



美洲華人生物科學學會



Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America

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Newsletter Editor: Kunxin Luo, Ph.D.

NEWSLETTER

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Letter from the SCBA President

Dear Fellow SCBA members and friends:

Happy new year! I wish you all had a great holiday break.

As we enter 2024, my term as the SCBA President'2022-2023 has come to an end. I wish to express my sincere gratitude for your support, patience, understanding, and cooperation. In particular, I want to thank my team members Secretary **Kunxin Luo**, Treasurer **Pan Zheng**, membership committee chair **Xin**

Chen, and nomination committee chair **Bin Gao/Chonghui Cheng**, for their dedication and service. In addition, I wish to thank the past president **Hui Zheng** for her advice and continued support, as well as **Renfeng Li**, our SCBA webmaster, for his hard work and essential contribution to our society.

The SCBA president for the 2024-2025 term is **Lishan Su**, Secretary is **Shan Zha**, and Treasurer is **Cynthia Ju**. Results of our 2023 SCBA election for the 2026-2027 term have been announced, and I wish to congratulate and welcome the new President-elect **Gen-Sheng Feng**, Secretary-Elect **Wendong Huang**, and Treasurer-Elect **Wen-Xing Ding**. Welcome aboard!

As you may be aware, the House has recently proposed bill language to restart the DOJ's **China Initiative**. In response, [AASF](#) led nearly 50 organizations including SCBA by sending a [letter](#) to Congress to oppose legislative language that would reinstate the "China Initiative". The proposal would reverse the decision to end the "China Initiative"—a devastating program ended in 2022 that raised serious concerns of racial profiling and targeting of Chinese American scientist, including our members. We must push back! Here, I would like to share a special news report by **Emily Feng of NPR**, which was broadcasted on Jan 2, 2024, titled "[House bill aims to restart controversial DOJ program that](#)

[targeted Chinese academics](#)”, from which you can hear her interviews with **Gang Chen** of MIT and others.

One of the most important activities of SCBA is our biennial symposium. We had a wonderful 2022 conference in Boston! Now the SCBA council has discussed and decided to hold a joint International Conference on Life Sciences together with the Chinese Biological Investigators Society (CBIS, <https://www.cbisociety.org>) in Guiyang, China, July 25- July 30, 2024. This will be the **SCBA’s 19th International Symposium**, which is co-sponsored by the Chinese Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (CSBMB) and Chinese Society of Cell Biology (CSCB) along with Guizhou University and Guizhou Medical University. Meeting details and registration information will be available soon on the SCBA website <https://www.scbasociety.org>. We encourage our members to suggest and submit topics of interest for workshops, please contact **Gen-Sheng Feng** (gfeng@health.ucsd.edu), **Dong Wang** (dongwang@ucsd.edu), or **Dong-Yan Jin** (dyjin@hku.hk), the program co-chairs of the conference. The deadline is **Feb. 29, 2024**.

As in our past biennial symposia, SCBA will present three categories of awards - the **Presidential Award**, **Kenneth Fong Young Investigator Award**, and **Lifetime Achievement Award** - in the upcoming 19th SCBA international symposium. We are now calling for nominations of candidates, please see the link below regarding the nomination process and award selection criteria

https://www.scbasociety.org/resources/SCBA_Award%2

[ORules_Rev'2023.pdf](#) and submit your nominations by **Jan. 31, 2024**; note that there are some changes in membership requirements for the nomination. You may also find the past awardees in our SCBA website: <https://www.scbasociety.org/scba-awards>. I am pleased to announce the SCBA award committee: **Shan-Lu Liu** (chair), **Xi Chen**, **Xinnian Dong**, **Gen-Sheng Feng**, **Kun-Liang Guan**, **Hongjun Song**, **Yang Shi**, **Lishan Su**, and **Yi Zhang**. I wish to thank these colleagues for their willingness to serve in advance.

I hope to see you all in July’s meeting in Guiyang, China!

Shan-Lu Liu, MD, PhD
SCBA President



Letter from the SCBA Secretary

Dear SCBA members,

My tenure as the General Secretary of the Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America (SCBA) has come to an end. It has been an incredible journey over the past two years, filled with progress, camaraderie, and growth.

