

Third-year remarks

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This issue of the *Hong Kong Dental Journal* (HKDJ) marks a couple of important occasions for the Hong Kong Dental Association (HKDA). First and foremost, it signifies the smooth publication of the HKDJ by our association over the last 3 years. This three-year mark often denotes an important milestone for a person, an organization, and in our case the HKDJ. As in the Chinese proverb “三歲定八十” or “characters formed at 3 years continue till 80”, the dedicated HKDJ Editorial Board is enthusiastically putting together our editorial goals, direction, and trying out policies aimed making, as well as maintaining, the HKDJ a quality publication that shares oral health care knowledge within Hong Kong, our region, and hopefully in the not distant future, the rest of the world. As always, the support and comments of the HKDA and our readers are vital to the Journal’s future development. Such help will ensure that the next steps the HKDJ takes in the future are right and just.

Secondly, as promised in the Editorial in Volume 3 Number 1, the new HKDJ webpage is now up and functioning thanks to the HKDA IT Committee. Please log on to our website at <<http://www.hkda.org/hkdj/>> and keep your mouse clicking.

Thirdly, Fok *et al*¹ in the Dentists & Community section of the HKDJ give us an update on professional volunteer services performed by HKDA members. Less than 10% of us reported our contributions to our profession or our society. I am quite sure there are some of us who missed the chance to file their voluntary service reports. Nevertheless, it appears that there is a lot of room for us, a privileged group in society, to start joining hands

with people like those described by Fok *et al* to voluntarily serve our community, dentally or otherwise.

Fourthly, the Featured Article² by Dr. Judith L. Mackay, Director, Asian Consultancy on Tobacco Control, reminds us of how oral health care providers can contribute towards the anti-smoking campaign. It perhaps forms a backdrop for the new law (Smoking [Public Health] [Amendment] Bill 2005, to be effective on January 1, 2007) approved on October 19, 2006, as well as for the Conference of the International Society for Prevention of Tobacco Induced Disease held in late November, 2006, in Hong Kong.

Finally, the HKDJ Editorial Board wants to convey our best wishes to Dr. Jeffrey Yick-Sang Tsang, Past President of HKDA, Honorary Editorial Advisor of HKDJ (Volumes 1-2), and prominent member of the Hong Kong dental profession who will retire from clinical practice on December 31, 2006. Happy retirement life, Jeffrey!

At this juncture, the HKDJ Editorial Board would like to wish you a happy and prosperous year in 2007. We are looking forward to putting together quality issues of the HKDJ for you in 2007 and beyond.

References

1. Fok TK, Ho MC, Poon BK, Chung AY. Hong Kong Dental Association promotes volunteerism: a new Professional Volunteer Service Accreditation Program. *Hong Kong Dent J* 2006;3:139-42.
2. Mackay JL. Smoking, tobacco, and oral health. *Hong Kong Dent J* 2006;3:76-9.