

Sino-American Pharmaceutical
Professionals Association Connecticut (SAPA-CT)



SAPA-CT

康涅狄格美中医药协会
www.SAPA-CT.org

Bringing Breakthroughs, Discoveries and
Advanced Therapies to Patients
December 2, 2023

The 10th SAPA-CT Annual Conference



Location:
TAC Auditorium
Yale University
300 Cedar Street
New Haven, CT



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Bringing
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Greeting Message from the SAPA-CT President

Dear SAPA-CT members and friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to our first, in-person, Annual Meeting since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. This meeting marks the special significance 10-year Anniversary of our Sino-American Pharmaceutical Professionals Association–Connecticut (SAPA-CT), and a significant milestone in our collective journey towards rebuilding our communities and restoring a sense of normalcy to our daily lives.

In reflection, the past two years brought forth its share of trials and triumphs. Together, with our dedicated members, unwavering partners, generous sponsors, and dedicated volunteers, we have achieved remarkable milestones. SAPA-CT has a unique perspective spanning from bench-to-bedside, academia to biotech, with a dedicated emphasis on career development at every stage. We successfully hosted our signature events, including a series of Career Development Workshops. In alignment with the One SAPA initiative, we have co-organized Scientific Symposium and the 30th SAPA Annual Conference with SAPA-HQ and other chapters. SAPA-CT continues to serve as a beacon of trust and connectivity within our communities, offering invaluable learning and growth opportunities. Our outreach has expanded, and our organization has grown stronger.

Looking back, the past two years has been a profound journey of learning and growth for SAPA-CT team leaders and myself personally. Many of our team leaders have transformed into more independent and efficient leaders within their respective functional teams, and I take great pride in their accomplishments and their valuable contributions to the organization. It has also been a distinguished honor to serve as the SAPA-CT president, and I am deeply grateful for the insights gained and the connections forged during this memorable segment of our SAPA story. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow leaders, colleagues, volunteers, and friends. Your unwavering trust and support have been the bedrock of our achievements. It is through your dedication and collaborative spirit that SAPA-CT has thrived, even in the face of adversity. As I pass the torch to Lily, our incoming president, I do so with the utmost confidence in the bright future that lies ahead for our association.

Today, our esteemed speakers, academic and industry leaders in their respective fields, will be equipping us with the tools, knowledge, and insights on “Bringing Breakthroughs, Discoveries, and Advanced Therapies to Patients”. By coming together and learning from one another, we hope that our Annual Meeting will serve as a beginning for new connections, ideas, and collaborations.

Once again, I extend my warmest welcome to you all, and I look forward to meeting everyone of you at our meeting.

Sincerely,

Chao Zheng, Ph.D.,
SAPA-CT President (2021-2023) and 2023 SAPA-CT Annual Conference Chair
Assistant Professor, University of Toronto



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Agenda

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- 8:30 - 8:40am **Opening Remarks by SAPA-CT Chapter Presidents**
Chao Zheng, Ph.D., President of SAPA-CT, Chair
Xiaoyong Yang, Ph.D., Immediate Past President of SAPA-CT
- 8:40 - 8:45am **Title Sponsor Opening Remark AiPing Pharmaceutical**
Conference Perspectives and SPAP-CT 10-Year Anniversary Celebration
Lily Li, Ph.D., President-elect of SAPA-CT, Co-Chair
- 8:45 - 9:15am **Keynote Speech: Regeneron Technologies Accelerate Development of Antibody Therapeutics**
Gang Chen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Regeneron
Moderator: Xiaoyong Yang, Ph.D.
- 9:15 - 9:45am **Keynote Speech: Bench-to-bedside...to Biotech? Perspectives from an Academic Founder**
Ranjit S. Bindra, M.D., Ph.D., Harvey and Kate Cushing Professor, Yale University
Moderator: Chao Zheng, Ph.D.
- 9:45 - 10:15am **Keynote Speech: PET Imaging in Drug Development**
Henry Huang, Ph.D., Professor and Co-Director of Yale PET Center & Director of Chemistry, Yale University
Moderator: Lily Li, Ph.D.
- 10:15 - 10:30am **Coffee Break & Sponsor Time & Session Photo**
- 10:30 - 11:30am **Session I: Frontier of Precision Medicine**
Section Chairs: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Qing Liang, Ph.D.
Moderators: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Xiuling Lu, Ph.D., Xiaobo Zhong, Ph.D.
- 10:30 - 10:50 **"RDC: Imaging and therapeutic potentials"**
Qing Liang, Ph.D., CEO, Neulink pharma
- 10:50 - 11:10 **"Therapeutic targeting of metabolic fluxes in precision oncology"**
Weiping Han, Ph.D., Distinguished Principal Scientist, Laboratory of Neurometabolic Diseases, A*STAR
- 11:10 - 11:30 **"Gene editing for, of and as immunotherapy"**
Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Department of Genetics, Yale University
- 11:35am - 12:20pm **Lunch Time & Sponsor Time & Group Photo**
- 12:20 - 13:40pm **Session II: Accelerating Drug Discovery by Generative AI**
Section Chairs: Shicheng Guo, Ph.D., Zhiyong(Sean) Xie, Ph.D.
Moderators: Shicheng Guo, Ph.D., Kai Ying, Ph.D., Huijuan Zhong, Ph.D., Li Zhong, M.S.
- 12:20 - 12:40 **"From Generative AI to Clinic: End-to-End Drug Discovery and Development Driven by AI"**
Alex Zhavoronkov, Ph.D., Insilicon Medicine
- 12:40 - 13:00 **"Realising the potential in digital health"**
Jamie Lu, M.B.A., Chief Commercial Officer, Curety
- 13:00 - 13:20 **"Enhancing Clinical Prediction: A Deep Learning Approach with Transformer-Based Models"**
Kui Shen, Ph.D., Director of Statistics, Bayer
- 13:20 - 13:40 **Panel Discussion:**
Zhiyong(Sean) Xie, Ph.D., Vice President, Xellar Biosystem
Xiaoyan Wang, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Life Science Solutions
Frank Gao, Ph.D., Director of Chemistry, Insilicon Medicine



