



CONTENTS

1. Notes from the 2020-2021 SCBA Leadership Team
2. SCBA Statement on Anti-Asian Racism and Hate Crime
3. Notes from the SCBA Webmaster
4. Notes from the Membership Committee
5. Notes from Dr. Chris Lau, Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of Cell & Biosciences
6. Nomination for 2021 SCBA Election
7. A welcome note from Executive Directors to new members

Notes from the 2020-2021 SCBA Leadership Team

Notes from SCBA President

Dear Fellow SCBA Members and Friends,

Usually the end of a year is a time for reflection. The past year has been anything but usual. March became a time of reflection as it was March 2020 when CDC declared Covid-19 a pandemic and our lives abruptly and drastically changed. Directly relevant to the SCBA, we had to make multiple changes regarding our biennial conference originally scheduled for the summer of 2021. Our initial plan was to have the meeting in Changchun, China. When the pandemic hit, international travel became a concern and we decided to take the meeting back to US and hold it in Boston in July 2021, feeling very confident that the pandemic would be long over. Indeed, we have finalized the venue and assembled all the

committees. Little did we know that the situation would become so dire and, by the end of 2020, it became apparent that a summer 2021 gathering would be too risky, and we made the painful but sensible decision to postpone it to July 2022. Finally, there is good reason to believe that we are at the end of this very long and dark tunnel. I hope many of you have been vaccinated and are able to enjoy the blooming spring flowers free of anxiety.

In the past three months, the SCBA participated in two initiatives impacting the Chinese American scientists. One is joining the call for a congressional hearing on racial profiling of Asian American and Chinese Scientists; the other is the involvement of the newly formed Chinese Scholar Forum. A letter requesting the hearing was initiated by Maryland State Senator Susan Lee and Chair of the Board of the Institute of Human Virology at the University of Maryland Terry Lierman, and was delivered to Representative Jamie Raskin (MD-8), Chair of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, in early February. The purpose is to urge Congress to take steps to end racial profiling and unfair investigations into researchers and scholars of Chinese descent. Mr. Frank Wu, President of Queens College, City University of New York, has agreed to testify at the hearing representing the SCBA and a number of other organizations. We hope that such a hearing will take place in the near future. The Chinese American Scholar Forum was established following the criminal accusation of Gang Chen, a prominent MIT professor. The short term goal is to organize webinars and to engage dialogs among various entities. So far the Forum has hosted two

webinars: One presented by the well-known lawyer Brian Sun and the other a dialog with the Department of Justice on China Initiative. Both were well-attended. I hope you had a chance to tune in and I encourage you to attend future events. I should note that SCBA hosted a related webinar in April 2020, Which was moderated by Frank Wu and presented by well-known legal minds Paul Thaler and Shanlon Wu and was well attended by our members.

I will end where I started. With the Covid-19 under control (hopefully) and herd immunity within reach, the SCBA leadership has started the preparation for our biennial (triannual in this case) conference. Stay tuned for more information in the next Newsletter.

Dr. Hui Zheng, SCBA President



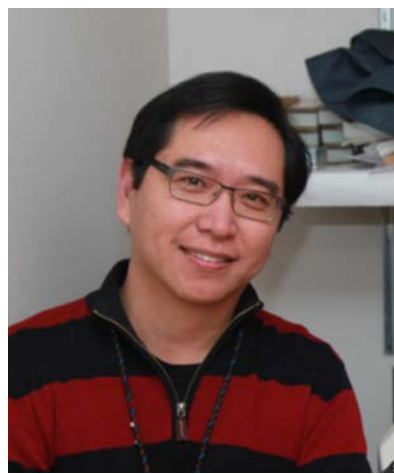
Notes from SCBA Secretary

Dear SCBA members,

In the first three months of 2021, we have witnessed the attack on the U.S. Capitol and the inauguration of President Joe Biden, two historical moments of the U.S. history. We will also remember the horrific shooting in Atlanta and the rise of the “Stop Asian Hate” movement. As a society of Chinese bioscientists in America, the SCBA stands in solidarity with the AAPI community and applauds the efforts to put a stop to Asian hate. In this

issue of newsletter, we are proud to present a SCBA Statement on Anti-Asian Hate Crime, expressing our view at this critical juncture for the Asian community in America.