When we assumed leadership, the world was gradually emerging from the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges, we successfully organized the 18th SCBA international symposium in Boston in July 2022, with over 300 participants in attendance. This event not only showcased our resilience but also our unwavering commitment to advancing the scientific community. We

have significantly expanded the membership to over 2500 people and welcomed five new divisions and local chapters to SCBA, including the **Seattle chapter, Ohio chapter, Northern California chapter, Southern California chapter and Division of Genomic Maintenance**. With these new additions, SCBA now has a total of 14 SCBA chapters/divisions. We have worked closely with AASF and other Asian civil rights organizations to lobby the ending of the China Initiative and other discriminatory policies. Our collective efforts have brought about positive change, and I am proud of what we have accomplished together.

I wanted to take a moment to express my most sincere thanks to our president, Dr. Shan-Lu Liu and the dedicated executives directors and council members. Your support, guidance, and hard work have been integral to the success of our society. I am truly grateful

for the opportunity to have worked alongside such a talented and passionate team. As I transition to the role of a council member, I am eager to continue contributing to the SCBA's mission and working closely with the future leadership. I have no doubt that we will continue to make strides in promoting scientific collaboration and fostering a supportive community for Chinese bioscientists in America. I am confident that, together, we will continue to make a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals in our field and beyond.

Kunxin Luo, Ph.D.

Secretary

SCBA



2023 SCBA Election results

President: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027

Gen-Sheng Feng, PhD (University of California, San Diego (UCSD))

Secretary: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027

Wendong Huang, PhD (City of Hope National Medical Center)

Treasurer: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027

Wen-Xing Ding, PhD (The University of Kansas Medical Center)

Council Member: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2027

Wenshe R. Liu, PhD (Texas A&M University)

Min Yu, PhD (University of Maryland School of Medicine)

Nomination Committee: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

Chair:

Jun Wang, PhD (The University of Texas Health Science Center)

Members:

Zheng Sun, PhD (Baylor College of Medicine)
 Grace Xiao, PhD (University of California)
 Qing Zhang, PhD (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center)
 Sheng Zhang, PhD (The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston)
 Huiping Zhou, PhD (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Membership Committee: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

Chair:

Yi Zhu, PhD (Baylor College of Medicine)

Members:

Weishan Huang, Ph D (Louisiana State University)
 Yan Shu, MD, PhD (University of Maryland, Baltimore)
 Guisheng Song, PhD (University of Minnesota)
 Zhihong Yang, PhD (Indiana University School of Medicine)
 Yan Zhang, PhD (University of Texas)

New Members of the National Academies and AAAS

SCBA would like to congratulate the following colleagues of Chinese decent for their elections into the National Academies or American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS):

National Academy of Sciences

Chao, Moses V., New York University School of Medicine
 Chen, Gang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
 Lin, Xihong, Harvard University
 Pan, DuoJia, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
 Ting, Alice, Stanford University
 Tye, Bik-Kwoon, Cornell University
 Wang, Michelle D, Cornell University
 Xiao, Shuhai, Virginia Tech,
 Zeng, Hongkui, Allen Institute for Brain Science
 Zhou, Min, UCLA

National Academy of Engineering (NAE)

Chang, Shih-Fu, Columbia University
 Chen, Hudong, Dassault Systèmes

Huang, David, Oregon Health & Science University
 Huang, Xuedong D, Microsoft Corp
 Liu, Yaoqi Joe, James Hardie Industries plc, Chicago
 Luo, Alan, The Ohio State University
 Wang, Q. Jane, Northwestern University
 Xu, Longya, The Ohio State University
 Xue, Jie, Cisco Systems Inc.
 Yu, Douglas C.H., Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
 Zhao, Ji-Cheng (JC), University of Maryland, College Park
 Huang, Wei, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, China.
 Zeng, Fan-Gang, University of California, Irvine.

National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

Chiang, Michael F, National Institutes of Health
 Feng, Guoping, MIT

Feng, Sandy, University of California, San Francisco

He, Jiang, Tulane University

Lam, Wilbur A, Emory University and Georgia Institute of Technology

Lee, Jeannie T, Massachusetts General Hospital

Lee, Lois K, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston

Wang, Emily Ai-hua, Yale University

Zeng, Hongkui, Allen Institute for Brain Science, Seattle

Zhang, Yi, Boston Children's Hospital; professor,

Harvard Medical School

American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Zhou, Jizhong, University of Oklahoma

Update from the SCBA-Hematology Division

After three years of pause during the COVID19 pandemic, the sixth annual meeting of the SCBA-Hematology Division (HD) was held on December 9, 2023 in San Diego, CA, during the 65th annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology. The annual meeting was organized with the leadership of Gang Huang (President, UT Health San Antonio), with help from other committee members, including Jing Zhang (Treasurer, University of Wisconsin), Ying Liang (co-Treasurer and Committee Member, NY Blood Center), Jianjun Chen (Secretary, City of Hope) and Jun Lu (Committee Member, Yale University).

