



CONTENTS

1. Notes from the 2020-2021 SCBA Leadership Team
2. Notes from the SCBA Webmaster
3. Notes from the Membership Committee
4. Notes from Dr. Chris Lau, Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of Cell & Biosciences
5. News from the SCBA Baltimore-D.C. Chapter
6. Congratulations to newly elected academy members
7. Meet our new members

Notes from the 2020-2021 SCBA Leadership Team

Notes from SCBA President

Dear Fellow SCBA Members and Friends,

In the September newsletter I mentioned that plans were underway to prepare for the SCBA Biennial Symposium, which was scheduled to be held in Boston in July 2021, COVID permitting, and I promised to provide more information in this newsletter. While, it turned out that the coronavirus did not agree with our plan and we witnessed a third and the biggest surge unfolding in the past couple of months. This presented a serious challenge in our meeting planning. Although it is still possible that things will be back to normal by next summer, especially with the exciting development and roll out of the vaccines, many uncertainties exist. And the Council decided that this is not a risk we should take. Although we could easily convert it to a virtual conference, the Council ultimately decided against this idea because, firstly of all, we are all

suffering from different degrees of Zoom fatigue and a conference with broad scientific coverages such as this one will not get people excited; secondly, an important mission of the SCBA is social engagement and scientific networking and these simply cannot be achieved via Zoom. Therefore, we have decided to postpone the conference by one year to July 2022 and keep Boston as our meeting site. Of note, a similar situation happened during the SARS epidemic and the biennial conference originally scheduled for 2003 was postponed to 2004.

This change of meeting plan is just one of the many circumstances we have to deal with this year. Indeed, to say 2020 is a trying year is an understatement. Without exception, everyone has faced challenges personally and professionally. However, as we draw close to the end of 2020, there are good reasons to be optimistic. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy and I wish you and your family a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year!



Dr. Hui Zheng, SCBA President

Notes from SCBA Secretary

Dear SCBA members,

The year of 2020 is bound to be an unforgettable one to all of us for many reasons. The impacts of COVID-19 pandemic are felt in every family and every corner of our society. The SCBA community is no exception. As we entered the winter of 2020, North America was hit hard by the “second wave” of COVID-19. This new surge of pandemic has forced the leadership of SCBA to reconsider the risk and uncertainty of having an in-person Biennial Symposium next summer. After considering several options, the SCBA Council has voted to postpone the next SCBA Symposium to Summer 2022. The SCBA Council felt strongly that it is important to have an in-person meeting to promote the interactions among SCBA members and between our society and the larger bioscience community. The next symposium will still be held in Boston, Massachusetts, in corporation with the Boston Chapter of SCBA. Because the term of the current SCBA leadership team will end at the end of 2021, this symposium will be jointly organized by the current and incoming SCBA leadership teams. Several committees that are already at work, including the Program Committee, Award Committee, and Fund Raising Committee, will continue to prepare for the next symposium. I am excited to let you know that several prominent scientists, including Nobel Laureates, have agreed to speak at the meeting. We look forward to having a safe, interactive, and productive symposium with all of you in 2022.



Dr. Lee Zou, SCBA Secretary

Notes from SCBA Treasurer

Dear Fellow SCBA Members,

I hope everyone is well.

During the fourth quarter of 2020, the Finance Committee (Drs. Pan Zheng, Ying Zhang, Yvonne Wan, Ji Luo and myself) have been working on the routine duties, e.g. the collection of membership dues, and filing tax forms, etc. In addition, we sponsored the SCBA-Virology Division for their annual symposium which will be held virtually on December 30-31, 2020.

In the last Newsletter, we reported that a Fundraising Committee has been assembled with a special task to fundraise for the 18th SCBA International Symposium that was originally scheduled in July 2021. Now, since the Symposium is postponed to July 2022, the Fundraising Committee temporarily ceased the efforts but we are ready to resume our fundraising activities anytime next year.

