

IAOMS and ANZAOMS supports oral and maxillofacial course

Recently, an oral and maxillofacial surgery course was held at the Royal Dental Hospital in Melbourne. The course was supported by the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (IAOMS), and the Australian and New Zealand Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (ANZAOMS).

The Mission of IAOMS is to elevate the quality of healthcare worldwide through the advancement of the science of oral and maxillofacial surgery. IAOMS is divided into six regions – Asia, North America, South America, Europe, Oceania and Africa.

To assist developing countries by improving the delivery of oral and maxillofacial services IAOMS has conducted training courses in Thailand and Peru which were funded by the IAOMS Foundation and trade companies.

The ANZAOMS Overseas Committee with assistance from AUS-AID through the RACS has successfully trained the first indigenous oral and maxillofacial surgeon, Dr Apaio. Dr Apaio trained under the supervision of Brisbane oral and maxillofacial surgeon, Dr John Arvier. He completed his training and passed his examinations in Papua New Guinea and is now working there.

To assess the current status of oral and maxillofacial surgery, eight dentists, two of whom trained in oral and maxillofacial surgery in Adelaide, were invited to the Melbourne course.

This provided an opportunity to assess future candidates for training in the specialty in their own countries.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY COURSE - MELBOURNE

A majority of the lectures were presented by members of ANZAOMS. Other lecturers included Dr Paul Monsour from Brisbane who presented on maxillofacial radiology; Dr Sydney

Warneke AM on maxillofacial prosthodontics; Dr Roy Judge on prosthodontic aspects of implants; Dr Michael Aldred on oral medicine and oral pathology; Professor John Clement on forensic dentistry; and Dr Tony Bajournow on anaesthesia. Mr Ken Hambrecht (Critical Care Nursing) conducted a CPR course. All lectures were of high standard and acknowledgement is given to the lecturers who gave freely of their time and expertise to assist the developing countries of Oceania. All participants were provided with a copy of the recently published *Medications in Dentistry Supplement* (insert in Australian Dental Journal, December 2005).

The course was funded by the generous support of a number of sponsors – Nobel Biocare, Synthes, Medical+Optical, Lorenz and Stryker. Participants received free accommodation, meals and transfer costs as well as being assisted with airfares. There were no registration fees for the course.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR TRAINING IN OCEANIA

During the course a forum was held

on the future directions for training in Oceania. The forum was chaired by Associate Professor Andrew Smith (currently Chair of the Board of Studies of the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons) and Dr David Goldsmith (team leader of dental groups to Tonga). Areas of discussion included how to improve communications within the Oceania region; establishing a training programme in the region outside Australia and New Zealand; how to raise funds for our projects and send ANZAOMS members to assist in teaching.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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John W Curtin

**IAOMS Executive Committee Member
Region of Oceania**



Participants at the recent oral and maxillofacial surgery course held in Melbourne. Front row (L to R): Paul Monsour (Brisbane); Alfa Taulangovaka (Tonga); Danny Aerei (Cook Islands); Andrew Yandawai (Papua New Guinea); and John Curtin. Back row (L to R): Ismeli Uluibau (Fiji); John Kulu (Papua New Guinea); George Hosking (Cook Islands); Jone Domoni (Fiji); and Amanaki Fakaovikaetau (Tonga).