SCBA-HD also held an election prior to this annual meeting. The newly elected SCBA-HD officials will start their positions after this annual meeting. They include: Jun Lu (President, Yale University), Greg Wang (President Elect, Duke University), Jiwang Zhang (Secretary, Loyola University), Jing Zhang (Treasurer,

University of Wisconsin), Ying Liang (co-Treasurer and Committee Member, NY Blood Center), and Sheng Li (Committee Member, Jackson Lab for Genomic Medicine)

The meeting was attended by **49** investigators, the vast majority are SCBA-HD members. Members also had a SCBA-HD business session, discussed on SCBA-HD agenda and new initiatives, and introduced junior faculty members who started their new labs recently as well as other new members.

Agenda of the meeting:

1. Opening remarks: Jianjun Chen (Chair, Secretary of SCBA-HD)
2. SCBA-HD committee update: Gang Huang (President of SCBA-HD)
3. Financial update (Jing Zhang, Treasurer of SCBA-HD)
4. 2023 Election update (Ying Liang, co-Treasurer and Committee Member of SCBA-HD)
5. Remarks from Jun Lu (Newly elected President of SCBA-HD) and Sheng Li (Newly elected Committee Member of SCBA-HD)
6. Discussion of future events and activities (Jun Lu, Newly elected President of SCBA-HD)
7. Junior faculties & new members self-introduction

The meeting concluded following a dinner, with all participants attended.





The next SCBA-HD annual meeting has been planned in Dec 2024 alongside the 66th annual meeting of the American Society of Hematology.

Update from the SCBA-Ohio Chapter

The Ohio Chapter of SCBA was established in September of 2022. In establishing this Chapter, we hope to promote bioscience research and recognition of Chinese bioscientists, strengthen professional contact and collaboration, and enhance career opportunities for our members within and beyond our Chapter.

Since the establishment of the Chapter, we have organized the following activities:

2022, Nov17 Zoom Happy Hour

2022, Dec17 Zoom Seminar by Lin Mei, Case Western Reserve University

2023, Jan28 Zoom Seminar by Jian-Ting Zhang, University of Toledo

2023, Feb18 Zoom Seminar by Shan-Lu Liu, The Ohio State University

2023, Mar18 Zoom Seminar by Jun-Lin Guan, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

2023, Apr15 Zoom Seminar by Qing Richard Lu, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

2023, Sept16 Zoom Seminar by Tianmin Fu, The Ohio State University

2023, Oct21 Zoom Seminar by Peixuan Guo, The Ohio State University

2023, Nov18 Zoom Seminar by Zheng-Rong Lu, Case Western Reserve University

As the New Year of 2024 is upon us, we wish to thank our members for their support of the SCBA-Ohio Chapter and their engagement in our collective endeavors.

We would also like to thank the members of the Advisory Board for their support of the Chapter:

Chen Gu, The Ohio State University

Hua Lou, Case Western Reserve University

Qing Richard Lu, Cincinnati Children's Hospital

Bingcheng Wang, MetroHealth/Case Western Reserve University

Jiang Wang, University of Cincinnati

Jian-Ting Zhang, University of Toledo

Lin Mei, Case Western Reserve University and currently Capital Medical University, China

Moving forward, we plan to continue with the monthly zoom seminars and will organize an in-person meeting for scientific talks and election of the next leadership team later this year.

Tsan Sam Xiao, Ph.D., President, Case Western Reserve University

Junran Zhang, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary, The Ohio State University

Xiaoting Zhang, Ph.D., Treasurer, University of Cincinnati

Update from the SCBA-Texas Chapter

With the conclusion of its annual symposium on May 6, 2023, the SCBA-Texas Chapter (SCBA-TX)

community celebrated another year of great success. This year we significantly increased the number of trainee awards through soliciting sponsorship from vendors.

