We will be offering specialty dental training programs in all the recognized dental specialties

Dubai, UAE: From the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoom, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, came the creation of Dubai Healthcare City in Dubai, UAE. The well reputed Professor David Wray comes to the UAE to spearhead the creation of the new Dubai School of Dental Medicine located at Dubai Healthcare City.

Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa: Welcoming Professor David Wray, we come across you here at the first 'Fujairah International Dental Conference' at the booth of Dubai School of Dental Medicine. How are you doing?

Professor David Wray: I'm very well thank you very much, a pleasure to be here.

Professor Wray, could you tell us about yourself, your presence here in Dubai and the opening of the new Dental School of Dental Medicine?

Well, I am Professor David Wray, I am a UK trained doctor and dentist who's previously been Dean of the Glasgow Dental Hospital and School in Scotland. And in the middle of the summer of this year [2012] I came to Dubai to open the 'Dubai School of Dental Medicine', The Dubai School of Dental Medicine is part of Dubai Healthcare City which, in turn, is the idea and the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoom, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, who decided that Dubai, as it emerged into a strong nation, required a strong healthcare infrastructure and hence, created Dubai Healthcare City, and the Dubai School of Dental Medicine is one of the products of that vision. What we have been charged with is setting up the Dental School to train postgraduate students in all the dental specialties, and we have started that process and are taking in our first postgraduate students in January of 2013. We will be offering specialty dental training programs in all the recognized dental specialties in the first instance. During 2013 we will be offering Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry and Endodontics, and then in addition to this we will be offering Prosthodontics and Periodontics as Dental specializations. The thing which is unique about this new Dubai School of Dental Medicine is that the students will, like many other places, be embarking on a three year intensive clinical training program with a clear didactic component and a research dissertation. In addition to that, the students will get an MSc which will complete the course—but as well as that, we are in the final stages of negotiation to allow our students to simultaneously graduate with a membership from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh or London or the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. Therefore, our graduates would have the same specialty qualifications, clinically, as those colleagues who are consultants and professors within the UK. And that influence of the Edinburgh College extends both to the Middle East, the Far East & Australasia, and of course they also examine in North America where they have joined exams with some of the American boards as well. So we're offering our students a unique package and they are going to be taught by an international faculty in a state of the art dental school and a dental clinical facility which will be completed during 2014, and we anticipate during 2015 that we will have 150 dentists working within the Dubai School of Dental Medicine either teaching or training.

Congratulations on the new project, an interesting initiative. With your vast experience in the UK, what can you say about the Middle East market in terms of dentistry? Did you market Research the region before moving here and taking on the task to open the school?

Well there was pre-existing market research, which is but a few years old, which indicates that there is, very much, a demand for postgraduate dentistry specialization within the Gulf region. To give you an example, within the UAE itself we have very nearby undergraduate dental schools which will produce in excess of 250 dental graduates per annum. But these graduates have no mechanism, except for a very small number of places, currently to get postgraduate education to specialist level within the Gulf region. Therefore they are bound to go either to North America or the UK in order to get specialist training. The problem with that, if you take the UK as an example, and indeed the same occurs in North America, the students go over there at a significant expense because not only do they have tuition fees, but they have the cost of travel, accommodations and the cost of living within these countries as a foreign national. And these individuals then get an academic qualification from the host university, but don't get anything to indicate that they've had a formal clinical training—and indeed they don't get a formal clinical training within these institutions. So not only are we providing a homegrown opportunity for these students to get a postgraduate education to specialist level without having to leave the Emirates, which is certainly an advantage to some of the female graduates that we have here, but in addition to that they are getting a clinical qualification which will allow them to have a clinical license within the Gulf and, in fact, one which is internationally recognized.

Based on what selection criteria will you accept your students? And the program will be offered in which languages?