We are continuing to prepare for the 2021 SCBA biennial symposium. A new meeting venue in Boston will be selected soon. We will also initiate the nomination for the 2021 election of SCBA Officers. The Nomination Committee is co-Chaired by Drs. Zhi-Ming Zheng and Jun Li. An announcement of nomination is included in this newsletter. The deadline of nomination is July 1, 2021. We encourage you to nominate your fellow members or yourself for these Officer positions, helping SCBA grow and thrive in the coming years.



Dr. Lee Zou, SCBA Secretary

Notes from SCBA Treasurer

Dear Fellow SCBA Members,

I hope everyone is well.

During the first quarter of 2021, 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. As the Tax Day approaches, the committee

will work with the local Chapters and Divisions to prepare for the 2021 Tax Return.

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, things appear to get better as the rolling out the vaccines. Indeed, I myself have been vaccinated...

I wish everyone a wonderful 2021!



Dr. Yong Xu, SCBA Treasurer



SCBA Statement on Anti-Asian Racism and Hate Crime

Recently there has been a notable increase in hatred and violence toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), influenced by irresponsible political rhetoric and xenophobia surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic. There were close to 4000 anti-Asian incidents in the U.S. in the past year alone and many more went unreported. The recent hate crime involving the shooting victims in Atlanta, Georgia is a watershed moment. The SCBA stands in solidarity with the AAPI community and we applaud the efforts taken by numerous institutions and organizations to put a stop to Asian hate. We strive to promote diversity, equity and inclusion and we condemn all actions of racism, bigotry, and violence toward Asian Americans or any other ethnic groups.

Science Editorial: Reckoning with Asian America

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Notes from the SCBA Webmaster

Dear SCBA members,

To support the “Stop Asian Hate” movement, SCBA releases its Statement on Anti-Asian Racism and Hate Crime, which is now showing on the home page of our website.

We are constantly updating the SCBA website <https://www.scbasociety.org/> with new contents and new features:

1. Web-based membership management system

Please remember to update your membership profile if you have not done so. You can do this by following the following simple steps:

- 1) Click on the SCBA website link here: <https://www.scbasociety.org/> and login from the top right corner using your email as the login name. Type in password or click “Forgot Password” to reset the password.
- 2) Once you login, click on the “Membersip” tab, then “Join Us”. This will bring you to the “Edit your member profile” page.
- 3) Click on “Edit your member profile”, it will bring you to your unique Membership Profile page. Please go over the informaotin to make sure they are accurate. To update, click on the top left “Edit Profile” button.
- 4) In “Area of Expertise”, please choose your expertise in the pull-down list or type in new key words for your expertise. These key words are searchable by all SCBA members to facilitate collaboration and network.

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 infortion 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>

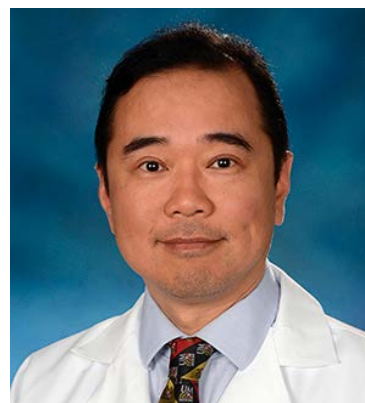
3. Donations

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.

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.

Thank you very much for your support!



Dr. Zhe “Zion” Han, SCBA Webmaster

2. Conferences and Events

Notes from the Membership Committee

1) Starting from January 1, 2021, the SCBA has increased the rates for its membership.

Regular Membership Fees:

1. Those residing in North America, \$50 annual membership fees
2. Those residing outside North America, \$40 annual membership fees

Life-time Membership Fees:

1. The International Lifetime membership category, it will be \$400 **onetime** fees.
2. The lifetime membership for those residing in North America will be \$500 **onetime** fees.

