



美洲華人生物科學學會



Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America

March 2011 NEWSLETTER Volume 26 Issue 1

Newsletter Editor: Juliann G. Kiang, Ph.D.

Production Editor: Chris Lau, Ph.D.

Highlights

SCBA Journal ~ SCBA Awardee Selection ~ SCBA International Conference

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....

March, 2011

Dear SCBA Members,

As we begin Spring time, the planning for the 13th SCBA Conference (*Bioscience for the 21 Century: Emerging Frontiers and Evolving Concepts*), July 25-29, 2011, Guangzhou, China (<http://www.scbameeting2011.org/>) is nearing completion. I want to invite you to register for this meeting

(<http://www.scbameeting2011.org/Channel/register.aspx>) and to submit an Abstract (<http://www.scbameeting2011.org/channel/submission.aspx>). As of this writing, more than 500 colleagues have already registered. Abstract submission form can be downloaded at: <http://www.scbasociety.org/2011-Guangzhou/2011-SCBA-Abstract-form.doc>

You will read more in this Newsletter about our plenary lineup of **Michael Karin**, **Robert Webster**, **Davor Solter**, **David Ho**, **Shu Chien**, **Bai Lu**, and others. We have also organized an editors' session featuring **Emilie Marcus** (Editor-in-Chief, *Cell*), **Marty Fedor** (Editor-in-Chief, *the JBC*), **Veronique Kiermer** (*Nature* Executive Editor), and other editors from major publishers. Three hundred outstanding colleagues have committed to speak in 70+ sessions (<http://www.scbameeting2011.org/a30081.aspx>). This SCBA meeting will also inaugurate eighty **Ming K. Jeang Scholarship Awards** that will be given to selected postdocs and graduate students who will attend and submit abstracts to this conference. (http://blogs.openaccesscentral.com/blogs/cellbiosci/entry/min_g_k_jeang_scholarship_award) Please spread the word and encourage colleagues to attend, and postdocs and students to compete for the awards.

I want to take a moment to raise a different topic. Last week, I learned of the passing of **Geraldine Ferraro**. For those of

you unfamiliar with Ferraro, she was notable for shattering the gender barrier in 1984, becoming the first ever woman to be nominated by a major American political party to run as a vice-Presidential candidate to the then Democratic Presidential candidate, Walter Mondale. Since Ferraro's time, American society has continued to move forward with the nomination of **Sarah Palin** as the first female Republican vice-Presidential candidate, and the election of **Barrack Obama** as the first African-American United States President in 2008. Although it is highly unlikely that a Chinese American will be nominated soon as either a vice-Presidential or Presidential candidate of a major American political party, we too have shared in America's progress. Today, **Steven Chu** is Secretary of Energy; and **Gary Locke** is Secretary of Commerce.

In the arena of bioscience, Chinese Americans are also making strides. We are proud that **Yibin Kang** was chosen by the Vilcek Foundation to receive its 2011 **Vilcek Prize** for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science, and that **Lily** and **Yuh Nung Jan** have received this year's **Wiley Prize** in Biomedical Sciences (read more in this Newsletter). A role that SCBA and SCBA members can play is to redouble our efforts to nominate our deserving colleagues for recognition by professional societies. Recently, I discussed with some of you my surprise in learning that over the past four years (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011) our esteemed partner society ASBMB (American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) has failed to recognize a single Asian American scientist amongst the 35 awards that it has given (see links: <http://www.asbmb.org/Page.aspx?id=2690>; <http://www.asbmb.org/Page2.aspx?id=362>; <http://www.asbmb.org/Page.aspx?id=1176>; http://www.asbmb.org/asbmbtoday/asbmbtoday_article.aspx?id=9152). I was told that a part of this apparent "oversight" by ASBMB is our fault because we have failed to nominate enough Asian Americans for their consideration. I believe that another fault is that we simply are insufficiently proactive in raising the awareness of our non-Asian colleagues that Chinese Americans make for good scientists, good leaders, and also good award winners. A consequence of our lack of activism is that "Chinese Americans are viewed as competent, but are perceived to be less ideal than Caucasian Americans when it comes to leadership roles".

This was in fact the conclusion of a recently published scientific study in the *Journal of Applied Psychology* (95:902-19; September 2010; PMID: 20718523).

We should give our best effort to help change American society's stereotypic perception of the Chinese American bioscientist. As SCBA becomes a stronger and more influential player in American science, the Society can contribute a major role. You can help the Society reach that objective. Network with our colleagues; participate in our meeting (www.SCBAmeeting2011.org), publish in the Society's journal (www.CellandBioscience.com). We need you, and together we can achieve!



Respectfully yours,
Kuan-Teh Jeang, M.D., Ph.D.
SCBA President (2010-2011)



SCBA Journal

Dear Fellow SCBA Members,

In Jan. 2011, SCBA officially launched our own online, open access journal, Cell & Bioscience.

I am happy to share with you some excellent progresses of the journal. Since its launch a little over two months ago, we have published 13 articles (see attached or at <http://www.cellandbioscience.com/>). BMC has also submitted the journal to PubMed for consideration for inclusion in PubMed Central. If we continue at this pace, we will be able to submit the journal to Thomson Reuters (ISI, Institute for Scientific Information, which provides Impact Factor) for inclusion there later this year.

While we are doing very well, having a steady stream of good papers submitted is essential for our success. Thus, I would like to ask you to submit and encourage others to submit papers to the journal.