While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact all our lives, I believe things will start to get better with the implementation of vaccination. Indeed, I myself have

lined up and should receive the shots in early January. I can certainly see the light at the end of the tunnel...

I wish everyone a wonderful 2021!

Regards,



Dr. Yong Xu, SCBA Treasurer

Notes from the SCBA Webmaster

Dear SCBA members,

We are constantly updating the SCBA website <https://www.scbasociety.org/> since its launch in July 2020.

Here are some new features of the SCBA website that have been updated in the past quarter:

1. Web-based membership management system

Having an updated member profile at the SCBA website is essential for receiving important announcement, event invitation, as well as networking with fellow SCBA members. Please login from the top right corner of the SCBA website to update your profile. Your email is used as the login name. You can choose your own password (click the “Forgot Password” to reset it).

Once you login, click on the “Membership” tab, then “Join Us”. This will bring you to the “Edit your member profile” page (or membership information and links to join us if you are not a member yet).

Click on “Edit your member profile”, it will bring you to your unique Membership Profile page. Please go over the information to make sure they are updated, since these information was from Day 1 when you joined the SCBA. For some of you, it could be information 10 or 20 years ago. To update, click on the top left “Edit Profile” button.

Please make sure you have the updated information in each blank. You can also upload a profile picture in the Avatar section. Make sure that your name, name order, Organization, and email address are correct. If you are a member of any SCBA local Chapters or Divisions, you can also add that information in.

A new feature we are experimenting is the “Area of Expertise”, in which you can either choose the keywords that are listed, or put in your own key words. These key words are searchable by all SCBA members, to facilitate collaboration among our members.

Please note that the web-based membership management system uses email address as the primary user identity. Therefore, you can update any information in your membership profile, except your primary email address, which is also used as your login name. If you need to update your primary email address, you will have to contact either the webmaster or the membership committee from the SCBA website.

2. Conferences and Events

We will constantly update the upcoming events and conferences hosted by SCBA, its local Chapters, or Divisions. These information can be accessed at the “Conferences and Events” tab.

You can access the latest information and the registration site for the upcoming SCBA Virology Division meeting from our website here with the following link:

<https://www.scbasociety.org/conferences-events>

3. Donations

The new SCBA website offers a direct channel for our members to donate to our society online. You can leave specific comment on what your donation is aimed for, and our leadership team will make sure that your donation is used exactly as you plan for. A successful society needs supports from all of the members. Donation is one of the most efficient way to help our society. The “Donate” button can be found at the top left corner of the SCBA home page. You will receive a donation receipt automatically as soon as your donation is processed.

Please note that you can also donate for someone’s membership, if that person is having trouble to pay for the membership online. Just write in the comment box that “This donation of \$xxx is for the Life Membership for xxx, whose email address is: xxx@xxxx.” Note that we only need the email address to set up a new membership profile and send the registration link to that email. The new member can then modify the profile to add all the other information.

We want to thank more donation made from the SCBA website. Since the launching of the new SCBA website, we have received 23 donations. We encourage more members to donate to our society online to make it stronger and better!

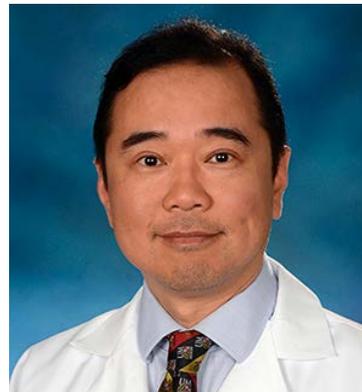
4. News and Job Posting

The new SCBA website offers Job Posting. Please contact the webmaster if you have positions to post on our website.

Our website will continually be updated to include new information and resources. If you have suggestions,

please feel free to send your feedback to webmaster@scbasociety.org.

Thank you very much for your support!



Dr. Zhe “Zion” Han, SCBA Webmaster



Notes from the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee of the SCBA would like to share two important developments with our members.

