The winners of the 2011 Frechette Awards were recently presented at the International Association for Dental Research annual meeting in San Diego, California. The Frechette is the annual research competition for new investigators sponsored by the Prosthodontics Group of the International Association for Dental Research and honoring the memory of Arthur R. Frechette who served as Secretary-Treasurer of the IADR from 1968 until 1977. The winners were Dr. Lei Jin, Nanjing General Hospital of Nanjing Military Command, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China for “Property Study of Nano-zirconia Formed by Aqueous Electrophoretic Deposition” and Dr. R. Kodali Kanuru, University of California - Los Angeles, Los Angeles, Calif for “Pre-Osseointegrated Implant Using Cell Sheet Technology”.

The individuals pictured are (left-to-right) Dr. Takahiro Ogawa, President IADR Prosthodontics Group; Dr. Lei Jin, Frechette Award Winner; Dr. Jenni Hjerpe, University of Turku, Helsinki, Finland, Frechette Award Finalist; Dr. Valentim A Barão, Universidade Est. Paulista Julio Mesquita, Araçatuba, Brazil, Frechette Award Finalist; Dr. Sho Fukuyasu, Osaka University, Suita-city, Osaka, Japan, Frechette Award Finalist; Dr. Hiroki Kayashima, Osaka University, Suita-City, Osaka, Japan, Frechette Award Finalist; Dr. R. Kodali Kanuru, Frechette Award Winner; and Dr. Stephen F. Rosenstiel, Frechette Coordinator IADR Prosthodontics Group. In addition to the plaques Drs. Jin and Kanuru each received a check for $1000 thanks to the generous support of the Whip Mix Corporation.

One award is for Prosthodontic research undertaken with a Materials Science or Bioengineering oriented protocol and the other is for Prosthodontic research undertaken with a Biological Sciences and Tissue Engineering oriented protocol.

The abstracts are judged for (1) originality and scientific design of the investigation, (2) suitability of the methods of analysis, and (3) scientific value of their work.