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Letter from the SCBA President

Dear Fellow SCBA members:

Welcome to the Spring issue of SCBA newsletter!
Summer is already around the corner.

I would like to start by congratulating the re-establishment of the **SCBA-Southern California Chapter**, which is led by Dr. **Yanhong Shi** at City of Hope, Dr. **Pinghui Feng** of the University of Southern California, Emily Wang of UCSD, and Dr. **Lili Yang** at the UCLA. Thank you for your leadership!

I would draw your attention to a featured [article](#) in *Science* by senior correspondence Jeffrey Mervis, titled “**Pall of Suspicion – The National Institutes of Health’s “China initiative” has upended hundreds of lives and destroyed scores of academic careers**”, as well as an accompanying [editorial](#) penned by its Editor-in-Chief H. Holden Thorp, titled “**Eroding trust and collaboration**”. We wish to offer our sincere appreciation of the *Science* journal’s leadership and efforts in promoting social justice and international scientific collaboration. In response, SCBA, along with [Asian American Scholar Forum](#) (AASF), [Chinese Biological Investigators Society](#) (CBIS), and [Chinese American Hematologist and Oncologist Network](#) (CAHON), has written to *Science*, expressing our continued concerns over the unfair treatment of Chinese American scientists by the US federal government, as well as critical issues related to international student visas and scientific collaborations. This new letter mirrors a [prior Science letter](#) published in March 2019, titled “**Racial profiling harms science**”, which was also led by SCBA, and co-signed by CBIS and CAHON. Stay tuned.

Believe or not, the **SCBA election** is on the way! In this issue of newsletter, we call for the nomination of candidates for future SCBA offices, including President, Secretary, Treasurer, Council member, Nomination Committee member, and Membership Committee members. The deadline for the nomination is **July 15**,

2023. Please help spread the word, and nominate your colleagues. *Self-nomination is welcome and accepted!*

I hope you all will enjoy the Summer of 2023!

Shan-Lu Liu, MD, PhD
President
SCBA



Announcing the SCBA-Southern California Chapter

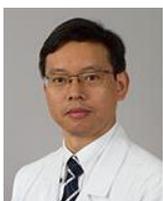
SCBA is pleased to announce that a new SCBA-Southern California (SCBA-SC) has been re-established recently. The original Southern California Chapter is one of the earliest SCBA chapters dated back to 1980s and was founded by several distinguished Chinese American scientists in the area including **Drs. Jean Shih, Michael M.C Lai, Jing-Hsiung James Ou** of USC, **Dr. Leland Chung** of Cedar Sinai-UCLA, **Dr. Yun Yen** of City of Hope, and **Drs. Shu Chien** and **Gen-sheng Feng** of UCSD. The revived SCBA-SC chapter is led by **Drs. Yanhong Shi** and **Pinghui Feng** as Presidents, **Dr. Emily Wang** as the Secretary, and **Dr. Lili Yang** as the treasurer. The board members include **Drs. Genhong Cheng, Jianjun Chen, Xiaoping Hu, Wendong Huang, Zach Ma, Bangyan Stiles, and Weiming Yuan**. Currently, there are **109 members** from this area, and the objective of SCBA-SC is to foster research collaboration, resource sharing and networking.

The new SCBA-SC Chapter plans to have a bi-monthly seminar series, as well as holds annual symposia, which are open to the local chapter members and collaborators.