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- 13:40 - 14:10 Keynote Speech: Understanding Protein Dynamics for Structure-based Drug Design - Design Story of Crizotinib, Lorlatinib and Repotrectinib
Jingrong Jean Cui, Ph.D., Scientific Founder, President and CEO, BlossomHill Therapeutics, Inc.
Moderator: Chao Zheng, Ph.D.
- 14:10 - 15:40 **Session III: Biotech Innovation**
Section Chairs: Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Yulian Zhang, Ph.D.
Moderators: Yong Yue, Ph.D., Yiqun Jiang, Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Wanqing Lyu, Ph.D., Yulian Zhang, Ph.D.
- 14:10 - 14:30 “Triastek-global leader in 3D Printing Pharmaceuticals”
Yulian Zhang, Ph.D., M.B.A., VP of Global Business Development, Triastek, Inc
- 14:30 - 14:50 “Perturb-tracing enables scalable high-content discovery of 3D genome regulators”
Steven (Siyuan) Wang, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Genetics and Cell Biology, Yale University
- 14:50 - 15:10 “Bioanalytical Strategies for Gene and Cell Therapy”
Jim McNally, Ph.D., CSO, BioAgilytix
- 15:10 - 15:30 “Nona Biosciences’ Industry Leading Fully Human Heavy Chain Only Antibody Platform Empowering the Next-Gen Biologics”
Jiyong Zhang, Ph.D., Nona Biosciences
- 15:30 - 15:40 “Law and Medicine: the crossroads at biotech innovation”
Ran He, Ph.D., J.D., licensed attorney and partner, Tan, He & Co. LLP/THC Lawyers
- 15:40 - 16:00 Coffee Break & Sponsor Time & Session Photo
- 16:00 - 17:25 **Session IV: Career Development & Collaboration**
Section Chairs: Jamie Huang, Ph.D., ICF Professional Certified Coach (PCC), Sisi Yang, Ph.D.
- 16:00 - 16:25 Opening: “An Aperitivo: Let’s Cook 4 Success”
John Sun, Ph.D., M.B.A., Program Lead, Global Clinical Operation, Novartis
- 16:25 - 17:25 Panel Discussion:
Xiuling Lu, Ph.D., Professor, University of Connecticut
Dong-Hua Yang, M.D., Ph.D., Administrative Dean at New York College of Traditional Chinese Medicine
David Cragin, Ph.D., DABT, Mentor Leader Toxicologist Multilingual Risk Communicator
Gang Chen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Regeneron
John Xu, CGBP, Lender Relations Specialist, SBA
Jason Chen, M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Director, Institute for Biotechnology, St. John’s University
Ran He, , J.D., Tan, He & Co. LLP/THC Lawyers
Steve Yang, M.B.A., Founder and CEO, Mianus Capital
Susan Chen, DECD, Business Development Project Manager Enterprise Zone Program Coordinator; Department of Economic and Community Development
- 17:25 - 17:30 Summary and SAPA-CT Business
Chao Zheng, Ph.D., President of SAPA-CT, Chair
Lily Li, Ph.D., President-elect of SAPA-CT, Co-Chair
- 17:30 - 18:15 Round table or One-on-One Social
- 18:30 - 21:00 SAPA 10 Year Anniversary Gala & Dinner

2013
2023



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Agenda of Gala

18:30 - 21:00

SAPA-CT 10th Anniversary and Annual Conference
Award Gala Dinner
Gala Performance
Choate Students, Yale Students, Volunteer Group and SAPA EC Group

Welcome and SAPA-CT Presidential Service Excellence Award
Chao Zheng, Ph.D., President of SAPA-CT, Chair



SAPA-CT Recap and 2024 Perspectives
Lily Li, Ph.D., President-elect of SAPA-CT, Co-Chair

2013
2023

Sponsor Representative Speech

Group Photos
SAPA-CT ECs, SAPA All Chapter ECs, All Speakers, Sponsors, Volunteers

Dinner/Networking

Closing Remarks



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Biographies of Speakers and Panelists

Keynote Speech: Regeneron Technologies Accelerate Development of Antibody Therapeutics

Moderator: Xiaoyong Yang, Ph.D., Professor of Comparative Medicine and of Cellular & Molecular Physiology, Yale University School of Medicine.

Gang Chen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Regeneron



Dr. Gang Chen is a Senior Vice President at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.. Dr. Chen joined Regeneron in 1999 as an R&D Scientist. Dr. Chen leads Regeneron's Protein Expression Sciences group. Dr. Chen and his team's functional responsibilities at Regeneron include development of production cell lines, antibody discovery, and technology development. Dr. Chen is a major contributor of Regeneron's VelociMab technology platform.

