidity was found to promote effective blood coagulation and the formation of stable blood clots. Notably, the blood clots formed on the PAA-grafted OBC/LG/HA sponge displayed fibrin networks without destroying red blood cells, in contrast to the ORC-based products. Furthermore, biocompatibility and degradability tests indicated that the developed biocellulose-based sponge is non-toxic and has the potential to degrade naturally over time.





Scan QR-Code For Full Publication





Volunteering V





On July 2, 2025, the King's



A On August 7, 2025, the King's Mobile Dental Unit and Services for the Society, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, in collaboration with the Privy Purse Bureau and volunteer medical personnel, led a team of faculty members, volunteer dentists, staff, and dental assistant students to provide dental services under the project "Healthy and Happy Citizens under the Royal Medical Initiative." The outreach offered dental care to inmates and produced 74 sets of royal-sponsored dentures at Bang Kwang Central Prison in Suan Yai, Mueang Nonthaburi District, Nonthaburi Province.











The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University stands in solidarity with those affected by the unrest along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Thousands of toothbrush and toothpaste sets, along with heartfelt support from the Dent Chula community, have been prepared for delivery to shelters and frontline personnel.

We hope these efforts will help ease the hardship and support everyone's safety through this challenging time.





▲ On August 6, 2025, the King's Mobile Dental Unit and Services for the Society, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, in collaboration with Privy Purse Bureau, and volunteer doctors, provided dental services to monks, novices, and the general public at Wat Chana Songkhram Ratchaworamahawihan, Phra Nakhon District, Bangkok, as part of the project "Healthy and Happy Citizens under the Royal Medical Initiative."





A On August 19-20, 2025, the King's Mobile Dental Unit and Services for the Society, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, provided oral health check-ups for students at Chulalongkorn University Demonstration School (Primary and Secondary Sections) in Pathumwan District, Bangkok. On August 20, twenty volunteer dental students assisted with the activities.







A On August 7, 2025, the King's Mobile Dental Unit and Services for the Society, in collaboration with Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, conducted the annual dental check-ups for students at the Bangkok School for the Blind in Ratchathewi District, Bangkok.



Mobile Dental Unit and Services for the Society, in collaboration with Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, conducted oral health check-ups and preventive dental services at Phayathai Babies' Home in Pak Kret District, Nonthaburi Province.



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The Orientation











n July 14, 2025, the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, held its annual orientation, enrollment, and advisor-meeting program for new students at the Si Sirisingha Auditorium.

The event began with a warm welcome to new students and their parents, followed by remarks from the Dean, the President of the Chulalongkorn University Dentistry Alumni Association, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies, and the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Senior students then introduced the Faculty through a variety of activities. The program concluded with meetings between new students and their academic advisors within their mentorship groups (Sai Rahus Group).





Professor Pornchai Jansisyanont Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University

Extends his heartfelt congratulations and warmest welcome to the first-year dental students of Dent Chula 87, Academic Year 2025, on the occasion of officially joining the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University.











International Night

The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, proudly sent 93 sixth-year dental students on international academic exchange programs across 24 dental schools in 9 countries

The journey concluded with "International Night" where students shared their inspiring experiences and global insights with peers and faculty.







Auditorium.

As part of the ceremony, Asst. Prof.
Dr. Paonrach Yodnane, Associate Dean for
Student Affairs, Faculty of Communication
Arts, Chulalongkorn University, delivered
a lecture entitled "Gown on, Heart Open:
Empathetic Communication for Dentists."
This was followed by words of encouragement from Prof. Dr. Thanaphum Osathanon,
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and
Graduate Studies, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Panida
Thanyasrisung, Assistant Dean for Student
Affairs and Alumni Relations, aimed at
inspiring and motivating the students as they



embark on their clinical education.



TEACHER APPRECIATION CEREMONY

n Thursday, August 28, 2025, the Student Affairs and Alumni Relations Division, together with the Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies Division and the Arts and Culture Section of the Student Club, Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, organized the annual Teacher Appreciation Ceremony under the theme "DENTAL JOURNAL" at the Si Sirisingha Auditorium.

The event featured a variety of activities, including a floral-and-incense tray design and presentation contest, a group rendition of the song "Phra Khun Thi Sam" ("The Third Benevolence"), an awards presentation to faculty members and students, and musical performances by faculty and students from the Thai Music Club and the Melodent Club. The ceremony concluded with "The New Eruption" activity, a welcoming event for incoming first-year dental students.



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Graduate Student Orientation











ivision of Student Affairs, in collaboration with Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies Division hosted the orientation for the new graduate students for the 2025 academic year on Wednesday, 13 August 2025, at the meeting room 19th floor, Boromanathsrinagarindra Building. The orientation was attended by faculty administrators, faculty members, current students, and



new graduate students. The primary objective of this event was to warmly welcome our new students and provide them with necessary information to support their academic journey at the Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University.



Announcement from the **Division of Academic Affairs** and Graduate Studies

he Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University, cordially invites students, dentists, and prospective graduate students to join the Academic Talk & Meet the Program.

