



THE ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE PROFESSORS IN MANITOBA

曼省华裔教授协会

[HTTP://WWW.ACPMB.CA](http://www.acpmb.ca)

ACPMB NEWSLETTER

December 2012

BOARD OF ACPMB

- President:
Simon Liao
- Past-President:
Yuewen Gong
- Secretary:
Kan-Zhi Liu
- Members:
Jun Cai
Victor Cui
Ying Kong
Ganghong Tian
- President-elect:
Qingjin Peng
- Honorary board members:
Xi Yang
Qiang Zhang
Xihui Wang

CONTENTS

Welcome Message	1
Member Profiles	2-5
Members' Biographies	5
Past Events	6-7
Information Column	7
Events Updates	8-10
Chinese Landscape and Poetry	11-12

Welcome Message from the President

Dear ACPMB members, I would like to take this opportunity to report the recent activities of our association to you. The annual ACPMB general meeting was held on August 25, 2012 at Xian Famous Food Restaurant. Prof. Yuewen Gong, President of ACPMB 2011-12, reviewed our association's activities from the past year; Prof. Can-Ming Hu presented the treasurer's report. Elections were held; Prof. Qingjin Peng was elected as President-elect and Professors Ying Kong, Kan-Zhi Liu, Jun Cai, and Victor Cui were elected as board members. Twenty-seven members of the ACPMB attended the event with their families to share some wonderful time together. It is my great honor to serve the

ACPMB and its members. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Yuewen Gong, and Professors Can-Ming Hu and Xikui Wang, members of the ACPMB executive, for their dedication in serving our association. I look forward to working with newly-elected board members. On September 19, 2012, we had our first ACPMB event of the year. Professors Kan-Zhi Liu, Liqun Wang, and Christine Wu were invited to speak at our annual NSERC grant workshop. They shared their expertise through presentations and discussions on preparing successful proposals for NSERC and CHRP program grants. The event was highly successful and our speakers' efforts were well recognized and appreciated by

both the members in attendance and the association. Events to look forward to in the upcoming year include a workshop on applications for tenure and promotion, which take place in May or June, as well as a scientific exchange workshop planned for the spring to encourage academic collaborations among our members. To better serve our members, we are entirely open to and encourage ideas and suggestions from all of you. In closing, I would like to echo Prof. Gong's message from last year: "It is our organization and it is our responsibility to keep it strong". I wish everyone and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
(Simon Liao)

Association of Chinese Professors in Manitoba

Association of Chinese Professors in Manitoba (ACPMB) is a non-profit organization consisting of members from the University of Manitoba, the University of Winnipeg and the University of Brandon. The goals of the association are to promote information exchange and networking among university and college

professors of Chinese origin in Manitoba; to facilitate exchange and collaboration in research and education with institutions in China; and to promote cultural exchanges between Canada and China. Since it was established in 2005, ACPMB has 68 registered members from the three universities. The associations

also has close connections with other Chinese communities for promoting collaborations between Canada and China. In 2011, ACPMB members visited Chinese universities for exchange programs and international symposia, and in 2012 ACPMB hosted professors from Chinese universities for their visits in MB.

ACPMB Featured Professors

This year, ACPMB board decided that the member profile column was to feature two outstanding Chinese professors: a senior one from those who have established reputations in their fields and a junior one who had achievements and success in the early stages of their academic life. Honestly speaking, it was very hard to make selections as there are many in both streams among our ACPMB members. Dr. Xi Yang, a senior member, and Dr. Francis Lin, a junior member of the association are featured members for this issue. More outstanding scholars will be featured in our future issues of the newsletter.

Dr. Yang was one of founding members of ACPMB when the association was set up in 2008 and also served as the President of ACPMB during 2010-2011. He became a faculty member of Medical School in 1997 after he received his PhD degree and postdoctoral training from the University of Manitoba.

Dr. Lin became an ACPMB member in 2009, soon after he joined the Faculty of Science, University of Manitoba, upon completion of a Postdoctoral position at Stanford University School of Medicine in 2008. Coincidentally, both professors share the same research interest, immunology,

which has applications in several disciplines of science. Although their paths to their research goals are different, the achievements and success of both are outstanding.

During our informal interview dinner at Asia City Restaurant on October 28, both professors were modest about their accomplishments. ACPMB president, Dr. Simon Liao and the past president Dr. Yuewen Gong, talked about their trips to China. Thus, I have stories to tell about Dr. Yang's "Nostalgia for China" or his "Chinesism" (中国情结).

