

**A**merican  
**A**ssociation of  
**C**hinese in  
**T**oxicology



北美中華毒理協會

# American Association of Chinese in Toxicology (AACT) Annual Business Meeting



SOT 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and ToxExpo  
Nashville, Tennessee  
**March 20, 2023**



# Agenda

- 6:00 pm AACT Business Meeting
- 6:30 pm Gold sponsors' presentations
1. SAFE
  2. Biomere/Joinn
  3. Innostar
- 6:50 pm Networking and Reception



# President's Report

Xi Yang (2022-2023 President)



**Xi Yang**  
**President**



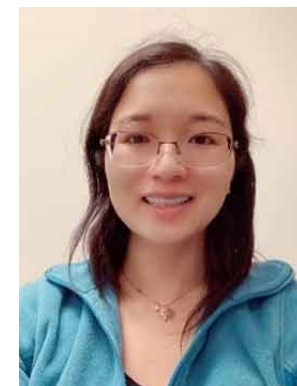
**Nan Mei**  
**Past President**



**Dongying Li**  
**Secretary**



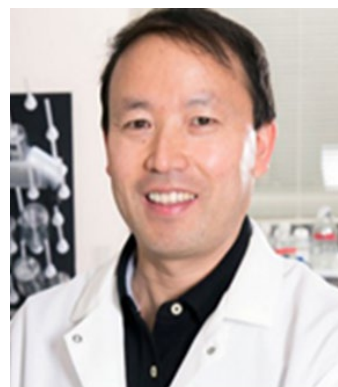
**Kan Shao**  
**President-Elect**



**Xiefan Fang**  
**Treasurer**



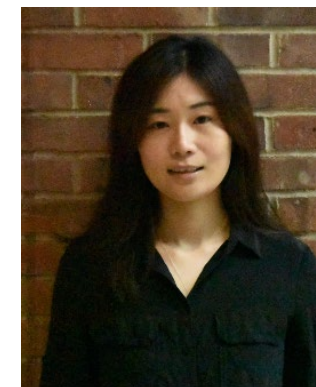
**Sharlene Dai**  
**Councilor**



**Zhenquan Jia**  
**Councilor**



**Jie Luo**  
**Postdoc Rep**

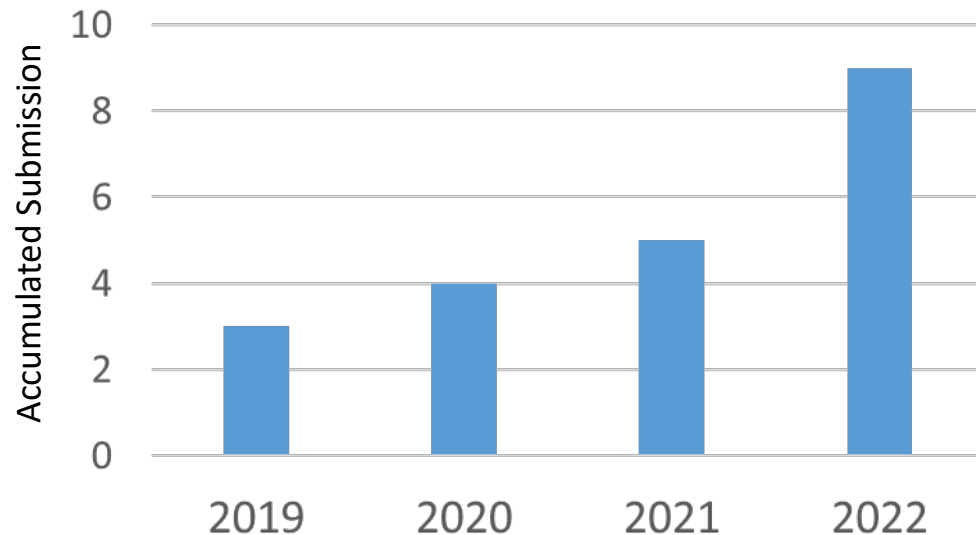


**Yunqi An**  
**Student Rep**

# Increase the Impact of AACT Members

## SOT Award Nomination Committee

- ❖ To promote the recognition of accomplished toxicologists of Chinese origin by nominating them for SOT awards
- ❖ Submitted 3 nomination packages in 2022 (*led by Dr. Shao*); each nomination package stays active for three years



