

Japanese Dental Science Federation (JDSF)
International Activities Advancement Committee presents

International human resource development in the field of dentistry and activities of member societies

Forum summary

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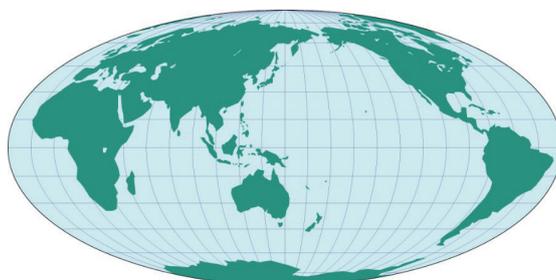




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International human resource development in the field of dentistry and activities of member societies

Forum summary

Preface:

The International Activities Advancement Committee of the Japanese Dental Science Federation (JDSF) is active in the following main areas:

- Introduction of member societies overseas
- Enlightening international students to participation in member societies and activation of exchange
- Support international human resource development for member societies

To examine ways of providing additional support and facilitating information sharing between member societies, a survey focused on the internationalization of each member society was conducted in academic year (AY) 2019, investigated the society members' current and future vision for international human resource development, and determined their future development for the same. The report can now be viewed on JDSF's HP . For enhancement of this objective, we held a forum in AY2020 via a web conferencing system. The forum consisted of two parts: Panel presentation and panel discussion.

¹ http://www.nsigr.or.jp/pdf/report_Survey_on_International_human_resource_2020_en.pdf



Session 1: Panel presentation

Among the member societies that reported a high priority on international activities and human resource development, five panelists introduced their societies' international activities, problems encountered when promoting internationalization, and requests for the JDSF.

1. International exchange and promotion by JAOB society activities:

The Japanese Association for Oral Biology

Panelist: Dr. KANEMATSU Takashi

The Japanese Association for Oral Biology (JAOB) was established in 1958 to conduct collective management of the seven fields of basic dental sciences: Anatomy, Histology, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Microbiology, and Pathology. JAOB is a unique organization from a global standpoint, which integrates and operates the seven basic dental sciences fields to promote oral biomedical sciences. To launch their international activities, JAOB established an international exchange committee in 2014.

In addition, as the Korean Basic Dental Science Society Association (established in 2001 and currently renamed the Korean Association of Oral Science, KAOS) and JAOB are associations having a similar aim of establishment, these two associations concluded an agreement on September 26th, 2014 to promote academic exchange, and to develop amicable and cooperative relations between the two associations. Under this agreement, the Japan-Korea international symposium is mutually held every year at their academic conferences.

JAOB also has several agendas toward promoting the internationalization of their operation. For example, they have an international journal in English (Journal of Oral Bioscience), and an urgent issue is to provide full English support in their annual meeting, as the international Ph.D. student members are increasing.

As the member society that manages seven basic dental science fields, JAOB will continue its endeavors to further internationalize our activities.

2. Global human resources development from educational institute to member society activity:

The Japanese Society of Conservative Dentistry

Panelist: Dr. HOSAKA Keiichi

The Japanese Society of Conservative Dentistry (JSCD) has promoted international activities for many years through signed agreements with the Korean Academy of Conservative Dentistry, the Taiwan Academy of Operative Dentistry, the Turkish Society for Adhesive Dentistry, and the Turkish Society of Restorative Dentistry. Also, JSCD has held a good standing with the Chinese and Philippines academic associations. This cooperation has mainly comprised of inviting guest speakers to academic conferences to stimulate an international academic exchange between the societies in the areas of research, clinical dentistry, and dental education.

Since conservative dentistry is becoming increasingly important due to the global trend of “super-aging” societies, it is highly anticipated that JSCD will develop global leaders who will strengthen ties with overseas countries and play an active role in shaping the future of dentistry. Therefore, JSCD has proposed various academic exchange opportunities, such as online lectures and virtual reality courses, to attract young academic members.

However, the number of academic societies that JSCD has agreements with is still ongoing. Universities and research institutes have made varied efforts to develop international collaboration and achieved specific results through the organization's relationships and the personal networks of their members. Therefore, it would be one idea that member societies' participation in such activities could support universities and research institutes' efforts while providing a feasible international human resource development for the academic societies themselves. For example, the international human resource development program of Tokyo Medical and Dental University puts strong importance on the development of such human resources, and societies could play a role in supporting its activities. In addition, branding by member societies could help support the universities' activities. Collaboration between academic societies and universities would enable more effective and wide-ranging human resource development and international exchange.



In this new virtual era, the distance between countries has become smaller. Academic conferences can easily become an international program currently by utilizing the Internet and the future possibility of promoting remote exchanges with overseas participants using the latest technology that may also incorporate AI and XR technology is not implausible. Young researchers are the digital native generation, and we should embrace their knowledge to improve internationalization.

3. International activities and plan for human resource development:

The Japanese Society of Gerodontology

Panelist: Dr. MATSUO Koichiro

The Japanese Society of Gerodontology (JSG) has established good academic relationships with other societies of foreign countries as the foremost representative society related to Gerodontology in a super-aged society. In particular, JSG has exchanged a MoU with the European College of Gerodontology (ECG) and the Taiwan Association of Geriatric Dentistry (TAGD). ECG-JSG joint symposiums, at ECG conferences and TAGD-JSG summits, have been held recently. Opportunities at these international conferences have been provided for young researchers to present their research outcomes and encourage their international exposure.

JSG has also put effort into research publication and presented a position paper on oral hypofunction in “Gerodontology”.

