

### **Greetings:**

Tomohiro Okano, President of the 7th Asian Congress of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

Seiji Morimoto, President of Nara Dental Association

Jae Duk Kim, President Elect of Asian Congress of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

Paul F van der Stelt, President of the International Association of Dentomaxillofacial Radiology

Keiji Tanimoto, President Elect of the International Association of Dentomaxillofacial Radiology

### **Lecture:**

## **Current Reform of Dental Education in Japan**

**Kazuhiro Eto**

**President, Japanese Association for Dental Sciences**

There were many problems in dental education in Japan in 1990's, such as bias towards memorization over knowledge, diluted practical clinical training, educational content and assessment determined by individual professor's discretion, lack of medical ethics, medical safety, attitude education. The official discussions for dental education have been done focusing on patient – centered treatment in the conference of Ministry of Education since 1987. The outcome of discussions towards better dental education was as follows,

- 1) Introducing of medical ethics, medical safety and attitude to the new program, improving clinical ability
- 2) Establishing a new framework of dental education including ① designing of a common core curriculum for all dental schools as “Model Core Curriculum”, ② designing of a common evaluation system for “Model Core Curriculum”, ③ improvement and enhancement of practical clinical training in undergraduate program, ④ curriculum reform in individual dental school, and ⑤ promotion of Faculty Development. Model Core Curriculum (MCC) for dental education was published in March, 2001, and also Common Achievement Test Organization was established and then Common Achievement Test (CAT) was launched in 2002 to 2004 with trial and in 2005 as an official start. In this lecture, MCC and CAT system in Japan will be introduced, and also the possibility of establishment of Asia Dental Education Federation will be mentioned in the situation of rapidly increasing the number of Dental Schools in China, Malaysia, Thailand and other Asian countries.