1. The SCBA Membership is transitioning to the web-based system. During the transition, our Membership Committee strives to update the current member directory, converting it into a web-based version and facilitating the application process via an online system. We have recently completed the updated process for the membership with the Hepatology Division. We will continue this process with the other Divisions and Local Chapters. For the presidents of each Division and Local Chapters:

a. Please send me (yzhu@childrensnational.org) the email list of your members. We will update them in our new system.

b. Please encourage your members to log into the new membership system: <https://www.scbasociety.org/sys/website/?pageId=7738> [nam03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com]. We recently found that some members were mistakenly assigned to the wrong membership categories or even lost in the system transition.

2. The SCBA will increase our membership fee on January 1st, 2021. Please pay attention to the following important notes.

a. If you join the SCBA from now on to 1/1/2021, you can still pay for the current rate.

b. If you do not update your membership status in the web system by then, we will have to manually get you back to our web system.

The new versus current membership fees:

Regular Membership Fees:

1. Those residing in North America, \$50 annual membership fees (increased from \$35)
2. Those residing outside North America, \$40 annual membership fees (increased from \$25)

Life-time Membership Fees:

1. The International Lifetime membership category, it will be \$400 **onetime** fees (increased from \$250).
2. The lifetime membership for those residing in North America will be \$500 **onetime** fees (increased from \$350), after January 1, 2021.
3. The SCBA welcomes 25 new members. A list of these new members is shown in the last section of this Newsletter.

Membership Committee

Yuan Zhu (Chair)

Baohua Liu

Mitchell Ho

Feng Yang

Burton Yang

Notes from Editor-in-Chief of Cell & Bioscience

Dear SCBA Members,

As the Society journal, Cell & Bioscience has grown into a high impact journal within the scientific community with a recent two-year impact factor of 5.026, we have witnessed a significant increase in submissions over the prior years. For 2020, we anticipate receiving close to 1,000 for the year. This success could be attributed to the tireless efforts of Dr. Yun-Bo Shi, the former Editor-in-Chief and his Editorial Team. It is now critical for the Editorial Management to process and evaluate submissions fairly and expeditiously, so that those with the most scientific merits will be selected for publication in Cell & Bioscience. To these goals, I am happy to report to you a preliminary reorganization of our Editorial Management structure for the journal.

I am delighted to announce the appointments of three Associate Editor-in-Chiefs, Professor Dong Yan Jin of the University of Hong Kong, Professor Lin Mei of the Case Western Reserve University, and Dr. Ying E. Zhang a Senior Investigator of the National Institutes of Health. I am grateful for their acceptance of the responsibilities and willingness to serve and promote the growth of Cell & Bioscience. Each of the Associate Editor-in-Chief and the Editor-in-Chief will serve as a Section Editor in charge of two classifications of subjects of their expertise for the journal. This streamline of the Editorial structure will greatly improve the initial screening of the submissions and assignments to the appropriate Editors for the review processes. Please visit the journal website for more details of the Editorial Management team.

<https://cellandbioscience.biomedcentral.com/new-content-item>

In order to increase the portfolio of expertise areas and lessen the workloads of the current Editors, we are happy to announce the appointments and welcome aboard of six new Editors to the Editorial team.

Jim Hu, Ph.D., Professor, University of Toronto

Xin Wei Wang, Ph.D., Senior Investigator,
National Institutes of Health

Kunxin Luo, Ph.D., Professor, University of
California, Berkeley

Yi-Ping Hsueh, Ph.D., Distinguished Research
Fellow, Academia Sinica

Zhi-Ming Zheng, Ph.D., Senior Investigator,
National Institutes of Health

Ruey-Hwa Chen, Ph.D., Distinguished Research
Fellow, Academia Sinica

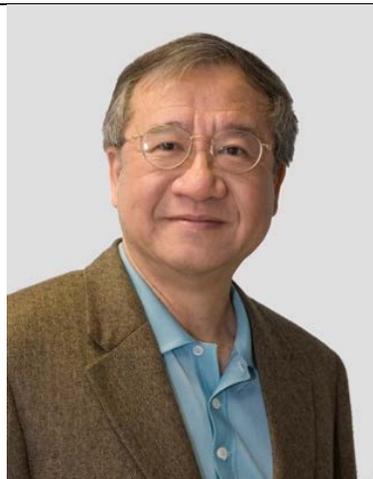
We are truly grateful for their participation and contribution of their expertise to the editorial management and to maintain the scientific prestige and merits of our Society journal.