The 36th SCBA-TX Annual Symposium was held successfully at the Alkek Auditorium of Baylor College of Medicine at the Texas Medical Center, Houston, Texas. The symposium was jam-packed with exciting presentations and with an enthusiastic audience, representing faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students and staff members from all academic institutions at the Texas Medical Center, including Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC), University of Texas-Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth), University of Houston (UH), Texas A&M-University Health Science Center (TAMHSC) at Houston, University of Texas-Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) and the Houston Methodist Research Institute (HMRI). There were also participants from other cities of Texas, including University of Texas, Austin. The keynote speaker was Dr. Benjamin Tu, a distinguished Professor and Howard Hughes Investigator from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and an international leading expert in cell metabolism.

Around 200 scientists attended this year's meeting, making it the largest event in the symposium's long history, with 60 submitted abstracts from our trainees. The event's theme was to celebrate the 36th anniversary of SCBA-TX and

scientific achievements by SCBA-TX members, as well as to foster future success. The symposium started at 8:30 am with a brief welcome remark from the SCBA-TX President Jin Wang (Professor of Baylor College of Medicine), followed by two plenary sessions of seven speakers from seven SCBA-TX institutions. The speakers represented a nice combination of internationally renowned senior scientists and rising stars of young principle investigators. The 20-minute outstanding lectures covered diverse topics: "A chemistry-reprogramed phage display platform to develop epigenetic probes" by Wenshe Ray Liu (Texas A&M University); "Targeted Nanotherapeutics and Drug Conjugates for Metastatic Breast Cancer" by Xinli Liu (University of Houston); "Unlocking the Power of 3D Organoids in Functional Genomics of Human Gastrointestinal Cancer" by Yuan-Hung Lo, MD Anderson Cancer Center; "Sending and receiving Hedgehog signals" by Pengxiang Huang (Baylor College of Medicine); "Harnessing Big Data for Precision Oncology" by Leng Han (Texas A&M University IBT); "Autophagy Cargo Selection in Health and Disease" by Yang Liu (University of Texas Health Science Center); and "Engineered CRISPR systems for disease treatment and diagnostics" by Sherry Xue Gao (Rice University). To attract more attendees, we have two raffle sessions in the morning and afternoon to hand out 2 Apple Watches, 2 AirPods, and 4 Airtags.

As a tradition, the SCBA-TX Treasurer Sherry Gao presented the financial report during a brief

business session and reported an impressive increase of our membership over the previous year. An election was also held during the symposium for a new leadership team of the SCBA-TX branch: President **Yubin Zhou** (TAMU), President-Elect **Weiwei Dang** (BCM), Secretary **Hongjie Li** (BCM) and Treasurer **Ping Yi** (UH).

In the afternoon breakout sessions, 60 trainees including 33 graduate students, 23 postdoctoral fellows and 4 senior researchers, presented their works in eight concurrent sessions, which were organized based on scientific topics. Xiaodong Cheng (UTHealth) served as the chair of the trainee sessions. Judges for the trainees' presentations included Yu An, Chao Cheng, Yong Lu, Weiwei Dang, Guangwei Du, Qin Feng, Boyi Gan, Yang Gao, Shengqing Gu, Dongyin Guan, Leng Han, Bin He, Cynthia Ju, Hongjie Li, Yulin Li, Xinli Liu, Yang Liu, Yuan-Hung Lo, Weiyi Peng, Tao Wu, Tianfu Wu, Jianming Xu, Dihua Yu, and Hui Zheng. Sixteen finalists were selected from the preliminary round of oral presentation after each presented a two-minute elevator pitch to the full audience. The high scientific quality and outstanding presentation skills of our trainees created dilemma for our faculty judges: the final winners of the trainee's awards were determined from the finalists only after a heated and prolonged debate by all the judges.

The pinnacle of this symposium was the Professor Ying-Lai Wang Memorial Lecture "Deciphering the function of a stress granule protein linked to neurodegeneration" delivered by

symposium keynote speaker, Benjamin Tu, an internationally renowned biochemist and cell biologist at UTSouthwestern and Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Dr. Tu is particularly known for his seminal contributions to understanding how fundamental cellular processes are coordinated with metabolism and the metabolic state of the cell.