Well in line with the rest of the tertiary education facilities here these courses will be taught exclusively in English and our selection criteria demands are very clearly set,

"A three year intensive clinical training program with a clear didactic component and a research dissertation"

"The Dubai School of Dental Medicine is part of Dubai Healthcare City"
expectations and that I have not been merely taking what was available but have been able to recruit the highest caliber academics from around the globe—senior academics who are experienced in teaching postgraduate courses and who are also research active on an international level. The local licensing authorities within Dubai Healthcare City are very strict and they demand that, in addition to an academic qualification, like an MSc or a PhD and research activity, academic staff must also have a clinical qualification which is largely regarded as either an ability to get on the Specialist list within the UK or board certification within North America. And of course that would be a minimum standard that we demand for ourselves anyway, it means that out of all the senior academics who inquire about the opportunity of coming to join our faculty, a number of them are disappointed because they don’t have the qualifications necessary to make the cut. But there seems to be plenty of people, not only prepared to come to Dubai to participate in this exciting innovation, but also very keen to come when they see the basis on which the school is being set up and the confidence that they have in coming to an institution where education and standards for both academia and medical care are the priorities. This, of course, exists because this is a government initiative which is not profit making in its aspirations.

Students will be keen to know the tuition fees, what are the packages which you will offer? The tuition fees in the first instance have been set at a competitive rate which, currently within the region, is $55,000, equating to AED 200,000, per clinical year over a 3 year period. But of course, this is a very reasonable investment because the 3 years in the Dubai School of Dental Medicine is going to be a springboard of which our graduates will launch a successful career either in specialist practice or within academia. And of course a large number of students are obtaining scholarships from various sponsoring organizations. Unfortunately, as things stand at the moment, a number of scholarships are only available to students who are prepared to go overseas to get a suitable postgraduate dental training but that, of course, is a regulation issue which was set up when there were no significant opportunities for postgraduate education within the region, and now that Dubai Dental School of Dental Medicine is up and running we feel confident that those scholarships will be extended to other graduates to come here to the Dubai School of Dental Medicine, having been sponsored by various individuals with a scholarship.

Professor David Wray, a pleasure to speak with you and thank you very much. We wish you all the best with the Dubai School of Dental Medicine.

The School opens doors in January 2013

Dubai School of Dental Medicine (DSDM) is a newly established home-grown dental institution launched to support the UAE community with the finest quality of dental care services and education. Dubai School of Dental Medicine is an institution of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Academic Medical Center at Dubai Healthcare City.

VISION
Dubai School of Dental Medicine will set the standard of excellence and be recognised as a leader in dental education, research and clinical practice.

MISSION
Dubai School of Dental Medicine aims to provide internationally recognised student centered dental education programs that combine advanced didactic, clinical and research training designed to prepare the candidate for a career at the specialist level.
Dentistry and academia

Academia is the place for creative minds

Dubai, UAE: Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa interviews Dr. Khaled Abdullah Balto, Professor of Endodontics and Consultant of Micro-Endodontics in King Abdulaziz University (KAU) in Saudi Arabia (Photo courtesy of DTMEA)

by Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa

Dr. Khaled Abdullah Balto, Professor of Endodontics and Consultant of Micro-Endodontics in King Abdulaziz University (KAU) in Saudi Arabia, was attended by Dr. S. Gurumadhva Rao, Vice Chancellor of RAKMHSU and Dr. S. Gurumadhva Rao, Vice Chancellor of RAKMHSU.

Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa: Welcome Prof. Khaled Balto, please share with us a little bit about your origin and your many responsibilities in the Middle East?

Prof. Khaled Balto: I graduated in 1994 as the first batch from KAU. The dental program there is 7 years long and includes considerable portions of basic science, as well as one year of internship training. Following my graduation I worked as a clinical instructor at the University [KAU] for one year. After that I did my post graduate studies and clinical training at Harvard University. I returned back to Saudi Arabia in 2001 and since then have become a full time staff member and hold my own private practice, limited to Micro-endodontics.

My responsibilities are vast, at the local level I am the manager of the endodontics department at KAU as well as for the Saudi Boards in the western region. I also manage the National Research Center for Osteoporosis as Deputy Director for Research Affairs and am heavily involved in lecturing and conducting hands-on training courses, not only in the Middle East, but elsewhere in the world. I have an interesting piece of history when I was managing the Saudi Dental Society in the period between 2002-05 when I arranged 10 conferences and was member of the Gulf Arabic Countries for Dental Education.