2) The SCBA welcomes a total of 49 new members:

| | | |
|-----------------|------|---|
| Ping | An | Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research |
| Zhiqiang | An | University of Texas Health Science Center |
| Zhijian (James) | Chen | UT Southwestern Medical Center |
| Daiqin | Chen | Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine |
| Shu-Hsia | Chen | Houston Methodist Research Institute |
| Rene | Chun | UCLA |
| Liang | Deng | Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center |
| Shou-Jiang | Gao | University of Pittsburgh Medical Center |

| | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| PEISONG | Gao | Johns Hopkins University |
| Dale | Hu | NIH/NIAID |
| Yun | Huang | Texas A&M University, Institute of Biosciences and Technology |
| Wendong | Huang | City of Hope National Medical Center |
| Feng | Li | University of Kentucky |
| Guiying | Li | Key Laboratory for Molecular Enzymology and Engineering of Ministry of Education, Jilin University |
| Hongmin | Li | University of Arizona |
| Wei | Li | NIH |
| Jiayu | Liao | UCR |
| Binhua "Julie" | Ling | Texas Biomedical Research Institute |
| Jia | Liu | University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences |
| Wenjun | Ma | University of Missouri |
| Xiaobo | Mao | Johns Hopkins University |
| Qing | Miao | New York University Long Island School of Medicine |
| Xiao | Ni | MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| Yongming | Sang | Tennessee state university |

| | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| Liang | Shan | Washington University in St. Louis |
| Zheng-Li | Shi | Wuhan Institute of Virology |
| Lishan | Su | Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland School of Medicine |
| Qiyi | Tang | Howard University |
| zhao | wang | Baylor college of Medicine |
| Jin | Wang | Baylor College of Medicine |
| Jun | Wang | University of Arizona |
| Linfa | Wang | Duke-NUS Medical School |
| Xiaofeng | Wang | Virginia Tech |
| Zhongde | Wang | Utah state university |
| Jiou | Wang | Johns Hopkins University |
| Qihong | Wang | The Ohio State University |
| Shixia | Wang | University of Massachusetts Medical School |
| Bin | Wang | MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| PENGHU A | WAN G | University of Connecticut Health Center |
| Haitao | Wen | The Ohio State University |

| | | |
|----------|-------|---|
| Yankai | Wen | UTHealth |
| Min | Wu | University of North Dakota |
| Chuan | Xiao | University of Texas at El Paso |
| Huanbin | Xu | Tulane University |
| Li | Zhang | University of Maryland School of Medicine |
| Shuxing | Zhang | MD Anderson Cancer Center |
| Wei | Zhong | UNC Greensboro |
| Qingsong | Zhu | Insilico Medicine US Inc |
| Junyi | Zhu | University of Maryland Baltimore |
| Fanxiu | Zhu | Florida State University |

Membership Committee

Yuan Zhu (Chair)

Baohua Liu

Mitchell Ho

Feng Yang

Burton Yang

Notes from Editor-in-Chief of Cell & Bioscience

Dear SCBA Members,

Cell & Bioscience is the SCBA society journal. It has grown significantly since its inception in 2009. Under the leadership of former Editor-in-Chief, Yun-Bo Shi of NIH, it has achieved tremendous success as an elite multi-discipline journal with a recent two-year impact factor of 5.026. Early estimate suggests that the impact factor will likely increase further in 2020, when it is announced in June of this year. For 2020, we received a total of 910 submissions to the journal, which is significantly higher than prior years. This number is anticipated to increase even further in 2021. The success suggests that Cell & Bioscience has become a valuable journal for investigators to report their scientific findings, and it also posts a challenge(s) for the Editorial Board to evaluate expeditiously the merits of these submissions. This demand exerts a heavy load(s) on the Editors, who are working on a voluntary basis as experts in their respective fields. In order to identify solutions for these challenges, An Editorial Board meeting was held on February 17, 2021 via Zoom with majority of the Editors participating remotely. The discussion is briefly summarized in the following.

The Publisher, Ms. Rebecca Pearce, presented a comprehensive overview of the journal with information on the numbers of submissions, acceptance, published articles and rates of acceptance, rejection and withdrawal from 2015-2020. Importantly, the recent acceptance rates for the past two years were about 20%, suggesting that only high-quality manuscripts are likely to be accepted for the journal.

With the significant increases in both submissions and impact factor in recent years, a reorganization of the Editorial Board is essential to address these challenges. The Editor-in-Chief led a general discussion, which

resulted in the established of a system for the Editorial Board of Cell & Bioscience. All Editors, including the Editor-in-Chief, Associate Editor-in-Chief, Editors, and members of the Editorial Board will now serve on *renewable* terms, ranging from 3 to 5 years, thereby providing opportunity for review of the mutual commitments of the Editors and Editorial Board members with the journal in regular intervals. An Editorial Administrative Committee (Editorial Committee), consisting of the Editor-in-Chief (Chair) and the Associate Editor-in-Chiefs, is being established. As a group, the Editorial Committee will administer and make decisions on the daily business of the journal.

