



# 美洲華人生物科學學會



## Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America



December 2009

NEWSLETTER

Volume 24 Issue 4

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....

Dear SCBA Members and Colleagues,

My term as President is drawing to a close and it is time to make the transition of my office to a new team of officers. It has been a great privilege of my career to serve for 2 years as your President, and I am proud to say there is much to celebrate over that period of time. We have continued to demonstrate world-class accomplishments, including the highly successful 12th SCBA International Symposium at the Academia Sinica, Taipei, June 14 – 18, 2009.

It is with pride that I turn the Gavel to the new President, **Kuan-Teh Jeang**. Please join me in welcoming him and a newly elected team of officers, **Juliann G. Kiang (Secretary)** and **Yun-Bo Shi (Treasurer)**, for a term of two years, effective January 1, 2010. In my opinion, SCBA is fortunate to have elected such a capable team that will assume the important responsibility of leading SCBA. I am sure that SCBA will benefit greatly from their wisdom. I look forward to working with them, as I know you do as well.

Finally, I wish to thank all of the current officers, especially **Joseph Li** (Executive Director), **Dihua Yu** (Treasurer), and **Chris Lau** (Secretary) for their tireless and unselfish contribution of time and effort for the smooth operation of our society affairs, which made my experience a very pleasant one. SCBA is a great organization with its brilliant and hard-working officers and volunteers, and its dedicated members. I plan to continue to contribute, as a lifetime member and Immediate Past-President, to ensuring the bright future of SCBA.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Yu, SCBA President  
(2008-09)  
RYU@mail.mcg.edu



### A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As a hybrid of molecular virologist and entrepreneur biotechnologist in the past 3 decades, I have applied these two unique back ground to good use in my own research lab as well as for SCBA. One of the biggest challenges facing this dual nature of my career is trying to maintain a self-acceptable level of expertise in both areas. Throughout the past 26 years, I am blessed with the connection, friendships and openness that I have established and solidified with all my colleagues and SCBA members.

As the end of the present SCBA administration is approaching at the end of 2009, I am blessed working with the SCBA COOs, Councilors and key members of many SCBA committees in the last 2 years. They have been wonderful people to work and interact with so that many unexpected problems and issues have been solved rapidly and in a professional way. All of them have agreed to continue and to provide advice and suggestions to SCBA in the coming years and these will assist SCBA moving forward in giant steps.

The incoming SCBA Administration will assume their leadership role with new innovation that will move SCBA forward rapidly. The list of the incoming SCBA Administration has been posted in our last issue of SCBA newsletter with their photos and contact information. We encourage every SCBA member and colleague to contact them with your suggestions and proposals via their contact information.

Although we know that luck and chance always play some key role in the success of our career and SCBA, I sincerely hope that we will work together to make SCBA even a bigger and more important society according to the four major objectives of our organization.

Happy Holidays!

Joseph Li  
SCBA Executive Director  
Joseph.Li@usu.edu



Dear All,

It has been a rewarding experience to serve for SCBA under the capacity as the treasurer of 2008-2009 term. I have enjoyed working with our President Bob who has provided remarkable leadership. It has been a true pleasure to work with Chris who constantly amazes me with his talent in art and new technologies. I have learned a lot about SCBA operations from Joe whose passion about SCBA is infectious. I also got benefited from many constructive discussions on handling important SCBA finance-related issues with incoming COOs and Council members. I loved the unique opportunities to directly interact with many of our SCBA local chapters and members who are the backbones of the successful society. I am especially grateful to Academia Sinica and our generous donors for their vital support of resources and funding. I am indebted to Ms. Irene Shih who helped me handling financial management on a daily basis. I would like to thank everyone for all your support in the past two years. This is the end of my term as the treasurer but a new beginning of my service to SCBA as a lifetime, devoted member!

I have no doubt that under the new leadership of Kuan-Teh, Juliann, and Yun-Bo, our society will further grow and be more successful!

Happy Holidays to All!

*Dihua Yu*

**Dihua Yu, Treasurer**  
(2008-09)  
[dyu@mdanderson.org](mailto:dyu@mdanderson.org)



Dear SCBA Members and Colleagues,

Time flies, and I could not believe that it has been two years since I first took over the position as your SCBA Secretary. Although I had attended almost every SCBA biennial symposia, starting with the first one held in 1986 at the San Francisco State University, this is my first SCBA elected position, excluding the one as Co-Chair of the Local Organizing Committee for the 2006 SCBA Symposium in San Francisco, appointed by Past Presidents Mien-Chie Hung

and Ken Fong. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve and am indebted to the leadership of President Robert Yu, the guidance of Executive Director Joe Li and the steady finances of the Treasurer Dihua Yu, which collectively make my job an exciting experience.