Finally, if you have not already done so, could you please take a couple of minutes to register with the journal (if you have registered with any BMC journals, you can use the same login information for this) and sign up for Article Alerts and Updates at the following link?

<http://www.cellandbioscience.com/login?url=%2Fmy%2Fpreferences>

The papers published are listed below for your review.

Cell & Bioscience
www.cellandbioscience.com
Editor-in-Chief: Yun-Bo Shi (USA)

Cell & Bioscience
www.cellandbioscience.com

Articles

Research
Systematic analysis of secreted proteins reveals synergism between IL6 and other proteins in soft agar growth of MCF10A cells
Sofie C Van Huffel, Jill M Tham, XiaoQian Zhang, KohPang Lim, ChunXuan Yang, YiLoo Tan, Felicia Ong, Ian Lee, WanJin Hong
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:1-13 (25 March 2011)
Abstract | Provisional PDF

Research
Neuroprotective Effects of Alpha Lipoic Acid on Haloperidol-Induced Oxidative Stress in the Rat Brain
Joachim Perera, Joon Heng Tan, Jeevathayaparan S, Srikumar Chakravarthi, Nagaraja Haleagrahara
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:1-12 (22 March 2011)
Abstract | Provisional PDF

Research
The Role of XPG in Processing (CAG)_n/(CTG)_n DNA Hairpins
Caixia Hou, Tianyi Zhang, Lei Tian, Jian Huang, Liya Gu, Guo-Min Li
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:1-11 (9 March 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Research
Chloroquine treatment of ARPE-19 cells leads to lysosome dilation and intracellular lipid accumulation: possible implications of lysosomal dysfunction in macular degeneration
Patrick M Chen, Zoë J Gombart, Jeff W Chen
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:1-10 (8 March 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Short report
A proteomic study of TAR-RNA binding protein (TRBP)-associated factors
Ya-Hui Chu, Oliver Semmes, Kuan-Teh Jeang
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:9 (25 February 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Review
Microenvironment Determinants of Brain Metastasis
Chenyu Zhang, Dihua Yu
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:7 (25 February 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Research
Extracellular domain of CD98hc is required for early murine development
Yukiyasu Sato, Rachel A Heimeier, Culling Li, Chuxia Deng, Yun-Bo Shi
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:7 (25 February 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Review
CREB3 subfamily transcription factors are not created equal: Recent insights from global analyses and animal models
Chi-Ping Chan, Kin-Hang Kok, Dong-Yan Jin
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:6 (17 February 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Review
Molecular carcinogenesis of hepatocellular carcinoma and Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma: one step closer to personalized medicine
Mia Kumar, Xuellian Zhao, Xin Wang
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:5 (24 January 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Research
Wnt/ β -catenin signaling activates microRNA-181 expression in hepatocellular carcinoma
Junfang Ji, Taro Yamashita, Xin W Wang
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:4 (18 January 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF | Editor's summary

Research
In vivo microRNA-155 expression influences antigen-specific T cell-mediated immune responses generated by DNA vaccination
Chih-Ping Mao, Liangmei He, Ya-Chao Tsai, Shihwen Peng, Tae Kang, Xiaowu Pang, Archana Monie, Chien-Fu Hung, T-C Wu
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:3 (18 January 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF | Editor's summary

Editorial
If you organize, they will join
Kuan-Teh Jeang
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:2 (18 January 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF

Editorial
The right journal for the right time - Cell & Bioscience
Yun-Bo Shi
Cell & Bioscience 2011, **1**:1 (18 January 2011)
Abstract | Full text | PDF



Thanks for your support.
Yun-Bo Shi, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief



SCBA Award Winners

Congratulations to Dr. **Mien-Chie Hung** for Presidential Award and Dr. **Yingzi Yang** for Junior Investigator Award!

The committee received nominations for Presidential Award and for Junior Investigator Award by the deadline (February 28, 2011). After carefully reviewing, three finalists for each category were for voting. They were Drs. Ding-Shinn Chen, Mien-Chie Hung, and Hew Choy Leong for the Presidential Award; Drs. Howard Chang, Chen Dong, and Yingzi Yang for the Junior Investigator Award. Congratulations to all of these finalists!

The committee finally has selected awardees based on vote results. The 2011 SCBA Presidential Award goes to Dr. Mien-Chie Hung, MD Anderson Cancer Center. The 2011 SCBA Junior Investigator Award goes to Dr. Yingzi Yang, NIH.



Mien-Chie Hung, Ph.D.



Yingzi Yang, Ph.D.

SCBA Award committee members included below.

Juliann G. Kiang (Co-Chair)
Richard Y. Zhao (Co-Chair)
Pan-Chyr Yang
Michael Lai
Dihua Yu
Jim Hu
Xin-Hua Feng
Xiao-Fan Wang
I.K. Ho
Kuan-Teh Jeang
T.C. Wu



Juliann G. Kiang, Ph.D.
(Co-Chair)



Richard Y. Zhao, Ph.D.
(Co-Chair)



AN UPDATE FOR UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM IN

**The 13th SCBA International Symposium
Guangzhou, China
July 25-29, 2011**

The opening of 2011 SCBA International Symposium is rapidly approaching in 4 months. Currently, the preparation work is on pace, with the joint efforts of SCBA and the co-organizer, Sun Yat-sen University.