The classifications of the specific fields of journal are being refined and now consist of 8 general classifications with the Editor-in-Chief and the three Associate Editor-in-Chiefs serving as Section Editors of two classifications of their respective expertise. A streamline review process is being established. To lessen the loads of the current Editors and to increase the available expertise, we are actively recruiting qualified Editors/Board members/reviewers in scientific areas currently lacking in the Editorial Board. We hope that this reorganization will provide means to efficiently evaluate the merits of the large volume of submissions and the opportunity to select the high-quality manuscripts for publication in Cell & Bioscience.

Other matters, such as the annual selection of Ming Jeang Awards and Thematic Series and scientific integrity of submissions, were discussed. The Editorial Board meeting was adjourned after close to 2-hour fruitful discussion.

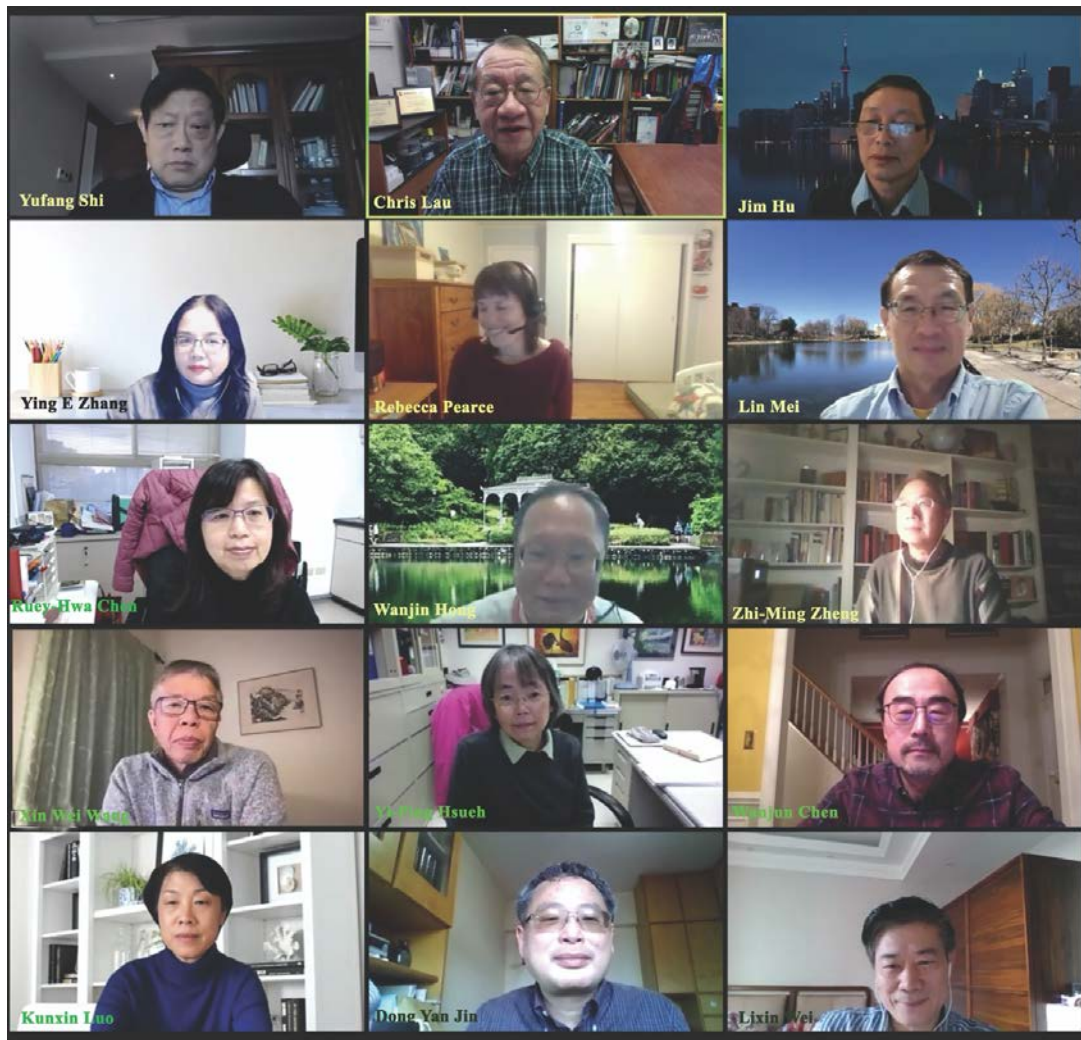
As members of the Society, there are numerous ways you can participate and help to foster the growth of our journal. You can submit research and/or review articles of your field(s) to the journal for publication. Your submissions will greatly improve the scientific