After the COVID-19 era, conference styles will most likely be shifted to utilize web tools more often, which will diminish the previous barrier of distance by eliminating travel times and thereby shortening the distance between international academia. It will also make the opportunities to present at international conferences more familiar. As an academic society in a leading country of a super-aged society, JSG would like to provide opportunities where young dentists are encouraged to present, and to better develop international human resources by providing opportunities that include the chance to study abroad.

4. International healthcare/dental cooperation activities:

The Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

Panelist: Dr. KOGO Mikihiko

The Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (JSOMS) has long been focused on international collaboration in the areas of oral and maxillofacial surgery, providing actual treatments in foreign countries. As core members of the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, JSOMS contributes to the international development of oral and maxillofacial surgery. They have also played a leadership role since the Asian Society was established. As for nations involved, since 1986 JSOMS has signed sister agreements with the Oral Surgery Societies of many Asian countries, South Korea, Taiwan, The Philippines, Mongolia, China, Nepal, and India; visiting one other at academic meetings. Their activities are highly evaluated by these foreign countries.

Meetings are also jointly held with the US, German, and European Associations for Cranio-Maxillofacial Surgery. These countries have been invited to JSOMS's annual academic meeting in the autumn. In addition, JSOMS has held an international symposium, which is a good place for young professionals to interact.

JSOMS is educating young people as international human resources to accompany them to international medical cooperation activities. In the past three years, there have been a total of 17 groups in 6 countries dispatched to medical activities supported by the society. In cooperation with establishing an international organization to recognize international standards for oral surgery, the international specialist system was started with the first examination being conducted in 2015 in Osaka. Currently, the examination has been conducted five times, with 90 successful applicants being dispatched from Japan. This society expects them to play an active role internationally in the future.



5. International activities of the Japanese Orthodontic Society:

The Japanese Orthodontic Society

Panelist: Dr. ARAI Kazuhito

The Japanese Orthodontic Society (JOS) has established international exchange activities with related orthodontic societies in other countries and regions mainly through the annual meetings. Three of these international exchange activities were:

1. A Joint Symposium with the Korean Association of Orthodontists (KAO):

The JOS-KAO Joint Symposium started in 2006 and has been held biannually during the annual meeting of the JOS or KAO, alternating between the annual meetings of each organization. A different theme is set for each symposium and two or three speakers are selected from each organization.

2. A resident exchange program with the Taiwan Association of Orthodontists (TAO):

The resident exchange program was established with a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2017. According to this program, one instructor and two residents are invited to attend the other organization's academic conference. Furthermore, residents are invited to attend and make presentations at the annual meeting of the other organization.

3. A resident forum at the 9th International Orthodontic Congress (9th IOC):

The International Orthodontic Congress (IOC) has been held by the World Federation of Orthodontists (WFO) every five years since 1995. Last October, for the first time in Asia, the 9th IOC, along with the 79th JOS Annual meeting and the 12th Asia-Pacific Orthodontic Conference (APOC) was held. There were about 6,300 participants from 93 countries and regions, of which about 1,300 were students. The resident forum at the 9th IOC received 337 submissions from 50 countries and regions.

JOS utilizes the annual meetings as international exchange activities. Unique/characteristic exchanges have been established between KAO and TAO, and as with the co-sponsoring of the 79th academic conference with IOC and APOC, international exchange will continue to be expanded. Plus, the addition of online lectures/conference provision might promote more international exchanges in the near future.

Session 2: Panel discussion

After the panelists' presentations, three topics were discussed:

1. Definition of international human resources and the image of human resources to be trained:

The definition of international human resources is personnel who can communicate, network and work in a global environment, using the common language "English", which doesn't necessarily need to be a native level, but strong enough to communicate with others. To train such human resources, provision of more opportunities would be necessary, such as studying abroad. It was felt that member societies could contribute to this effort. Another area where the member societies might be expected to contribute is in producing leaders and opinion makers. Japan has accomplished sending human resources abroad to bring back knowledge; it now expects contribution and cooperation by all Japanese dental professionals to further improve global dental standards and techniques.

2. International human resources development with and after this COVID-19 era:

Networking skills are necessary to become an efficient international human resource. Member societies can and should provide an increased number of international opportunities, while at the same time universities can nurture human resources. Even though the importance and versatility of virtual meetings has been realized during this COVID-19 era, in-person activities are still of importance. In addition, English and time differences sometimes remain a problem, but physical distance should no longer be a barrier to communication.

3. Support from and requests for the JDSF regarding the initiatives/activities:

Nowadays, the heavy workloads of professionals make adding extra activities to their schedules very difficult. Backup provided by the JDSF might assist society members to hold conferences or meetings easier than before, even though JDSF cannot provide financial aid. In this new era, first encounters might take place online rather than face-to-face; therefore, if the Federation can provide logistical support for these meetings



(with a thought toward financial support in the future), it might pave the way to networking and be quite helpful for cultivating international human resources.

In summary, networking is based on human relationships and is therefore vital to internationalization and developing international human resources. The JDSF can contribute to and endorse uniting all member societies as one team by being a central base for information provision and/or holding symposiums, so that future global opinion leaders of dental professionals can more easily reach their goals.

International Activities Advancement Committee

Japanese Dental Science Federation

Chairperson: MORIO Ikuko (Tokyo Medical and Dental University)

Committee member: FUJITANI Morioki (Aichi Gakuin University)

FUJII Makiko (Hiroshima University)

STEGAROIU Roxana (Niigata University)

Manager: SEKI Naoko (Tokyo Medical and Dental University)

Board member of the committee: KAWAGUCHI Yoko (Vice-chair)