After the Keynote Lecture, Jin Wang presided the award ceremony of the prestigious SCBA-TX trainee awards. This year's winners were: Rong Zheng and Khushali Patel for the Sino Biological First place award (\$500); Garrett Jensen, Xin Yu, and Stephen Farmer for the second-place award (\$400); Manasee Gedam, Siyuan Song, Jing Cai, and Hongzhi Zeng, for the third-place award (\$300); Ran Cheng, Hailan Liu, Siyao Liu, Roshni Jaffery, Longlong Tu, and Yuhan Yang for the finalist awards (\$100). All the other 44 trainee presenters were awarded \$50 for their participation. The winner for the Professor Alexander Yeu-Ming Wang Memorial Scholarship (\$500) is Yikai Luo. This is a highly prestigious and competitive award that was established in 1995 by Professor Wang's family to honor Professor Alexander Yeu-Ming Wang for his contribution and achievement to science, education, Chinese community, and SCBA in which Wang served as a founder.

Following the award ceremony, Jin Wang, on behalf of his leadership team, concluded the symposium by thanking the attendees and speakers. He also specifically thanked Hellen Weng, wife of the late Professor Alexander Yeu-Ming Wang, for

her continuous support of the Professor Alexander Yeu-Ming Wang Memorial Scholarship. Dr. Weng was not able to attend the symposium and the award ceremony in person. The symposium ended around 5:30 pm after Dr. Wang passing the SCBA-TX meeting bell, a symbol of time, to the new SCBA-TX President, Yubin Zhou, who pledged another successful year for the SCBA-TX community. The extraordinary and exciting day was capped by a banquet at the famous Houston Chinese restaurant, Fung's Kitchen. With traditional Chinese dishes specially selected by Zheng Sun (BCM), exuberant speakers, sponsors and SCBA-TX members gathered together to celebrate another wonderful and memorable annual symposium and to look forward to many years of success ahead.

Organizing committee of the 2023 SCBA-TX symposium included President Jin Wang (BCM), President-Elect Yubin Zhou (TAMU), Treasurer Sherry Xue Gao (Rice), and Secretary Zheng Sun (BCM). In addition, many other members made significant contributions to the success of this SCBA-TX symposium. The symposium received generous support from the National SCBA and Wang Ying-Lai Foundation, as well as sponsorships from eight biotech companies, Sino Biological, Shanghai Model Organisms Center (USA), RWD Life Science, ABclonal, Healgen Scientific, Vazyme, AlpalifeBio, and Research Diets.

Update from the SCBA-Virology Division

The SCBA-Virology Division and the Association of Chinese Virologists in America (ACVA) have been holding monthly virtual seminars since 2022 on the last Thursdays of each month. From September to December 2023, three speakers presented on significant topics including Kaposi's Sarcoma-associated Herpesvirus (KSHV), genital herpesvirus infection, and vaccine development. Attendance ranged from 30 to 50 participants, including faculty members and trainees.

The seminar presenters and titles are:

1. Sep 21, 2023: **Shou-Jiang Gao**, Professor, University of Pittsburgh
Title: Methyladenosine (m6A) in KSHV infection, cellular transformation and innate immune response
2. Oct 30, 2023: **Jia Zhu**, Associate Professor, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center and University of Washington
Title: Deciphering optimal immune responses to genital herpes infection in human skin
3. Nov 30, 2023: **Haitao Hu**, Associate Professor, The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)
Title: RNA platform for development of vaccines and therapeutics

Noteworthy Achievements by our members in 2023:

- **Siyuan Ding** (Washington University in St. Louis) received the 2023 Ann Palmenberg Junior Investigator Award from the American Society of Virology (ASV). The award recognizes junior investigators who have made significant contributions to the field of virology and who display exceptional promise.

- **Yizhi Jane Tao** (Rice University) and **Ying Wang** (University of Florida) were invited speakers at ASV Annual Meeting.
- **Shan-Lu Liu** (The Ohio State University) was selected to host the 2024 ASV Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio, June 24-28, 2024.
- **Zhijian “James” Chen** (UT Southwestern Medical Center) was awarded the 2023 Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize in recognition of his groundbreaking work on innate immunity.
- **Weishan Huang** (Louisiana State University) was elected as SCBA Membership Committee Member (Jan.1, 2024 - Dec.31, 2025).
- **Wenshe R. Liu** (Texas A&M University) was elected as SCBA Council Member (Jan 1, 2024 – Dec.31, 2027).
- **Siyuan Ding** (Washington University in St. Louis) received the 2023 ACVA Young Investigator Award in recognition his outstanding scientific achievements in virology research and promising trajectory of career development.
- **Zihai Li** was appointed as the Deputy Director for translational research at Ohio State University James Cancer Center.
- **Tongqing Zhou** (National Institute of Health) was recognized as Claivate Highly Cited Researcher in Microbiology.
- **Bo Liang** (Emory University) published a paper titled “Structures of the promoter-bound respiratory syncytial virus polymerase” in Nature.
- **Lishan Su** (University of Maryland) serves as the President of SCBA (Jan .1, 2024-Dec.31, 2025)