This event aims to exchange knowledge, ideas, and academic perspectives in dentistry, as well as to provide information and guidance on graduate programs.



Wednesday, October 15, 2025 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University (Available in both Onsite and Online)



Registration:

https://forms.gle/2YVjrYkkN1s5AgAH9



Note: Participating dentists will receive 2 CE Credits.



For more information, please contact: Division of Academic and Graduate Studies

Email: graddentcu@chula.ac.th Facebook Page: graddentcuoffice



Q : Could you briefly share your academic journey and key milestones that have shaped your career in dentistry?

My academic journey is one of pioneering global excellence, yet it remains deeply rooted in my beginnings in Sri Lanka. It all commenced at the University of Peradeniya, where I earned my dental degree (BDS).

My path to becoming a recognised authority on dental research and pedagogy was forged at the United Kingdom's University of Glasgow. There, I not only earned my doctoral degree through groundbreaking research on oral fungal infections but also embarked on a unique dual role as a Consultant/Senior Lecturer and an honorary microbiology consultant for the Scottish health system. This unconventional path, rarely taken by dental professionals, allowed me to deepen my expertise, broaden my influence, and establish a distinctive presence in the global academic and clinical community.

A defining professional milestone then followed when I achieved a Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists (FRCPath) in clinical microbiology by examination. This was a historic accomplishment for me, as I became the first dentist from Asia to gain this prestigious recognition.

This achievement launched my rather unique international career, which saw me hold professorial chairs across the globe. I contributed my expertise to universities in Canada, Australia, Kuwait, and the UAE. My longest tenure of 24 years was at the University of Hong Kong, where I was proud to serve as Dean of Dentistry for a decade. I am humbled that my leadership is widely acknowledged as the driving force behind our faculty's recognition as the world's number-one dental academic institution from 2014

Professor Lakshman Samaranayake

■ Professor Emeritus – University of Hong Kong
 ■ Honorary Professor – Universities in
 Indonesia, Oman, China, and Sri Lanka
 ■ C2F track Visiting Professor – Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalongkorn University

to 2016. Subsequently, I assumed the role of Dean at the University of Queensland in Australia for four years.

Today, my journey reflects a legacy I am immensely proud of. I am honoured to hold the title of Professor Emeritus at the University of Hong Kong and to serve as an honorary professor to multiple universities across Asia and the Middle East. Currently, I am truly humbled to hold the Second Century High-Potential Professorship at Chulalongkorn University, and I am dedicated to continuing my work and cementing a lasting contribution to international dental science.

Q : From your experience, what role do international collaborations play in advancing dental science and clinical experience

My career exemplifies the power of international borders as meeting points, not barriers. International collaboration is the lifeblood of modern science, shaping my legacy.

My journey began in the UK, where I bridged the academic world with the clinical front lines of the Scottish National Health Service. This synergy allowed me to pioneer groundbreaking work on oral fungal infections, transforming a local project into a global one over three decades.

My pioneering Fellowship in pathology, a first for a Southeast Asian dentist, launched me on a decadeslong mission of knowledge exchange across continents. I acted as a conduit for innovation, helping to build a world-number-one-ranked institution in Hong Kong by synthesizing best practices globally.

Today, my honorary professorships across Asia and the Middle East are active

collaborative partnerships. I mentor the next generation in Thailand, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and China, while guiding research from my academic home in Hong Kong.

International collaboration is more than conferences and publications; it's about building bridges. I've strengthened these bridges, ensuring that knowledge continues to elevate dental science globally.

Q: How do you see your role as a visiting professor contribute to the advancement of dental education and research at Dent Chula?

As a Visiting Professor at Chulalongkorn University, I see my role not as that of a distant advisor, but as an active catalyst and a bridge to the global dental community. My contribution



is built on a lifetime of international collaboration and is focused on two key areas:

1. Mentoring the Next Generation of Leaders:

My primary role is to empower both students and faculty. This means:

• Guiding Research: Working directly with academics, postgraduate students and early-career researchers on their projects, particularly in my specialties of oral microbiology and pathology, and dental pedagogy. I helped them design robust, publishable studies that meet international standards and answer questions with both local and global relevance.

As the editor in chief of one or the most venerated dental journals, the International Dental Journal, I am uniquely placed to advice the academic staff on the best practices to get their publications published in top tier journals

• Developing Faculty: Conducting workshops on contemporary teaching methodologies, and manuscript writing I can share best practices from the world's top-ranked institutions

2. Forging Sustainable International Partnerships:

I consider myself a "nodal point" in a global network. My role is to actively connect Dent Chula to this network. Here, I can help forge research partnerships between Dent Chula and my extensive network of institutions in Hong Kong, Australia, the Middle East, and beyond. I can also assist establishing student and faculty exchange programs, inviting world-renowned speakers to Thailand, and creating pathways for Dent Chula researchers to excel at major international conferences.