Keynote Speech: Bench-to-bedside...to Biotech? Perspectives from an Academic Founder

Moderator: Chao Zheng, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, University of Toronto

Ranjit S. Bindra, M.D., Ph.D., Harvey and Kate Cushing Professor, Yale University



Dr. Ranjit Bindra is a physician-scientist at Yale School of Medicine and Co-Director of the Yale Brain Tumor Center at Smilow Cancer Hospital. In the laboratory, his group recently led a team of four major laboratories at Yale, which reported the stunning discovery that IDH1/2-mutant tumors harbor a profound DNA repair defect that renders them exquisitely sensitive to PARP inhibitors. This work was published in *Science Translational Medicine*, and *Nature*, and it has received international attention with major clinical implications. Dr. Bindra is now translating this work directly into patients, in four phase I/II clinical trials, including an innovative, biomarker-driven trial specifically targeting the Adolescent/Young Adult (AYA) cancer patient population. In addition, he is lead co-PI of a 35-site, NCI-sponsored Phase II trial testing the PARP inhibitor, olaparib, in adult IDH1/2-mutant solid tumors (NCT03212274). As a biotech entrepreneur he recently co-founded Cybrexa Therapeutics, a Series B round-funded company focused on developing an entirely new class of small molecule DNA repair inhibitors, which directly target the tumor microenvironment. Dr. Bindra received his undergraduate degree in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry from Yale University in 1998, and both his MD and PhD from the Yale School of Medicine in 2007. He completed his medical internship, radiation oncology residency, and post-doctoral research studies at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in 2012.



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Keynote Speech: PET Imaging in Drug Development

Moderator: Lily Li, Ph.D., Associate Professor, University of Hartford

Henry Huang, Ph.D., Professor and Co-Director of Yale PET Center & Director of Chemistry, Yale University



Professor Huang is an internationally known expert in the development, evaluation and application of radiopharmaceuticals for Positron Emission Tomography (PET). His research is focused on the design, development and translation of PET imaging agents for the investigation of neurological and psychiatric diseases, addictive disorders, metabolic diseases, and tumors. He has guided the development and translation of more than 50 novel PET imaging

agents to the clinical research application stage, with many of them starting their first-in-human clinical trials at Yale. He serves as principal investigator or co-investigator in many research projects funded by the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH), Michael J. Fox Foundation, and other private research foundations, including several projects sponsored by major multinational pharmaceutical companies using PET imaging technique in proof of target, proof of mechanism, and proof of efficacy studies to facilitate new drug development. He has published more than 280 peer-reviewed articles in professional journals, and been invited to give more than 200 lectures at universities, research institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and hospitals across the world.

Session I: Frontier of Precision Medicine

Section Chairs: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Department of Genetics, Yale University, Qing Liang, Ph.D., CEO, Neulink Pharma

Moderators: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Department of Genetics, Yale University, Xiuling Lu, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmaceutics, University of Connecticut, Xiaobo Zhong, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Connecticut

“RDC: Imaging and therapeutic potentials” Qing Liang, Ph.D., CEO, Neulink pharma



Dr. Qing Liang has over 15 years of clinical and industrial experience working in the radiology and radiation oncology space. Her experience on radiopharmaceuticals including hands-on experience of managing 7 RDC clinical trials on imaging and radiation dosimetry, managing CMC and isotope supply, as well as translation research. She is a board certified medical physicist. She served as VP, Head of Radiation Science for Actinium Pharmaceuticals and Fusion



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Pharmaceuticals. Prior to that, she was a clinical professor at Temple University Hospital, Fox Chase Cancer Center, a medical physicist at Mercy Health System. Currently, she is also the President-elect of CBA-Greater Philadelphia.

“Therapeutic targeting of metabolic fluxes in precision oncology”
Weiping Han, Ph.D., Distinguished Principal Scientist, Laboratory of Neurometabolic Diseases, A*STAR



Weiping Han obtained his PhD at Cornell University and did postdoctoral work at the University of Pittsburgh and HHMI/UT Southwestern Medical Center. Currently he is Distinguished Principal Scientist at the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (A*STAR), Professor at National University of Singapore and Duke-NUS Medical School, and an Associate Member of the Neurobiology Program at Life Sciences Institute of the National

University of Singapore. His research interest centers around metabolic homeostasis in health and disease.

“Gene editing for, of and as immunotherapy”
Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Department of Genetics, Yale University



Sidi Chen joined the Yale Faculty in 2015 in the Department of Genetics, Systems Biology Institute, and Yale Cancer Center. His research focuses on providing a global understanding of biological systems, develop next-generation technologies and turn them into effective and safe therapeutics. By intersecting two emerging fields, Dr. Chen innovated the concept “gene editing for, of, and as immunotherapy”. He published many high-profile original research

publications in journals such as Cell, Nature, Science, Nature Biotechnology, Nature Immunology, Nature Methods, Nature Biomedical Engineering, Cell Metabolism, Cell Research. He pioneered CRISPR-mediated tumor modeling and screening, performed the first in vivo CRISPR screen, and developed MAEGI as a novel immune gene therapy concept. Dr. Chen is named as inventor/co-inventor on >30 patents or patent applications on gene editing, genetic screening, tumor modeling, cancer immunotherapy, and cell therapy. His science has formed the bases for two venture/pharma-backed biotech startups for the development of immunotherapy or cell therapies. To date, 10 of his previous trainees hold faculty positions in various institutions.

Dr. Chen received a number of national and international awards including the Cancer Research Institute Lloyd Old STAR Award, Pershing Square Sohn Prize, DoD Era of Hope Scholar, NIH Director’s New Innovator Award, Blavatnik Innovator Award, Yale Faculty Innovation Award, Yale Cancer Center Basic Science Research Prize, AACR NextGen Award for Transformative Cancer Research, Ludwig Foundation Award,



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Damon Runyon Cancer Research Fellow, Dale Frey Award for Breakthrough Scientists, TMKF Innovative/Translation Cancer Research Award, BCA Exceptional Research Grant Award, MRA Young Investigator Award, V Scholar, Bohmfalk Scholar, Ludwig Family Foundation Award, St. Baldrick's Foundation Award, CRI Clinic & Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP), MIT Technology Review Top 35 Innovators (Regional), and Sontag Foundation Distinguished Scientist Award.