As members of the Society, there are numerous ways you can participate and help to further the growth of our journal. First, please submit research and/or review articles of your field(s) to the journal for publication. As elite investigators, your submissions will greatly improve the scientific standing on the quality of publications in our journal. Second, consider serving and/or recommending qualified colleagues or associates to serve on the Editorial Board. In particular, serving as reviewers could greatly foster the scientific development of junior colleagues under your supervision. Please send your suggestions, voluntary service or recommendations of colleagues to me at: chris.lau@ucsf.edu. I will greatly appreciate, if you can kindly include some relevant information with a brief curriculum vitae, including names, qualifications, academic appointment(s) and affiliation(s), contact information, publications, and a list

of personal key words of expertise for the database. Please visit the journal website for further information about the journal and instruction for manuscript submission:

<https://cellandbioscience.biomedcentral.com/>.

Thank you very much for your support!



*Chris Lau, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief
Cell & Bioscience*

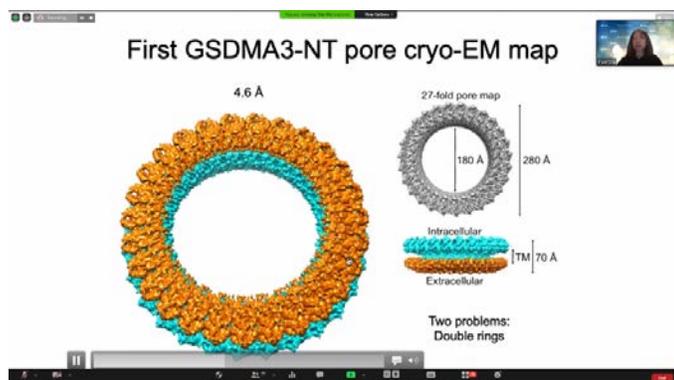
News from the SCBA Baltimore-D. C. Chapter
The 2020 SCBA DC-Baltimore Chapter scientific symposium goes virtual

By Yihong Ye

SCBA DC-Baltimore Chapter President 2021

The outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 amid the cherry blossom season in Washington D.C. not only caused the famous cherry blossom festival to go online for the first time in the America history, but also forced the SCBA DC-Baltimore Chapter to postpone its well-planned annual scientific symposium in March. As the hope for a quick control of the pandemic dwindled, the chapter finally decided to turn the event into a virtual feast. The two half-day SCBA DC-Baltimore chapter zoom symposium held on December 11 and 12 attracted more than 100 attendees and 22 speakers and was filled with both scientific joys and holiday delights.

The program consists of a keynote speech, four regular sessions, a special COVID-19 session, and



concurrent breakout room panel discussions/social time. This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Hao Wu, the Asa and Patricia Springer Professor of Structural Biology from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Wu introduced her recent

work, which elucidates the structure and function of Gastermin, a pore-forming protein essential for inflammation-induced release of certain cytokines that do not carry a signal sequence for secretion from the endoplasmic reticulum. How these cytokines are secreted during inflammation has remained a mystery until recent work by Dr. Wu and other laboratories.

