There has been much interest in the development of the Dentistry course, not only from the profession and the population of Cairns, but also from the politicians who have been to see the progress of the building. (see page 2)

The visit of the former Prime Minister in April was particularly supportive. The Hon Kevin Rudd came on 6th April 2010 to talk informally in a relaxed environment to the students and staff. He was accompanied by Jim Turnour MP (Federal member for Leichhardt) The Hon Nicola Roxon, Minister for Health and Ageing and they were very impressed with the development. The visit was at a particularly important time for us at JCU because the State funding to complete the dentistry project had not been announced. This funding has now been confirmed and will result in a further clinical facility (Tropical Queensland Centre for Oral Health) or TQ-COH being constructed once the present building is completed in November of this year. (see page 2)

This general level of support has been particularly important for this $100 million development to take place. It will result in enormous health benefits for the population of Far North Queensland and provide improved dental facilities in rural and remote communities in conjunction with Queensland Health in time for clinical placements to take place in year 5 of the dentistry program.
Tropical Queensland Centre for Oral Health: Architects Impressions.
Visits of the Premier of Queensland

The Hon Anna Bligh, Premier of Queensland, visited JCU Cairns campus on June 22 after the announcement of the remaining state funding requirement to complete the dentistry project. This will result in the development of the Tropical Queensland Centre for Oral Health, a new building which will be ready for student clinical teaching at the end of 2011. It was part of a campus visit hosted by Sandra Harding for the Premier and she was accompanied by Mr Steven Wettenhall, MP Barron River.

Strategic Intent
School of Dentistry

Vision Statement
To be a centre of innovation and distinction in dental education.

Mission
To contribute to the oral health of Far North Queensland, by providing a quality vibrant educational and challenging clinical environment for dental skill development for our students.

Our research philosophy will focus on providing the facilities that enable innovation creativity and entrepreneurship to flourish and generate new information that has a high impact factor.

Objectives
To be a dental school that produces clinically competent graduates with a sense of professionalism, ethical and social responsibility, and sensitive to the needs of our community.

To contribute towards life long learning within the dental profession.

To focus on quality aspects of dental education through consultation, feedback, frequent audit and curriculum development activities.

To recognize the considerable role in the educational process played by our adjunct staff.
Introducing New Dentistry Staff Members

Dr Jesus Ibarra Rojas. Lecturer in Dentistry.

Qualifications:
BDS UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico) Faculty of Dentistry.

Career History:
Whilst studying Dentistry at the UNAM Jesus commenced working for the Mexico Oral Health Services which is associated with the State Government—Department of Social Services. He brings with him extensive experience in working in remote areas where even basic resources such as tap water and electricity was hard to come by and where he also had to deal with other difficulties such as language barriers.

In 2003 he moved to Cairns to undertake a professional investigation into the topic of Dental Barotrauma in divers, titled “The Effects of the Atmospheric Pressure Changes in the Dental Organ when Scuba Diving”. His research was supported by the Department of Restorative Dentistry of the Faculty of Dentistry, UNAM. Jesus was the first dentistry professional at UNAM to study the concepts of Odontocrexis and Barotrauma.

Research Interest:
Jesus is currently working on a new investigation: “Biology of Dental Autotransplants”. His present research activities are focused in the area of Clinical Dentistry and application of the newer restorative procedures and materials. He has an interest in dental autotransplants, minimal invasive dentistry and clinical curriculum development.

Mr Stephan Fischer. Senior Instructor Dental Technician.

Qualifications.
Stephan graduated from the Technical College in Bern, Switzerland in 1985 and was awarded a trade certificate as Dental Technician. In 1996 he graduated from the Technical College at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane and subsequently he registered as Dental Technician with the Dental Technician & Dental Prosthetics Board of Queensland. He also possesses a Certificate IV in Small Business Management.

Career History.
Stephan has been employed as Head Dental Technician and manager by Busch Dental in Switzerland, working in all areas of dental technology. In 2006 he set up his own Dental Laboratory in Cairns called “All Dente” which he is currently running on a part-time basis.

Ms Sheila Kempton. Casual Administration Officer.

Sheila joined our team in April this year and she brought with her extensive experience in the areas of medical and dental administration. She has worked overseas for extended period of times: England, Finland, Middle East, Hong Kong and New Guinea, just to name a few. Sheila is providing administrative support for student placements, being the first point of contact for students, working closely with Dr Felicity Croker and Rose Hogan.