Session II: Accelerating Drug Discovery by Generative AI

Section Chairs: Shicheng Guo, Ph.D., Director, Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals

Zhiyong(Sean) Xie, Ph.D., Vice President, Xellar Biosystem

Moderators: Shicheng Guo, Ph.D., Kai Ying, Ph.D., Senior Director of Bioinformatics,

Baylor Genetics, Huijuan Zhong, Ph.D., Associate Director, Analytical Department/

Karuna Therapeutics, Li Zhong, M.S., Associate Director, Karuna Therapeutics

“From Generative AI to Clinic: End-to-End Drug Discovery and Development Driven by AI”

Alex Zhavoronkov, Ph.D., Insilicon Medicine



Alex Zhavoronkov, Ph.D. is an expert in biotechnology and biophysics who has pioneered many initiatives to improve and extend senior health. He serves as director of both the Biogerontology Research Foundation and International Aging Research Portfolio, and heads NeuroG.

“Realising the potential in digital health”

Jamie Lu, M.B.A., Chief Commercial Officer, Cureety



Jamie Lu is currently the Chief Commercial Officer at Cureety, a Paris-headquartered health-tech specialising in oncology remote patient monitoring. Cureety is the first and only nationally reimbursed oncology Software as a Medical Device platform, approved by the French High Authority of Health. The company is partnering with hospitals in France, Italy and Spain and has built a pan-European network of 60+ healthcare providers and research institutions. Prior to joining Cureety, Jamie held various roles at health-tech scale-ups based in London such as Cera and Huma Therapeutics, leading strategic partnerships and market entries in Asia Pacific and the Middle East. She expanded value propositions into new therapeutic areas and managed global partnerships in remote patient monitoring for both chronic conditions and episodic care. Before venturing into digital health, Jamie worked at J.P.Morgan in London, Frankfurt and Zurich. She received a BSc from the London School of Economics and MBA from the University of Cambridge.



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“Enhancing Clinical Prediction: A Deep Learning Approach with Transformer-Based Models”

Kui Shen, Ph.D., Director of Statistics, Bayer



Dr. Kui Shen is the Director of Clinical Statistics and a Science Fellow at Bayer. Kui leads a clinical statistics and analytics team for diagnostic and biomarker studies. He has established the companion diagnostic team from scratch. Kui guided the team to support Bayer's first companion diagnostic, which has received approvals from global health agencies. Kui also established the process for Bayer's first biomarker study under a GxP environment for health agency submissions. He has

an additional role as a data scientist and is dedicated to building advanced data analytic platforms and AI models for clinical development. Beyond his responsibilities at Bayer, Kui remains an active member in the statistics community, including serving as a member of the engagement committee for the International Society for Biopharmaceutical Statistics and the American Statistical Association Section on Statistics in Genomics and Genetics.

Panel Discussion:

Zhiyong(Sean) Xie, Ph.D., Vice President, Xellar Biosystem



Zhiyong (Sean) Xie is the vice president of Xellar Biosystem where he is leading the effort of building the AI & data science platform to improve the understanding of disease and treatment based on Xellar's organ-on-chips technology. Prior to joining Xellar, Dr. Xie had worked for Pfizer Inc for 19 years. His responsibilities included the study design, data analysis, and AI applications in preclinical studies, clinical trials, and drug safety research & development. Dr. Xie received Ph.D. and

master's degrees in computer science from Arizona State University and Peking University respectively. He completed post-doc training in medical school at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2023, Dr. Xie was selected as one of the top 100 AI leaders in drug discovery and advanced healthcare by Deep Pharma Intelligence.

Xiaoyan Wang, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Life Science Solutions



Dr. Xiaoyan Wang serves as SVP of life science solutions at IMO. Dr. Wang has spent two decades committed to driving innovations in healthcare AI modeling and transforming health care with data intelligence. she focuses on translating scientific insights and health intelligence into partnerships and programs that improve healthcare outcomes for patients, providers, and researchers. She was most recently Chief Scientific Officer of Melax Tech, VP of Healthcare

Analytics and Informatics and VP of Biopharma Solutions at Sema4/GeneDx, Mount Sinai Genomic Inc, where she led the development of clinical trial and evidence generation platforms in oncology, immunology, cardiovascular, respiratory, and rare diseases. Before



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joining the biopharma industry, she was a faculty member and principal investigator at the University of Connecticut, UConn School of Medicine, and Mount Sinai Health Systems bridging research, health services, and teaching. She holds a BA in Biochemistry from Shandong University, a MA in Genetics from the University of Kansas, and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Informatics and NLP from Columbia University School of Medicine.

Frank Gao, Ph.D., Director of Chemistry, Insilicon Medicine



Frank is a trained organic chemist with over 15 years of experience in drug discovery oriented chemistry discovery and development. He started his pharmaceutical industry career at Biogen and had taken on increased responsibilities to lead preclinical drug discovery projects targeting CNS proteins. Frank then expanded his experience at several earlier stage biotech companies that utilize multiple modalities and platforms to drug challenging oncology targets before joining Insilico Medicine in September 2023 as the Director of Medicinal Chemistry.