We have prepared a full program with a broad spectrum of cutting-edge content. In addition to the plenary sessions, there are over 70 symposium sessions. At the warm invitation of SCBA, Michael Karin, Robert Webster, Davor Solter, David Ho, Shu Chien, and Bai Lu have confirmed to deliver plenary presentations at the meeting, Emilie Marcus (Editor-in-Chief, Cell), Marty Fedor (Editor-in-Chief, the JBC), Veronique Kiermer (Nature Executive Editor) also have confirmed their attendance. The presence of many well-established scientists of international renown will significantly elevate the visibility of the meeting to an at-large audience and should attract the participation of younger researchers and students who would benefit from the opportunity to learn from these

knowledgeable and influential investigators. The biennial SCBA International Symposium has already received over 500 on-line registrations and around 100 abstracts have been submitted to the organizing committee by the invited speakers. An added feature of this year's meeting is the establishment of the Ming K. Jeang Scholarship Award which was set up with the intention of recognizing deserving postdocs and students who plan to attend and present at this SCBA conference. Also new this time is the addition of a small "satellite" meeting, organized in parallel by ASBMB (American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology). Many non-Asian speakers will attend the ASBMB meeting; so your attendance at the SCBA meeting will give you an additional benefit of networking with these individuals.

Sun Yat-sen University has been busy working on the preparations for the Symposium, which includes confirmation of meeting convention facilities, negotiations on room reservations with the hotel, initial selection of the theme backdrop, distribution of invitations, and consultation with the exhibitors. In the coming days, the committee secretariat will be focusing on designing materials for the conference affairs, arranging layout of the conference rooms, assisting participants for room reservations, planning social programs and so on. In early April, the 2011 SCBA meeting local organization committee will have a plenary meeting concerning details of the publicity, preparation and some other work to ensure that all participants will enjoy a brilliant and outstanding meeting.

Guangzhou and Sun Yat-sen University are looking forward to your participation in the 2011 SCBA Symposium, and our arms are wide open welcoming your visit!



Lucia Xiaoxiao Liu
Local Coordinator of the SCBA 2011 Symposium
Sun Yat-sen University
Guangzhou, China



Mengfeng Li, M.D., Ph.D.
Vice President, Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU)
Cheong-Kung Professor and Dean, SYSU Zhongshan School
of Medicine
Guangzhou, P. R. China
Head, SCBA Local Organizing Committee
Conference co-chair, 13th SCBA International Symposium
Email: limf@mail.sysu.edu.cn



NOTES FROM OUR CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

New Members' Welcome!

The Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (SCBA) is the largest professional society for elite Chinese bioscientists all over the world. Our SCBA network continues to expand and we encourage everyone to ask colleagues to join and share the many resources and opportunities at SCBA. We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest members:

- Dr. Kan Cao**, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA
- Dr. Zheng Cao**, National Institute on Aging, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
- Dr. Lung-Ji Chang**, Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA
- Dr. Shu-Hsia Chen**, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, New York, USA
- Dr. Yin Chen**, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Pharmacy, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
- Dr. Genhong Cheng**, Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics, University of California – Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA
- Dr. Kai Cheng**, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA
- Dr. Steven Cheng**, Department of Developmental Genetics, Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China
- Dr. Mitchell Ho**, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Xi-ping Huang, MARS Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Ms. Emma Ito, Ontario Cancer Institute, Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Yibin Kang, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA

Dr. Alan Yueh-Luen Lee, National Institute of Cancer Research, National Health Research Institutes, Zhunan, Miaoli, Taiwan

Dr. James Ching Lee, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas, USA

Mr. Shupeng Li, Molecular Neuroscience, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Yi Li, Baylor College of Medicine, Lester and Sue Smith Breast Center, Houston, Texas, USA

Dr. Mingjuan Liao, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Yung Feng Liao, Institute of Cellular and Organismic Biology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

Dr. Chengyu Liu, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Ji Luo, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Jianyuan Luo, Department of Medical and Research Technology, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Dr. Zhiwei Ma, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Heyu Ni, St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr. Weiqun Peng, Department of Physics, George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA

Dr. Yun Qiu, Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Dr. Cheng-Hong Wei, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Rockville, Maryland, USA

Dr. Ting Xie, Stowers Institute for Medical Research, Kansas City, Missouri, USA

Dr. Zhengmei Xiong, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA

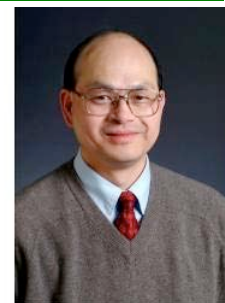
Dr. Jian Yang, Department of Physiology, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama, USA

Dr. Chengcheng (Alex) Zhang, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Dallas, Texas, USA

Dr. Yu Zhang, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Zai-rong Zhang, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Dr. Yong Zhu, Department of Biology, Howell Science Complex, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, USA



Sincerely,
T.-C. Wu, M.D., Ph.D.
SCBA Co-Executive Director (2010-2011)



Dear SCBA members,

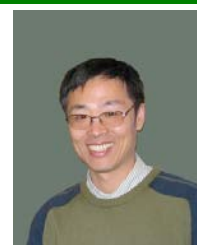
There are several society-related activities that I would like to draw your attention.

