

## **V akademskem letu 2021/22 se na Medicinski fakulteti Univerze v Mariboru začne dolgo pričakovani študij dentalne medicine**

Veliki kitajski filozof Konfucij je rekel: »Ko narediš prvi korak, si že na cilju«. Spodbuda, da se na Medicinski fakulteti Univerze v Mariboru naredi prvi korak v smeri organizacije študija dentalne medicine, je prišla iz zobozdravstvene službe Zdravstvenega doma dr. Adolfa Drolca leta 2016. Na MF UM smo spodbudo takoj spoznali kot veliko možnost trajnostnega razvoja v regiji; ne le v smislu izobraževanja doktorjev dentalne medicine, temveč kot možnost novega, intenzivnega interdisciplinarnega sodelovanja različnih fakultet Univerze v Mariboru na področju raziskav dentalne medicine, ki vključujejo raziskave novih materialov, nanodelcev, mikrobiologije, genetike, biokemije, bioinformatike in mnogih drugih znanstvenih disciplin.

In tako se je začelo mukotrpno nastajanje enovitega magistrskega študijskega programa dentalne medicine, ki je bilo zaključeno 9. 1. 2020 z odločbo Nacionalne agencije Republike Slovenije za kakovost v visokem šolstvu o akreditaciji programa.

Dentalna medicina je reguliran poklic v EU, zato je program študija pripravljen v skladu z zahtevami Direktive 2005/36/ES o priznavanju poklicnih kvalifikacij in v skladu z zahtevami ADEE (The association for dental education in Europe). Študij traja 6 let oz. 12 semestrov, ovrednoten je s 360 ECTS (kreditnimi točkami) oz. 60 ECTS/letnik in poteka v obliki predavanj, seminarjev, vaj (laboratorijskih, kliničnih, računalniških, seminarskih) in v individualni obliki.

Praktični pouk, ki je v dentalni medicini izjemno pomemben, je načrtovan tako, da se študenti v prvi fazi seznanijo z delom v Laboratoriju dentalne

## **The long-awaited study of dental medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Maribor (the MF UM) is to begin in the 2021/22 academic year**

The great Chinese philosopher Confucius once said, "When you make the first step, you have already reached the goal." The incentive to make the first step in the direction of organizing the study of dental medicine in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Maribor (MF UM) came from the dental service of the Health Centre Dr. Adolf Drolc in 2016. At the MF UM, we immediately recognized the incentive as a great opportunity for sustainable development in the region; not only in the sense of educating doctors of dental medicine, but also as an opportunity to develop new, interdisciplinary cooperation between the various faculties of the University of Maribor in the fields of dental medicine, which include studies of new materials, nanoparticles, microbiology, genetics, biochemistry, and bioinformatics, among others. Thus, the painstaking establishment of the uniform Master's Program in Dental Medicine was initiated and concluded on January 09, 2020 by order of the Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education on programme accreditation.

Dental Medicine is a regulated profession in the European Union, and therefore, the program was developed in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2005/36/EC in recognition of professional qualifications, and in accordance with the requirements of the ADEE (the Association for Dental Education in Europe). The study will last for 6 years, or 12 semesters, will be evaluated based on 360 ECTS (credit points), or 60 ECTS per year, and will be administered via lectures, seminars, practical

medicine. Tako bodo v omenjenem laboratoriju pod mentorstvom visokošolskih sodelavcev opravljali osnovne vaje oz. posege na simulatorjih. V višjih letnikih bodo v okviru praktičnega dela študenti opravljali praktične klinične vaje na pacientih pod nadzorom ustrezno habilitiranih visokošolskih učiteljev in sodelavcev specialistov dentalne medicine v prostorih MF UM, v Laboratorijih za dentalno medicino, ki so že in bodo dodatno opremljeni, po potrebi pa tudi na Medicinski fakulteti Univerze na Reki in preko Erasmus izmenjave na partnerskih fakultetah v tujini.