Keynote Speech: Understanding Protein Dynamics for Structure-based Drug Design - Design Story of Crizotinib, Lorlatinib and Repotrectinib

Moderator: Chao Zheng, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of University of Toronto

Jingrong Jean Cui, Ph.D., Scientific Founder, President and CEO, BlossomHill Therapeutics, Inc.



Dr. J. Jean Cui is a renowned oncology drug designer who is the lead inventor of multiple oncology medicines and clinical compounds. Dr. Cui is the scientific founder, President and CEO of BlossomHill Therapeutics, a San Diego based biotech company focusing on drug discovery and development for cancer patients. She founded Turning Point Therapeutics, Inc. (Turning Point) in 2013. Turning Point went public on NASDAQ in April 2019 (Ticker: TPTX). In June 2022, Bristol Myers Squibb announced the acquisition of Turning Point for \$4.1 billion. Dr. Cui served as Turning Point's Chief Scientific Officer (October 2013-January 2020) and a member of Board of Directors (October 2013-June 2020). Prior to that, she was Senior Principal Scientist and then Associate Research Fellow at Pfizer (2003-2013). Dr. Cui served as Project Leader and Group Leader at SUGEN, Inc., a Pharmacia Corporation (1999-2003). Dr. Cui obtained her Ph.D. in Synthetic organic chemistry from Ohio State University and B. S. in Chemistry from University of Science and Technology of China.



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Session III: Biotech Innovation

Section Chairs: Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Director, CRISPR Therapeutics
Yulian Zhang, Ph.D., M.B.A., VP of Global Business Development, Triastek, Inc
Moderators: Yong Yue, Ph.D., Yiqun Jiang, PhD Candidate at Yale University,
Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Wanqing Lyu, Ph.D., Scientist I at Shoreline Biosciences,
Yulian Zhang, Ph.D., M.B.A., VP of Global Business Development, Triastek, Inc

“Triastek-global leader in 3D Printing Pharmaceuticals”

Yulian Zhang, Ph.D., M.B.A., VP of Global Business Development,
Triastek, Inc



Dr. Yulian Zhang has more than 24 years of pharma/biotech experience in R&D and business development. Currently Dr. Zhang is the VP of Global Business development at Triastek Inc. Prior to joining Triastek, Dr. Zhang was Executive Director of Global Business Development at Fosun Pharma and KLUS Pharma. Before that, she was Associate Director at Actinium Pharmaceuticals, in charge of antibody CMC and clinical trial management. Prior to that, she dedicated 15 years of hard work to drug discovery at GSK, Vertex, Lexicon and Blueprint Medicines, which resulted in two approved drugs by FDA and three drugs in clinical trials. Dr Zhang has also co-authored 15 papers, 2 book chapters and 15 patents. Dr. Zhang holds BS in Physical Chemistry from Jilin University as a gifted young graduate, Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Temple University and MBA from Leonard N. Stern School of Business, NYU.

“Perturb-tracing enables scalable high-content discovery of 3D genome regulators”

Steven (Siyuan) Wang, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Genetics and
Cell Biology, Yale University



Siyuan (Steven) Wang received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Peking University in 2007, a Ph. D. in Molecular Biology from Princeton University in 2011, and his postdoctoral training at Harvard University. He joined Yale in late 2017 and currently serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of Genetics and the Department of Cell Biology, Yale School of Medicine, Yale University. He is a recipient of the 2011 American Physical Society Award for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Research in Biological Physics (1-2 recipients per year worldwide), the 2012-2015 Jane Coffin Childs Fellowship, the 2016 International Union of Pure and Applied Physics Young Scientist Prize in Biological Physics (one recipient per year worldwide), the 2017 Harvard Chinese Life Sciences Distinguished Research Award, the 2018 35 Innovators Under 35 of China by MIT Technology Review, the 2019-2024 NIH Director's New Innovator Award, the 2022 Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer Research, and the 2023 Biophysical Society



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Early Career Award in Physical Cell Biology.

“Bioanalytical Strategies for Gene and Cell Therapy”

Jim McNally, Ph.D., CSO, BioAgilytix



Jim McNally, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, has an extensive background in bioanalytical assay development and program leadership spanning more than 20 years working in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. Prior to joining BioAgilytix, Dr. McNally was Executive Director at CRISPR Therapeutics, where he led a team of scientists to develop a portfolio of assays to support development of gene-based therapeutic

candidates throughout their lifecycle. He has also previously held roles at Genzyme, Pfizer, EMD Serono, and Shire/Takeda which have given him broad experience in the development of large molecule, gene therapy, and cell therapy biotherapeutics. He has a special interest in the immunogenicity of biotherapeutics and leads an industry-wide working group to address this issue. A key part of his role at BioAgilytix is advising on emerging scientific developments and providing scientific and regulatory guidance. Dr. McNally obtained his B.S. in Biology from Mississippi State University, his Ph.D. in Viral Immunology from Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport, and a Post-Doctoral fellowship in Viral Immunology at University of Massachusetts Medical School.

“Nona Biosciences’ Industry Leading Fully Human Heavy Chain Only Antibody Platform Empowering the Next-Gen Biologics”

Jiyong Zhang, Nona Biosciences



“Law and Medicine: the crossroads at biotech innovation”

Ran He, Ph.D., J.D., licensed attorney and partner, Tan, He & Co. LLP/THC Lawyers



Dr. Ran He is a licensed attorney in New York, California, and Ontario, Canada, and a partner at THC Lawyers, an IP boutique in Toronto and New York. His expertise lies in intellectual property disputes, commercial conflicts, where he advises on patent and trademark litigations and various commercial and financial disputes, including shareholder matters, capital markets, cryptocurrency, and real estate. Dr. He also provides general counselling and strategic



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consultation to technology enterprises in the fields of pharmaceuticals, chemistry and information technology.