In essence, my contribution is to share a lifetime of accumulated global experience and to integrate Dent Chula more deeply into the international scientific dialogue. I am not there to impose a foreign model, but to work alongside my Thai colleagues to adapt the best the world has to offer, thereby strengthening dental education and research in Thailand and, ultimately, improving patient care for the Thai people and the wider region.

Q: In your opinion, which areas of dental research hold the greatest potential for impactful

global contributions?

A4: In my opinion, looking at the contemporary ecosystem of dental sciences, there are five key areas that hold greatest potential for impactful global collaborations, as follows.

- 1. Oral-Systemic Link: Proving how oral health (e.g., gum disease) directly causes or worsens systemic conditions like diabetes and heart disease, integrating dentistry into overall public health.
- 2. Precision and Personalised

 Dentistry: Using genetics and microbiome science to predict individual risk and create personalized prevention and treatment plans.
- 3. Regeneration & Bioactive Materials: Developing "smart" materials that repair teeth and biologics that regenerate lost bone and tissue, moving beyond replacement.

In essence, my contribution is to share a lifetime of accumulated global experience and to integrate Dent Chula more deeply into the international scientific dialogue

4. AI & Digital dentistry:

Leveraging artificial intelligence for superior early diagnosis and using teledentistry to overcome geographic barriers to care.

5. Access to care and Implementation Science: Creating cost-effective, scalable models to deliver proven care to underserved populations, bridging the gap between discovery and global health equity. This is particularly important in fast developing regions of the world, such as Thailand, where underserved population could be left behind,

In short, the greatest impact will come from research that is integrative, technological, predictive, and accessible.

Q: How do you envision the role of Dent Chula in shaping the future of oral health research, education and policy in Asia and globally?

A7: As the premier dental academic

institution in Thailand and one of the foremost in the region, Dent Chula is uniquely positioned to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of oral health research, education, and policy in Asia and globally. This can be achieved in the following key areas:

1. Education: Championing Internationalization

Dent Chula's outlook should extend beyond national borders. A concerted effort to further internationalize both undergraduate and postgraduate programs is essential. This means actively fostering a diverse student body where local and international students learn side-by-side. This cross-pollination of perspectives will not only broaden students' horizons but also provide invaluable opportunities to learn new languages, understand different cultures, and master global societal etiquette. Equipping Dent Chula graduates with these skills will allow them to excel in an interconnected world, view international health ecosystems through a different lens, and become more well-rounded dental professionals.

2. Research: Cultivating an Enquiring Mind

In an ever-evolving world, a research-oriented mindset is a critical soft skill that must be nurtured. It is imperative that dental students actively participate in research programs, ideally under the mentorship of experienced faculty. Embedding this research culture will not only encourage novice dentists to pursue discovery and innovation but will also significantly broaden the scope, quality, and impact of research produced at Dent Chula.

3. Policy: Forging Future Leaders

By creating a significant force of new dentists armed with international experience and research acumen, Dent Chula can drive profound policy changes. These graduates will become the leaders who influence how dentistry and health sciences are taught and practiced, both within universities and at the national level, elevating the entire profession. In short, these strategic beginnings in education, research, and policy can catalyze successful, widespread societal changes, ensuring a transformative and forward-looking pedagogy for the future.

Forthcoming Events & Alumni News



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

sian Academy of Orofacial Pain and Temporomandibular Disorders (AAOT) and the Thai Academy of Occlusion and Orofacial Pain (TAOOP) are honored to introduce the keynote speakers for the International Conference on "Emerging Insights in TMD, Orofacial Pain, and Dental Sleep Medicine", taking place on November 22–23, 2025 in Bangkok, Thailand.

This conference will bring together leading experts to share the latest research and clinical advancements.

ALUMNI NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS



Professor (Adjunct) Dame Petchra Techakampuch



Dr. Prae Jittinan, CU Dent Alumni of the 45th class of Dentistry The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalong-korn University, extends its heartfelt congratulations to Professor (Adjunct) Dame Petchra Techakampuch on the conferment of the "Dushdi Mala and Arts and Sciences Medal" in the field of Medicine (Dentistry) for the year 2024, as announced on 4 August 2025.

The Dushdi Mala Medal (Arts and Sciences) is a Royal Decoration graciously bestowed by His Majesty the King as a reward for distinguished service to the nation. It is conferred solely upon individuals whose exceptional expertise and contributions render unparalleled benefits to the country, and thus stands as a lasting emblem of excellence and virtue worthy of recording in the annals of Thai dental history.

The Faculty of Dentistry, Chulalong-korn University, congratulates Dr.

Prae Jittinan, CU Dent Alumni of the 45th class of Dentistry, on receiving the 2025

Outstanding Community Hospital Dentist Award from Community Hospital Dentist Society of Thailand.

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FOR GOOD ORAL HEALTH



ศูนย์รวมผลิตภัณฑ์ดูแลสุขภาพช่องปากอย่างครบวงจร จากผลงานการวิจัยและพัฒนาของ คณะทันตแพทยศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

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