The regular sessions are also packed with exciting scientific discoveries, many of which made by young tenure-track investigators. In the New Frontiers in Neuroscience session, Dr. Quan Yuan, a Stadtman tenure-track investigator in the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Strokes (NINDS) discussed the role of a lipoprotein receptor in regulation of dendrite morphology in *Drosophila* brains. Dr. Wei Lu, another Stadtman tenure-track investigator in the same institute explained how their work defines the assembly and trafficking process for a key neurotransmitter receptor complex, while Dr. Shuying Sun, an assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University showed how a genome wide CRISPR screen can reveal novel mechanisms of neurodegeneration and pinpoint potential strategies of drug intervention for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

Likewise, the Molecular Mechanism session and the Technology Development session also feature outstanding presentations mostly from tenure-track investigators such as Dr. Jinwei Zhang of the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), Dr. Haiming Cao of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), Dr. Shuo Gu of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), Dr. Ling Hao of George Washington University and Dr. Bin Wu from Johns Hopkins University. Of a particular note is Dr. Bin Wu's talk, which described their work published recently in

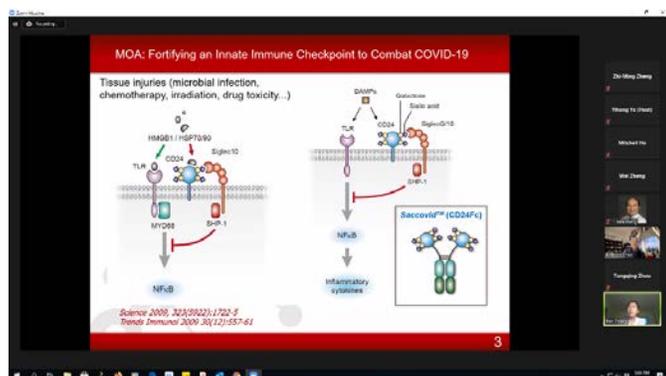
Science. The study reported a novel CRISPR platform that allows gene inactivation to be achieved in a highly precise manner both in space and time.

The COVID-19 special session includes eight short talks. The topics range from basic structural studies of SARS-CoV-2 proteins to clinical trial studies. Among them, Dr. Pan Zheng, the chief medical officer from OncoImmune reported stellar results from their interim analysis of the ongoing SACCOVID clinical trial, which show that a single dose of CD₂₄Fc treatment significantly shortens the hospitalization duration and reduces the mortality rate among severe COVID-19 patients. Following the release of the positive data, the company, founded by our chapter president Dr. Yang Liu (University of Maryland) and Dr. Pan Zheng was acquired by Merck recently.

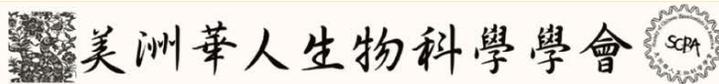
The symposium was followed by chapter's annual business meeting, in which Dr. Yang Liu summarized the major activities of the chapter and member achievements in 2020. Despite the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak, members of our chapter have worked extremely hard, fighting the pandemic both in and out of the laboratory. Our members have remained highly productive, publishing many papers in high-impact journals and receiving various awards (see

Baltimore chapter. Dr. Han is currently an associate professor and the director of the newly established Center for Precision Disease Modeling in University of Maryland.

The event was organized by Drs. Zhe Han, Yihong Ye and Yi Ding (President of the NIH Chinese Student Scholar Association). Session chairs include Drs. Hongbing Wang (University of Maryland), Hong Xu (NHLBI), Jiou Wang (Johns Hopkins University) and Kai Ge (NIDDK), Richard Zhao (University of Maryland) and Zhi-ming Zheng (NCI). The concurrent grant writing and career development discussions were led by Drs. Huiqing Li (NHLBI), Xincheng Zheng (NIAMS, National Institutes of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin diseases), Zhe Han, Frank Li (BLA Regulatory, LLC), Judy Yu (AstraZeneca), Ling Hao (George Washington University) and Yihong Ye. Visit http://www.scbawashingtondc.org/public/documents/2020_SCBA_annual%20meeting_Final.pdf to see the meeting program.