Predklinične in medicinske predmete bodo izvajali visokošolski učitelji naše fakultete, medtem ko smo se za izvajanje strokovnih kliničnih predmetov zaradi pomanjkanja habilitiranih učiteljev s področja dentalne medicine v SV Sloveniji obrnili za pomoč in sodelovanje najprej na Medicinsko fakulteto Univerze v Ljubljani. Pozitivnega odziva ni bilo, zato smo zaprosili za sodelovanje pri izvajanju programa Dentalne medicine Medicinsko fakulteto Univerze na Reki. Prošnja je bila sprejeta z velikim razumevanjem in naklonjenostjo ter podpisom pogodbe o sodelovanju. Paralelno z nastajanjem kurikulumu smo planirali prostorske in materialne pogoje za opravljanje praktičnega pouka. Na podlagi odličnih mednarodnih in prijateljskih povezav dekana, prof. dr. Ivana Krajnc, in prof. dr. Dušanke Mičetić-Turk, so donacije stomatološke opreme, vredne več kot 1 milijon EUR, omogočile začetek izvajanja praktičnega dela pouka na MF UM. Na Medicinski fakulteti smo za začetek izvedbe pedagoškega procesa na področju dentalne medicine sami zagotovili infrastrukturne možnosti, ki pa bodo ob izvedbi vseh letnikov predstavljale prostorski problem in nemožnost razvoja znanstveno-raziskovalnega dela dentalne medicine. Iz tega razloga si na Univerzi v Mariboru odgovorni prizadevajo za pridobitev primerne lokacije v neposredni bližini tako MF UM kot Univerzitetnega kliničnega centra Maribor. Načrti Univerze v Mariboru gredo namreč v smeri še večje povezanosti vsebin UKC Maribor z Medicinsko fakulteto UM, kar pomeni tudi zahtevo po širjenju prostorskih kapacitet. Nova Fakulteta za dentalno medicino bo predvidoma obsegala prtiličje in tri nadstropja s skupno uporabno površino cca. 11.200 kvadratnih metrov. Tehnološki

training (laboratory, clinical, computer, seminar), and individual work. Practical lessons that are of the utmost importance in dental medicine are planned in such a manner that students are initially acquainted with their work in the laboratory of dental medicine. In this way, they will gain experience in the laboratory under the mentorship of habilitated colleagues where they will perform basic exercises or procedures on simulators. In later years, students will gain practical experience by performing clinical exercises on patients under the supervision of the appropriate teachers and specialists in dental medicine in MF UM dental medicine laboratories, which are already or will be additionally equipped. If necessary, such exercises will also be performed in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Rijeka, and through Erasmus exchange at partner faculties abroad.

Preclinical and medical subjects will be implemented by teachers of our faculty. However, as we lack capabilities and habilitated teachers in the field of dental medicine in northeast Slovenia, we reached out to the Medical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana for assistance with the implementation of professional clinical subjects. The Medical Faculty of the University of Ljubljana failed to provide a positive response to our request, and therefore, we requested assistance for the implementation of the Dental Medicine Program from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Rijeka. The request was accepted with great understanding and affection, and the contract for cooperation was signed.

In parallel with the formation of the curriculum we have planned spatial and material conditions for conducting practical classes. Based on the international connections of Professor Ivan Krajnc and Professor Dušanka Mičetić Turk donated stomatological equipment, worth more than 1 million Euros and facilitated the commencement of the implementation of the practical portion of classes at the MF UM. Within the Faculty of Medicine, we have commenced the implementation of pedagogical processes in the field of dental medicine and ensured infrastructural possibilities ourselves, but they will rely upon the implementation of all study years represent spatial problem and impossibility of development of scientific research work of dental

razvoj in digitalizacija v zobozdravstvu sta v zadnjih letih omogočila neverjetne nove možnosti. Razvoj 3D rentgenskega slikanja, oralni skenerji, uporaba anestezije, laserjev in številnih drugih postopkov so omogočili minimalno invazivnost zobozdravstvenih posegov, uporabo prijaznejših materialov, zelo hitro pa se razvijajo tudi novi standardi, ki so prijazni tako pacientom kot zobozdravnikom. Izgradnja novega sodobnega centra za dentalno medicino bo omogočila izvajanje vrhunskih stomatoloških storitev in visokokakovostno izobrazbo bodočih zdravnikov dentalne medicine, prav tako pa tudi mednarodno povezovanje z našimi partnerskimi fakultetami v Evropi in svetu.

