

## **Hokkaido University**

### **Graduate School of Dental Medicine and School of Dental Medicine**

President of the University: Mutsuo Nakamura

Dean of the School of Dental Medicine: Minoru Wakita, D.D.S., Ph. D.

Director of Dental Hospital: Takao Kawasaki, D.D.S., Ph. D.

Hokkaido University was founded on August 14, 1876 (the 9th year of Meiji) by Governor Kiyotaka Kuroda and Dr. William S. Clark as Sapporo Agricultural College, the first modern college in Japan to award bachelor degrees. The phrase "Boys, be ambitious!", which was the parting words of Dr. Clark to his students, has become perhaps the most well-known phrase to young people in Japan. At the year 2001, the 125th Anniversary of the University was celebrated, and many commemorative events were held. At present, Hokkaido University is one of major universities in Japan, and consists of 12 faculties, 14 graduate schools, and three adjacent research institutes, where 11,000 undergraduate students, 5,000 graduate students and 1,000 students from all over the world are enrolled, and which employs 2,100 academic staff and 2,000 administrative and technical staff.

#### **1. School of Dental Medicine**

The School of Dental Medicine was founded on June 1, 1967 as the first Dental School in Hokkaido, expecting to aim at maintaining a higher level of dental practice throughout Hokkaido. In 1978, the school consisted of 18 departments. The School runs a full course in dentistry, in which dental students are required to study clinical dentistry as well as basic dental science during six years of academic work. Each class has 60 students. Two students from foreign countries are now enrolled. The six years is divided into three periods; Basic Education for one-and-a-half years, Professional Education for two-and-a-half years, and Clinical Education for two years. In the first period is appropriated studies for the liberal arts and introductory studies for dental sciences. In the second period, attending lectures and exercises of all courses in the basic dental sciences and the clinical dental sciences are requested. Besides these programs, attending seminars held by small groups of students are compulsory. In the third period, the dental practice takes effect in the Dental Hospital. In parallel with this clinical program, general medicine is based almost the same as the program of the Medical School. Besides, the research training in the laboratory for one year is requested.

All staff of the School of Dental Medicine are continuously encouraged to be disposed to higher education by means of the faculty development program.

The School of Dental Medicine awards the Doctor of Dental Surgery, D.D.S., Gakushi (Shigaku), to students who complete the requirements of the six-year undergraduate program.

#### **2. Graduate School of Dental Medicine**

The Graduate School of Dental Medicine was founded on April 1, 1974. In 2000 it was reorganized to the Graduate School of Dental Medicine with one division of Oral Medicine which now comprises of three departments of Oral Functional Science, Oral Health Science and Oral Pathobiological Science. There are 40 research divisions in the Graduate School and each division is assigned to one of the three departments.

The Oral Functional Science Department includes Oral Anatomy, Oral Physiology, Removable Prosthetic Dentistry, Crown and Bridge Prosthodontics, Orthodontics, and Pediatric Dentistry. The Oral Health Science Department includes Oral Histology and Embryology, Oral Biochemistry, Dental Materials & Engineering, Preventive Dentistry, Operative Dentistry, Periodontology & Endodontology, and Clinical Management of Aged Patients. The Oral Pathobiological Science Department includes Oral Pathology, Oral Bacteriology, Dental Pharmacology, Oral Diagnosis and Oral Medicine, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Dental Radiology, and Dental Anesthesiology.

Faculty members are listed in the sections according to his/her research domain, describing the staff and work of each department. In the Graduate School of Dental Medicine, only a Doctor's course is offered.

There are now 146 students on the Graduate School register including nine students from foreign countries, most of whom are from Asia. They are funded by a scholarship, the Japanese Government or other Foundations. Candidates must attend the Graduate School for at least four years. Students must take credits from both Required Subjects and Elective Subjects given in the division, and prescribed course of research instruction, to obtain the degree of Doctor of Dental Science, Hakushi (D.D. Sc. equivalent to Ph.D.). The Hokkaido University Dental Hospital is affiliated with the School of Dental Medicine.

### 3. Dental Hospital

Dental Hospital, Hokkaido University was established for dental clinical education of students and the center of dental clinics and researches in 1967. The Hospital is located in the center of the Sapporo campus of Hokkaido University. The clinical sections of Dental Hospital were reorganized in 1999. The hospital has three clinical divisions, a special clinic and 40 beds for severe oral disease, supplying the advanced dental treatment in the Hokkaido region. The number of patients coming to hospital is about 600 persons every day.

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