@DcScba at Twitter for details). The meeting also elected Dr. Zhe Han as the president-elect of the SCBA DC-



美洲華人生物科學學會

Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America

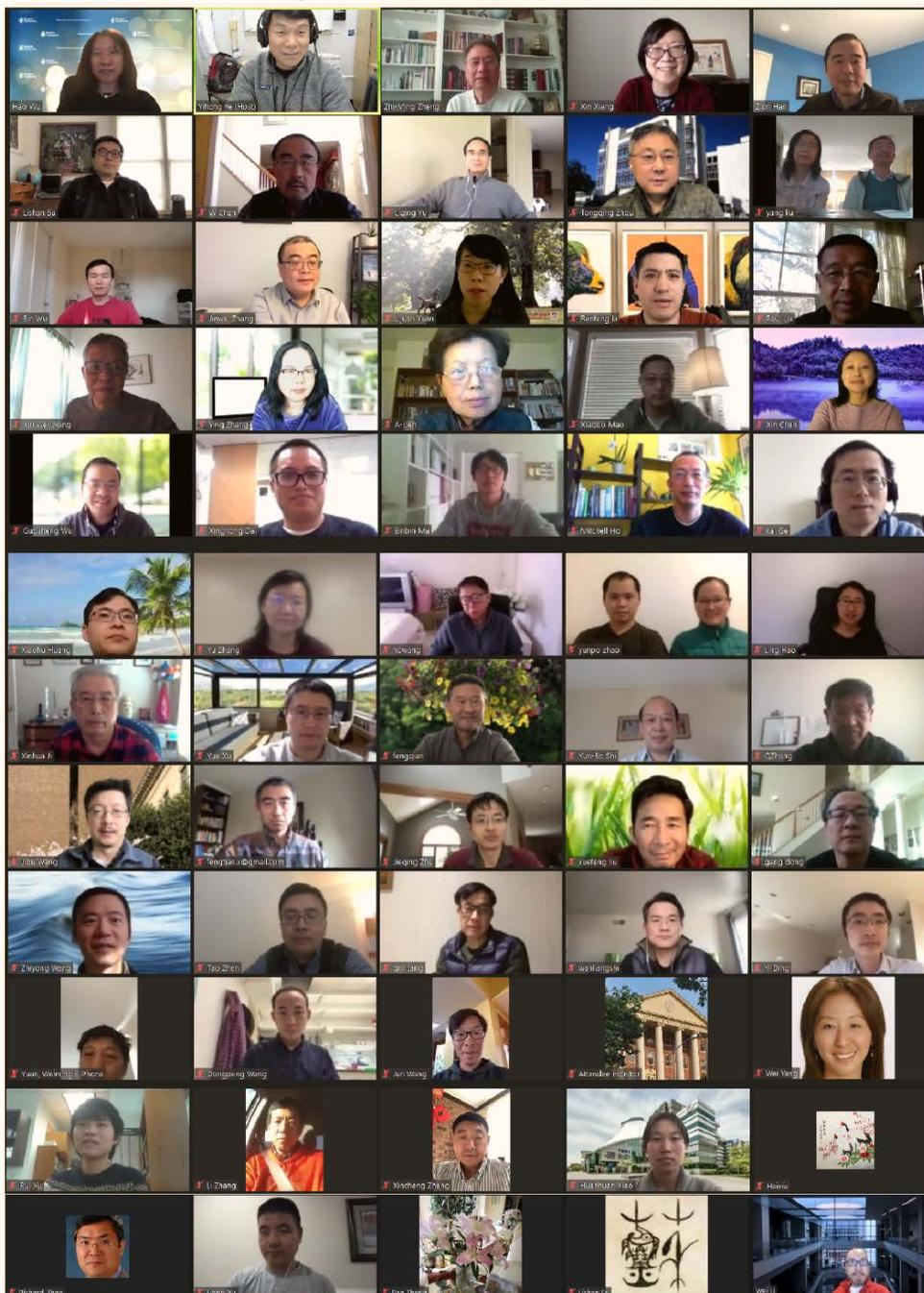
SCBA DC-Baltimore Chapter 2020 annual meeting

