

USIM aims to integrate Islamic values

DENTAL hygiene awareness has increased among Malaysians. Hence, the demand for quality oral healthcare and the need to produce more dentists.

The establishment of the Faculty of Dentistry at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) fulfils these demands for the benefit of society.

The proposal to establish the faculty was approved by the Higher Education Ministry in 2006, and the pioneer batch of 29 students began their studies on July 1, 2007.

They were chosen from the university's Tamhidi (matriculation) programme and received their scrolls at the 10th convocation ceremony on November 2012.

The faculty aims to produce graduates who can practise dentistry safely and, at the same time, demonstrate Islamic values in their work.

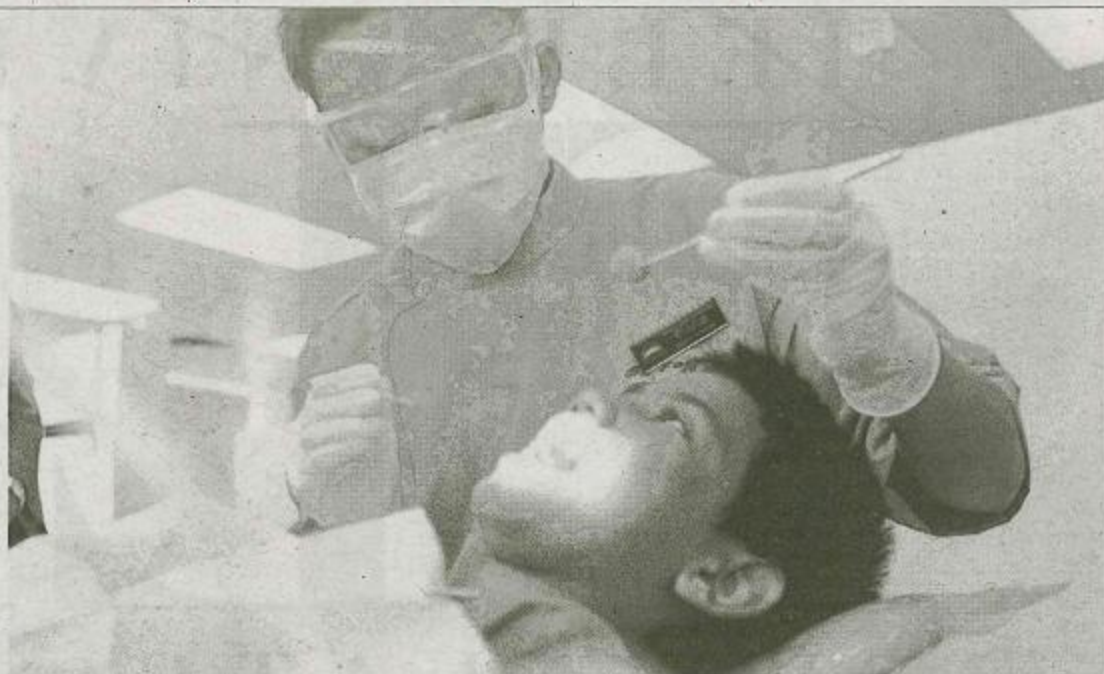
It is in line with the faculty's vision of

"upholding excellence in dentistry by providing a meaningful contribution to society, nation and mankind through integration of Naqli (revealed) and Aqli (human) knowledge".

The faculty's mission is to become a leading institution that integrates Islamic values in the acquisition and propagation of knowledge in dentistry for promotion of oral health to achieve well-being of individuals and harmony of society.

Graduates of USIM's Faculty of Dentistry will receive the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS, USIM). This five-year programme is designed to impart scientific knowledge, practical skills and instil a caring attitude among future dental practitioners.

It is tailored according to the context of universal Islamic thought. In the first two years of study, this course is designed to strengthen the student's grasp of basic science.



Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia's Faculty of Dentistry intends to provide a dental education based on Islamic principles that is competitive with secular courses.

For the next three years, the course will focus on clinical science to develop practical skills.

Human sciences are also covered with courses in behavioural sciences, dentistry in society and basic Islamic knowledge.

Each cluster of the programme, namely basic science, clinical science and the human sciences, are integrated with Naqli and Aqli knowledge through four mustawa (levels) of *ayatisasi*.

USIM has produced dentists who can combine and practise both the Naqli and Aqli sides of Islamic knowledge.

Faculty dean Professor Datuk Dr Wan Mohamad Nasir Wan Othman hopes the students will play an active role in the field of oral healthcare and fulfil the country's needs after graduating.

The faculty intends to provide an Islamic-based education that is competitive with secular courses, while offering excellent treatment to the public

at its teaching clinic in Pandan Indah, Kuala Lumpur.

At the same time, the faculty will also heighten its focus in research to improve its standing and services.

There is no denying that the establishment of the Faculty of Dentistry at USIM will go a long way in fulfilling the need for dental professionals in the country.

For more information visit <http://www.usim.edu.my/en>