standing on the quality of publications in Cell & Bioscience. You can also serve and/or recommend qualified colleagues or associates to serve on the Editorial Board. In particular, serving as reviewers could promote the scientific development of junior colleagues under your supervision. As the new classification system is implemented, please logon to the journal portal and update your profile and provide a few personal keywords of your specialty on our database. We like to hear from you with your questions and suggestions or proposal(s) for thematic series via email: chris.lau@ucsf.edu. Please visit the journal website for further information about the journal, current and previous thematic series as well as instruction for manuscript submission: <https://cellandbioscience.biomedcentral.com/>.



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

Thank you very much for your support



2021 SCBA Election

Call for Nominations of Candidates for the Election of SCBA Officers

In accordance with the SCBA Bylaw, the Nomination Committee is calling for the nominations of candidates for the 2021 SCBA Election of the Chief Operating Officers (COOs) and membership of Council and Nomination and Membership Committees.

Regulation and Submission Process of Nominations

- 1) The nominated candidates must be a lifetime member of SCBA at the time be nominated in order to be eligible to stand for election.
- 2) The candidates can be nominated by a SCBA member or self-nominated.
- 3) The deadline of nomination is July 1, 2021.
- 4) Nomination package includes
 - The Nomination form (see the last page).
 - CV of the nominee
- 5) The nomination should be sent to:
 - Jun Lu, Yale University (jun.lu@yale.edu) the Co-Chair of the Nomination Committee
 - Copy to Lee Zou (lzou1@mg.harvard.edu), the Secretary of SCBA.

Selection Process

The Nomination Committee will

- 1) review the nominations, and convene a meeting following the nomination deadline
- 2) propose an official ballot and obtain a brief curriculum vita and a description of service to the Society from each of the nominees for each position, based on the eligibility and willingness to serve of the nominees, the Nominating Committee
- 3) tabulate a list of candidates for the consideration and final approval by the SCBA Council.

The Executive Director shall forward the official ballot to all Active Members on or before August 15, 2021 for a vote by electronic means.

The finalists of the nominated candidates will also be posted on the SCBA website: <http://www.scbasociety.org/>.

Voting Process

The members will select their choices of the respective positions by filling out their election ballots and submit the ballots via emails to: Xi He (Xi.He@childrens.harvard.edu), the Co-Executive Director and Yong Xu (yongxu@bcm.edu), the Treasurer of SCBA by September 15, 2021 deadline.

The ballots shall be opened by the Executive Director and the Treasurer in the presence of at least one other Council member or person designated in writing by a Council member.

The results of the election shall be tabulated, rectified, and submitted to the Council for final approval. The elected individuals will be informed of the results, and the election results will be posted on the official website of the Society and announced in the September 2021 issue of SCBA Newsletter.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chair of the Nomination Committee, Jun Lu (jun.lu@yale.edu), or the Co-Executive Directors, Xi He (Xi.He@childrens.harvard.edu) or Chris Lau (chris.lau@ucsf.edu) for clarification.

The NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Jun Lu (Yale University; jun.lu@yale.edu), Co-Chair

Zhi-Ming Zheng (National Institutes of Health; zhengzhiming4@gmail.com), Co-Chair

Jinsong Liu (University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; jliu@mdanderson.org)

Heyu Ni (University of Toronto; nih@smh.ca)

Hong-Shuo Sun (University of Toronto; hss.sun@utoronto.ca)

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Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America

Available Positions

The positions, and their terms and duties, as described in the SCBA Bylaws, are listed below. The Nomination Committee urges all the SCBA members to nominate the best suitable candidates who represent the interests of the SCBA members and lead the Society moving forward in the future.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (number): term of service

1. **President** (1): January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Society and shall preside at all meetings of the Council. Subject to the control of the Council, the President shall have general executive charge, management, and control of the properties, business, and operations of the Society with all such powers as may be reasonably incident to such responsibilities; shall have the authority to agree upon and execute all leases, contracts, evidences of indebtedness, and other obligations in the name of the Society subject to the approval of the Council; and shall have such other powers and duties as may be designated in these Bylaws and as may be assigned to such officer from time to time by the Council. The President shall take a leadership role in the organization and implementation of a Biannual International Symposium during his/her tenure.