Mr Rodney Berry. Instructor Dental Technician.

Qualifications.
Rod graduated from the Kangaroo Point Technical College in 1975 as a Dental Technician. He then attained a number of certificates in Dental Technology including Cobalt Chromium alloy dentures, Implants and Ceramics.

Career History.
Rod worked in a private Brisbane city dental laboratory for 3 years specialising in acrylic and cobalt chromium dentures. He then moved to a government run dental clinic in central Queensland servicing various remote area clinics for 1 year. Upon returning back to Brisbane he joined the University of Queensland Dental School in 1979 where he gained experience in student teaching and attained the position of Senior Technical Instructor. During his 29 years with the school he was involved with the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students and MdSc teaching programs, along with a number of research commitments.
**Introducing New Dentistry Staff Members**

**Dr Adam Qingsong Ye. Lecturer in Orthodontics.**

- **Qualifications:**
  - BDS, MDS, PhD

- **Career History:**
  Adam received his BDS, MDS and PhD degrees in Dentistry from West China College of Stomatology, Sichuan University and completed specialist training in Orthodontics at the West China Hospital of Stomatology and at the University Medical Center Groningen, the Netherlands. This year he will be awarded his second PhD degree in Medical Science at University of Groningen, the Netherlands. He is a registered specialist in Orthodontics and a fellow of World Federation of Orthodontists as well as a member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the European Orthodontic Society and the Chinese Orthodontic Society. Adam is also a research fellow in tissue engineering and the regenerative medicine field.

- **Research Interests:**
  - Clinical research: Evidence-based Orthodontics (Meta-analysis and Cochrane systematic review); clinical trials (randomized clinical controlled trials/ clinical controlled trials).
  - Scientific research: Application of biomedical materials; foreign body reaction against collagen scaffolds; stem cells and tissue engineering; cellular and molecular mechanisms of tooth movement; signalling pathways of osteoblastic/osteoclastic differentiation.

**Staff Achievements**

**Professor Alan Nimmo**—2010 JCU-UniQuest TRAILBLAZER competition. He was awarded **Winner (US$6,000 Prize) of the Open Category** for his Novel Therapeutic Control of Peritumoral Oedema. Congratulations to you Alan—well done!

**Dr Michael Xu.** Michael who has been employed as Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry since July 2009 has been promoted to the new and additional role of **Coordinator of Simulated Dentistry!** Thank you very much for your contributions and effort to make this study period a success!

**Professor Andrew Sandham.**

- **Queensland Health—Research Grant.** Malocclusion and Occlusal Traits in an Indigenous Population. Indicative funding: $45,000. Andrew will be the chief investigator of this project working with Dr Yousef Abdalla who will undertake a three years postgraduate course, leading to the qualification of Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (D.Clin.Dent).
- **James Cook University—New Professor Grant.** Congratulations to Andrew for securing $25,000 in support of his current research project in “Surface Characteristics of Titanium Implants used in Oral Surgery”.

**Dr Felicity Croker.**

We are very proud to announce Felicity’s new fractional appointment as **Associate Dean – Teaching and Learning (ADTL)** which is an integral part of the University’s quality assurance strategy. As the ADTL, Felicity will facilitate a coordinated approach to teaching and learning. She is involved with developing policies and procedures and will work collaboratively with Schools to enhance teaching and learning and the quality of students’ educational experiences.

She is also involved with the **Regional Development Australia – FNQ and Torres Straits (RDA).** Her last meeting was held in Weipa. The RDA is working with three levels of government and the community to develop a roadmap for sustainable development of this region.
School of Dentistry—Current Adjunct Appointments

What has really got this project ‘off the ground’ to bring dental education to Cairns is the support we have received from our Adjunct staff. The input, advice and encouragement together with warm collegiality has been pivotal in the establishment of this important new initiative.