The firm's clientele ranges from global pharmaceutical giants to NASDAQ-listed Canadian corporations and Chinese State-Owned Enterprises. Dr. He is a distinguished figure in the legal community. Dr. He also teaches negotiation at Osgoode Hall Law School, where he earned his J.D. degree, and teaches intellectual property, global strategy and e-commerce at some Asian business schools. Before entering the legal profession, Dr. He pursued a scientific career, holding a Bachelor's in Biotechnology from Nankai University, a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and completing a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins Hospital. During his time at Johns Hopkins, he contributed to antiviral and anticancer compound development, publishing over ten research articles and assisted the school with obtaining at least two U.S. patents. Dr. He remains an active member of the American Society for Microbiology and American Chemistry Society, blending his legal practice with a strong scientific foundation.

Session IV: Career Development & Collaboration

Section Chairs: Jamie Huang, Ph.D., ICF Professional Certified Coach (PCC)
Sisi Yang, Ph.D., Postdoc at Harvard Medical School

Opening: John Sun, Ph.D., M.B.A., Program Lead, Global Clinical Operation, Novartis



John is a seasoned executive in pharmaceutical industry with more than 30 years of experience, and a passionate advocate for career development. Currently he serves as a Program Lead in Global Clinical Operation at Novartis, and had served as Global Program Team Director in different franchises. Before Novartis, John held positions with increased R&D responsibilities at Whitehall-Robins, Kos Pharmaceuticals, Schering-Plough, and Sanofi-Aventis. Over the years, John has volunteered in several professional associations and organizations, including Chair of Project Management Community in DIA, President, Board Member, and Career Lead in SAPA, Chair of Chinese Culture Community, President of Novartis Toastmasters Club and Area Director of Toastmasters International at District 83. John is the recipient of 2023 Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business by AABDC. John is the holder of two international patents in inhalation formulation, published research articles and book chapters. John is a TEDx speaker and presented in numerous domestic and international symposia on drug development, project management, and career development. John obtained PhD from Virginia Commonwealth University, MBA from Rutgers University, and BMed from Beijing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. John is a certified Project



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Management Professional (PMP), trained in black-belt for lean six-sigma, and a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM).

Panel Discussion:

Xiuling Lu, Ph.D., Professor, University of Connecticut



Xiuling Lu, Professor at the University of Connecticut, Associate Director of Center for Pharmaceutical Processing Research, Past Chair of the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology & Education, received her Ph.D. in Biochemical Engineering from the Chinese Academy of Sciences. She was appointed as a Research Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 2008 to 2011 prior to joining the School of Pharmacy at the

University of Connecticut. Dr. Lu's research is focused on innovative nanotechnologies that target difficult-to-treat cancers, optimization of drug formulations and the use of versatile imaging tools to improve pharmaceutical product quality. Her research is supported by NIH, American Cancer Society, NSF, FDA etc. Dr. Lu has published more than 80 peer-reviewed publications in high impact journals. The innovative research has resulted in 4 issued US patents and 4 pending patent applications. One of the patents was licensed to a startup pharmaceutical company Nami Therapeutics Corp. which Dr. Lu is one of the co-founders. Dr. Lu received American Association of University Professors-UConn Excellence in Research and Creativity: Early Career Award in 2016 and Dean Robert L. McCarthy Faculty Service Award in 2019 as well as 2023 Research Advising Award. Dr. Lu is newly elected as the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences (AAPS) Fellow in 2023.

Dong-Hua Yang, M.D., Ph.D., Administrative Dean at New York College of Traditional Chinese Medicine



Dr. Dong-Hua Yang graduated from a prestigious medical school in China. She obtained a PhD degree in Japan. Dr. Yang is a leading expert in the fields of histopathology, immunohistochemistry and Pharmacology. In her earlier career, she holds positions as an instructor at Kagoshima University Faculty of Medicine, Japan, an instructor at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey, a research Assistant Professor and Manager of Biosample

Repository Facility at Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia and professor in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of St. John's University. Dr. Yang is currently the Administrative Dean at New York College of Traditional Chinese Medicine. She is also the senior Associate Editor of Drug Resistance Updates. Dr. Yang has extensive teaching and scholarly experience. Her research focuses on cancer biomarkers, cancer biology and cancer pharmacology. She is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters and books. She actively presents at national and international conferences.



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David Cragin, Ph.D., DABT, Mentor Leader Toxicologist Multilingual Risk Communicator



Dr. Dave Cragin, DABT, is Senior Director of Product Science and Sustainability in the department of Environment, Health, Safety and Sustainability at Teva Pharmaceutical. He contributes to the overall leadership of EHS&S functions and also he leads a team that creates safety data sheets and occupational exposure limits to support efforts to protect employee safety and acceptable daily exposures for quality operations. He has also a subject matter expert on beta lactams, titanium dioxide, and iron oxide. Previously he served as a Director in Quality Assurance and multiple other roles for Merck & Co. Outside of Teva, he teaches risk assessment and critical thinking for the Peking University, and Beijing Normal University. In addition, he has taught risk communication across the globe. He speaks Chinese and is knowledgeable in many languages. Dr. Cragin is a Trustee of the Toxicology Education Foundation, is Past-President of the Mid-Atlantic Society of Toxicology, and a Councilor for the Philadelphia Association for Critical Thinking. He received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from University of California, Davis, his B.S. in Zoology from the University of Rhode Island, and is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology. He was recently elected as President Elect of SAPA.

