In its quest to promote the Innovative Medical Environment, the College of Dentistry at Ajman University of Science & Technology (AUST) and the Faculty of Dentistry of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), in collaboration with the Dental Society of the Emirates Medical Association, have organized a multi-disciplinary dental conference themed, “Advancing Excellence in Dental Care.”

The two-day event has kicked off Sunday 4th April at the Sheikh Zayed Centre for Conferences and Exhibitions, under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Saeed Abdulla Salman, AUST President. In his address read by Dr. Ahmad Ankit, AUST Vice President for External Relations and Cultural Affairs, Dr. Saeed Salman praised the achievements in higher education and scientific research attained by the United Arab Emirates under the wise leadership of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, Vice President of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. “It is our three dimensional vision – education, information and investment - that has enlightened our endeavors and contributed to the institution’s achievements so far,” said AUST President. “AUST College of Dentistry,” he explained, “was the first of its kind in the UAE when it began offering accredited programs in the year 2000. Since that time it has succeeded in fulfilling dozens of projects and initiatives in academia, and serving the community by providing oral care to more than 100,000 patients.”

Prof. Abdul Azim Ahmed, Chairman of AUST Innovative Medical Environment Commission welcomed the participants saying that “The conference is the fruition of the endeavours of both AUST’s IMEC and CoD, in implementation of the Reform and Development Plan, devised by the University’s higher administration.”

Prof. Abdul Azim added that “the conference is a perfect opportunity for AUST community as well as other dentistry faculty and students from peer institutions to acquire first hand experience in dental care and to relate with a number of our endeavors and contributed to the institution’s achievements so far,” said AUST President. “AUST College of Dentistry,” he explained, “was the first of its kind in the UAE when it began offering accredited programs in the year 2000. Since that time it has succeeded in fulfilling dozens of projects and initiatives in academia, and serving the community by providing oral care to more than 100,000 patients.”

The research was themed the relation between children oral health and eating habits. The prize is awarded by the Union of Arab Universities on dentistry in Beirut, Lebanon.

It is worth noting that Dr. Hashim had been awarded many prizes before, to name but a few, she came first in Al Owais Award for Studies and Scientific Innovation in 2005 for her research of faculty members in cooperation with Dr. Raghad Hashim in 2009.

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Ajman University of Science and Technology member wins the Arab Dental Universities Union Award.

The College of Dentistry in Ajman University of Science and Technology has organized a tribute ceremony for Dr. Raghad Hashim, Assistant Professor and the Head of the Growth & Development Department at the College of Dentistry for her prize winning of the best scientific research of faculty members in Arab universities on dentistry in 2009.

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In the address of the dean of the Faculty of Dentistry at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Prof. Patrick J. Byrne expressed his thanks to Ajman University for organizing the conference and for bringing together eminent speakers and participants from around the world. Prof. Patrick, who praised the existing partnership between the RCSI and AUST, briefed the participants on the objectives of the conference, saying that: “keeping up with the literature and evidence of best practice in one area of dentistry alone is onerous, but keeping up with the whole spectrum of modern dentistry may seem almost impossible. We hope that in the two days you will spend with us in Ajman University, we will be able to assist you with that task.”

Dr. Salem Abu Fannas, dean of AUST College of Dentistry welcomed AUST guests and extended his appreciation to Dr. Patrick Byrne and his team from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Prof. Malcolm Harris from the University of Central Lancaster, as well as Dr. Aisha Sultan, president of the Dental Society of the Emirates. "This conference will promote research and place our students in an international arena to mix with well-established masters of Dentistry as a Science and as a Profession," Dr. Salem said.