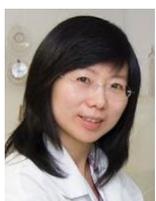
Update from the SCBA-Seattle Chapter

New Leadership Team

Following the 2022 Annual Conference, the SCBA-Seattle Chapter held its first board meeting on Sunday January 1, 2023. In the meeting, the board elected Dr. **Qiang Tian** as the President, Dr. **Mei Xu** as the Secretary-General, and Dr. **Yingzhang Chen** as the Treasurer; the board also established a new Board structure with distinct specialty functions. The Seattle Chapter elects its new leadership team biennially. The new executive team features young and dynamic board members taking a more proactive role. Currently, the new leadership team is planning various activities and



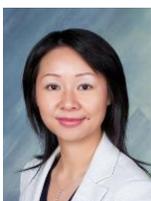
Pinghui Feng



Yanhong Shi



Emily Wang



Lili Yang



Qiang Tian



Yingzhang Chen



Mei Xu

events in 2023 including the initiation of a new form of academic salons.

Initiation of Academic Salons

At the first board meeting, the new executive leadership team decided to initiate a new series of academic salons. The first academic salon was organized by Dr. **Guangrong Qin**, a deputy secretary of the association, and was held online via Zoom on February 15th, 2023. The main topic of this salon was: “Application of Artificial Intelligence in Biomedical Field”. The attendees included researchers from universities, research institutes, biotechnology companies, and business development personnels of start-up companies, etc. from the Great Seattle area. During the salon, the attendees extensively discussed the hot topics in the field, such as existing application areas of artificial intelligence and machine learning in medical research, constraints of artificial intelligence in biomedical applications, potential opportunities in the context of existing artificial intelligence developments, etc.

2022 Young Investigator Award

In November 2022, the SCBA-Seattle Chapter announced the 5 recipients of its first Seattle Chinese Biomedical Association-Sino Biological Young Investigator Award. The award is co-sponsored by *Sino Biological* and is established to recognize early-career members who have made significant contributions to their respective fields of biomedical research. Each award consists of a certificate and an honorarium of \$500. In 2022, the awards were presented to five outstanding young investigators: Dr. **Shen Ren** (junior faculty at Seattle University and UW), Dr. **Pei Wang** (junior faculty

at UW), Dr. **Gang Li** (postdoctoral fellow at UW), Dr. **Ting Wang** (postdoctoral fellow at UW), and Dr. **Wei Chen** (PhD student at UW at the time of the award).



Wei Chen



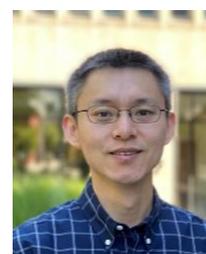
Gang Li



Shen Ren



Ting Wang



Pei Wang

Annual Conference and Seminars

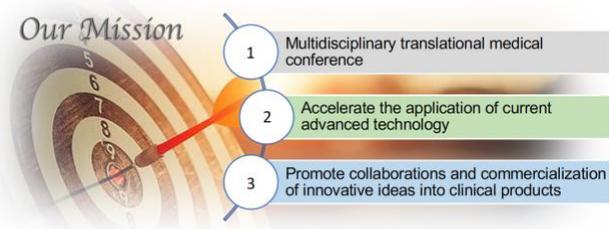
The 2022 SCBA-Seattle Chapter All-members Annual Conference was held on December 3, 2022 via in-person and Zoom at the University of Washington South Lake Union Campus. The theme of the conference was focused on biomedical imaging including its applications in basic, clinical, and translational research. Three outstanding experts in the field from the University of Washington presented their research. Dr. **Feng Zhang**, Research Assistant Professor at the Department of Radiology presented “Interventional Optical Imaging-Guided Cancer Treatment”, Dr. **Ruikang Wang**, Professor and George and Martina Kren Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology Research, shared his research on “Novel Biomedical Diagnostics using OCT Optical Technology”, and Dr. **Xiaohu Gao**, Professor of

Bioengineering, presented their recent findings on “Precision and Targeting Drug Delivery”.

During the annual conference, the Seattle Chapter hosted its inaugural Young Investigator Award Ceremony. Two of the awardees also presented their research at the conference: Dr. **Ting Wang** presented “The role of TLR7 in the pathogenesis of human SLE” and Dr. **Wei Chen** presented “Development of cellular flight recorder.”