I have had a steep learning curve at the beginning and really appreciate the patience given to me by the leadership and members at large. I have learned a lot, some literally from scratches, and have had great experience in interacting with everyone. Perhaps it might be a time for me to reflect a little bit on the events that happened during this two-year period.

#### NOBEL PRIZES

For the past two years, two Chinese scientists have won the Nobel Prize: Roger Tsien, University of California, San Diego, in Chemistry in 2008 and Charles K. Kao (高錕) in Physics in 2009. Roger Tsien was credited for his innovations in green fluorescent protein, which we, including myself, have used extensively in many scientific applications. We can see some beautiful holidays decorations generated in his laboratory at the heading of this issue of the Newsletter. Charles Kao is considered to be the “Father of Fiber Optics”, whose research has revolutionarized modern electronic communication. Kao was also instrumental in the early development of the Department of Electronic Engineering at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in the early 1970s, and served as the Vice Chancellor (President) of CUHK from 1987-1996. Both Tsien and Kao join the elite few individuals of Chinese descent who were recognized for their achievements by the Nobel Foundation. The list includes Chen Ning Yang and Tsung-Dao Lee (Physics, 1957), Samuel C. C. Ting (Physics, 1976), Yuan T. Lee (Chemistry, 1986), the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama (Peace, 1989), Steven Chu (Physics, 1997), Daniel C. Tsui (Physics, 1998), Gao Xingjian (Literature, 2000), Roger Tsien (Chemistry, 2008) and Charles Kao (Physics, 2009).



Charles Kao

#### SCBA SYMPOSIUM AT ACADEMIA SINICA

This is a major event under Bob Yu’s leadership. It had gone through significant and yearlong planning and preparation, which finally took place in June 14 -18, 2009 at the Academia Sinica in Taipei. We are grateful for the significant contributions, both financial and efforts, of the local hosting institutes, particularly Andrew Wang and Ming-Daw Tsai at Academia Sinica, in insuring a smooth operation of scientific presentations, social gatherings and logistics. It featured exciting and well-attended presentations by many bioscientists and distinguished keynote speakers, including Robert Tjian, President of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Professor of Biochemistry, University of California, Berkeley; Chi-Huey Wong, President of the

Academia Sinica; Michael Lai, President of National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan; Samuel Waxman, Mount Sinai School of Medicine; and Xiaodong Wang, University of Texas-Southwestern Medical School.

During the SCBA Symposium, a number of distinguished bioscientists were recognized for their scientific achievements, at the recommendation of a panel of distinguished scientists and former SCBA Award recipients. The Presidential Award was presented to Robert Tjian for his pioneering work on gene regulation mechanisms. Tjian is currently the President of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the largest non-profit research foundation in the United States and second, only to the Wellcome Trust of the United Kingdom, in the world. To my knowledge, he is the first Chinese American to lead such a great and well-established scientific institute in the United States. It is also noteworthy that Steven Chu is currently the Secretary of Energy in the Obama Administration. The Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Michael Lai and Jean Shih (University of Southern California) for their groundbreaking works on hepatitis virus biology and monoamine oxidase genes in neurology respectively.

Two Chinese Bioscientists were also recognized for their contributions of groundbreaking nature in biomedical sciences. The first one was Dr. Tsai-Fan Yu, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, who was credited with early development on treatments of gout, which had benefited many sufferers of this devastating disease. The second one was Ray Wu, Cornell University, who had tirelessly promoted the education of Chinese students in America and elsewhere, in addition to his pioneering achievements in molecular biology. Both were deceased and two memorial lectures were presented in their honors.

The daily events of the 2009 SCBA Symposium have been posted on the SCBA website, <http://www.SCBAociety.org/>. You can also read about SCBA news, events, photograph gallery, announcements, past issues of SCBA Newsletters, and job recruitments on our website as well. There is a special Blog section, in which members can comment on SCBA matters.

Lastly, I must express my sincere gratitude to Joe Li and his able assistant, Joann Starks, whose encyclopedic knowledge of SCBA and efficient assistance respectively have made my job as your Secretary a lot easier.

Happy Holidays!



**Yun-Fai Chris Lau, Secretary**  
(2008-09)  
[Chris.Lau@ucsf.edu](mailto:Chris.Lau@ucsf.edu)



### INCOMING OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATION 2010

Know your leadership for the next two years and their contact information.