- 1) The election for the next SCBA leadership is now open. To vote for your favorite leaders, please download the ballot from <http://www.scbasociety.org/2011-Election/2011-election.pdf>. After you complete the election form, please email your ballot to Dr. Richard Zhao, Co-Executive Directors at scba2u@gmail.com. If you prefer sending your ballot via facsimile, please fax it to: Dr. Richard Zhao at 410-706-6303. You must type or sign your name on the ballot for your votes to be counted. All votes will be kept strictly confidential. Please return your ballot by 5:00pm on May 15, 2011.
- 2) A SCBA council teleconference was held on February 23, 2011, 11am EST. Majority of the council members and COOs called in. President KT Jeang updated the council for the recent SCBA activities including the preparation of the upcoming biannual conference in Guangzhou; Treasurer Yun-Bo Shi provided financial report of the society; Yun-Bo also reported on his effort, as the editor-in-chief, to establish society's flagship journal Cell & Bioscience. Shao-Cong Sun, Chair of the Nomination Committee, explained the SCBA leadership nomination and selection process. President Jeang, with the council's approval, has appointed Chris Lau and Richard Zhao to initiate discussion on possible amendment of the by-laws of SCBA.
- 3) As you are aware, goal of the eCommunication is to provide an additional channel, besides the SCBA Newsletter and Website, to communicate directly with SCBA members. Our hope is to keep SCBA members

informed in a relative timely fashion on the breadth and depth of the SCBA-related activities, current and future events as well as SCBA member highlights. Thus if you have press-worthy news and wish to share with the entire society, please send it to scba2u@gmail.com. If you will have any questions or suggestions on the SCBA operations, both TC Wu and I would also like to hear it from you. Thank you.



Warm regards,
Richard Y. Zhao, Ph.D.
 SCBA Executive Co-Director (2010-2011)



Keji Zhao, Ph.D.
 Chapter President-elect, 2012



FROM SCBA TORONTO CHAPTER

The SCBA Toronto Chapter 2011 Annual Symposium and Dinner Party

The SCBA Toronto Chapter held its Annual Symposium "Frontiers in Immunology and Human Diseases" at the University Health Network/University of Toronto on February 4, 2011. More than 87 university faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and clinicians attended the symposium. Dr. Li Zhang, the current President of SCBA Toronto Chapter, with help from the SCBA Toronto Chapter Executive Committee members, organized the symposium. Dr. Zhang hosted the symposium and gave a brief introduction about the history and mission of the SCBA and its Toronto Chapter. Dr. Catherine Whiteside, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Vice Provost (Relations with Healthcare Institutions), University of Toronto, was invited to give the opening remarks. Dr. Chris Paige, Vice President of Research at the University Health Network, also delivered a short speech. Both of them expressed great support for the SCBA Toronto Chapter, and encouraged further collaborations with Chinese scholars in other countries. Dr. Peter Lewis, Associated Vice President of the University of Toronto, and Dr. Michael Ratcliff, Chair, Department of Immunology at the University of Toronto also attended the Symposium.

The first scientific session, chaired by Dr. Fei-Fei Liu, was focused on immunology in infectious diseases. Dr. Gary Levy (Toronto General Hospital) talked about new insights into the pathogenesis and treatment of viral hepatitis. Dr. Jen Gommerman (University of Toronto) presented new data on novel roles for B cells in protecting the host from infection. Dr. Zhou Xing (McMaster University) delivered a speech on the development of tuberculosis vaccines: from bench to clinical trial. In the second scientific session, which was chaired by Dr. Jim Hu, Dr. Li Zhang (University Health Network) presented the latest data on novel cancer immunotherapy using DNT cells. Dr. Jun Diao (University Health Network) presented new findings on dendritic cell development and tumor immunity. Finally, Dr. Kathy Siminovitch (Mount Sinai Hospital) showed very elegant work on genetic dissection of rheumatoid arthritis. Each of

LOCAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

FROM SCBA BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON-DC CHAPTER

The new president of 2011 for this Chapter is Dr. Bing Gao. He is a Section Chief at NIH. The President-Elect of 2012 is Dr. Keji Zhao at NIH.

The Chapter activities will include a picnic in summer and an annual dinner symposium in mid-December.



Bin Gao, M.D., Ph.D.
 Chapter President, 2011

the speakers presented the latest discoveries in their field. There were very good discussions on each topic. The symposium was a great success.

During the symposium, Dr. Qinghua Wang, the chair of the Best Paper Award Committee, announced the winners for this year: The first prize went to Dr. Shupeng Li for his paper published in Nature Medicine (supervised by Dr. Fang Liu). The second prize went to Dr. Xiping Huang for her paper published in Circulation (supervised by Dr. Renke Li). As previous years, the Awards were sponsored and presented by Dr. C.C. Liew to the trainees. At the end of the symposium, Dr. Mingyao Liu gave the closing remarks and presented plaques to all the speakers of the scientific sessions.

The symposium was followed by a dinner party to celebrate Chinese New Year, which was organized by the Vice President of SCBA Toronto Chapter, Dr. Zhong-Ping Feng, and sponsored by Dr. Peter Liu, SCBA headquarter, eBiosciences and QL Biosource Inc. A total of 102 people attended the dinner party. The party was hosted by Dr. Zhong-ping Feng and Dr. Heyu Ni, together with a professional M.C., Mr. Patrick Yang. The Associated Vice President of the University of Toronto, Dr. Peter Lewis, and the Chair of the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology, Dr. Richard Hegele as well as Wan Jiang, the President of Canadian Chinese Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Association (www.ccbpa.com), gave a short speech. SCBA members and their trainees gave a wonderful performance. The party was a true talentshow and full of fun. "It was a really terrific experience to see so much spirit and talent amongst the (SCBA) community" said Dr. Kathy Siminovitch.

