

AO's "Academy Awards" highlight dental implant excellence

The Academy of Osseointegration's (AO) Annual Meeting is not only a time to learn about the latest evidence-based science, but also to recognize excellence for the global dental implant community.

To that end, AO's 40th Annual Meeting in Seattle was no exception in honoring members, leaders and researchers for their exemplary efforts:

Nobel Biocare Bränemark Osseointegration Award

R. Gilbert Triplett, DDS, MD, PhD, was the 17th recipient of this prestigious honor, annually made possible by a grant from Nobel Biocare, and bestowed by the Osseointegration Foundation (OF). Dr. Triplett is an oral surgeon and Regents Professor at Texas A&M University School of Dentistry, retired from the U.S. Navy Dental Corps as a captain with 21 years of service.



OF President Dr. Hans Peter-Weber (second from left) with 2025 grant winners Drs. Ravida, Pow and Chen.

Osseointegration Foundation Grants

The Osseointegration Foundation annually funds three grants, each for \$50,000, to support research in osseointegration. The research is conducted over a 12-month period and upon completion, the recipients are invited to present their outcomes at our meeting. This year's recipients were:

Shoucheng Chen, DDS, PhD: Basic Science Research Grant
"2-DG/Mesoporous Silicon/Hydrogel Modulates Immune Balance by Targeting Glycolysis."

Ho Nang Edmond Pow, BDS, MDS, PhD: Restorative Science Research Grant
"A Novel AI-based Intraoral Scanning System for Complete-arch Implant Rehabilitation."

Andrea Ravida, DDS, PhD: Translational and Clinical Science Research Grant
"Single-cell Sequencing to Characterize Bleeding on Probing Scores in the Diagnosis of Peri-implant Diseases."

Last fall, members of AO's Research Submission, Clinical Innovations and e-Poster committees reviewed each abstract and selected the most innovative and relevant research to highlight at this year's meeting. Committee members then attended the Clinical Innovations, Oral Research presentations and ePoster sessions and evaluated each of the lectures to determine this year's "Best Presentations." They were:

Best Clinical Innovation Presentation

Jinlong Shao, PhD: "Comparison of Artificial Intelligence Models for Automatic Segmentation of the Mandibular Canals and Branches."

Best Oral Clinical Research Presentation

Jacob Zimmer, DDS: "Risk Indicators for Peri-Implant Diseases and Peri-Implantitis Severity: A Cross-Sectional Study on Implants with 5 to 10 Years of Loading."

Best Oral Scientific Research Presentation

Heithem Ben Amara, DDS, MSc, PhD: "Osseointegrate and Vanish: Immunomodulation by Biodegradable Magnesium Implants Shapes Their Integration into Bone."

ePoster Awards

With nearly 200 ePosters on display and presented throughout the meeting, the following winners were determined by the AO ePoster Committee:

Alexander Rubinov, DDS: First Place ePoster Presentation
"Butterfly Graft: Optimizing Soft Tissue Outcomes in Adjacent Maxillary Implants Using a Digital Approach."

Parham Hazrati, DDS: Second Place e-Poster Presentation
"Comparison of Ultrasonography, CBCT, Transgingival Probing, and Probe Transparency with Histological Gingival Thickness: A Diagnostic Accuracy Study Revisiting Thick Versus Thin Gingiva."

Jamil Awad Shibli, DDS, MSc, PhD: Best ePoster Case Study Presentation
"Vertical Ridge Augmentation Using Ceramic 3D-printed Customized Bone Block-associated rhBMP-2: A Report After Four Years Implant-supported Restoration Loading."



AO's Got Talent: Emerging Leaders Competition

This initiative invited five early career clinicians and academicians with less than 10 years in the field the opportunity for a nine-minute presentation on the

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main podium. A panel of judges ranked the presentations. After careful consideration, they selected:

Javier Calatrava, DDS, MSc: "Full Maxillary Arch Rehabilitation by Means of a Multidisciplinary Digital Workflow Using Customized Titanium Meshes and Guided Implant Surgery."



New AO Fellows (from left): Drs. Chang and Soldatos, Myneni, Malmstrom, and Emadi, joined by Drs. Neugebauer (third from left) and Vogel (far right).

New Fellows

Fellowship in the Academy is obtained by demonstrating a commitment to the field of osseointegration. Members must excel in both academics as well as service to the Academy. Six members achieved Fellowship status:

Wei-Jen Chang, DDS, MS, PhD

Tirakhsh Emadi, DDS, MS

Hans Malmstrom, DDS

Bharathi Devi Myneni, BDS

Nikolaos Soldatos, DDS, MSD, PhD

Tiziano T. Testori, MD, DDS, MSc

AO's prestigious **Masters and Diplomate credentialling program** provides in either Surgical, Restorative or a combination of both. The program is geared toward: incentivizing practitioners to obtain advanced education, training and experience; promoting high quality implant education; and enhancing patient care.

Of the 26 certificate recipients, 21 applied for and passed the rigorous **AO Masters Certificate** exam:

Keon Ahghar, DDS

Chanjuan Chen, DDS

Jeremiah Davis, DDS, MBA

Douglas Hock, DDS, MS

Cheng-Chieh Huang, DDS

Daizo Ishiguro, DDS

Kimberly Kim, DDS, MScD

Renli Li, DDS

Yongjian Li, DDS

Yen-Chun Lin, DDS

Hongping Liu, DDS

Tarik Patel, MDS, BDS

Jason Poon, DDS

Dandan Song, PhD

Gulin Tan, DDS

Huali Wang, DDS

Wei Wang, DDS

Rongjing Wang, DDS

Yangming Yu, DDS

Jinlong Zhang, DDS

Xianming Zhou, DDS



Several individuals also applied for the **AO Diplomate Certificate** this year. Recipients were:

Jeannette Chua, BDSC, MAC, MS

Cheng-Hsiang Hsu, DDS, MS

Kiarash Karimi, DDS

Kanyon Keeney, DDS

Toshiki Nagai, DDS, MSD

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Academic Contribution Award

This new AO award recognized **Joey T. Chen** for his efforts in establishing the first AO training center in China and for meeting all of the requirements needed to prepare many of this year's recipients of our Master and Diplomate certificates. Dr. Chen was also instrumental in the initial development of the certification.

Congratulations to all for these tremendous achievements!

View award winner and all the photos from AO's exciting Annual Meeting via its [online photo album](#).