Professor Xi Yang—Medical Research Ambassador between Chinese and Canadian

As Canada Research Chair in Infection and Immunity, Dr. Yang makes great contributions through helping research training centres in China. This ambassadorial mission has provided him with a wider research platform: studies on the cellular and molecular basis of immune responses to allergens and infectious agents and the development of immunoprophylactic approaches to allergy and infectious diseases. In his own lab at the University of Manitoba, he has a large Chinese component—most laboratory members are visiting scholars, post-docs, and even graduate students from China. Asked whether he liked the strong Chinese components in his team, Dr. Yang said, "Originally, I tried to have a team of international diversity, so people from different cultural backgrounds can learn from

each other. However, China has more financial resources to send their faculty and students abroad for study and research. Also the Chinese trainees like to work with me, a Chinese professor, who understand them better

I am always open to Canadian and international scholars and students.

and who embraces Sino-Canadian cultural differences. Although their English may not be the best, they work hard and adapt themselves well into our academic environment. I don't feel sorry about the less diverse team now. But I am always open to Canadian and international scholars and students."

While wearing several hats as professor of two departments at University of Manitoba and chair of the promotion and tenure committee, Dr. Yang travels between China and Canada about three times a year for his collaborative research programs. Asked how he obtained his connections with Chinese institutions for his research, he has this story to tell:

Nothing could be happier than visiting parents.

I graduated from Shandong Medical University and worked there before I came to China. I feel that the loyalty for my alma mater made it difficult to reject their invitation, especially when most of my previous peers and colleagues now are in decision-making positions, which made it possible to establish and expand collaborative research. Shandong Medical University has now a part of Shandong University which is one of the “211” and “985” project universities. They receive research funds both from the state and local, so their research conditions have improved a lot. This provides a good platform for high quality collaborative research.

Dr. Yang is optimistic about research in universities in China, although also having concerns. Universities highlight their research so much that professors’ promotions are strictly determined by the numbers of publications in prestige journals, which is much more demanding than promotions for North American universities. Central and local governments are allocating large amounts of funding to universities included in the “211” and “985” projects. So those universities have lots of money to build research centers, hold international conferences and attract world-renowned faculty and visiting scholars. He found that some of their facilities and equipment are newer than ours. He said, “If we can make good use of their resources by collaborating with universities in China, it will help with our research as well.” Indeed, his collaboration with Chinese colleagues was quite successful, which was recently highlighted by International Innovation, a magazine published in United Kingdom. He also has concerns on this, though, because long term plans for research programs are often lacking and people

are more focused on the immediate achievements, which may not fit the natural rule of scientific research.

But collaborating with universities in China, is not as easy as we imagine if we don’t understand their intentions. Dr. Yang has lots to share with us. He said, “Universities in China are very selective for publications based on the impact factor of scientific journals. Publication in journals with high impact factor are highly favoured. The impact factor becomes a powerful yardstick for their publications (the impact factor reveals how much your publication is cited by other scholars in peer-reviewed journals). Publication in SCI journals has almost becoming the only factor accounting for faculty promotion, awards and even financial benefits. So if you can’t help them with publications in those prestigious journals, you are not as welcome as needed.” Without any doubt, he contributed lots of time and energy in helping Chinese colleagues’ publications. Sometimes, help is just not enough. He became a major writer for their publications. Because some Chinese universities only recognize first authorship for student graduation and faculty promotion, Dr. Yang had to yield his right for his lab here to be first authorship, and even senior authorship. Dr. Yang is not always comfortable with this, but first authorship seems to be critical to his Chinese colleagues –an issue of academic survival.

In spite of some concerns, Dr. Yang is still very happy with what he has contributed to collaboration with universities in China. He has research relationships with Shandong University and Tianjin Medical Universities. Dr. Yang helped both universities set up modern labs for immunological studies and research; helped both faculties publish papers in SCI journal; organized international conferences; nurtured several PhDs, post-docs and visiting scholars from China. Each year he travels to China several times. Travelling and doing research with Chinese and Canadian universities not only meets his academic needs but also cures his homesickness as well. Each time he's in Shandong, he visits his parents, a great enjoy in his life, “There is nothing that could be happier than visiting parents as often as possible.” At the end of the interview, Dr. Yang said with affection for Francis Lin, “You’d better