As indicated by one of our guest speakers Dr. Jen Gomerman in her email: "I thoroughly enjoyed the science and the celebration. You are very fortunate to have such a supportive community that help each other and encourage each other in their research. I was very impressed with the collegiality of your group". Most people who attended the symposium and dinner party expressed the same feeling.

The great success in this year's symposium and dinner party is attributed to the high level of collegiality among our SCBA members. Without the joined efforts of our SCBA Toronto Chapter members, particularly, Drs. Peter Liu, CC Liew, Jim Hu, Ming-yao Liu, Tianru Jin, Burton Yang, Qinghua Wang, Fei-Fei Liu, Heyu Ni and Ming Tsao, as well as Ms. Xiao-hui Bai and her volunteer team, it would have been impossible to organize such a wonderful symposium and dinner party!



Li Zhang, Ph.D.
President, SCBA Toronto Chapter

Dr. Zhong-ping Feng,
Vice President, SCBA Toronto Chapter



FROM SCBA BIO/PHARM DIVISION

The third New England Chinese Professional Chinese New Year Gala was hosted by 14 Chinese Professional organizations in the region on February 13. The event was attended by over 500 participants with Senator Scott Brown as keynote speaker and many cultural activities and performances. Dr. Sunny Tam, a senior member of the Bio/Pharm Division of SCBA, continued to represent the Bio/Pharm division to lend support to this event. Attached is a link to the news report published in the local Boston Chinese community (<http://chinese.dwnews.com/news/2011-02-13/57387846.html>).



Sunny Tam, Ph.D.
Division President



FROM SCBA CANCER DIVISION

The Cancer Division of the Society of Chinese Bioscientist in America (SCBA) will host a dinner at the AACR Annual Meeting, Monday April 4, 2011

Monday, April 4, 2011
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Rosen Plaza Hotel
9700 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

(Rosen Plaza & Rosen Centre is two different hotels)

Grand Ball Room

Cash Bar

BUFFET DINNER

Choices of Three Entrees

Prime Rib of Beef au jus
Broiled Sterling Salmon
Gold Coast Chicken Breast

Chef's Selection of Seasonal Vegetables and Oven Baked Potatoes

Warm Rolls and Butter

Red and White Wine

Chef's Selection of Assorted Cakes, Pies and Tortes
A Selection of *Tazo Teas*, *Freshly Brewed Coffee* and *Decaffeinated Coffee*

Cost: \$45.00
(Approximate)

Please email your response to ddrake@coh.org.
Host by: Yun Yen MD, Ph.D. City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center

Sponsored by: Sino – American Cancer Foundation



Yun Yen, M.D., Ph.D.
President, Cancer Division

MEMBERS' NEWS

1). Three SCBA members, Jing-hsiung Jim Ou (USC), Xinzhuan Su (NIH) and Kuan-Teh Jeang (NIH) were elected to the 2011 Fellows class of the American Academy of Microbiology. <http://academy.asm.org/index.php/fellows/2011-newly-elected-fellows>

The **American Academy of Microbiology** is the honorific leadership group within the American Society for

Microbiology (ASM), the world's oldest and largest life science organization. The mission of the Academy is to recognize scientists for outstanding contributions to microbiology and provide microbiological expertise in the service of science and the public.

2). Five SCBA members, Mien-Chie Hung (UT MD Anderson Cancer Center), Yang Shi (Harvard), Hong Wu (UCLA), Kun-Liang Guan (UCSD), Chung S. Yang (Rutgers), and James Ou (USC) have been elected to become an AAAS Fellow in December 2010. <http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/fellows/>

The **American Association for the Advancement of Science** (AAAS) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world by serving as an educator, leader, spokesperson and professional association. In addition to organizing membership activities, AAAS publishes the journal *Science*, as well as many scientific newsletters, books and reports, and spearheads programs that raise the bar of understanding for science worldwide.



AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

Lily Jan, Ph.D. and Yuh Nung Jan, Ph.D.



The tenth annual **Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences** <<http://sci.scientific-direct.net/c.asp?938152&44c67a921a643cc1&3>> is awarded to: **Dr. Lily Jan** <<http://sci.scientific-direct.net/c.asp?938152&44c67a921a643cc1&4>> and **Dr. Yuh Nung Jan** <<http://sci.scientific-direct.net/c.asp?938152&44c67a921a643cc1&5>>, of Howard Hughes Medical Institute at the University California, San Francisco. Dr. Lily Jan and Dr. Yuh

Nung Jan were selected for their molecular identification of a founding member of a family of potassium ion channels that control nerve cell activity throughout the animal kingdom.

The *Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences* recognizes

contributions that have opened new fields of research or have advanced novel concepts or their applications in a particular biomedical discipline. It honors a specific contribution or a series of contributions that demonstrate significant leadership and innovation. This international award is presented annually and consists of a \$35,000 prize and a luncheon in honor of the recipient. The award is presented at a ceremony at The Rockefeller University, where the recipient delivers an honorary lecture as part of The Rockefeller University Lecture Series.