John Xu, CGBP, Lender Relations Specialist, SBA



Jason Chen, M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Director, Institute for Biotechnology, St. John's University



Dr. Chen is the Director of the Institute for Biotechnology at St. John's University. After obtaining his MD and MS degree in China, he worked at CDC of Guangdong. He received his Ph. D degree from Kagoshima University. He conducted his postdoctoral training at Fox Chase Cancer Center. In 2004, he joined the College of Pharmacy at St. John's University as an assistant professor. He is an expert in the field of multi-drug resistance (MDR) in cancer. Dr. Chen is an editor-in-chief of Drug Resistance Updates, and Recent Patents on Anticancer Drug Discovery (RPADD). As a consultant to pharmaceutical/biotechnology and health industry organizations, Dr. Chen has given about 300 presentations and keynote addresses, including as chairman of several conferences. He has published ~500 peer-reviewed articles and co-authored 15 book chapters. His articles were published in Chemical Society of Review, Nature Communications, Advanced Science,



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Molecular Cancer, Drug Resistance Updates, and Cancer Research etc. Dr. Chen participated in grant reviews for the NIH (USA), Chinese National Natural Science Foundation etc. Dr. Chen received awards such as AACR young investigator award (2003) and Hongkong Cancer Congress young investigator award (1997), St. John's University Distinguished Achievement Award (2016).

Steve Yang, M.B.A., Founder and CEO, Mianus Capital



Mr. Yang is the founder and CEO of Mianus Capital and a Board member and CFO of MERIT CRO. He brings 25 years of broad experience in capital markets, technology, life sciences and management consulting. He previously held various management positions at Nomura, RBS, and Black River Asset Management. He worked at McKinsey & Company. He received a MBA from University of Michigan and a MS and BA from University of Minnesota.

Susan Chen, DECD, Business Development Project Manager Enterprise Zone Program Coordinator; Department of Economic and Community Development



Susan Chen is an assistant economic development agent with the State of Connecticut's Department of Economic and Community Development, serving over 20 years with supporting businesses seeking to expand operations, grow jobs, and invest in local communities. Her duties include answering questions, assisting with applications through the State agency, monitoring and compliance, and referrals to other State government agencies and programs.

She earned her masters in public policy degree from Trinity College (Hartford, CT).



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Abstracts

Keynote Speech: Regeneron Technologies Accelerate Development of Antibody Therapeutics

Gang Chen, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Regeneron

Regeneron has invented VelociSuite of technologies to enable rapid discovery and development of antibody therapeutics. VelociMab, a key component of VelociSuite technologies, integrates rapid antibody isolation and high throughput production cell line development. VelociMab technology and its application in the development of anti-SARS-COV2 mAb cocktail (REGEN-COV) will be discussed.

Keynote Speech: Bench-to-bedside...to Biotech? Perspectives from an Academic Founder

Ranjit S. Bindra, M.D., Ph.D., Harvey and Kate Cushing Professor, Yale University

Keynote Speech: PET Imaging in Drug Development

Henry Huang, Ph.D., Professor and Co-Director of Yale PET Center
& Director of Chemistry, Yale University

Molecular imaging has been increasingly used to facilitate drug development by providing the critical evidence in proof of concept, proof of mechanism, proof of target engagement, and proof of efficacy studies. PET is a particularly powerful in vivo imaging technique that can map the dynamic interaction between a drug and its biological target, and provide quantitative measurement of such interaction. The various aspects of PET imaging in new drug development will be discussed.

Session I: Frontier of Precision Medicine

Section Chairs: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Qing Liang, Ph.D

Moderators: Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Xiuling Lu, Ph.D., Xiaobo Zhong, Ph.D.

“RDC: Imaging and therapeutic potentials”

Qing Liang, Ph.D., CEO, Neulink pharma



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“Therapeutic targeting of metabolic fluxes in precision oncology”

Weiping Han, Ph.D., Distinguished Principal Scientist, Laboratory of Neurometabolic Diseases, A*STAR

Cancer cells have evolved effective flexibility in metabolic pathways to sustain uncontrolled growth under complex environmental conditions. This is achieved through adaptive programming of cellular metabolism of the tumors and directed response of non-tumor cells of the host. By understanding the critical metabolic processes essential for the tumor growth, we have identified metabolic targets and pathways that may be directed in potential therapeutic development. Moreover, we have demonstrated the potential of metabolic flux imaging approach in precision oncology. Here I will share our recent efforts in targeting metabolic regulators in liver cancer.

“Gene editing for, of and as immunotherapy”

Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Department of Genetics, Yale University

The overall theme “gene editing for, of, and as immunotherapy” will be discussed. With “gene editing for immunotherapy”, we develop high-throughput CRISPR screening technologies for the discovery of immunotherapy targets. With “gene editing of immunotherapy”, we directly perform gene editing of next-generation therapeutic immune cells such as CAR-Ts to generate better therapeutic cells. With “gene editing as immunotherapy”, we harness gene editing itself directly as novel immunotherapy modalities by re-directing the genetic manipulations towards immune modulation.

“From Generative AI to Clinic: End-to-End Drug Discovery and Development Driven by AI”

Alex Zhavoronkov, Ph.D., Insilicon Medicine

At Insilico Medicine, we developed an end-to-end discovery platform that spanning from initial biological target validations (with the PandaOmics platform), drug-like development candidate discoveries (with the Chemistry42 platform), to running smart and precise clinical trials (inClinico). In this talk, we will present our platform infrastructures and the workflow that helped in the discovery of INS018-055 for Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis.