On March 20th, 2023, the SCBA-Seattle Chapter held an academic seminar via VooV meeting. This academic seminar was organized by Dr. **Tianyun Wang** from the Peking University, the China Representative of Seattle Chapter and co-hosted with the School of Basic Medical Sciences, Peking University. In this seminar, Dr. Wang invited two speakers: Dr. **Chunfu Xu** (Professor at the National Institute of Biological Sciences), who presented his research with the title of “Computational Design of Transmembrane Channels and Beyond”, and Dr. **Yafei Mao** (Associate Professor at the at the Bio-X Institutes of Shanghai Jiao-Tong University), who presented his research with the title of “Understanding adaptive traits and neurological disease in primate evolution with long-read sequencing”. This is the first academic seminar in the history of Seattle Chapter that was cohosted together with a China institute. Dr. Qiang Tian, President of the Seattle Chapter, and Dr. **You Wan**, Professor and Dean of the School of Basic Medical Sciences of Peking University, delivered welcome speeches at the beginning of the seminar. More than 150 attendees from Seattle, Beijing, Shanghai, and other places in the US and China attended this online event.

Update from the SCBA-Boston (BBB) Chapter



Despite a three-year hiatus caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the second SCBA-BBB Annual Spring Symposium led by Dr. **Hong Chen** and the team was highly successful in bringing together hundreds of researchers from all over the world to engage in a multidisciplinary conference focused on translational medical research. The presentations and discussions were informative and thought-provoking. The symposium also showcased outstanding posters, for which we awarded poster awards. During the event, we had the opportunity to present a farewell gift to Dr. **Lee Zou** (upper left), who will be leaving for Duke University as a department chair. We also celebrated the outstanding achievement of Dr. **Hao Wu** for winning the William B. Coley Award (upper right). Moreover, we are delighted to announce that Dr. **Lili Zhang** has joined our team as the communication director.



We are a strong and enthusiastic team, eager to plan the next successful conference.

Update from the SCBA-Hepatology Division

The SCBA Hepatology Division and Chinese American Liver Society (CLAS) has organized a monthly virtual seminar, which was held on the first Thursday of each month. The first four speakers were all junior faculty members who delivered outstanding presentations on hepatic stellate cells and myofibroblasts in liver cancer, single cell RNA sequencing on liver cancer heterogeneity and circadian clock in liver metabolism. Each of these seminars were attended by about 60-80 people including faculty members and trainees. The seminar presenters and titles were:

1. Jan 5, 2023: **Ningling Kang**, Hormel Institute, University of Minnesota.

Title: Mechanisms of hepatic stellate cell activation in metastatic liver cancer.



2. Feb 2, 2023: **Liqin Zhu**, St.Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Title: Cholangiocarcinoma myofibroblasts; an accomplice or a competitor?

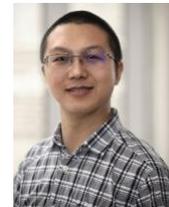


3. Mar 2, 2023: **Lichun Ma**, NCI.

Title: Understanding of tumor heterogeneity and tumor evolution in liver cancer.



4. April 6, 2023: **Dongyin Guan**, Baylor College of Medicine. Title: Circadian control of genes and metabolism in liver.



Upcoming even for the Hepatology Division:

2023 SCBA Hepatology Division & CALS Scientific Summer Symposium

August 6-10, 2023; Banff, Canada. We welcome all SCBA members who are interested in liver biology and disease to attend this meeting. For details please see the link:

<https://www.scbasociety.org/event-5187477>

Update from the SCBA-Texas Chapter

The SCBA-Texas chapter will hold the 36th annual symposium on May 6th at the Alkek Auditorium at the Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. **Benjamin Tu** from the University of Texas at Southwestern Medical Center will be our keynote speaker. On-site registration starts at 8:00AM and two sections of scientific presentations will be from 8:30 AM to 11:50 AM. After the general election and financial report, concurrent session of trainee oral presentations will be held followed by the keynote lecturer. For detailed program, please contact the organizing committee:

