

The Joint Fellowship Course of Tehran and Aachen Universities

An academic and scientific joint program

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When Plan of Development and Advancement of Laser in Dentistry (PDALD) was accepted by the Ministry of Health and Medical Education in Iran, the education department of Laser national committee of the Ministry of Health authored an educational curriculum in two units for laser in Dentistry, which has to be taught in 34 hours. It has been scheduled and confirmed that all undergraduate and post-graduate students ought to pass these two units.

To teach the course, some well-trained and fully experienced professors were needed.

Twenty top professors were chosen among applications from all universities of the country. The University of Tehran as the oldest and largest university of the country was selected for handling the program. On the other hand the University of Aachen was elected among top Universities of the world which are active teaching laser in the world as the partner.

After some negotiations authorities of both Universities signed an agreement to run the program of training 20 professors in 18 months in three phases.

Phase one was concentrated on basics. Iranian professors managed this phase. Participants were supposed to pass the course with good grades. They had to learn how to work with different types of laser in the market practically even on real patients'.

E-learning education was also practiced to help them more. They also were asked to have review article on a key subjects which was found very helpful.

In the second phase, a team of international professors from the University of Aachen held class in the second 6-months course in the University of Tehran. It was the advanced course, which started in December 2009 and is going to be in Jul 2010. Course participants have to pass a final exam at the end. They would be awarded a certificate after the exam.

For the last phase, they are asked to have a study case for their thesis. Finally, they ought to present the project and defend it during the 3 phases students have been in touch with their professors on-line and have received up-dated information and have raised any probable questions.

The course is still going on, besides its academic values the program PDALD has already taken a giant step in the knowledge of laser in Iran and has added to the value of two well reputable Universities of Tehran and Aachen. We are proud to say that the program has been handled in a very friendly and scientific atmosphere.

We hope in the near future the level of these relationships goes higher in education and research fields.

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