Friday 1-6:30PM December 11, 2020

Saturday 1-6:30PM December 12, 2020

Via Zoom

Meeting organizers: **Zhe Han, Ph.D.**, Director, Center for Precision Disease Modeling, University of Maryland School of Medicine
Yihong Ye, Ph.D., Senior Investigator, NIDDK, NIH
Yi Ding, Ph.D., President, The Chinese Students & Scholars Association, NIH



**Congratulations to newly elected members of the
National Academies of USA**

National Academy of Sciences USA

Chang, Howard Y. M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Dermatology, and Director, Center for Personal Dynamic Regulomes Dermatology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, Calif.

Cheng, Yifan, Ph.D., Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; and Professor, Department of Biochemistry and bBiophysics, University of California, San Francisco

Huang, Yonggang, Ph.D., Walter P. Murphy Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering, McCormick School of Engineering, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

Hwa, Terence T. Ph.D., Co-Director, and Distinguished Professor, Department and Division of Biological Sciences and Department of Physics, University of California, San Diego

Tsao, Doris Y., Ph.D., Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute; and Professor of Biology, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena

Young, Lai-Sang, Ph.D., Henry and Lucy Moses Professor of Science, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, New York University, New York City

International Members

Cao, Xiaofeng, Ph.D., Co-Director, CAS-JIC Centre of Excellence for Plant and Microbial Science; and Head, Center for Genome Biology, Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (People's Republic of China)

National Academy of Medicine USA

Edward F. Chang, MD, Chair and Professor of Neurological Surgery, University of California, San Francisco.

Judy H. Cho, MD, Dean of Translational Genetics, Director of Charles Bronfman Institute for Personalized

Medicine, and Ward-Coleman Chair of Translational Genetics, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York City.

Wendy K. Chung, M.D., PhD, Kennedy Family Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York City.

Vivian Ho, PhD, James A. Baker III Institute Chair in Health Economics and Professor of Economics, Rice University; and Professor of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston.

Kam W. Leong, PhD, Samuel Y. Sheng Professor, Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Systems Biology, Columbia University, New York City.

Fei-Fei Li, PhD, Professor, Department of Computer Science, Stanford University; and Co-Director, Stanford Institute of Human-Centered AI (HAI), Stanford, Calif.

David R. Liu, PhD, Richard Merkin Professor and Vice Chair, Broad Institute; Thomas Dudley Cabot Professor of the Natural Sciences and Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Harvard University; and Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Cambridge, Mass.

Hongjun Song, PhD, Perelman Professor of Neuroscience, Department of Neuroscience, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Xiaowei Zhuang, PhD, David B. Arnold Professor of Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

International Members

Wang Chen, MD, PhD, Vice President and Academician, Chinese Academy of Engineering; and President, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing, China.

Tien Y. Wong, MBBS, MPH, PhD, FRCSE, FRANZCO, FRCO, FAMS, Arthur Lim Professor and Medical Director, Singapore National Eye Center; Vice Dean, Duke-NUS Medical School, National University of Singapore; Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer (research and education), SingHealth, Singapore.

Meet our new members

The Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (SCBA) is the largest professional society for Chinese bioscientists outside of China. Our SCBA network has continued to expand, and we hope that our members encourage colleagues to join and enjoy the many resources and opportunities at SCBA.

We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest members:

Life Membership:

| First Name | Last Name | Affiliation |
|---------------|-----------|---|
| Ruey-Hwa | Chen | Academia Sinica, Taiwan |
| Peng | Chen | Southern Medical University |
| Xin | CHEN | UCSF |
| Gang | Dong | NIH |
| Wenke | Feng | University of Louisville |
| Ling | Hao | George Washington University |
| Chiung-Kuei | Huang | Indiana University School of Medicine |
| Shitao | Li | Tulane University |
| Jimin (Nancy) | Liu | Halton Healthcare, Canada |
| Shelly | Lu | Cedars-Sinai Medical Center |
| Wei | Lu | NINDS, NIH |
| Guisheng | Song | University of Minnesota |
| Haixin | Sui | Wadsworth Center, NY |
| Zhengqiang | Wang | University of Minnesota |
| Ying | Wang | Mississippi State University |
| Guosheng | Wu | Pharmaron |
| Yan | Xiang | UT Health San Antonio |
| Jie | Xiao | Johns Hopkins School of Medicine |
| Mingshan | Xue | Baylor College of Medicine |
| JUN | YU | Wuhan Union Hospital of Hua Zhong University of Science |