Dr. Francis Lin—An Example of Interdisciplinary Research

Quite the opposite of Dr. Yang, Dr. Lin will be visiting China during his sabbatical leave this year for the first time since 2008. It could be a challenge for him to get oriented in his hometown. “I am a little nervous about my trip back to Beijing. I used to live in the west side of the city, where it would take a long drive to get to Beijing Capital International Airport in my memory. Now it seems the transportation system in Beijing is much more powerful including the significantly expanded subway network and convenient shuttle bus service. But they are all new to me and most of my references for orientation are likely no longer effective. I can’t imagine how fast Beijing and China developed since I left in 1998. I might not be able to find my way home without a map”

As I was a visiting scholar in Peking University myself between 2010 and 2011, I fully understood Dr. Lin’s worries. Coming from Winnipeg where there is not much traffic to say nothing about a subway, I was surprised at the efficiency and equipment of the Beijing Subway System. I am sure that Dr. Lin will get a reverse cultural shock at the high speed of development of his hometown, particularly after the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008.

In 1998, upon his completion of B.S. in Applied Physics from Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Francis Lin (Yuan Lin is his Chinese name) left China for his M.S. in physics at California State University, Fullerton. In that foreign land he found that his first name was often mispronounced so that sometimes he didn’t know when he was being addressed by his professors. In order to be accepted quickly, Yuan Lin decided to be called Frank, and later Francis. It was Francis Lin who saw the rewards of his labours: in 2004, he obtained his doctoral degree in Physics from the University of California, Irvine, and his thesis research involved developing microfluidic devices for cell migration studies under the supervision of Professors Noo Li Jeon and Steven P. Gross. To further develop his research experience in cell migration and trafficking,

he felt it necessary to take a step further from his physics and engineering training to get more exposure to biology and immunology. In 2005, he started his postdoc research with Professor Eugene Butcher at Stanford University School of Medicine, working on lymphocyte migration and trafficking studies using a combination of experimental and modeling approaches.

In 2008, Francis reached the opportunity to start his independent research at the University of Manitoba, and in 2010, he received the Rh Award in the interdisciplinary category. As is known, the Rh Awards recognize academics, who are in their early research career, and who display exceptional promise, high qualities of innovation and unusual stimulation to research colleagues in their own or related areas. This award is very competitive. Each year there were only seven recipients, one in each category.

Research brings a very different kind of pleasure.

Asked about the relationship between teaching and research, Francis’ reply impressed me. “Classroom teaching is largely around what is known. As an instructor, you know your material and you are confident. Time-wise, you know how much time you need to prepare for teaching and marking. So time management is easier compared to research, to which there is no limit. Research brings a very different kind of pleasure as you try to find answers to unknowns and to challenge yourself for originality and creativity at a higher level. On the other hand, teaching is an important component of research that you train and collaborate with your trainees to achieve mutual research goals. I felt very lucky that I could attract students and scholars from different areas and even from middle schools to my research program, and to share the joy of research with them. My students and trainees have a strong desire for learning and discovery. So in a sense it is those young minds motivated me to become a better teacher and advisor”

Since he joined UM, Francis has set up his lab and assembled an interdisciplinary research team to study cell migration and trafficking. His research involves approaches from biophysics, engineering, biology and immunology, and one of the major goals of his research is to achieve a quantitative and systematic understanding of immune cell migration and trafficking in complex cellular microenvironments. Francis credited highly his lab members' talent and hard working as well as the support from his many collaborators within and outside the university. His research program is strongly supported by grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Manitoba Health Research Council (MHRC), the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Mani-

toba Medical Service Foundation (MMSF) and internal funding from university. As a young scholar and researcher, Francis set a useful example for interdisciplinary research.

At the end of our dinner interview, Dr. Yang, from his own experience, gave Francis sincere advice, "When you are established more, when your children are grown up, you will be in a better position to more productively collaborate with scholars and researchers in China." (By **Ying Kong**)

"One of the major goals of my research is to achieve a quantitative and systematic understanding of immune cell migration and trafficking in complex cellular microenvironments."

Academic Biographies of Our Featured Professors



Francis Lin obtained his Ph.D. in Physics in 2004 from the University of California, Irvine. He received his postdoc training in immunology at Stanford University School of Medicine from 2005 to 2008. He has been an Assistant Pro-

fessor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Manitoba since 2008. He is directing the microfluidic cell migration research program in the Immunotraf-ficking Lab.