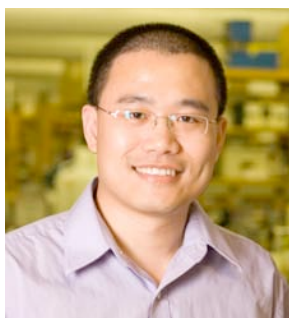
Li-Min Huang, M.D.



(Left 2: Li-Min Huang, M.D. 7 Chung-Shan South Road, Taipei Taiwan 100 Department of Pediatrics, National Taiwan University Hospital)

Dr. Li-Min Huang has been awarded with the 2010 Award for Outstanding Contributions in Science and Technology, Executive Yuan, Taiwan by Premier Wu Den-Yih.

Yibin Kang, Ph.D



Dr. Yibin Kang received the 2011 Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science.

The Vilcek Prize is awarded annually to individuals born abroad who have made lasting contributions to society in the United States through extraordinary achievement in

biomedical research or arts and letters. Two prizes are awarded each year, one in biomedical research and one in the arts or humanities, in a field designated annually by the Foundation, including fine art, architecture, music, drama, literature and others. The detail can be found out at

<http://www.vilcek.org/prizes/the-vilcek-prize.html>



MEET OUR MEMBERS

In this issue, Dr. Juliann G. Kiang has privileges to e-interview two highly accomplished members. The interviews are recorded below.

Dr. Dew-Maw Chuang is Section Chief, NIMH, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland, U.S.A. He is an Academia Sinica Member, Taipei, Taiwan, for recognizing his outstanding achievements in Life Sciences.



Kiang: Thank you very much for accepting this interview. My first question is this. Where did you go to school and who were your mentors?

Chuang: I received my BS degree from National Taiwan University, and Ph.D. Degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. My Ph.D. thesis advisor was Dr. Melvin V. Simpson, who had just come from Yale University to be the department chair at that time. My postdoctoral mentor was Dr. Herbert Weissbach at Roche Institute of Molecular Biology, and my NIH mentor was Dr. Erminio Costa. Both Drs. Weissbach and Costa later became members of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. All three mentors have deeply influenced my life.

Kiang: Where are you working now and what do you enjoy the most about doing science and about teaching students?

Chuang: I have been working at the National Institute of Mental Health, NIH since my postdoctoral training. My research is mainly translational in nature, using experimental disease models to explore the therapeutic potential of mood

stabilizing drugs, notably lithium and valproate, for neurodegenerative diseases. The most rewarding part of doing research is that life never gets boring. It seems that the more data we get, the more questions arise and the more work that needs to be done. I have been fortunate to have many talented postdoctors/predoctors working with me during my career, and I am very grateful for their contributions. It is a great satisfaction to see them grow and become mature and independent scientists.

Kiang: Can you list for us two or three of your "best" papers?

Chuang: Our current research on mood stabilizers was initiated about ten years ago. Our two PNAS papers (Nonaka et al., 1998; Ren et al., 2003) laid a foundation for subsequent work and seem to have changed the direction of the field. As a young investigator, I also made the important discovery that a neurotransmitter receptor can be internalized following persistent stimulation (Chuang and Costa, PNAS, 1979). This finding opened a new area of research and has strong implications for transmitter receptor desensitization and drug tolerance.

Kiang: Outside of science, what are you the most proud of?

Chuang: I am proud of my family including my lovely wife, two sons and two grandchildren. I am honored, but humbled, to become an academician of Academia Sinica. Outside of science, I enjoy traveling, gardening and occasional social dancing.

Kiang: You have an opportunity to speak to the Young SCBA members --- in approximately 100 words what do you think is the most important point that you'd like to say?

Chuang: My first piece of advice to young SCBA investigators is to build up communication skills. Try to strengthen your English writing and speaking abilities as early as you can. Also, make as many friends as possible, particularly with your peers: almost without exception, successful researchers have a lot of professional friends. Furthermore, it is critical to select creative and important research topics to tackle, as you want to make a big impact in your endeavors. Do not be afraid to take on a high-risk project, as long as you have a strong rationale and confidence in doing so. I have **seven "C's"** to share with SCBA young investigators: (1) **Communication**; (2) **Creativity**; (3) **Commitment**; (4) **Courage**; (5) **Cohesiveness**; (6) **Confidence**; and (7) **Candor**.

Kiang: Thank you very much for your time. Your views will be greatly beneficial to our members.

Chuang: I hope it helps all of us.



Dr. Pan-Chyr Yang is Dean of School of Medicine
National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan.



Kiang: Thank you for accepting my interview. My first question is this. Where did you go to school and who were your mentors?

Yang: I graduated from College of Medicine, National Taiwan University in 1979 and I spent two years in Saudi Arabia served as attending physician from 1984-1986. I received my PhD training from Graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, National Taiwan University from 1986 to 1990. My mentors are Professor Kwen-Tay Luh (Clinical, Professor in NTUH) and Professor Cheng-Wen Wu (Basic, Academia Sinica).

Kiang: Where are you working now and what do you enjoy the most about doing science and about teaching students?

Yang: Currently, I am Dean and Professor of Internal Medicine, National Taiwan University College of Medicine, and my specialty is Pulmonary and Critical Medicine. My researches are mainly focused on lung cancer genomics and translational medicine (please see my homepage as attached). I have an adjunct appointment in Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica. I have around 10 Ph. D students and three Postdoc working with me and enjoy very much learning from the youngsters.

Kiang: Can you list for us two or three of your "best" papers?