| | | |
|-----------|-------|---|
| | | and Technology |
| Lijuan | Yuan | Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University |
| Weiming | Yuan | University of Southern California |
| Qi | Zhang | NIH |
| Kezhong | Zhang | Wayne State University |
| Zhanxiang | Zhou | University of North Carolina at Greensboro |



Xi He, Ph.D.
Co-Executive Director



Chris Lau, Ph.D.
Co-Executive Director

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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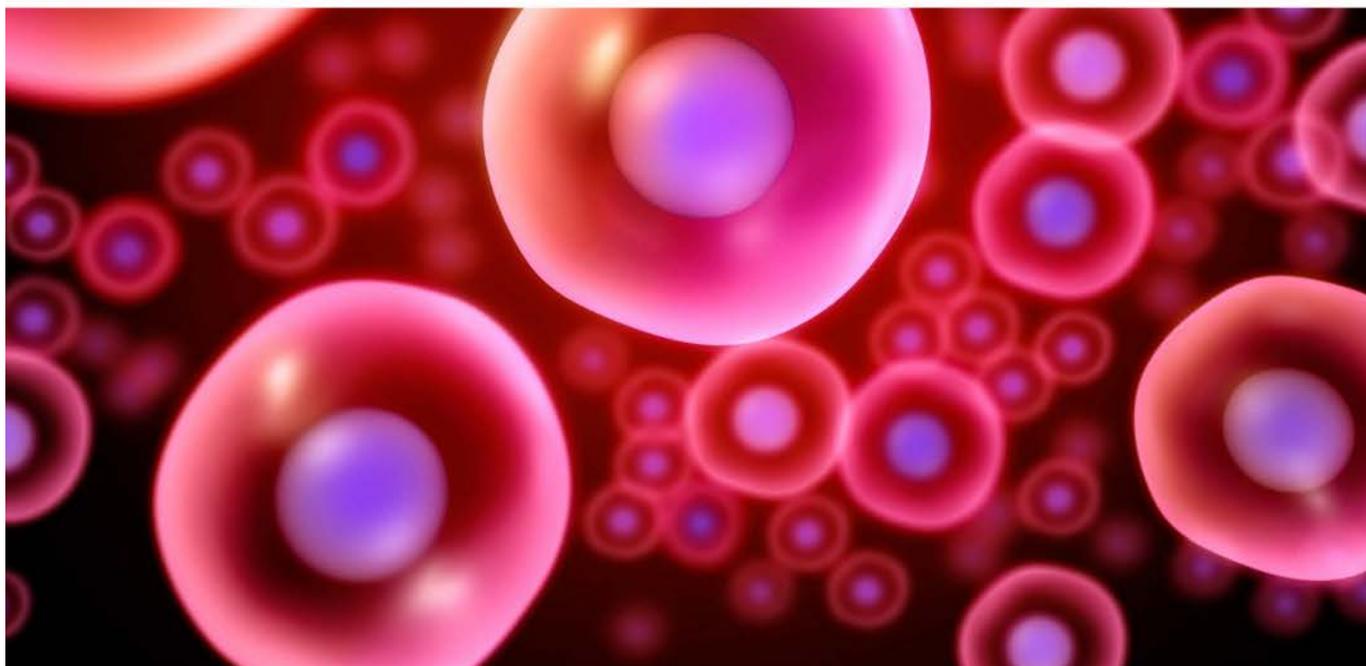
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