2. **Secretary** (1): January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Council in books provided for that purpose; shall attend to the giving and serving of all notices; shall organize the Council Meeting and all Council meetings; in furtherance of the Society's purposes and subject to the limitations contained in the Articles of Incorporation, may sign with the President in the name and on behalf of the Society and/or attest the signatures thereto, all contracts, conveyances, franchises, bonds, deeds, assignments, mortgages, notes, and other instruments of the Society; shall have charge of the Society's books; records, documents, and instruments, except the books of account and financial records and securities of which the Treasurer shall have custody and charge, and such other books and papers as the Council may direct, all of which shall be open at reasonable times to the inspection of any Member upon application at the Society's office during business hours and approved by a majority vote of the Council; and shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary subject to the control of the Council.

3. **Treasurer** (1): January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

The Treasurer shall have custody of all of the Society's funds and securities that come into such officer's hands. When necessary or proper, the Treasurer may endorse or cause to be endorsed, in the name and on behalf of the Society, checks, notes, and other obligations for collection and shall deposit or cause to be deposited the same to the credit of the Society in such bank or banks, or financial depositories and in such manner as shall be designated and prescribed by the Council; may sign or cause to be signed all receipts and vouchers for payments made to the Society either alone or jointly with such other officer as may be designated by the Council; whenever required by the Council, shall render or cause to be rendered a statement of the cash account; shall enter or cause to be entered regularly in the Society's books to be kept by such officer for that purpose full and accurate accounts of all money received and paid out on account of the Society; shall perform all acts incident to the position of Treasurer subject to the control of the Council; and shall, if required by the Council, give such bond for the faithful discharge of such officer's duties in such form as the Council may require.

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COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES (number): term of service

4. Council Member (2): January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2025

Two Councilors shall be elected every other year by mail or electronic ballot to serve for a period of four years and shall assume office on the first day of January of the following year. Councilors shall (i) attend each meeting of the Council, (ii) advise the President with respect to financial matters, the Society's publications, national and international issues that may affect the future of the Society and other matters relating to the Society, the local chapters and the membership, and (iii) serve as liaisons to other scientific and professional societies. Councilors shall not be eligible for immediate reelection, unless such election is recommended by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) or more of the other members of the Council or a majority vote of the Active Members.

5. Nomination Committee (6): January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023

A Chair and five (5) members of the Society, who hold no other elective office, shall be elected to be the Nomination Committee by mail or electronic ballot on the second year of the new administration of the SCBA.

The six candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; the one receiving the most votes shall serve as the Chairperson. The Nominating Committee members shall assume their responsibility on January 1 immediately following the year of their election for a two-year term. It shall be the responsibility of the Nominating Committee to identify and nominate potential candidates for elected offices of the Society in the election process, starting at the end of the first year of the new administration, with a schedule to be completed before May 15 of the second year, according to the specifications defined by the SCBA Bylaws.

6. Membership Committee (6). January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023.

A Chair and five (5) members of the Society, who hold no other elective office, shall be elected to be the Membership Committee by mail or electronic ballot on the second year of the new administration of the SCBA. The six candidates who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; the one receiving the most votes shall serve as the Chairperson. The Membership Committee members shall assume their responsibility on January 1 immediately following the year of their election for a two-year term. The Membership Committee shall organize national and local membership drive activities, review and approve membership applications, review and present the record of Members with problems, as defined by these Bylaws, for possible Council action or expulsion, and work closely with the Executive Director in updating membership profiles and publishing the membership directory. The Membership Committee shall also act as a liaison to the local chapters and international membership nominees to serve as officers and representatives of the Society. The Membership Committee shall also identify and recruit individuals with special scientific and technical expertise by nominating them for membership in the Society.

Notes:

All nominations and self-nominations are welcome.