On the level of the KAU and the Ministry of Higher Education in Saudi Arabia, I contributed to the academic assessment activity as Vice Dean, for quality assurance, which concluded with a successful peer visitation by the Association of Dental Education in Europe as the first country outside Europe to pass this. Also, I managed academic assessment on the level of high- schools and laid down the foundation for the National Accreditation System for Medical and Dental Science via the Ministry of Higher Education.

Having such an extensive background, what would you say influenced your decision to pursue a career in education?

Academia is the place for creative minds, and this was the driving force in my decision. To contribute on large scale you need both the logistics that enable you to do so, and an academic atmosphere supports that to a large extent. Also, being a teacher, amplifies your scientific and moral messages across generations. So what you do with one patient in a clinic, could be applied to thousands and maybe millions throughout the years by teaching it to various generations.

What do you consider an important region specific factor that contributes to the health of the dentistry scene in the Middle East?

As far as the Middle East is concerned, the two most important factors that would contribute to the dental health are: public awareness and preventive measures.

What have you learned from your current position as an educator that you would impart onto other practicing dentists?

I have learned several things, among which are:

Having the ability to alleviate human suffering gives great value to life, and thus acquiring skills in stress and pain management in the dental chair should be an ongoing practice for all dentists.

The most powerful driving force to learn, and to continue to learn, is to share everything you know with others. You will be surprised to the amount of new knowledge that you receive.

Customizing your dental treatment according to patient needs, including stress management, is one of the golden keys for success.

Doctor, what can you tell us about what to expect from KAU in the future? What are your plans for growth and how are you planning to improve the Dentistry scene in the University?

KAU’s Vision Statement is to be a leading university in the Middle East. Based on this vision, we are always striving to monitor our performance in accordance to the most modern developed practices across the world. Therefore, the practice of academic assessment is an ongoing one. Amongst the indicators is the recent integration of micro-dentistry into the teaching curricula. What would you say makes your school most unique? What makes it different?

We do not think comparing my school to the other schools in the field is the correct thing to do. Every school has its weaknesses and strengths and identifying those assets when we talk about emerging technologies is constantly changing the way they completely perform. How has this affected the curriculum, or the way you teach your students? What are you doing to keep up with these changes?

Throughout history, changes have taken a long time to happen. It’s the same thing when we talk about emerging technologies in the dental field. As an endodontist, I am not involved in the teaching of prosthetics, but I told you how enthusiastic I am about the incorporation of Micro-dentistry in the teaching curricula. I believe all dental practices will be offered via the microclinical approach in 15-20 years from now.

Ras Al-Khimah, UAE: Every long journey begins with a single step. Workshop on Computer Guided Implantology and 3D imaging was organized by RAK College of Dental Sciences, RAKMHSU on 17th January 2013. The workshop was organized as a part of Continuous Medical education (CME) program and was accredited by Ministry of Health, UAE. It also provided meaningful coverage on basics, concepts and controversies related to Computer Guided 3D Implantology.

The opening ceremony for the workshop was attended by Dr. S.Gurumadhva Rao, Vice Chancellor of RAKMHSU and Dr. Ja-meela Alavadi, Vice President of Emirates Dental Society and the deans of the constituent colleges. The event started with a lecture on "Surgical Principles in Oral Implantology" by Dr. Vladimir Kokovic, ITI Fellow and Associate Professor of Oral Surgery at RAKCRODS followed by hands on training workshop on Computer Guided Impantology by Philip R. Ad- junct Associate Professor New York University College of Dentistry, Inventor of the SAFE System® and inventor of the Immedi- ate Smile® protocol and components, President of Unique Dental and Implantologi- gist in Dubai.

During this one day workshop Dr. Philippe Tardieu informed dentists how to use and work on the AccuGuide® program and highlighted all the useful tools to include in an everyday practice. AccuGuide® soft- ware program is an open program; it is a new and has innovative suite of modules in the field of Computer Guided Implantology and diagnosis. This software includes modules for image treatment, implant planning and design surgical guides.

This workshop was attended by privately practicing dental specialists and GPs who wish to start working in Computer-guided Implantology to improve their skill and confidence. Apart from this the workshop was also attended by Dental Interns and students. At the end both the speakers were awarded with mementos by the Dr. Mustahsen Rahman, Dean of RAKCRODS and Dr. S.Gurumadhva Rao, Vice Chancellor of RAKMHSU.

