

Preface

The Ninth Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conference: Frontiers and Challenges in the Rapid Development of Chemistry

The Ninth Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conference was successfully held in Chengdu, China from July 12th to July 14th, 2013. This conference was co-organized by College of Chemistry of Sichuan University and the Chinese-American Chemistry & Chemical Biology Professors Association (CAPA) in USA, chaired by Professors Xiaoqi Yu and Xiaoming Feng at Sichuan University, and co-chaired by Professors Zucai Suo, Zhen Huang, and Lin Pu from CAPA. Over 500 professors, chemists, and students from China, USA, and other countries (or areas) participated in this international conference. Among the participants, Professor Dr. Sidney Hacht, Associate Editor of Journal of American Chemical Society gave a keynote speech on “Multifunctional Radical Quenchers as Mitochondrial Therapeutic Agents”. After the Keynote speech, three parallel sessions, including “Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery”, “Organic Chemistry”, and “Supramolecular Chemistry and Material Science”, were held simultaneously and over 130 speakers presented their most recent research results. In the dinner banquet, Professor Zucai Suo representing CAPA presented the 2013 CAPA Distinguished Junior Faculty Awards and the CAPA Distinguished Faculty Awards. The success of this conference continuously promotes the goals of “stimulating exchange and collaboration among

researchers in the fields of chemistry, chemical biology, and material sciences, bridging the international research communities, and establishing this conference as one of the premier international forums in chemistry”.

CAPA (<http://capa-chem.webs.com/>) was established in 2001. So far, several hundred professors have joined the association and quite a few companies have sponsored CAPA’s various activities. The current administration officers of CAPA are Zucai Suo, Shaowei Chen, Xiangming Guan, Xi Chen, and Xiaodong Shi as the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Communication Director and Fund Raising Director, respectively. CAPA is non-for-profit and apolitical. The primary goal of CAPA is to promote networking, friendship, and information exchanges among overseas Chinese academic community. Various activities and dinner parties are organized at scientific meetings, such as the American Chemical Society National Fall and Spring Meetings and the Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conference. Up to now, CAPA has co-organized nine Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conferences in China and the host organizations are: Tianjin University (June 13–14, 2005), Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry (July 8–9, 2006), Wuhan University (June 1–2, 2007), Peking University (June 12–13, 2008), Lanzhou University (June 28–30, 2009),



Figure 1 A group photo of the participants.

Zhejiang University (June 15–17, 2010), Guizhou University (June 28–30, 2011), Kunming Institute of Botany of Chinese Academy of Sciences/Yunan University (July 1–4, 2012), and Sichuan University (July 12–14, 2013). The Tenth Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conference will be held at Shandong University in the summer of 2014.

To highlight some of the work presented by the participants of the Ninth Sino-US Chemistry Professors Conference, *Science China Chemistry* has organized this special issue and three of us are honored to serve as the editors. In this issue, there are 15 original research or review articles in the fields of organic synthesis, bioorganic and medicinal chemistry, and chemical biology. We sincerely thank all of the people who organized, served and participated in this exciting conference and the authors who contributed their papers to this special topic issue. In the past, four special issues of *Science China Chemistry* have been published to cover the previous Sino-US Chemistry Professors Confer-

ences [1–4]. CAPA is very grateful to Drs. Xuemei Zhang and Xiaowen Zhu at *Science China Chemistry* for their continuous support in the publication of these special issues.

- 1 Wang BH, Huang Z, Pu L. Preface. The Sino-US chemistry professors conference: History and outlook. *Sci China Chem*, 2010, 53(1): 1–2
- 2 Wang W, He C, Pu L. Preface. The sixth Sino-US chemistry professors conference: A catalyst for interaction and collaboration. *Sci China Chem*, 2011, 54(1): 1–2
- 3 Chen X, Suo ZC, Huang Z, Pu L. Preface. The seventh Sino-US chemistry professors conference: Bridging international research communities in Chemistry. *Sci China Chem*, 2012, 55(1): 1–2
- 4 Wang Q, Huang Z, Pu L. The eighth Sino-US chemistry professors conference: A forum for chemistry and chemical biology. *Sci China Chem*, 2013, 56(3): 271–272

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SUO ZuCai is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at The Ohio State University. He first received both his B.S. and M.S. degrees in physical chemistry from Fudan University and then obtained his Ph.D. in biological chemistry at the Pennsylvania State University in 1997. After being trained as a Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard Medical School for two years, he joined Eli Lilly & Company as a senior biochemist in 2000 and helped early development of an FDA-approved anti-hepatitis C drug (Incivo® or telaprevir). In November 2001, he moved to The Ohio State University (OSU) and became a faculty member. His research interests span from transient enzyme kinetics, protein NMR, X-ray crystallography, single molecule enzymology, and drug discovery.



HUANG Zhen obtained B.S. and M.S. from Sichuan University and Peking University, respectively. He obtained Ph.D. from Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH, Zurich) in 1994, under the supervision of Prof. Steven Benner. Then, he joined Harvard Medical School as Research Fellow, under the supervision of Prof. Jack Szostak. He was hired by Brooklyn College in 1998 and promoted to Associate Professor. In 2004, he was recruited to Georgia State University and promoted to Full Professor. He is interested in structure-and-function study of Se-derivatized DNAs and RNAs, nucleic acid/protein crystallography, RNA microchip, nucleic acid-based cancer diagnosis and drug discovery.



PU Lin received his B.S. in chemistry from Sichuan University in 1984. He then obtained a Doering Fellowship (CGP) for graduate study in the United States and enrolled in the Department of Chemistry at the University of California San Diego in 1985. Under the supervision of Professor Joseph M. O'Connor, he obtained his Ph.D. in 1990. From January 1991 to November 1992, he studied in Professor Henry Taube's laboratory at Stanford University as a postdoctoral fellow. From November 1992 to August 1994, he joined Professor Robert H. Grubbs' research group at California Institute of Technology to continue his postdoctoral training. In the fall of 1994, he was appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry at North Dakota State University. He moved to University of Virginia in 1997 as an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and became a professor of chemistry in 2003. He was appointed as the Changjiang Chair Professor at Sichuan University by the Ministry of Education, China, in 2005. He is a member of the editorial board of *Science China Chemistry*. The research projects in his laboratory focus on the design and synthesis of novel chiral molecules and macromolecules for applications in areas such as enantioselective fluorescent sensors, asymmetric catalysis, and electrical and optical materials.