## AACT Supported Scientific Session - 2023 SOT Annual Meeting

Safety Assessment Approaches for Stem Cell Therapy

Chair: William Slikker, Retired from FDA/NCTR

Co-Chair: James Kang, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Time: Wed. March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1:30pm to 4:15pm (Central)

Location: Karl Dean Ballroom C1, Music City Center

Endorser: **American Association of Chinese in Toxicology**

# Strengthen the Networking among AACT members



- ❖ In 2022, AACT increased the use of social media to connect our members
  - ✓ WeChat group has **391** members
  - ✓ Discuss toxicology questions (guidance, CROs, etc. )
  - ✓ Job information (both in USA and China)
  - ✓ Networking activities

# Mentoring Program

## ❖ 2022 summer mentoring and network event

(Supported by SOT ECDC )

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2022 AACT CAREER WORKSHOP



By [Shengjie Xu](#) posted 06-23-2022 13:40

Recommend

Co-authored with Xi Yang

On June 11, the SOT American Association of Chinese in Toxicology (AACT) Career Workshop was held in a hybrid format, serving online and on-site participants. This year marked the 10th anniversary of the AACT Career Workshop that was introduced in 2012 in San Francisco, California.

The workshop consisted of six presentations:

- Xi Yang, PhD, 2022-2023 AACT President, began by introducing the speakers and sharing her story of volunteering for the Continuing Education (CE) program to get more involved with the SOT community.
- SOT Councillor Lauren M. Aleksunes, PharmD, PhD, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, highlighted the diverse networking opportunities at SOT. She also provided practical advice for young scientists to prepare a standout LinkedIn profile to assist in career transition.
- Jiaqin "Jack" Yao, PhD, MD, Shanghai Innostar Biotechnology Co. Ltd., shared his opinions about the qualities for which employers are looking and the unique challenges international students encounter.
- Menghang Xia, PhD, National Institutes of Health (NIH), shared her journey from graduate school to NIH, providing her thoughts on leadership development with an example of her work with the Tox21 program.
- The talk by Yan Gu, PhD, Steptoe & Johnson LLP, focused on food safety evaluation from the perspective of a regulatory toxicology reviewer and toxicology specialist in a law firm.
- Alex Xu, PhD, AXTER Pharmaceuticals Pvt. Ltd., shared his unique story and the challenges faced by an entrepreneur.

During the panel discussion, moderated by Shengjie Xu, PhD, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, more career resources and tips were shared with an audience of nearly 30 participants. All speakers highlighted that you need to find your passion and follow your heart to accomplish your career goal(s).

AACT has a long history of providing continuous mentoring to help young toxicologists be competitive in a working environment. This event has been awarded Mentoring Initiative Matching Funds through the SOT Education and Career Development Committee. The AACT looks forward to hosting another successful career workshop in Nashville, Tennessee, during the 2023 SOT Annual Meeting and ToxExpo!

Since the AACT Career Workshop normally occurs during the SOT Annual Meeting and ToxExpo, this blog was prepared by an SOT Reporter and represents the views of the author. SOT Reporters are SOT members who volunteer to write about sessions and events in which they participate during the SOT Annual Meeting and ToxExpo. SOT does not propose or endorse any position by posting this article. If you are interested in participating in the SOT Reporter program in the future, please complete the [volunteer application form](#) titled "Contribute to SOT Communication Activities."

