



Major Issues for Dental Schools and Universitas 21

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Changes to Dental Education

- Horizontal and vertical integration.
- Problem-based learning.
- Less didactic teaching.
- Greater emphasis on prevention.
- Evidence-based dentistry.
- Greater use of IT.

Changes to Oral Health Care

- **Changing patterns of oral disease.**
- **Rapidly advancing technologies.**
- **Resource constraints in dental hospitals.**
- **Dental workforce shortages.**

Changes in Higher Education

- **Public funding constraints.**
- **Expectations that dental schools should become more commercial (education and research).**
- **Internationalization.**
- **Collaborative networks.**
- **Information technology.**

Impact of Information Technology

- **Altering every aspect of life.**
- **Transforming higher education.**
- **Educational modules must be more than electronic text-books.**
- **Expensive to produce high quality modules.**
- **Possibility for distance education allows new approaches -- e.g. rural sites.**
- **Major opportunities for sharing.**

Changes to Dental Research

- **Post-genomic era creates many possibilities.**
- **Research collaboration essential - multidisciplinary (clinical/basic) .**
- **This collaboration must transcend institutional and national barriers.**
- **Requirement for commercialization.**
- **Links with industry essential.**

Universitas 21

- An international consortium of 18 research-intensive universities.
- Possibility of sharing educational programs, research collaboration, staff/student exchanges.
- Possibility of global IT-based education.
- Opportunities for sharing experiences, benchmarking.

What do we want from this Meeting?

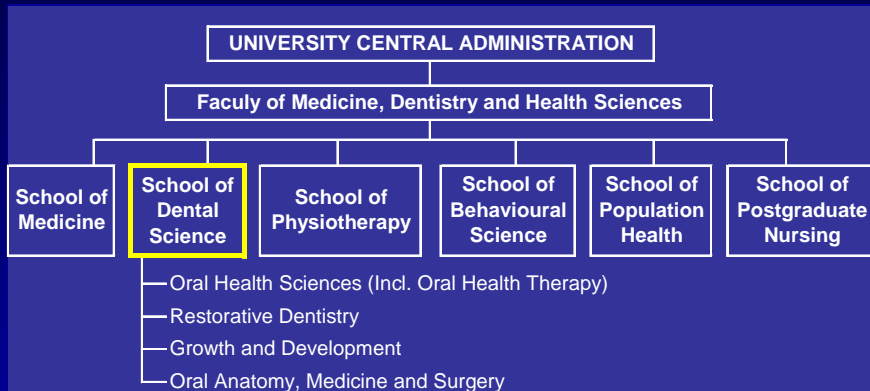
- Establish a network of people in similar situations who can inform and help each other.
- Specific plans for sharing educational resources, especially IT.
- Benchmarking where appropriate.
- Perhaps student/staff exchange programs.
- Perhaps research collaborations.



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Report from the
School of Dental Science
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences
The University of Melbourne



School of Dental Science co-located with the Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne (RDHM) which provides facilities for clinical training

School provides two major undergraduate curricula

- **Bachelor of Dental Science (BDSc)**
- **Diploma in Oral Health Therapy (DipOHT)**

School's performance 2000

	Total	Per EFT T&R staff ^a	Per FT T&R staff ^b
Publications (C1)	53	2.7	4.1
Research Income	\$3.72 million	\$186,048	\$286,227
Postgraduate Students^c	64	3.2	4.9
Undergraduate Students^d	323	16.2	24.9

a. 20 EFT Teaching and Research Academic staff

b. 13 Full-time Teaching and Research Academic staff

c. 38 MDS (Coursework), 11 MDS/MSc (Research), 15 PhD

d. 283 BSc, 40 DipOHT

Challenges

- Reduction in recurrent funding from Federal Government.
- Reduction in support for clinical training in RDHM.
- Excessive workloads for academic staff.
- Staff recruitment and retention.
- Patient selection.
- Inadequate clinical facilities.
- Outdated curricula and teaching methods.

Opportunities

- **New School/Hospital building.**
- **New BSc curriculum.**
- **Introduction of modern teaching methods.**
- **Introduction of Bachelor of Oral Health.**
- **Development of multimedia modules.**
- **Establishment of a Centre for Oral Health Research.**
- **Diversify revenue base.**
- **Establish international research collaborations**