

Report on International Symposium on Forensic Odontology and Disaster Victim Identification organized by Faculty of Dentistry and U21

The symposium was held on 29th and 30th September 2007. There were about 100 attendants from neighboring countries in South East Asia and locally. The attendants include academics, law enforcement officers, forensic dentists and pathologists. Dr David Sweet, the deputy chair of the scientific group, DVI Operation, INTERPOL, delivered the latest DVI protocols from INTERPOL to the audience. We also invited the software engineer of PLASSDATA, the official software of DVI operation of INTERPOL, to introduce us to the latest and most updated modification of the software. Both the protocol and software have been vigorously tested in the region in recent years after the bomb attacks and tsunami victim identification. Prof John Clement from the University of Melbourne also gave presentations on the history and applications of forensic dentistry in DVI. The attendants also had a long discussion on the future collaboration on forensic dentistry in the region, both in training and at the operation level. At the end of the symposium, the attendants agreed to look at a conjoint diploma course in forensic Odontology from the University of Hong Kong, Melbourne, British Columbia and London.



The attendants also thoroughly enjoyed the social programme by tasting the local delicacies and enjoying the beautiful night view from the peak. They have built the bonding on a professional level in this symposium. Some of the presenters and senior

forensic odontologists have been invited to give lectures and workshops in some countries with less forensic experience. The symposium has truly fulfilled the purpose of sharing of experience and training of expertise.



(Left) Prof Jin, Dr Sweet, Prof Clement, Dr Carl Leung, Dr Thomas Li and Dr David Sun

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