- **Lai-Xi Wang** (University of Maryland) is elected Fellow of National Academy of Inventors.

Member activities:



- ACVA Summer gathering took place at Athens, Georgia, which was generously sponsored by Dr. Biao He (University of Georgia). Member attendees are: Bin He, Jianrong Li, Jia Liu, Weihuan Fang, Xiaoyong Bao, Zhiqiang Qin, Wenjun Ma, Jun Zhao, Renfeng Li, Kun Li, Dong-Yan Jin, Shan-Lu Liu, Biao He, Yizhi Jane Tao, Ying Wang, Siyuan Ding, Zhilong Yang, Qian Liu, Chong Wang, Benjamin Liu, Bin Zhou, River Xiao, Shihua Xiang, Qiyi Tang, and Xiu-Feng (Henry) Wan
- **Shou-Jiang (SJ) Gao and Dr. Haitao Guo** (Cancer Virology Program Co-leaders at University of Pittsburgh) organized a Viral Oncology Symposium at the University of Pittsburgh.

ACVA welcomes new members in 2023:

- Chong Wang (University of Minnesota - UMN)
- Minghua Li (University of Texas Medical Branch - UTMB)
- Weishan Huang (Louisiana State University - LSU)
- Kun Li (Cleveland Clinic Florida - CCF-Florida)
- Chang Liu (Johns Hopkins University - JHU)
- Xuping Xie (University of Texas Medical Branch - UTMB)

- Nicholas WU (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign - UIUC)
- Xiuqing Wang (South Dakota State University - SDSU)
- Guochun Jiang (University of North Carolina - UNC)
- Pengwei Zhang (University of Nebraska)
- Jian Xie (University of Nebraska)
- Ben Liu (Children's National Hospital)
- Victor Tse (Saint Louis University - SLU)
- Yize Li (Arizona State University - ASU)

Renfeng Li, Ph.D.

President, SCBA-Virology Division

Update from the SCBA-Washington DC Chapter

The 2023 SCBA-Washington DC Chapter held its annual scientific symposium at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland on October 7, 2023. The symposium attracted over 100 attendees from the universities and institutions in the Washington DC, Virginia and Maryland areas, including the NIH, Children's National Hospital, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Virginia



Commonwealth University, University of Virginia, University of Maryland, and Johns Hopkins University. The symposium provided an exciting venue for scientific

interactions among both Chinese and non-Chinese bioscientists in the great Washington DC areas.

The symposium started with the opening remarks from Mitchell Ho (NIH) with a main theme of “Diseases and Translational Research”. Three Scientific Sessions cover “Neuroscience and Neurological Diseases”, “Cancer Biology and Therapeutics”, and “Immunological, Infectious and Metabolic Diseases”. Session I, chaired by Wei Li (NIH) and Yihong Ye (NIH) covers a variety of neurological diseases, including mechanistic investigation of itch and pain by Xinzhong Dong [(Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)], Rett syndrome by Hui Lu (George Washington University), RNA metabolism in neurological diseases by Shuying Sun (JHU), and immune regulation in neuroendocrine homeostasis by Chuan Wu (NIH). Session II, chaired by Ying Zhang (NIH) and Lishan Su (University of Maryland), presents cancer-related research from RUNX1-associated myeloid leukemia in the Familial Platelet Disorder by Paul Liu (NIH), cancer cell plasticity and drug resistance by Chunling Yi (Georgetown), and drug repurposing screen and AI-based modelling and virtual screen by Wei Zheng (NIH). This session also includes two short presentations selected from over 40 Abstracts by Dan Li (NIH) and Yinghua Li (Children's National Hospital). Session III, chaired by Wei Yang (NIH), features three presentations on SARS-CoV-2 pathogenesis and therapy by Jack Liang (NIH), lymphocyte regulomes in neurodegeneration by Han-Yu Shih (NIH), and metabolic role of ER-associated degradation by Ling Qi, Chair of Department of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics at the University of Virginia. Chengfei Jiang (NIH) presented a short talk on single-cell transcriptomics of liver diseases.