- **Dr Yousef Abdalla.** Principal dentist with Queensland Health, Cairns Base Hospital. Adjunct Senior Lecturer. Member of the Dentistry Curriculum Development Committee.
- **Dr Ronald Blake.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer. Member of the JCU Dentistry Consultative Committee.
- **Dr Anders Blomberg.** Specialist private prosthodontist. Adjunct Senior Lecturer. Member of the Dentistry Curriculum Development Committee.
- **Dr Robyn Boase.** Director Oral Health, Cairns and Hinterland Health Services District, Queensland Health. Associate Professor. Member of the Dentistry Curriculum Development Committee.
- **Dr Nick Cliff.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Rhonda Coyne.** Specialist orthodontist in private practice. Member of the Dentistry Curriculum Consultative Committee. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Ted Cullinan.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior lecturer. Member of the JCU Dentistry Consultative Committee.
- **Dr David Curnock.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Raahib Dudhia.** Specialist dento-maxillofacial radiologist. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Brian Finn.** Consultant oral and maxillofacial surgeon. Adjunct Associate Professor.
- **Dr Dale Garder-Berry.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Donald Gilchrist.** Specialist orthodontist in private practice. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Paul Hanrahan.** Specialist orthodontist in private practice. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr John Jacob.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer. Member of the JCU Dentistry Consultative Committee.
- **Dr Brian James.** Specialist periodontist in private practice. Adjunct Associate Professor. Member of the Curriculum Development Committee and JCU Dentistry Consultative Committee.
- **Professor Robert Jones.** Oral maxillofacial surgeon, the Townsville hospital. Adjunct Professor.
- **Dr Paul Lane.** Specialist orthodontist in private practice. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Maria McGowan.** Dentist in charge, Thursday Island hospital. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Ian Meyers.** President of the ADAQ and Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Professor.
- **Ms Marion Norrie.** Indigenous dental program coordinator, Wuchopperen Health Services. Adjunct Lecturer.
- **Dr William Palin.** Senior lecturer in biomaterials, School of Dentistry, University of Birmingham, UK. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Colin Priestland.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Patricia Rimmer.** Private dental practitioner. 1st year student placements. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Ronnie Sim.** Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Graeme Stringer.** Private dental practitioner. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Professor Marc Tennant.** Director centre for rural and remote oral health, UWA. Adjunct Professor.
- **Dr Sarah Wilkinson.** Oral Health Services Townsville. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.
- **Dr Timothy Winstanley.** Principal dental officer, Queensland Health, Cairns Base Hospital. Adjunct Senior Lecturer.

“Saving Faces a Labour of Love”.

Professor Robert Jones. Adjunct Professor in the School of Dentistry.

The Townsville Bulletin (12-06-2010, Ed:1-, Pg:038) reported on Professor Jones’ charitable work in Fiji during his holidays! When facial tumours are removed the surgical team often needs to reconstruct the jaw or portions of the face of the patient, which requires the skills of an experienced specialist Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon. Professor Jones has offered a helping hand. A further eight visits to the Colonial War Memorial Hospital and Lautoka Hospital in Fiji are planned.
Research Update

Bio-Medical Sciences and Applications (BMSA) News

The BMSA met in Townsville in March and welcomed the arrival of Mr. Rhys Walter, joint student to Professor Andrew Sandham and Dr Bobby Mathan. Rhys gave an introduction to his project with a presentation ‘Magnesium-based implants for maxillofacial fracture repair’. Rhys is based at the School of Engineering & Physical Sciences in Townsville.

Recent papers and conference presentations (see page 11).

Project report

Dr Michael Xu and Tracy Edwards
We are currently working on the surface characterization of titanium bone plates and screws commonly used in maxillofacial surgery. To date we have carried out pilot studies on the surface topography using scanning electron microscopy (SEM) from microscopes based at both the Cairns and Townsville campuses. Cairns is equipped with a JJM 6300 (JEOL Ltd, Tokyo, Japan) scanning electron microscope and the Advanced Analytical Centre at Townsville is equipped with a JSM-5410 LV (JEOL Ltd, Tokyo, Japan).

In the first study we analyzed the surface topography of ‘as received’ bone plates from two suppliers, Synthes (supplied as non-sterile) and KLS Martin (supplied as sterile) using the JJM 6300 based in Cairns. An initial problem with dust contamination was rapidly solved with the application of a 70% ethanol wash, the use of an air duster and using a laminar flow cabinet rather than a fume hood for the sample preparation.

In the next study the surface topography of ‘as received’ bone plates and screws were first analyzed by the JJM 6300 in Cairns, the samples were then sent to the Advanced Analytical Centre in Townsville and the analysis repeated in the JSM-5410 LV. The micrographs produced by each SEM, examples below, show comparable performance between the microscopes.

Synthes: Mandible plate 2.0, 4 holes, 23mm.Supplied as non-sterile. (REF 447.004)

We would like to acknowledge the kind assistance of Mrs Kylie Brown (Cairns) and Dr Kevin Blake (AAC Townsville) for operating the SEM’s and obtaining the micrographs above.