Yang: We have 3 good ones.

1. Chen HY, Yu SL, Chen CH, Chang GC, Chen CY, Yuan A; Cheng CL, Wang CH, Terng HJ, Kao SF, Chan WK, Li HN, Liu CC, Singh S, Chen WJ, Chen JJW, Yang PC: A five-gene signature and clinical outcome in non-small cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med* 2007;356:11-20.

2. Yu SL, Chen HY, Chang GC, Chen CY, Chen HW, Singh S, Cheng CL, Yu CJ, Lee YC, Chen HS, Su TJ, Chiang CC, Li HN, Hong QS, Su HY, Chen CC, Chen WJ, Liu CC, Chan WK, Chen WJ, Li KC, Chen JJW, Yang PC: MicroRNA signature predicts survival and relapse in lung cancer. *Cancer Cell* 2008;13:1-10.

3. Wang SP, Wang WL, Chang YL, Wu CT, Chao YC, Kao SH, Yuan A, Lin CW, Yang SC, Chan WK, Li KC, Hong TM, Yang PC: p53 controls cancer cell invasion by inducing the MDM2-mediated degradation of Slug. *Nat Cell Biol* 2009;11:694-704.

Kiang: Outside of science, what are you the most proud of?

Yang: Develop the system of Medical Education that can meet our society demand, particularly emphasize on the promoting the medical professionalism that can reflects the traditional Chinese cultural heritage and the values of society.

Kiang: You have an opportunity to speak to the SCBA members --- in 100 words or less what do you think is the most important point that you'd like to say?

Yang: Hope SCBA can have more young scientists join this society and SCBA can continuously grow and serve as a platform to promote the frontier science in Chinese academic society.

Kiang: Thank you very much for your time.

Yang: My pleasure.

Academia Sinica, Taiwan :

<http://www.ibms.sinica.edu.tw/pages/pi/index.php?id=57>

National Taiwan University College of Medicine:

<http://www.mc.ntu.edu.tw/staff/boss/template-1.htm>

NTUCM Research Report :

<http://sites.mc.ntu.edu.tw/board.php?courseID=81&f=doc&folderID=412&cid=1895>



ESSAY FROM MEMBERS

Introduction to China-U.S. Biochemistry Admissions (CUSBA) Program

Robert K. Yu, Ph.D., MedScd

Institute of Molecular Medicine and Genetics and Institute of Neuroscience, Medical College of Georgia
Augusta, GA 30912

For many years, we have had many outstanding students from the People's Republic of China (PRC). These students have contributed greatly to graduate educational programs in the U.S. and Canada (see: www.asbmb.org, *ASBMB Today*, March 2006, "When East Meets West"). In recent years, however, the number of applicants from PRC has far exceeded that of domestic applicants. We estimate that each biochemistry and biology department receives many applications each year for the few slots that are available to foreign students. This huge number of applicants has created a serious logistical burden in handling, responding, and filing of application forms. Most significantly, it is difficult to evaluate the quality of the applicants. Yet the outstanding quality of many of the students who eventually are accepted into our programs indicates that these students are a valuable resource to graduate education and basic research.

In 1995, Dr. Ray Wu and I initiated the "**China-United States Biochemistry Admissions (CUSBA) Program**" for the purpose of coordinating graduate admissions from Chinese applicants to U.S. departments of biochemistry, molecular biology, biophysics, and related fields. The CUSBA Program was the result of extensive discussions among prominent educators and in the US and China. We felt that it was important to provide this service for participating departments as well as applicants. Since its inception 15 years ago, an increasing number of departments and programs in the US and Canada have expressed an interest in participating in the CUSBA Program and have sent candidate files to us seeking assistance for applicant selection. We have had many outstanding interviewers in the past, including Drs. David Allmann, Rich Haak, Simon Atkinson (IUPUI), Alan Goodridge (Formerly at the University of Iowa and the Ohio State University), John Perkins (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center), Joel Oppenheim (NYU), Walter Holms, Zendra Zehner, Verne Schirch, Jack Haar, George Leichnetz, and Shawn Holt (all at Virginia Commonwealth University), P.C. Huang (Johns Hopkins University), Joel Hockensmith (University of Virginia), Loran Biber (Michigan State University), Dick Gumpert (University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana), Barry Rosen (Wayne State University), Bob Yu and Bill Dynan (Medical College of Georgia), Kathryn Calame (Columbia University), and Richard Hallick (University of Arizona). Several of them have been representing us multiple times and are seasoned interviewers. The results of their efforts have been most gratifying. For many years, Professor Xiaocheng Gu and Zengyi Chang at the Department of Biology, School of Life Sciences, Peking University have provided logistic support to this Program. In fact, Professor Gu was involved with Professor Ray Wu in the original CUSBEA Program (1983-1989) that brought many outstanding students from China to the US.

We will continue the service this coming year. Dr. Rick Hallick, University of Arizona, has agreed to serve as the group leader. He has been involved in the CUSBA Programs for several years and has contributed significantly to the success of these programs. We expect to choose more faculty interviewers at a later stage as we know more clearly the number of candidates whom will be nominated. In response to many requests, we have also begun a service to assist you in interviewing post-doctoral fellows who have applied to your department. The criteria will include graduate training, language skills, letters of recommendation, as well as your specific needs. We had a very good response last year and wish to include this service in the CUSBA Program. For more details of the CUSBA, please refer to our website: <http://cusba.webs.com>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Having read the recent newsletter, I was particularly impressed on how good it is in being informative, entertaining, and useful. SCBA as an organization should be proud of its professionalism and its establishment of a real community of scholars who know each other as individuals and recognize the best among you through the short but insightful interviews. I feel somewhat like a proud parent having watched and supported SCBA's development over the years.