#SOTReporter

#2022AnnualMeeting

#AACT

#AmericanAssociationofChineseinToxicology



Jiaqin "Jack" Yao, PhD, MD, presenting during the AACT Career Workshop



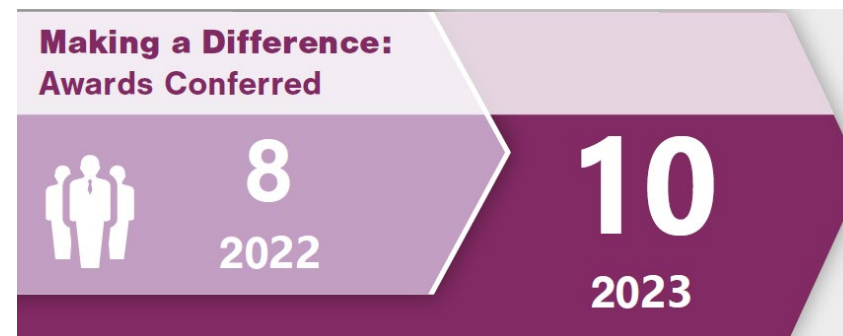
### Tips:

- Attend the 2023 Tuesday Career Workshop
- Check the [SOT Mentor Match program](#)
- [Chat with an expert program](#)
- Mentoring breakfast
- Speed Informational Interviews

# Finance Report

Xiefan Fang (2022-2023 Treasurer)

- ❖ AACT is on a strong financial position during the year 2022-2023.
- ❖ General Fund: Year end balance of **\$86,747**
- ❖ Jean Lu Endowment Fund: September balance of **\$47,608**
- ❖ Spending: 2023 Annual meeting reception, awards, and career workshop (~ **\$22,000**).



# Shout-out to Our 2022-2023 Sponsors!

## Gold Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsors



# Election Report

Nan Mei (Election Committee Chair)



**Shuo Xiao, Ph.D.**  
**President-Elect**  
**Rutgers University**



**Lili Tang, Ph.D.**  
**Councilor**  
**University of Georgia**



**Miao Li, Ph.D.**  
**Councilor**  
**FDA**



**Zhenning Yang**  
**Student Rep**  
**Rutgers University**

# Awards Announcement

Dr. Dongying Li (Awards Committee Chair)



## Member:

Dr. Julie Cui, University of Washington

Dr. Zhenquan Jia, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Dr. Zhoumeng Lin, University of Florida

Dr. Lili Tang, University of Georgia

Dr. Jia-Sheng Wang, University of Georgia

Dr. Qiang Zhang, Emory University

**New Award Established 2022-2023**

**SAFE Best Publication Award of AACT**

# Jean Lu Student Scholarship Award of AACT

- Established in 2009, giving its 1<sup>st</sup> recipient in 2010
- Initial generous gift from Dr. Frank C. Lu, a charter member of SOT, in memory of his wife, Jean Lu.



Jean Lu



Frank C. Lu

# Jean Lu Student Scholarship Award of AACT

---



**Shan Liu, Ph.D.**  
University of Pennsylvania



**Lei Zhang**  
Texas A&M University



**Yunqi An, Ph.D.**  
Rutgers University

# WestChina-Frontier PharmaTech Distinguished Chinese Toxicologist Lectureship Award of AACT

---



**Donna Zhang, Ph.D.**

Professor

Musil Family

Endowed Chair in

Drug Discovery

University of Arizona

# JOINN Biomere Outstanding Young Toxicologist Award of AACT



**Shuo Xiao, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Rutgers University



**Lisa Truong, Ph.D., MBA**  
Associate Professor  
Deputy Director of the Sinnhuber Aquatic Research Laboratory  
Director of the Zebrafish Biomedical Research Core  
Oregon State University