Anouck Wiggers and Maarten den Ambten have arrived (as we go to press this week!) and are 6th year dental students on an elective study/research visit to the Dental School from the University of Groningen, The Netherlands. Their research project involves analysing the surface characteristics of bone plates removed from patients.

They obtained samples of bone plates removed from patients at the University Medical Centre in Groningen and also have unused ‘as received’ plates from the same manufacturer. They will be carrying out surface characterization of the bone plates by analysing surface topography, surface chemistry and surface roughness. The surface topography analysis will be carried out using the JJM 6300 SEM in Cairns and further characterization, such as surface chemistry and surface roughness, will be carried out at the Advanced Analytical Centre at the Townsville campus.

QUIZ: Test your knowledge!
What do these two pictures display?? Hint: one is found in the mouth and one is found in the sea!
Conventions/Conferences/Workshops Attended

Professor Andrew Sandham
♦ 7th International Orthodontic Congress, Sydney. 6-9 February 2010.
♦ Informa Australia. Sydney Dental Health Forum. 24-26 February 2010.
♦ Health Workforce Australia “Clinical Training Funding”. Brisbane, 18 May 2010.
♦ Oral Health Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities. 8 June 2010. Presented paper.

Professor Alan Nimmo

Dr Felicity Croker
♦ Early Years forum, March 2010. Presentation with Dr Kornelija Sfera.

Dental Therapists Day, June 2010.

Healthy Smiles, July 2010. JCU community education for parents and carers.

Dr Michael Xu
♦ Osstem World Meeting in Beijing, 5 – 6 June.

Dr Jesus Ibarra Rojas
♦ Seminar in Cosmetic Dentistry, Sydney, 26-27 March 10.
♦ Hong Kong International Dental Expo and Symposium (HKIDEAS). 18th to 20th June 2010.

Dr Kornelija Sfera
♦ Early Years forum, March 2010. Presented paper with Dr F Croker.
♦ Health Smiles, July 2010. JCU community education for parents and carers.

Continued Professional Development (CPD) Lectures

The new Dental Board of Australia (DBA) came into existence this year, registering the dental team to be able to practice throughout Australia. New obligations accompany the legislation surrounding this development. This includes the need for mandatory CPD activities, such as lectures, reading, assignments, clinical updates and master classes, so that registered practitioners can update, maintain and develop clinical skills throughout a practising career.

James Cook University has begun a series of professional development lectures (CPD) and intends to support this new requirement of the DBA. The present series have been presented without charge for the attendees, but an attendance charge will be levied once the new dentistry building is operational, to cover the costs of refreshments and invited lecturers and the provision of CPD certificates.

18 February 2010.
1. Dr Ross Applegarth. 2010—A Pulp Canal Space Odyssey.

6 May 2010.

10 June 2010.

8 July 2010
4. Dr Andrew Lee. Special Needs Dentistry.

And coming soon......

19 August 2010
5. Professor Robert Jones. TMJ Disease and Joint Replacement.
An Experience for the Palate—from Noy Gliksman—Student Representative Year 2

When you finally return, the ambience is unmistakable – from the smooth tropical aroma to the crisp sound of the spring stream – you know you have returned for another taste. Arriving at the campus two weeks ahead of the rush proved wise. For the first time I was to experience entre course on offer. The course was light yet engaging. The dense texture of HS2402 complemented its intense flavours well. As a matter of fact, the entre has prepared me for the courses to come – a warm-up for the palate. Having completed this course there was a leisurely and calm pace to the rest of my meal. The short break between the courses has provided for an appraisal of the other patrons. The clientele profile has clearly expanded and diversified since my last visit. However, the larger crowd is well accommodated and in fact gives the location a multifaceted and homely feel. The ever-growing cultural diversity of the clientele is undoubtedly a tribute to the intertwining of sophistication and appeal to global tastes.

Alongside its clientele growth there has been a clear expansion in the appetizer and beverage menus. The new range of complements harmonises with the well seasoned menu and makes the dining experience complete. Some “Must-Try”s include Sundown Sport and the O-week activity range. The main course lived up to expectation. Plentiful utilisation of the clinical laboratory provided for great enjoyment. Perhaps the greatest joy comes from the satisfaction of seeing the development of oneself from visit to visit. Nevertheless, the taste-buds were never left unchallenged; new and exciting concepts were explored throughout the course, providing a taste of the vast variety of the cuisine.