V akademskem letu 2021/22 vpisujemo prvo generacijo študentov. Zanimanje za študij dentalne medicine je veliko, sprejeti bodo najboljši kandidati. S tem je del poti, ki smo jo prehodili, da bi prišli do cilja, tj. do akreditacije programa in vpisa prve generacije študentov, uspešno zaključen. Od leta 2016 do leta 2021 je bilo narejenih zelo veliko korakov. Na tej poti smo se veliko naučili, spoznali uspešne, svetovno uveljavljene kolege in kolegice, ki so nam nesebično pomagali pri razvoju kurikuluma in z bogatimi donacijami stomatološke opreme. Naj omenim prof. dr. Sonjo Pezelj Ribarič, dekanjo Fakultete za dentalno medicino Univerze v Reki, prof. dr. Kyöstija Oikarinena, dekana Medicinske fakultete Univerze v Oulu na Finskem, prof. dr. Alexandra Küblerja, dekana Fakultete za dentalno medicino Univerze v Würzburgu v Nemčiji, in še mnoge druge.

Moja generacija mariborskih zdravnikov je imela privilegij spreminjati poglede, miselnost in organizacijo v svojem okolju ter dolgoročno vplivati na razvoj v celotni regiji. Pot do medicinske fakultete je bila težka, istočasno pa velik izziv. Prav tako smo imeli težko pot pri ustanavljanju programa študija dentalne medicine oz. bodoče Fakultete za dentalno medicino. To, kar smo dosegli doslej, bomo razvijali dalje, usmerjali in dosegali nove rezultate. Naša vizija je, da se sčasoma razvije samostojna Fakulteta za dentalno medicino, skupaj s Centrom za dentalno medicino za celo SV Slovenijo z vsemi specialističnimi in sub specialističnimi dejavnostmi dentalne medicine. Še naprej se bomo trudili izboljšati pogoje za boljšo kvaliteto življenja

medicine. For this reason, the responsible at the University of Maribor will strive to obtain a suitable location in the vicinity of the MF UM and the University Clinical Centre (UCC), Maribor. The plans of the University of Maribor will provide even greater connectedness between the UCC Maribor and the MF UM, which will also increase demand for the expansion of spatial capacities. The new Faculty of Dental Medicine is expected to occupy the ground floor plus three additional floors, with a total usable area of approx. 11,200 square meters. Technological development and digitalization in dentistry have facilitated incredible new possibilities over the past several years. The development of 3D X-ray imaging, oral scanners, and the use of anesthesia, lasers and numerous other procedures have facilitated the minimal invasiveness of dental procedures, and the use of patient friendlier materials, and have rapidly established new standards that are kind to patients and dentists. The construction of a new contemporary center for dental medicine will facilitate the implementation of top stomatological services and high quality education for future doctors of dental medicine, and also facilitate international connectedness with our partner faculties in Europe and around the world.

In the 2021/22 academic year, we will enroll the first generation of students into our new program. There is great interest in the study of dental medicine, and the best candidates will be enrolled. With that a part of the path which we have trodden to get to the goal, i. e. to the accreditation of the programme and enrolment of the first generation of students, is successfully concluded. Between 2016 and 2021 many steps have been taken. Throughout this process, we have learned a great deal and connected with successful, world-renowned colleagues who have selflessly assisted with the development of the curriculum and donated stomatological equipment. In particular, I would like to mention the generous contributions of Professor Sonja Pezelj Ribarič, the Dean of the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the University of Rijeka, Professor Kyösti Oikarinen, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Oulu in Finland, and Professor Alexander Kübler, the Dean of the Faculty of Dental Medicine at the University of Würzburg in Germany,

naših ljudi in to predvsem z ustvarjanjem kadrov v zdravstvu, izobraženih ljudi, ki se vedno pokažejo kot največja dragocenost. Na novih generacijah mariborskih zdravnikov in zobozdravnikov je, da to našo vizijo udejanjijo in nadaljujejo.

*Zasl. prof. dr. dr. h. c.  
Dušanka Mičetić-Turk, dr. med.*

among many others.

My generation of Mariborian physicians has had a privilege of changing the views, mindset and organization of work in their environment and having a long-term impact on the development in the entire region. The establishment of the medical faculty has been difficult and a great challenge. Similarly, establishing the Dental Medicine programme and the Faculty of Dental Medicine has also been challenging. What has been achieved so far will continue to be built upon to achieve new results. It is our vision that an independent Faculty of Dental Medicine will ultimately be developed with the Center for Dental Medicine for the entirety of northeast Slovenia, and will accommodate all specialist and subspecialist activities of dental medicine. We will continue to strive to improve the quality of life for our people, which will be achieved by adequate staffing of health care professionals and by the development of educated people who are our greatest resources. It is up to the new generations of Mariborian physicians and dentists to put our vision into practice and carry it forward.

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