# InnoStar Best Abstract Award of AACT

*First Place*



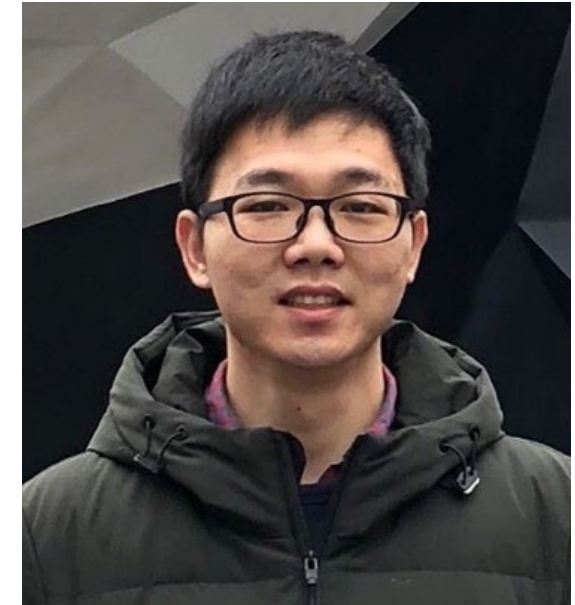
**Luke Liu, MD**  
Purdue University

*First Place*



**Zhenning Yang**  
Rutgers University

*Third Place*



**Jing Zheng, Ph.D.**  
University of Calgary

# SAFE Best Publication Award of AACT

---



**Xuelian Jia**

***Rowan University***

**Paper Title:** Mechanism-driven modeling of chemical hepatotoxicity using structural alerts  
and an in vitro screening assay

Journal: Journal of Hazardous Materials (IF: 14)

**Mentor:** Hao Zhu, PhD

# Appreciations for Outgoing Board Members



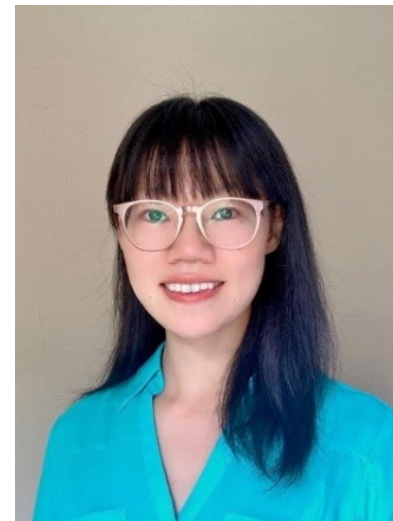
**Nan Mei**  
(2020-2023)

President-Elect  
President  
Past President



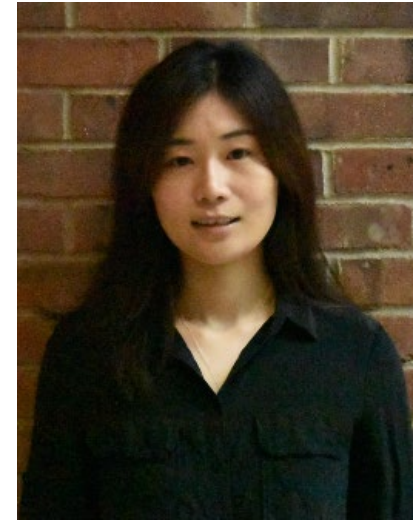
**Xiefan Fang**  
(2021-2023)

Councilor  
Treasurer



**Dongying Li**  
(2021-2023)

Councilor  
Secretary



**Yunqi An**  
(2022-2023)

Student Representative

*Thank You!*

**A** MERICAN  
**A** SSOCIATION OF  
**C** HINESE IN  
**T** OXICOLOGY



北美中華毒理協會

# Looking Forward

**Kan Shao, PhD**

**AACT President (2023-2024)**



# Gold Sponsors' Presentations

- WestChina Frontier
- SAFE
- Biomere/Joinn
- Innostar



WestChina-Frontier PharmaTech



赛赋医药



昭衍  
JOINN



益诺思  
INNOSTAR