#### SCBA Officers (Jan 1, 2010)

**3 SCBA Chief Operation Officers (COOs):**  
(Jan 1, 2010 – Dec 31, 2011)

#### SCBA C00s

##### SCBA President:

**Kuan-Teh Jeang (NIH/NIAID)**



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LMM, NIAID, NIH  
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##### SCBA Secretary:

**Juliann G. Kiang (Uniformed Service  
University)**



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##### SCBA Treasurer:

**Yun-Bo Shi, (NIH/NICHD)**



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**Executive Director** (August 2001 –Present)**Joseph K.-K. Li**

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**Headquarters secretary:**  
**Mrs. JoAnn Starks**

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**Appointed Officers:**  
**Long-Range Committee Chair**  
**Kenneth Fong**

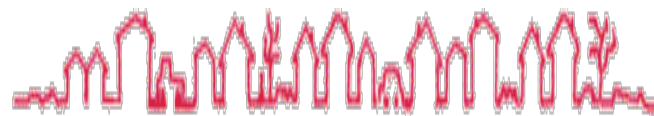
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**Nomination Committee (2-yr term)**  
**(Jan. 1, 2010 – Dec. 31, 2011)****Shao-Cong Sun, Committee Chair**

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MD Anderson Cancer Center,  
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SCRB 4.4.2019,  
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**Membership Committee (2-yr term)**  
**(Jan 1, 2010- Dec. 31, 2011):****Paul J. Chiao, Committee Chair**

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Please send suggestions, and announcement of recruitments, essays, scientific meetings, discoveries and important events and publications via e-mail attachment to the Co-Editors:



Chris Lau, Secretary,  
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Joseph Li, Executive Director,  
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**ANNOUNCEMENT.....**

The check for additional five **SCBA/Tsai-Fan Yu Fellowships** provided by the **Tsai-Fan Yu Charitable Foundation** has been presented to Professor Yi Rao, Dean of the College of Life Science, Beijing University, China in mid-October 2009 by our SCBA Treasurer, Professor Dihua Yu. The awardees will be selected and awarded in early January 2010.

~~ **Joseph Li**

**SCBA Executive Director**



**DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR RESEARCH DISSEMINATION AND DIFFUSION  
DIVISION OF CANCER CONTROL AND POPULATION SCIENCES  
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE**

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), the largest research component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), seeks a senior scientist to serve as Deputy Director for Research Dissemination and Diffusion in its Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS). The Division provides national scientific leadership and oversight of NCI-funded research in the areas of cancer epidemiology, surveillance, health services, survivorship, and behavioral science. DCCPS is also committed to addressing health disparities through transdisciplinary research.

This challenging and highly visible position requires broad scientific expertise, a passion for public service, commitment to collaboration, and an ability to develop effective strategies to identify gaps in research and overcome barriers to scientific progress. Exploiting scientific opportunities requires visionary leadership and sound scientific judgment to ensure the greatest payoff from NCI's investments. Therefore, a broad perspective on population sciences that informs development of creative and cost-effective strategies to advance research and its implementation in real-world practice is essential.

The Deputy Director will lead the Designing for Dissemination (D4D) Team, which sits in the Division's Office of the Director. The Deputy Director provides scientific and administrative leadership for the D4D team, supervises the staff, and represents NCI to a wide variety of professional, academic, and advocacy organizations. The Deputy Director also develops and facilitates collaborations with funders of other types of population science, including the NIH Institutes and Centers, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and many non-governmental organizations. The Division funds numerous grants, contracts, interagency agreements. The operating budget is valued at more than \$120 million in Fiscal Year 2009. DCCPS also manages over 900 grants valued at more than \$350 million a year.

The successful applicant will be an experienced scientist (M.D. or Ph.D.-level training required) with leadership experience, excellent communication skills, and a strong record of peer-reviewed publications. Strong leadership skills, an ability to work effectively across disciplinary boundaries, and a commitment to the highest standards of scientific integrity and quality are required. Experience in managing complex research projects, scientific staff, training programs, interdisciplinary collaborations, and/or funded programs are highly valued. Please submit a letter of interest and CV to Bill Klein, Ph.D., Associate Director, Behavioral Research Program, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences, National Cancer Institute, 6130 Executive Blvd., Room 4060, Rockville, MD 20852. Applications will be considered until the position is filled. For more information about DCCPS and D4D, see <http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/>.

Selection for this position will be based solely on merit, with no discrimination for non-merit reasons such as race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.



THE DHHS/NIH/NCI ARE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYERS





香港中文大學  
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Applications are invited for:-

**Director and Professor, School of Life Sciences**

(Ref. 08/227(651)/2)

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, founded in 1963, aspires to be acknowledged regionally and internationally as a first-class comprehensive research university. The University offers a broad spectrum of programmes up to PhD level in various disciplines organized under eight Faculties (viz. Arts, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Law, Medicine, Science and Social Science), with a team of over 2,000 full-time teaching and research staff. In 2009-10, undergraduate and postgraduate enrolment in publicly-funded programmes stands close to 11,500 and 3,100 respectively (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk>).

