In an effort to expand the global network of dental education, University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry has created a collaborative agreement with the Guanghua School of Stomatology located in Guanghua, China. Dr. Patrick J. Ferrillo, Jr., Pacific’s dean, and Dr. Ling Junqi, dean of the Guanghua School, signed the agreement during a ceremony in China recently.

Under the collaboration, the schools will work together to initiate a five-year study abroad program and student/faculty exchange initiative between the two institutions. The goal of the agreement is to create opportunities to share knowledge and resources and ultimately, raise standards in dental education globally.

“We’re very honored to sign this agreement,” Ferrillo said. “I believe there is much we can learn from each other, and we look forward to discussing best practices in student and faculty development and patient care.”

University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry is one of the nation’s premier dental schools and has served the Bay Area community for 111 years. Pacific is committed to excellence in student-centered education, patient care and research. The school’s clinics, located in San Francisco, Oakland, Union City and Stockton, offer quality, affordable dental services to children and adults throughout Northern California.

**Pacific to collaborate with Chinese dental school**

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The University of Texas Health Science Center broke ground recently on a $161.5 million Research Park Complex that will include a new home for the UT Dental Branch.

The UT Research Park Complex will encompass 595,000 gross square feet and comprise three independent programs functionally connected into one facility: the Dental Branch Replacement Building, the Neuroscience Building and the Biomedical Research and Education Facility. Completion of the first phase of construction is scheduled for 2010.

The building site is 7.5 acres at the corner of Cambridge Street and East Road in the UT Research Park, a 100-acre area being jointly developed by the UT Health Science Center and The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center.

While each program will maintain its own identity, the university will foster enhanced collaboration by combining the programs as a multi-purpose complex, as well as achieving savings in construction costs and time.

The UT Dental Branch Replacement Building will total 240,000 gross square feet and replace the existing, 52-year-old facility located at 6516 M.D. Anderson Blvd. Plans call for classrooms and other teaching and meeting spaces; research laboratories and computerized simulators.

**UTHSC breaks ground on $161.5M research park**

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