October 15, 2024

Press Release

## **JMI hosts Team of Global Experts on Oral Health**

The Faculty of Dentistry, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) welcomed the team of investigators for the prestigious 'Community Focused Research on Equity (CORE)' project developed by NIHR Global Health Group on Oral Health project. The Dean, Prof. Dr. Keya Sircar welcomed the lead investigator of the NIHR Global Health Group on Oral Health Prof. Richard Watt, a Professor and Honorary Consultant in Dental Public Health at University College London along with the other members of the NIHR Team Dr. Carol Guarnizo-Herreño, National University of Colombia, Prof. Alastair Ross, Staffordshire University, UK, Prof. Paulo Sávio Angeiras de Goes, University of Pernambuco, Brazil, Prof. Manu Mathur, Queen Mary University of London, Dr. Regina Mutave, University of Nairobi, Kenya, Ms. Michelle Stennett, Clinical Research Fellow, UCL and Ms. Chantelle Diagne, Programme Manager, UCL to Faculty of Dentistry on 14th October 2024. Prof. Keya congratulated Prof. Abhishek Mehta, one of the principal investigators of the project from Faculty of Dentistry, JMI and talked about the rich cultural heritage of the university that including its history, faculties, centers, NAAC Ranking, foreign exchange programs and the importance of research in the university as the top priority.

A guest lecture was organized for students and staff of Faculty of Dentistry, JMI from 12 pm onwards on the topic "Future of Oral Health Research" by Prof. Richard Watt, the guest speaker of the event. The event was coordinated by the Prof. Abhishek Mehta and the staff of Public Health Dentistry.

Prof Watt shed light on the core components of the NIHR Global Health Project and its areas of implementation. He particularly focussed on the growing recognition of the importance of Oral health in India and abroad, World Health Organization (WHO) agenda concerning oral health such as its Resolution on oral health (WHA74.5, 2021), the Global strategy on oral health (WHA75 (11), 2022)2 and the Global oral health action plan 2023–2030 (WHA76 (9), 2023). He emphasized the need for a people–centred, public health-oriented, integrated approach on the line of Universal Health Coverage to improve the oral health status of people living in low and middle-income countries. The lecture was a success and was much appreciated by the audience.

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