The Faculty of Science comprises six Departments: Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, and Statistics, and one School: Chinese Medicine, and also offers a number of multidisciplinary programmes: Cell and Molecular Biology, Environmental Science, Food and Nutritional Sciences, Molecular Biotechnology, Mathematics and Information Engineering (double degree), Quantitative Finance and Risk Management Science (double major), and Risk Management Science. The Faculty has 300 full-time teaching and research staff, 1,600 undergraduate students and 500 postgraduate research students. Detailed information on the Faculty is available at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sci/>.

A new School of Life Sciences will be established within the Faculty of Science through re-organization of teaching and research programmes in the existing Departments of Biochemistry and Biology. The School will ultimately have more than 40 academic staff, about 900 undergraduate and 300 postgraduate students. World-class research facilities are available. The School will create synergies in research and scholarship, and provide the institutional framework for taking advantage of exciting new opportunities in modern life sciences, both within the Faculty of Science and also in collaboration with other Faculties.

The School will offer six undergraduate major programmes and corresponding research postgraduate programmes in Biochemistry, Biology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Environmental Science, Food and Nutritional Sciences, and Molecular Biotechnology; and also two taught MSc programmes: Biochemical and Biomedical Sciences, and Nutrition, Food Science and Technology. The School will enter a period of expansion with the introduction of the Cell and Molecular Biology programme in 2009-10 and the revival of a four-year normative undergraduate curriculum in 2012-13.

Applicants should be academics with (i) an outstanding record of scholarship appropriate for a senior appointment at professor level in a discipline of life sciences; (ii) an appreciation of the breadth and depth of research and educational activities in life sciences, in particular the opportunities ahead for cutting-edge research; (iii) experience in leading well-funded, internationally-recognized, and preferably multi-disciplinary collaborative research programmes; (iv) demonstrated leadership and management ability at an appropriate level in higher education institutions; (v) long-term vision for the development of the School into a centre of research excellence; and (vi) excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

As the academic and executive head of the School reporting to the Dean of the Faculty of Science, the appointee will (a) be responsible for the vision and stewardship of the School; (b) undertake overall responsibility for academic, financial, staff and student matters; and (c) provide strong leadership in the re-organization process, particularly in planning and leading research directions of the School. Appointment will initially be made on contract basis for up to five years commencing as soon as possible, which, subject to mutual agreement, may lead to longer-term appointment or substantiation later. The selected candidate will also be offered a full professorship appointment in a subject related to his/her own specialty area of scholarly interests, to be held concomitantly with the Directorship of the School.

Consideration of applications/nominations will begin in January/February 2010 and will continue until the post is filled. The University reserves the right to fill the post by invitation.

[Note: Those who have responded to the previous advertisement for this post (under the same Ref. no.) need not re-apply on this occasion.]

**Salary and Fringe Benefits**

Salary will be highly competitive, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The University offers a comprehensive fringe benefit package, including medical care, plus a contract-end gratuity for an appointment of two years or longer, and housing benefits for eligible appointee.

Further information about the University and the general terms of service for appointments is available at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/personnel>. The terms mentioned herein are for reference only and are subject to revision by the University.

**Application Procedure**

Please send full resume, copies of academic credentials, a publication list and/or abstracts of selected published papers, together with names, addresses and fax numbers/e-mail addresses of three referees to whom the applicants' consent has been given for their providing references (unless otherwise specified), to the Personnel Office, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong (fax: (852) 2696 1462). The Personal Information Collection Statement will be provided upon request. Please quote the reference number and mark 'Application - Confidential' on cover.

Taipei 101 photo  
provided by Tourism Bureau, R.O.C.

# TAIWAN- ACGA 2010

**International Conference on Genetic And Genomic Medicine**

**May 2-5, 2010**

**3F, Humanities and Social Sciences Building, Academia Sinica, Taipei**

Open for on-line registration: December 1, 2009

Early bird registration deadline: February 28, 2010

Abstract submission deadline: January 31, 2010

Travel award application deadline: January 31, 2010

## **Keynote Speakers**

### **Dr. Arthur Beaudet**

Department of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, USA

### **Dr. David Goldstein**

Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Duke University, USA

### **Dr. Mark McCarthy**

Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism, Churchill Hospital, UK

### **Dr. David Russell**

Department of Medicine, University of Washington, USA

## **Concurrent Sessions**

Cancer Genetics and Genomics

Clinical Genetics

Complex Disorders

Genetic Therapeutics

Genomic Technologies in the Post Genomic Era

Medical Genetics

Molecular Genetics

Pharmacogenetics

Population Genetics

Prenatal and Pre-implantation Diagnosis & Screening

## **Organizers**

Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Taiwan Genomics and Genetics Society

Taiwan Human Genetics Society

Association of Chinese Geneticists in America

Details at: <http://taiwan-acga2010.ibms.sinica.edu.tw/>

SCBA Newsletter is an official quarterly publication of the Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America. For more information, please visit SCBA website: <http://www.SCBAociety.org/>.

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