

**La Trobe University
Bachelor of Health Sciences in
Dentistry/Master of Dentistry Program
[BHSc(Dent)/MDent]**

Accreditation Report Summary

Background

The Bachelor of Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry Program [BHSc/MDent] program of La Trobe University is a five year program which commenced in 2008 at the Bendigo campus of the University. The aim of the program is to enable graduates to register as dentists with the Dental Board of Australia.

2012 Review

A visit to the BHSc/MDent program was conducted on 13-14 August 2012 by a Site Evaluation Team (SET) appointed by the ADC. A draft report was produced by the SET following this visit and comment sought from the School.

The School's comments were received in October 2012 and considered by the ADC/DC(NZ) Accreditation Committee at its meeting on 19 October 2012.

ADC Decision regarding accreditation

On 15 November 2012 the ADC Board of Directors accredited the BHSc/MDent program to 31 December 2019.

The ADC also made recommendations on areas of improvement, plus suggestions for consideration by the School as detailed below.

Strengths

The ADC commends the School on the advances made in relation to development of program, clinical placements, curriculum mapping, the public profile of the program and the School's positive response to recommendations and suggestions from the 2011 Accreditation Report.

The ADC has noted the following strengths in relation to the program:

- the School's continuing attention to investigating and utilising a variety of teaching and learning approaches in the program;
- the engagement by the School of planned self-assessment to improve aspects of the program; and
- the University's commitment to the development of facilities and a suitable staffing profile for the program.

Recommendations

Standard 5

R.5-1 That the School continue to work towards ensuring that extra-oral radiography equipment is available for all students.

Standard 9

R.9-1 That the School provide updates in its Annual Reports to the ADC on new clinics accessed by students.

Suggestions

Standard 8

S.8-1 That the School review the sequencing of theory and practice in the course material in earlier years of the program with a view to optimising opportunities for links.

Standard 10

S.10-1 That the School monitor the number of fixed prosthesis cases seen by students, to ensure that students obtain the necessary experience in this area.

Standard 11

S.11-1 That the School continues to review and develop assessment systems.

S.11-2 That the School consider the gender balance of examiners in order to better represent practitioner and student profiles.