RAK CRODS is planning to organize similar workshops and CME activities in near future at advanced level for dentists, interns and students. Furthermore as a part of Continuous Medical Education (CME) program another Hand on workshop on Implantology and rotary endodontics will be organized in the Mid of March by RAK CRODS for all the dental specialties, interns and students.

Report Submitted by: Dr. Ebadullah Shafi Member of the Organizing Committee
"It is expected that European University College will evolve into European University with the addition of at least two more colleges"
Aim high, acquire additional knowledge and training, go for a specialty.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani: I am Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani, Associate Professor of Endodontics and Head of the Division of Endodontics in the Department of Restorative Dental Sciences at the College of Dentistry in King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. I am also the President of the Saudi Dental Society. Please tell us about your role as President of the Saudi Dental Society? Including upcoming SDS events, courses, plans for the coming year and relationship with other dental societies and associations in the Middle East?

SDS continuously hold monthly activities for its members whereby a dental specialist or a dental company is invited to give a seminar on a particular topic of major dental interest. In this way, members gain additional knowledge and also interrelate with each other on a professional level. In January 28th-30th 2013, we will be holding the 24th Saudi Dental Society International Dental Conference at the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The three full-day program will feature oral presentations and continuing educational courses given by renowned international speakers. You are all cordially invited to participate in our big event which is held annually.

What do you consider an important regional factor that contributes to the health of the dental scene in the Middle East?

In the Middle East, not only in Saudi Arabia but in the other Arab countries in the Middle East as well, there are more or less 100 dentists to the public who could not all be seen in the dental clinics of the College of Dentistry. The Kingdom never cease to encouraged community services for the citizens of Saudi Arabia. The construction of the Dental Hospital is underway and will soon be finished. We are anticipating that the University will continually support our goals. How is the school adapting to the changing professional market?

The Kingdom never cease to encouraged more Saudis to pursue careers in the health care that is why King Saud University provided free education to develop and train competent dental professionals. How big is the influence of the Dental Industry in Saudi Arabia?

There is a big influence of the dental industry in Saudi Arabia equally to that of the medical industry. This is why the University supported the College of Dentistry in establishing the Dental Hospital which will serve the public very soon. This is only in addition to the huge number of private Dental Clinics all over the regions that cater to the public who could not all be seen in the dental clinics of the College of Dentistry and several other hospitals.

How many companies are there in Saudi Arabia more or less?

I believe there are more or less 100 dental companies alone in Saudi Arabia. They are either companies officially distributing dental products and materials abroad or manufacturing locally materials or products used in dentistry. How many dentists operate in Saudi Arabia and how high is their level?

In the Saudi Dental Society membership list, we have a list of 7833 dentists on regionally and internationally.

Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa: Welcome Doctor, please if you can give us a short introduction about yourself and your experience in dentistry?

The Saudi Dental Society was established in 1401H (1981G). Its temporary headquarter is at King Saud University. The University shall see to the realization of the Society’s objectives and shall financially and morally support the Society. The Society is directly related to His Excellency the President of the University. Dental Tribune Middle East interviews Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani, President of the Saudi Dental Society and much more...

Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa: What about the role SDS plays in the Saudi Dentistry scene? What is the importance of King Saud University for the Saudi Dentistry?

King Saud University is the first university in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and it has always provided the best education and quality training to almost all the dentists in the Kingdom. Together with the Ministry of Higher Education, it has always been supportive in providing quality instructions in the diverse fields of arts and sciences. They have continually supported its graduates in their pursuit for advanced specialty training abroad and numerous valuable researches.

What about the role SDS plays in the Saudi Dentistry scene? What have you learned from your current position in Dentistry which you would impart to other practicing dentists?

In the College of Dentistry of King Saud University, we have a list of 7833 dentists on regionally and internationally, we have the efficient running of the day to day activities of the College of Dentistry, as Associate Professor and Consultant Head of the Endodontic Division, I manage the efficient running of the day to day activities of the Endodontic staff and assure that professional objectives are met.

