By DTI

TOKYO, Japan: On 18 and 19 November, the Japanese Association for Dental Research (JADR), the Japanese division of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), concluded the 2017 edition of its annual meeting held at Showa University in Tokyo. This year’s event particularly stood out with a diverse and broad scientific programme, offering the 350 local and international participants a wide choice of topics, such as advances in stem cell research, aetiology of periodontitis and life science in space.

According to congress President Prof. Ryutaro Kamijo, Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry at the School of Dentistry at Showa University, novel and interdisciplinary communication is needed to fully understand the issues society is facing today in order to provide solutions that further advance dental research in the future. Therefore, the theme of this year’s meeting, “Forefront of dental science—Toward a global standard in medical science”, was chosen to further spur worldwide progress in dentistry.

The international speaker lineup included Prof. Angus William G. Walls from Scotland (IADR President), Dr Seong-Ho Choi from Korea (President of the Korean Division of the IADR), Dr Harry-Sam Selikowitz from Norway (FDI World Dental Federation) and Prof. Irma Thesleff from Finland (University of Helsinki). They held special lectures on topics such as geriatric dentistry, oral and non-communicable diseases, techniques for the regeneration of damaged periodontal tissue, and conserved signalling pathways in tooth development and regeneration.

Among the highlights of the programme were the lectures under the topic of “Life science in space—Biomedical research performed in the international space station”, which addressed vital issues faced by dental researchers throughout the world. Currently, several studies are underway that are investigating complex matters related to long-term biological gravitational effects, as well as bone loss and muscle atrophy—comparable to those found in the ageing population.

“I am confident that the participants were able to take home several new ideas that will help to enhance dental science research in Japan and throughout the world,” concluded Kamijo about the successful event.

The JADR promotes a wide variety of research related to dentistry and serves as a gateway to the global development of dental science in Japan, with JADR members providing primary contributions to progress in dentistry throughout the world. The meeting and its mission were widely supported by the Japanese industry. Among the 54 sponsors were companies such as publisher Dental Tribune International and its Japanese partner Medical Net, Nobel Biocare Japan, Straumann, Lion Dental Products and Asahi Kasei Pharma.

The 66th JADR meeting is scheduled for 17 to 18 November 2018 and will be held in Sapporo in Japan under the theme “Back to the tangible—the symbiosis of basic research and clinical dentistry”.

More information can be found www.kokuhoken.jp/jadr66/