The symposium was culminated by the keynote presentation by **Liqun Luo**, an HHMI investigator and a member of National Academy of Sciences from Stanford University, who delivered an exciting lecture on fundamental biology of drives and their competition.

The symposium has two panel discussions focusing on career development in biopharmaceutical industry by Angela Zeng (AstraZeneca) and Daozhan Yu (AAVnerGene), and in NIH extramural programs and the Brain Initiative by Yong Yao (NIH) and Zhong Chen (NIH). A poster session was held from which six presenters were selected to receive the Best Poster Award. The awardees are Daniel Treisman, Liu Liu, Jing Zeng, Jinchutha Duangdara, Yaojie Fu and Binbin Ma.

Yuan Zhu from the Children’s National Hospital and Wei Li from the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health (NIH/NEI) co-organized this one-day symposium. Yufei Jiang, the secretary of the SCBA-Washington DC Chapter, managed meeting logistics. Volunteers from the NIH-CSSA also helped with the meeting. Yihong Ye of the NIH served as the meeting photographer. Importantly, this symposium received generous sponsorship support from AAVnerGene, GenScript, Life Scientists’ Service Center, Quintara Biosciences and TianGen.

Yuan Zhu, President-Elect

Wei Li

Mitchell Ho, President

New SCBA members 2023

We are happy to welcome the following new members who joined SCBA in 2023:

Yuan-Chin Hua Xiaojuan	Tsai Wang Chao	Taipei Medical University anhui medical university First Affilliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University University of New South Wales
Hongyuan	Yang	University of Texas Health San Antonio
Juli	Bai	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Bishuang	Cai	University of Michigan Baylor College of Medicine
Eugene Dongyin	Chen Guan	Indiana University Georgetown University NIH/NLM
Renzhi Haiyan Xiaofang Ningling Wentao	Han He Jiang Kang Li	University of Minnesota University of Georgia University of Michigan Mayo Clinic Johns Hopkins Texas A&M University UCSD
Jiandie Mengfei Chang Wenshe Li-Fan James	Lin Liu Liu Liu Lu Ou	University of Southern California University of Virginia Medical School George Washington University
ling	qi	University of Illinois at Chicago
Xiangyun	Qiu	University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Lijun	Rong	University of Virginia UT Health San Antonio University of Cincinnati Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Yan	Shu	UTHealth Temple University School of Medicine
Tianliang	Sun	UTHealth Houston UCLA
Shengyi Xiaoli Chenran Liheng	Sun Sun Wang Wang	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Yankai Sheng	Wen Wu	University of Iowa University of Maryland, Baltimore
Xiaoqin Grace Jia	Wu Xiao Xu	University of California, Davis
Ling Min	Yang Yu	
Aiming	Yu	

Weizhen	Zhang	the University of Michigan
Peng	Zhao	UT Health San Antonio
Steven	Zheng	Rutgers University
Yan	Bi	Mayo Clinic FL
Xin	Chen	University of Hawaii Cancer Center
KUO	DU	Duke University
Peijian	He	Emory University
Hai	Huang	Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research
Gordon	Jiang	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Vivian	Jiang	MD Anderson Cancer Center
Xiaosong	Jiang	UC Davis
Victor	Jin	Rutgers University Robert Wood Johnson Med. Sch.
Xiaohong	Li	College of Medicine and Life Sciences, The University of Toledo
Tiebing	Liang	Indiana University, school of medicine
Xiaojing	Liu	North Carolina State University
Xinshou	Ouyang	Yale University
Liang	Xu	University of Kansas
Daozhan	Yu	AAVnerGene Inc.
Yi	Zhu	Baylor College of Medicine
Hongze	Chen	tulane university
Ying	Hao	National Institutes of Health
yijun	liao	Johns Hopkins University
Zhongbin	Wang	Childrens National Hospital
Qin	Wang	University of Washington, Seattle
Yongtao	Wang	Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

A welcome note from Executive Directors to 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.



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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