Please contact the Nomination Committee Co-Chairs and its Members, COOs and the Co-Executive Directors, for discussion of likely candidates for various positions in this election, if you have any questions. The contact information is listed at the beginning of this announcement, and on the SCBA website: <http://www.scbasociety.org/>

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Election Nomination Form

Name of Position: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Title and Affiliation: _____

Contact Information: _____

Qualifications and Achievements: (also attached detailed curriculum vitae of Nominee)

Nominated by: _____

Contact and Affiliation of Nominator: _____

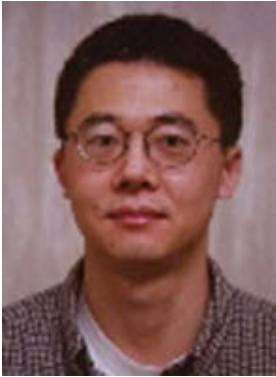
Send nomination and a copy of the CV of the nominee via e-mail to: Jun Lu, Co-Chair, Nomination Committee, jun.lu@yale.edu and cc a copy to the Secretary, Lee Zou, lzou1@mgh.harvard.edu, before July 1, 2021.

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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Production Editor: Chris Lau, Ph.D.
(chris.lau@ucsf.edu)

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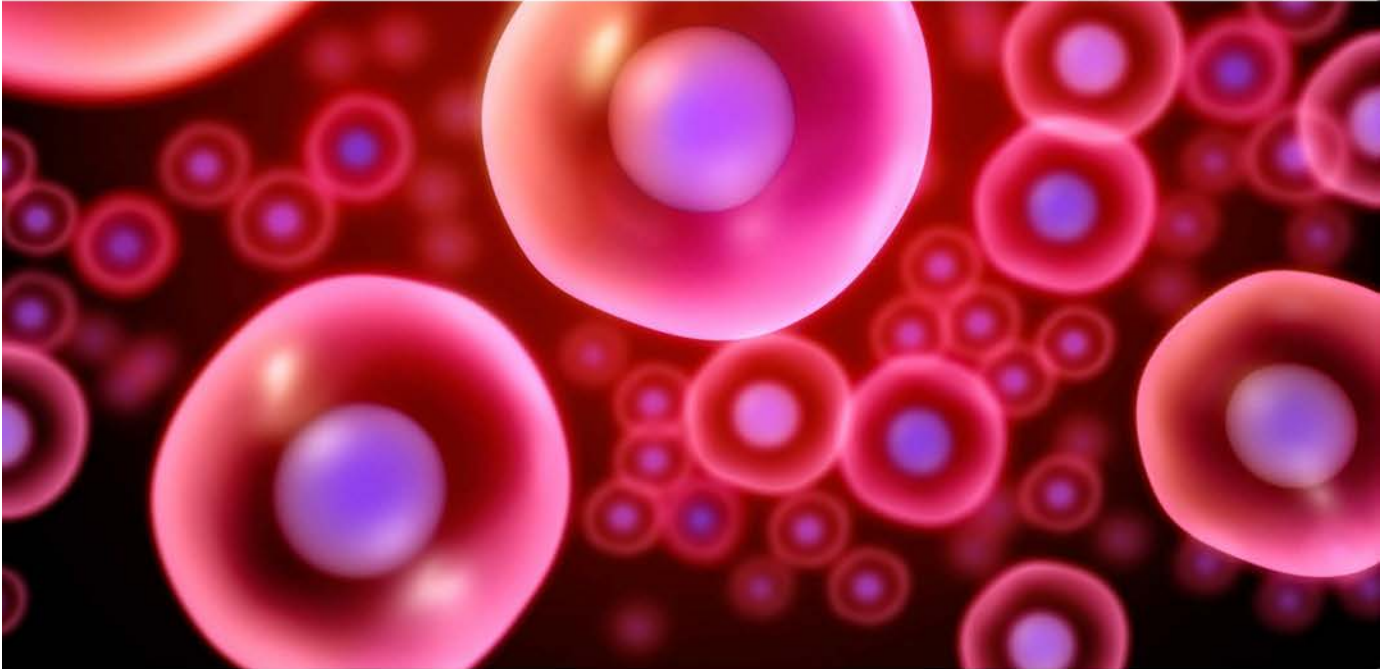
Cell & Bioscience

Average time to first decision 35 days

Editor-in-Chief: Yun-Fai Chris Lau (USA)


2-year
IMPACT
FACTOR
5.026

5-year
IMPACT
FACTOR
4.443



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