Impressions from London at the 96th General Session meeting of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR)

The International Association for Dental Research (IADR) General Session was held in conjunction with the Pan European Regional (PRE) Congress on July 25-28, 2018 in London, England. The congress was a major meeting, encouraging the presentation and discussion of novel findings and clinical approaches among more than 5000 scientists and researchers coming from almost 90 countries. The very high amount of data presented included the most recent research findings, developments and trends in all the sub-disciplines of dentistry. In fact, the programme included more than 2200 poster and 780 oral presentations, 92 symposia, several lunches & learning, hands-on workshops and two Distinguished Lecture Series plenary sessions. Condensing the whole meeting in just four days was a major challenge. This could be accomplished by conducting several sessions at the same time, thanks to the London Excel congress venue that provided enough room for all the events.

The meeting was a huge opportunity especially for young researchers to present their findings at the beginning of their careers, with the organization providing many possibilities to support them, especially at the European level, by means of travel grants, company and Group-sponsored competitions covering different topics, and the Robert Frank awards for both clinical and basic science. Winners of the award were selected to represent each Division at the upcoming General Session meeting, which will be held in Vancouver, BC, in June 19-22, 2019. Several dinner events, mainly organized by the different Groups, Universities and Companies, but also a dinner reception specifically dedicated to the first-time attendees, were excellent occasions for further networking and getting in touch with each other. The Continental European Division (CED) also organized a meeting of the CED-IADR Ambassadors in order to facilitate the primary aim of the organization, namely to encourage high-quality Oral Health Research and to facilitate networking across Europe. The Ambassadors Group also takes an active part in organizing the Young CED-IADR Symposia at the upcoming CED/PER-IADR meetings. Each time the Symposia address a specific topic of frontier research and are totally organized, chaired and have speakers who are less than 35 years old, with a brilliant experience in research. Their aim is to promote young researchers and to encourage networking especially among people at the beginning of their research career. In particular, at the next CED-IADR meeting, the Young Symposium title will be: “New insights on peri-implantitis”.

The next European meetings of the Association are scheduled to take place as CED-IADR, meeting of the Continental European Division in Madrid, Spain, September 19-21, 2019 and as PER-IADR, meeting of the Pan-European Region in Marseille, France, September 10-12, 2020.

For any information, please refer to the website of the organization: https://ced-iadr.eu/ and the secretariat email: ced.iadr@uzleuven.be.

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