AO opening symposium focuses on risk vs. reward

By AO Staff

To kick off the opening symposium at the Academy of Osseointegration’s 31st Annual Meeting, AO President Dr Russell Nishimura welcomed attendees from more than 50 countries and announced that more than 800 new members had joined the academy. Presenters from around the world then took an objective look at the pros and cons of various treatment decisions clinicians choose from every day.

Dr. Frank Spear delivered the keynote address, “Globalization of Training, Education, and Comprehensive Collaborative Treatment Planning in Implant Dentistry: Understanding the Risks and Rewards.” After restoring implants for 30 years, Spear believes technique is one thing but perspective is another, and clinicians should consider what’s ahead for patients in their life when placing implants.

Dr. Reed Rayher, an oral surgeon from San Francisco, came to the AO meeting to stay current on implant developments. One of his key takeaways from Spear’s presentation was that sometimes less is more.

“He breaks down difficult concepts that always confused you throughout your dental career and education and made them a lot simpler. He helps you understand a concept you never could understand,” Rayher said. “He’s very good at making complicated things simple.”

Dr. Takis Megas, a periodontist from Amherst, Mass., also attended the opening symposium. As a supporter of the team approach to implant dentistry, he came to the AO Meeting to learn more about the other specialties. He attended Dr. Henning Schliepke’s session about the risks and rewards of grafting with growth factors/biologics.

“It gives me a chance to learn more about the entire restorative industrial complex. I know the surgical side, the AO Meeting allows me to gain insight on the restorative side,” Megas said.

Dr. Liqun Wu, a general dentist from China, was excited to attend Dr. Franck Renouard’s full-house presentation on the risks and rewards of not grafting. Renouard’s presentation addressed the reliability of the short implant option, the factors to consider when weighing the associated therapeutic options and emphasized that the simplest procedure should always be the first choice.

With the influx of patients in China, being up to date on these issues are of critical importance to Wu.

“In my country, implant patients are rising by 30 percent every year,” Wu said. “The AO Annual Meeting strives to create a meeting that allows collaboration with the best and brightest clinicians from around the world. Attendees agree that the meeting is a great way for clinicians to stay current on implant dentistry’s best practices.”

AO announces 2016 Annual Meeting Research Award Winners

By AO Staff

Hundreds of clinicians, researchers, residents and their faculty presented original research at the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) Annual Meeting. Six researchers were recognized by a committee of their peers to receive top honors for their outstanding contributions to the field of implant dentistry.

Here is a complete list of awards and honorees:

• Best Oral Clinical Presentation: “Efﬁcacy of Socket Grafting for Alveolar Ridge Preservation: A Randomized Clini-cal Trial,” by Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, DDS, MS, PhD

“I am still on a cloud since I found out about the award for the Best Oral Clinical Presentation. This is such a great honor for me,” said Avila-Ortiz, an associate professor in the department of periodontics at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. “This recognition is the culmination of a very intense team effort conducted at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry. Our findings are very relevant for the understanding of the fate of the alveolar ridge following tooth loss or extraction.”

• Best Oral Clinical Presentation: “Dra-matic Improvement in Bone Quality at Osteotomy Sites by Short-Term Administration of Osteopetrosis Medication,” by Junno Yamashita, DDS, PhD

“I am very glad to receive this prestigious award,” said Yamashita, a professor at Fukuoka Dental College, Japan. “I believe our finding brings us one step closer to developing a predictable treatment method to grow bone.”

• 1st Place ePoster: “Three-dimensional Alveolar Anatomy of the Maxillary First Molar and Proposed Classiﬁcation for Implant Placement: A Cone-Beam Computed Tomography Study,” by Hirohiko Matsuda, DDS

• 2nd Place ePoster: “Varied Tip Applications and Temperature Changes of ErCr: YAG Laser Irradiated Implants,” by Nicholas Montanaro, BS

• Best ePoster Case Presentation: “Treatment of the Edentulous Maxilla with Fixed Implant-Retained Prosthesis 15-Year Prospective Results,” by Christian Mertens, DDS, PhD

• Best Clinical Innovations: “Reducing Biomechanical Failures in Implant Den-tistry with Innovative Design and Fabrication Technique,” by Amirali Zandinejad, DDS

To digitally view more than 200 studies presented in ePoster format, visit http://ao2016.sessionupload.com/eposters/Search for each poster by its number, title, author or keyword.