

Meeting Summary

The 11th CBIS biennial meeting was held in the Xanadu hotel in Chengdu, China, from July 29th to August 1st, 2016. The meeting, co-hosted and co-sponsored by Sichuan University, was a huge success in many respects. The number of registered attendees reached a record high of 322, covering a wide geographical locations from the United States to mainland China, Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong and Singapore. While most participants are independent investigators from academic institutions, a growing number of scientists from biotech entities and major pharmaceutical companies joined the meeting to foster close connections to academic research. For the first time, the number of participants from China and Taiwan has exceeded that from the United States and other overseas locations, reflecting a widening impact of CBIS in the advancement of biological and biomedical sciences in China.

The first day of the meeting was held in conjunction with the Ray Wu Memorial Fund (RWMF) symposium, which was composed of the RWMF award ceremony, awardee presentations and an evening welcome banquet. CBIS was a proud sponsor of this event. From the second to the fourth day, the meeting covered three keynote sessions, three society lecture sessions, twenty-eight concurrent sessions, two evening panel discussions, and a colloquium with Sichuan government officials and local business executives. Close to 200 meeting participants presented at the meeting on various topics ranging from broad overviews of biological sciences, experimental data presentations, business development in biotech industry, to biological science education in China. Students and postdocs from Sichuan University were invited to sit in the meeting presentations, without registration, an effort to benefit the local research community.

Speakers of the meeting consisted of not only leading figures in the field such as Nobel Laureate, members of US and Chinese Academy of Sciences and Howard Hughes Investigators, but also a group of rising new investigators who are ready to take the center stage for the future advancement of biosciences. For biological investigators of all disciplines and ranks, the CBIS biennial meeting provided an ideal platform for networking and inter-disciplinary communications, which complemented the strong tradition of outstanding scientific presentations.

The meeting presented the Ray Wu Award to Xiaoliang Sunney Xie of Harvard University and Xiang-Dong Fu of University of California, San Diego, the Young Investigator Award to Lingling Chen of Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Hai Qi of Tsinghua University, and the Teaching Award to Chenjian Li of Peking University (<http://www.cbisociety.org/awards.html>). As part of the society business, a new Board of Directors with eleven members was elected that will serve CBIS in the next two years. Hao Wu of Harvard Medical School and Yibin Kang of Princeton University are the new president and vice president, and Guo-Min Li of University of Southern California and Yingzi Yang of Harvard Medical School were re-appointed as the secretary and the treasurer of the society respectively (<http://www.cbisociety.org/board-of-directors.html>). The new board welcomes suggestions from the expanding CBIS member base.

The city of Chengdu, with its richly endowed historical and natural wonders in the Sichuan basin, also made the off-meeting leisure activities a memorable and joyful experience for many meeting participants. We hope to see you all in our next CBIS conference in 2018!

CBIS Board of Directors
August, 2016