Alice S. Huang, Ph.D.
Former President of AAAs
Caltech
Pasadena, CA

Dear Editor,

Thanks for the SCBA newsletter which has been done very nicely and professionally with different contributions from various sources.

Joseph Li, Ph.D.
USU
Logan, Utah



The Secretary's Corner --- Juliann G. Kiang

Greetings to
my fellow
scientists!



Three significant events are covered in this issue of the SCBA Newsletter. First, the SCBA announced its newly inaugurated journal, *Cell and Bioscience*, managed by BMC, has published several articles between January and March, 2011. We encourage our members continuing to submit manuscripts to support the journal. Second, we announce the winners for the 2011 SCBA Presidential Award and Junior Investigator Award. Third, the issue updates members with

the status of preparations for the 2011 SCBA International Conference (Guangzhou, China, July 25-29, 2011) in a report by local conference coordinator, Ms. Lucia Xiaoxiao Liu. A call for abstracts for the conference appears on the BMC journal web page and www.scbasociety.org (deadline: April 10, 2011).

As usual, this issue also includes the President's letter from Dr. **Kuan-Teh Jeang** and updates from Editor-in-Chief **Yunbo Shi** and Membership co-Executive Director **TC Wu**. It also includes a communication from co-Executive Director **Richard Zhao** and coverage of the new president of the Great Washington-Baltimore Chapter, the annual symposium and a dinner party held by the Toronto Chapter from Dr. **Li Zhang**, the dinner announcement of Cancer Division from Dr. **Yun Yen**, and a brief description of a symposium held by the Bio/Pharm Division from Dr. **Sunny Tam**.

In the "MEET OUR MEMBERS" section, a forum where members share their views on research careers/professions, we interviewed SCBA senior members, Dr. **Dew-Maw Chuang**, Section Chief, NIMH/NIH, Bethesda, MD, U.S.A. and Dr. **Pan-Chyr Yang**, Dean, School of Medicine, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan. Their views will prove helpful to our members developing their research careers.

In the "AWARDS" section, where we recognize achievements of our members, we proudly announce that Drs. **Lily** and **Yuh Nung Jan** were recipients of the "Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences"; Dr. **Lin-Min Huang** was a recipient of the "2010 Award for Outstanding Contributions in Science and Technology"; and Dr. **Yibin Kang** received the "2011 Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science".

The winners for 2011 SCBA Awards have been selected. The Presidential Award goes to Dr. **Mien-Chie Hung**, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; the Junior Investigator Award goes to Dr. **Yingzi Yang**, NIH, Bethesda, MD. Congratulations to Drs. **Mien-Chie Hung** and **Yingzi Yang**!

In "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR", two readers expressed their appreciation for information presented in the December issue. We greatly appreciate reader feedback as a way of promoting open discussion of issues and sharing experiences, and we strongly encourage member participation.

In this issue, we have created two new sections, namely "NEWS FROM MEMBERS" and "ESSAY FROM MEMBERS". The former section includes news from members such as being elected as fellows of major societies; the latter section has Dr. Robert Yu who submits an essay to introduce China-U.S. Biochemistry Admissions (CUSBA) program to our members. I invite members to submit any information of interest to the Society membership for inclusion in future issues—awards and honors, people leaving

and gaining positions, upcoming events, essays on topics of special interest, articles published in *Cell and Bioscience*, and ideas to promote the growth and well-being of the Society.

Please take the time to read through the Advertisements section of the Newsletter for job opportunities, products, and services that might meet your needs. Advertising helps ensure publication of the Newsletter so your patronage of our advertisers is very much appreciated.

I remind members that they can also share their thoughts and information items at the Society blog (<http://blog.scbasociety.org>). And do not forget our newly established Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Society-of-Chinese-Bioscientists-in-America-SCBA/103698126329871>). We would greatly appreciate it if you would spread the word about SCBA.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to donate your money for our 2011 International Conference. The list of donors can be found in <http://www.scbasociety.org/Donors/Donors.html> and the "ACKNOWLEDGMENTS" section.

I wish you all a Happy Spring-Summer.

Juliann G. Kiang, Ph.D.
SCBA Secretary (2010-2011)



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The Year's at the Spring

*The year's at the spring;
And the day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in His heaven –
All's right with the world!*

- Robert Browning -

Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America

The 13th International Symposium

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第十三屆國際學術討論會



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Please visit our meeting website: <http://www.scbameeting2011.org/> for details
Registration and Abstract Submission are now open!

SCBA and the Organizers of the 13th International Symposium greatly acknowledge the following organizations, foundations and individuals for their generous financial supports.

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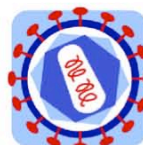
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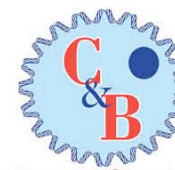
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Kuan-Teh Jeang Wai Dai Jefferson Chen Juliann Kiang Yun-Bo Shi Richard Zhao TC Wu Paul Liu Bin Gao Xin Wei Leland Chung