As a Consultant, I have always been committed to help people. By being a dentist will enable me to provide the healthcare needs of my countrymen. The Saudi Dental Society is a community of dental professionals. Its mission is to disseminate dental knowledge and concern, promote scientific research and establish a closer relationship amongst its members locally and internationally. As Associate Professor and Consultant Head of the Endodontic Division in the College of Dentistry, you must be very busy? I have always enjoyed my role as academician. SDS is especially a vital role of the Saudi Dental Society was established in 1401H (1981G). Its temporary headquarter is at King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. It’s conception was driven by His Excellency the President of King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The University shall see to the realization of the Society’s objectives and shall financially and morally support the Society. The Society is directly related to His Excellency the President of the University. Dental Tribune Middle East interviews Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani, President of the Saudi Dental Society and much more...
We Welcome you to the 24th Saudi Dental Society International Dental Conference

by Dental Tribune Middle East & Africa

In tandem with their recent accredited success, Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani, President of the Saudi Dental Society, presents an open invitation to their upcoming 24th Saudi Dental Society International Dental Conference at the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center on January 28-30, 2013.

First of all, I would like to thank you for your wholehearted support that made the Saudi Dental Society the "1st Scientific Society according to the results of evaluating the performance efficiency: 1431-1432AH!". We definitely cannot receive this award without your help.

Secondly, I am inviting you once again to participate in our 24th Saudi Dental Society International Dental Conference that will take place at Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center on January 28-30, 2013. The joint collaborative effort of the last King Saud University’s 14th International Dental Conference, the 23rd for the Saudi Dental Society, was totally a tremendous success with an enormous attendance. Our international speakers for this year’s conference will be of different specializations, with the latest and highest technological aspects applied in the dental fields that will be shared with all the participants attending this conference. Advanced Continuing Education Courses will also be given to our General Practitioners, Dentists, Students, Dental Assistants, Technicians and Hygienists for further information about their vocations.

Other highlight of this conference will be the Research Award’s Competition whose candidates will be coming from the Graduate Students, Young Dentists, Interns and Students who will participate in the three different categories of the competition. Post-sessions that will run from Monday to Wednesday will be held along the corridors of Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center. Medical and Dental Companies will also be participating in this conference by promoting their most up-to-date medical and dental equipment. Staff of the different companies with their own expertise will be demonstrating their latest and most modern medical and dental products. Again, I will be expecting your full support and cooperation to make this conference a fruitful and successful one.

"The Society supports several community services in many regions in Saudi Arabia."

We definitely cannot receive this award without your help.

The Saudi Dental Society

Dental Assistants, Technicians and Hygienists.

General Practitioners, Dentists, Students, Education Courses will also be given to our participants. Advanced Continuing

Our government through the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Higher Education sponsors a wide range of social services programs that will ensure our citizen a healthy living.

How do you see CAD/CAM & Digital Dentistry playing a role in Dentistry?

The properties of dental materials like strength of all ceramic restorations are highly influenced by the fabrication procedure and the skills of the individual dental technicians. With the introduction of the CAD/CAM systems in dentistry, the behavior of the material properties have been controlled and allowed using these materials that cannot be used by conventional dental processing techniques. These resolved the dentists problem in searching for an ideal restorative material. With the introduction of the digital system, it made dentistry more convenient, precise and accurate.

Thank you Dr. Ahmed Al-Kahtani, we wish you all the best.

Contact Information
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Adapted from Luan et al. 1994. All interdental sites from 6+ to +6 were tested at baseline and 4 weeks for bleeding on probing on the right and left quadrants of the mouth. Sites were scored for presence of bleeding. Sites were categorised as: 0=no bleeding; 1=slight/isolated bleeding; 2=marked bleeding. Sites were categorised as: 0=no bleeding; 1=slight/isolated bleeding; 2=marked bleeding. Sites were categorised as: 0=no bleeding; 1=slight/isolated bleeding; 2=marked bleeding. Sites were categorised as: 0=no bleeding; 1=slight/isolated bleeding; 2=marked bleeding.

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Fluoride-containing control toothpaste
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Reduced bleeding on probing index after 4 weeks with parodontax®

Helps stop bleeding gums

Helps stop bleeding gums

\[22\%\text{ reduction in bleeding after 4 weeks}\]

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