*Dr. Jin Wang, Baylor College of Medicine
Dr. Zheng Sun, Baylor College of Medicine
Dr. Sherry Xue Gao, Rice University
Dr. Yubin Zhou, Texas A&M University*

Update from SCBA-Neuroscience Division

The Society for Chinese Neuroscientists (<https://www.sfnchinese.org/member/>) is pleased to announce the first-ever Summer Symposium to be held in Pittsburgh from Aug 2-4, 2023. The symposium is organized by Drs. **Dandan Sun** from University of Pittsburgh, **Long-Jun Wu** from Mayo Clinic, **Chun-li Zhang** from UT Southwestern, **Zhiping Pang** from Rutgers University, **Junfang Wu** from University of Maryland, and **Yang Yang** from Purdue University. The goal of this meeting is to bring together the Chinese American PIs and trainees working in the neuroscience field for scientific exchange and collaboration. We anticipate that this symposium will be held annually in the coming years. For more information, please visit <https://www.sfnchinese.org/society-for-chinese-neuroscientists-summer-symposium-2023/>.



Update from the Cell & Bioscience

Dear SCBA Members,

Cell & Bioscience is the society journal of SCBA. Since its inception in 2009, it has grown significantly in recent years, achieving an impact factor of 9.59 for 2021. We are grateful for all your supports as well as those of the scientific community who have faith in our journal. The success suggests that *Cell & Bioscience* has become a valuable platform for biomedical investigators to report scientific findings. It also posts challenges for the Editorial Board to evaluate expeditiously the submissions to the journal. These demands exert a heavy load on the Editors, editorial board members and reviewers, who are working on a voluntary basis as experts in respective fields. We are truly indebted to their dedicated services to our journal. To ease up the demands on our Editors, Editorial Board Members and Reviewers, we are actively seeking help from our members and non-members to assist us by joining our editorial team.

I am delighted to report that two SCBA members have recently stepped up and agree to serve as Editors for our journal. We at *Cell & Bioscience* are honored to announce the appointments of the following experts as Editors of our journal:

- 1) **Xiaolei Xu**, Ph.D., Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Mayo Clinic, who has expertise in cardiovascular and renal diseases, molecular genetics, and animal modeling of human diseases.
- 2) **Yu-Jui Yvonne Wan**, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Department of Medical Pathology and Laboratory

Medicine, University of California, Davis, who has expertise in gut microbiota contributions to metabolism-associated diseases, and benefits of nutrients in metabolism and molecular mechanisms of human diseases and health disparities.

Xiaolei and Yvonne, welcome aboard! We are looking forwards to working with you!

For those who are interested in participating in our journal editorial tasks, please contact Chris Lau

(chris.lau@ucsf.edu) and visit our journal website for further information about the journal.

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

Chris Lau, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief



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 new members.



Xi He, Ph.D.
Co-Executive Director



Chris Lau, Ph.D.
Co-Executive Director



2023 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 2023 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 **June 1, 2023**.
- 4) Nomination package includes
 - The Nomination form (see the last page).
 - CV of the nominee
- 5) The nomination should be sent to:
 - Chonghui Cheng, Baylor College of Medicine (chonghui.cheng@bcm.edu), the Chair of the Nomination Committee
 - Copy to Kunxin Luo, University of California, Berkeley (luok2022@gmail.com), 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 Webmaster shall forward the information of the candidates and the official ballot to all Active Members on or before **July 15, 2023** for a vote by electronic means.

The information 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 and cast their votes through the SCBA Website by **August 15, 2023** deadline.

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.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chair of the Nomination Committee, Chonghui Cheng (chonghui.cheng@bcm.edu), or the Co-Executive Directors, Xi He (Xi.He@childrens.harvard.edu) or Chris Lau (chris.lau@ucsf.edu) or clarification.

The NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Chonghui Cheng (Baylor College of Medicine; chonghui.cheng@bcm.edu), Chair

Bin Gao (National Institutes of Health; gaobin1212@gmail.com)

Wei Jiang (Medical University of South Carolina; jianw@musc.edu)

Jia Bei Wang (University of Maryland; jiabei.wang@rx.umaryland.edu)

Weiyi Peng (University of Houston; wpeng2@central.uh.edu)

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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, 2026 – December 31, 2027

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, 2026 – December 31, 2027

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, 2026 – December 31, 2027

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, 2024 – December 31, 2027

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, 2024 – December 31, 2025

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, 2024 – December 31, 2025.

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: <https://www.scbasociety.org/>.

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2023 Election

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: Chonghui Cheng, Chair, Nomination Committee, chonghui.cheng@bcm.edu and cc a copy to the Secretary, Kunxin Luo, luok2022@gmail.com, before **June 1, 2023**.

Publish your next research and/or review article in

Cell & Bioscience

Average time to first decision 15.5 days

Editor-in-Chief: Yun-Fai Chris Lau
University of California, San Francisco

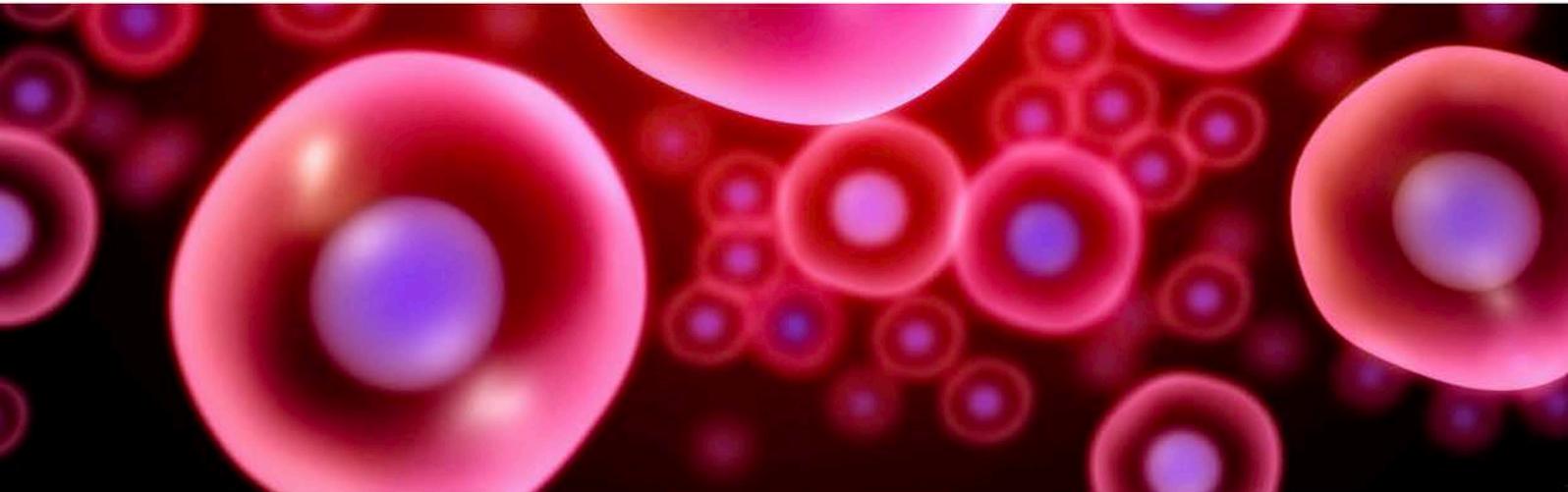
Associate Editor-in-Chief: Ying E. Zhang
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Associate Editor-in-Chief: Dong Yan Jin
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