As always, time flies and desert time springs upon you. This course is always a nervous time; infused with decisions, guesses and uncertainty. At times, the presentation of the desserts is conventional and familiar, at others, it is unknown; but after they are conquered, most carry the sweet aftertaste of success.

For lovers of the dentistry cuisine, and for those who would like to encounter it at its true best, I warmly recommend the JCU experience. The exciting new concepts and ever-developing complexity of flavours presented on every visit keep me, and others like me, coming back to enjoy the courses on offer time and time again.

Noy Gliksman
Critic for James Cook University Dental Students Association.

ADA Study Grants for Dental Students from Indigenous background and Rural and Remote Regions.

These grants are awarded on a competitive basis. The following students have been awarded with study grants:

- **Mr Hossain Shadman.** He was awarded $5,000 in support of students from rural and remote regions.

- **Sinitta Cloudy-Kris.** She was awarded $2,000 in support of her studies in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

- **Mr Paul Cavanagh.** He was also awarded $2,000 in support of his studies in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

- **Cassandra Love**

- **Gareth Evershed and Matthew Moore**

Queensland Health Scholarship.

A total of four scholarships were offered in QLD – JCU had 16 applicants and 3 of the 4 scholarships on offer came to JCU Dentistry.

Congratulations to Cassandra Love, Gareth Evershed and Matthew Moore who have been awarded a Queensland Health Scholarship. They have successfully secured three of the four scholarships on offer this year from a total of 26 applications across Queensland!

We are wishing you all the very best with your on-going studies in Dentistry and your rural engagement with Queensland Health.

Trailblazer Results—Student Category

**Mr Rhys Walter:** PhD student School of Engineering and School of Dentistry

Runner up ($1,500): Mr Rhys Walter—School of Engineering & Physical Sciences—for his entry Next-G Facial Implants.

Congratulations—well done.
Visit by the Young Chamber of Commerce on 13 May 2010—A Regional Development Australia (RDA) Initiative.

Young Chambers counterparts from Port Moresby, members of the RDA, Barry Egu, Charles Lee and Debbie Maguire from DEEDI, Sandy Whyte from Cairns Chamber and a small group of Young Chamber members from Cairns came to visit our Cairns Campus and a selection of students had the opportunity to meet and greet.

A big THANK YOU to Chris Cavanagh, Sinitta Cloudy-Kris, Maleta Seiler and Andrea James for making themselves available.

Community Placements—2nd Year Dentistry Students
All second year Dentistry students participated in community placements in state schools servicing disadvantaged populations (largely Indigenous) and community based and non-profit childcare centres in the vicinity of our JCU campus. A number of first year students studying Dentistry as second degree also participated as an extension activity.

This activity was extremely successful, many students reporting that they thoroughly enjoyed teaching children about preventative dental health and the feedback from teachers was equally positive.

School placement Cairns West State School—Class 1C
With three JCU Dentistry students: Anthony Ngu, Monika Behrens and Maleta Seiler

Teaching aids used by Dentistry students
Thank you from Smithfield
Recent Publications/Conference Presentations

Prof Andrew Sandham

Publications 2010


Conference Presentations 2010


Prof Alan Nimmo

Conference Presentations 2009


Recent Patents


Dr Michael Xu

Publications 2010

Recent Publications/Conference Presentations (continued)

Dr Felicity Croker
Conference Papers
2. **ANZAME 2010 Convention, 13-16 July 2010.** Presented a paper with Prof Alan Nimmo on “Developing a Strong Foundation for Life-Long Learning of Biomedical and Social Sciences in a Contemporary Dental Curriculum”

Publications

Research Related Activities
Reviewer (1998-present):
♦ Health Sociology Review
♦ Journal of Rural and Tropical Public Health
♦ Journal of Sociology
♦ Innovations in Education & Technology International

Dr Adam Ye
Publications 2009

Publications 2010
3. **LPS promotes osteoclast activity by upregulating CXCR4 via TLR-4.** Xing Q, de Vos P, Ye Q, Ren Y. Journal of Dental Research. 2010 Accepted (IF=3.458)

New Postgraduate Program

A full proposal for a Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (D.Clin.Dent) is currently moving through the University approval process. This will provide a program that may be tailored to different specialist training disciplines. It is expected that the first intake of postgraduate students in mid-2011 will be from the orthodontics discipline. This development will be complementary to the undergraduate dental program and will further enhance the School’s reputation both nationally and internationally.