“Realising the potential in digital health”

Jamie Lu, M.B.A., Chief Commercial Officer, Cureety

“Enhancing Clinical Prediction: A Deep Learning Approach with Transformer-Based Models”

Kui Shen, Ph.D., Director of Statistics, Bayer

Clinical prediction plays a pivotal role in advancing clinical development. This study introduces 'Transformer Cox', a novel approach leveraging a tabular transformer-based framework integrated with the Cox proportional hazard model for enhanced survival prediction. Transformer Cox retains the Cox model's proportional hazard assumption while employing its partial likelihood as the loss function. This model utilizes Transformer as an encoder to generate a contextual embedding specifically for categorical covariates. These embeddings are then processed through a multilayer perceptron. Comparisons on synthetic data demonstrate that Transformer Cox outperforms both the conventional Cox model and other deep learning-based survival models in capturing data features and delivering superior predictive accuracy.



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Session III: Biotech Innovation

Section Chairs: Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Yulian Zhang, Ph.D.

Moderators: Yong Yue, Ph.D., Yiqun Jiang, Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Wanqing Lyu, Ph.D., Yulian Zhang, Ph.D.

“Triastek-global leader in 3D Printing Pharmaceuticals”

Yulian Zhang, Ph.D., M.B.A., VP of Global Business Development, Triastek, Inc

“Perturb-tracing enables scalable high-content discovery of 3D genome regulators”

Steven (Siyuan) Wang, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Genetics and Cell Biology, Yale University

Three-dimensional (3D) genome organization becomes altered during development, aging, and disease, but the factors regulating chromatin topology are incompletely understood and currently no technology can efficiently screen for new regulators of multiscale chromatin organization. Here, we developed an image-based high-content screening platform (Perturb-tracing) that combines pooled CRISPR screen, a new cellular barcode readout method (BARC-FISH), and chromatin tracing. We performed a loss-of-function screen in human cells, and visualized alterations to their genome organization from 13,000 imaging target-perturbation combinations, alongside perturbation-paired barcode readout in the same single cells. Using 1.4 million 3D positions along chromosome traces, we discovered tens of new regulators of chromatin folding at different length scales, ranging from chromatin domains and compartments to chromosome territory. A subset of the regulators exhibited 3D genome effects associated with loop-extrusion and A-B compartmentalization mechanisms, while others were largely unrelated to these known 3D genome mechanisms. We found that the ATP-dependent helicase CHD7, the loss of which causes the congenital neural crest syndrome CHARGE and a chromatin remodeler previously shown to promote local chromatin openness, counter-intuitively compacts chromatin over long range in different genomic contexts and cell backgrounds including neural crest cells, and globally represses gene expression. The DNA compaction effect of CHD7 is independent of its chromatin remodeling activity and does not require other protein partners. Finally, we identified new regulators of nuclear architectures and found a functional link between chromatin compaction and nuclear shape. Altogether, our method enables scalable, high-content identification of chromatin and nuclear topology regulators that will stimulate new insights into the 3D genome functions, such as global gene and nuclear regulation, in health and disease.

“Bioanalytical Strategies for Gene and Cell Therapy”

Jim McNally, Ph.D., CSO, BioAgilytix

“Nona Biosciences’ Industry Leading Fully Human Heavy Chain Only Antibody Platform Empowering the Next-Gen Biologics”

Jiyong Zhang, Ph.D., Nona Biosciences

“Law and Medicine: the crossroads at biotech innovation”

Ran He, Ph.D., J.D., licensed attorney and partner, Tan, He & Co. LLP/THC Lawyer

Discover the dynamic crossroads of law and medicine in the realm of biotech innovation as we explore the complex legal challenges and the pivotal role of law in shaping the future of healthcare. This discussion sheds light on the collaborative potential of legal and medical professionals and its impact on groundbreaking advancements in biotechnology and healthcare approaches.



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President-elect: Lily Li, Ph.D.
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Ying Kai, Ph.D., Li Zhong, M.S., Sisi Yang, Ph.D., Yan Yan, M.D., Ph.D., Wanqing Lyu, Ph.D., Huijuan Zhong, Ph.D., Fangfang Chen, Sidi Chen, Ph.D., Yiqun Jiang, Yu-Hui Zhang, Ph.D., Kuanlin Wu, Ph.D., Yan Zhang, Ph.D., Yiting Xu

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Communication and Media: Sally Ke Wang, Siyu Jiang, Xia Li, Peiyi Wang, Chenyi Huang, Sisi Yang, Ph.D.

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10th Anniversary Gala and Award Ceremony Team:

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Conference Business Development Team:

Lily Li, Ph.D., Xiaoyong Yang, Ph.D., Chao Zheng, Ph.D., Huijuan Zhong, Ph.D., Yun Zhang, Yan Yan, Ph.D., Sally Ke Wang, Li Zhong, M.S., Xin Huang, Haote Li, Nicky Yining Chen, Yongmei Li, Ph.D., Kai Ying, Ph.D., Ariel Zishan Qiu, Jianjian Guo, Yiqun Jiang, Huachan Lin, Xiaoying Tang, Jiamei Yang

Program Book: Sisi Yang, Ph.D., Wanqing Lyu, Ph.D.

Special thanks to SAPA-CT advisory committee; SAPA HQ IT Team, Communication Team, Business Development Team, Treasury Team; SAPA-DC EC



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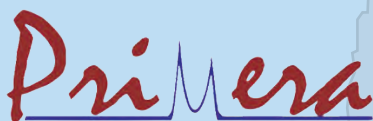


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