Xi Yang obtained his medical degree in China in 1982 and PhD of Immunology in Canada in 1993. He is currently Professor of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Manitoba. He is also the Canada Research Chair in Infection and Immunity. He has served as reviewer in numerous national and international grant review panels and editor in several international scientific journals. His research program focuses on the mechanisms of immune responses to allergy/asthma and infectious diseases. His research has been supported by CIHR, CFI, CRC and other agencies.



ACPMB Website Updates



Want to know more about ACPMB? Check out our website acpmb.org for new content and the association updates such as membership, meetings, events, publications and contact information.

Past Events—2012

2012 Chinese New Year Celebration

The ACPMB 2012 Chinese New Year Party was held on January 28 in North Garden Restaurant. Some of the ACPMB members attended the dinner party with their families. Gifts from the Chinese Embassy were distributed to 38 members. The gifts included beautiful calendars (China World Heritage), Chinese tea, ties and DVDs of Chinese films. James Dean and Ruth Dean, Rhonda Friesen and her husband from UM International Relations also join us for the party.

Some ACPMB members also joined the New Year Party held by Association of Chinese Students and Scholars on campus. Chinese Consulate in Toronto invited our members to celebrate the Chinese New Year together with them there.

Workshops for Tenure Promotion NSERC and CHRP Grants

NSERC and CHRP Grant application workshop was held on Sept. 19. Drs. Kai-Zhi Liu, Liqun Wang and Qiong Wu were guest speakers for this year. They provided ACPMB members with insightful and applicable instructions on how to prepare or refine the CHRP and Strategic Project Grants so that the applicants get big grants for their research.

Support Association of Chinese Students and Scholars

ACPMB was invited to the Orientation for Chinese Students hosted by UMCSSA on September 13. Three of our board members were there, providing consolation service and students' questions about academic studies in different faculties. On November 17, two of our board members came to support the 11th annual Karaoke Competition held by UMCSSA.

2012 General Meeting

The annual general meeting was held on August 25 in Xi'an Restaurant. Besides enjoying the authentic food, we also had ACPMB board members elected for 2012-2013. More than 50 members took part in the election. The past president Dr. Yuewen Gong successfully completed his one year service and passed the presidency to Dr. Simon Liao, the current president. According to the ACPMB by-law, Dr. Yuewen Gong became a past president as the previous presidents did. The designated missions of the newly elected board members are as follows:

Victor Cui, Treasurer;
Kan-Zhi Liu, Secretary;
Ying Kong, Newsletter;
Jun Cai, Maintaining ACPMB Web site;
Ganghong Tian, Assistant to specific tasks.

Book Donation to Hebei North University

As Hebei North University requested, ACPMB decided to help the university with text books adopted by universities in Manitoba. Books have been and will be collected by the following members before the book delivery:

Medical school and downtown campus (Yuewen Gong and Jiming Kong);
U of W campus (Simon Liao);
UM Science (Canming Hu);
Engineering (Qiang Zhang).

Welcoming the Toronto Consulate General, Mr. Fang Li's Visit in Winnipeg

On April 23, six ACPMB members joined the welcoming dinner party held by Winnipeg Chinese Cultural Centre in Kum Koon Restaurant. Among more than 40 Chinese communities, ACPMB was the first Chinese one to have a picture taken with Mr. Fang, his team and other VIPs from the province and city.

Canada-China Scholars' Exchange Program (CCSEP)

The Canada-China Scholars' Exchange Program (CCSEP) is an official exchange program between the Government of Canada and the Government of the People's Republic of China, which is designed to enhance scholars and professionals' knowledge and understanding of his or her host country's language, culture, academic and business pursuits. Since its establishment in 1973, more than 900 scholars have participated in the program.

Through the CCSEP, which is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada provides eight to twelve scholarships annually to Chinese mid-career professionals, while China offers approximately 20 short-term awards to non-degree seeking Canadian university students.

For those who are interested in doing research related to China during their sabbatical leave, please check Canada News Centre (news.gc.ca) for detailed CCSEP information.

Information About Multiple China Entry Visa

From: LI Yufei

Sent: Monday, October 22, 2012 1:09 PM

To: Chinese Professors

Subject: 签证

你好,

由于今年签证办理程序和受理机构发生变化, 如因与国内合作等办理2年多次F(访问)签证, 请按照以

下方式办理:

1、将申请表、护照首页、邀请信(如有国内聘书也同时提供)、个人简历(不超过3页)以上四项材料的电子版通过电子邮件发我。

yufei_lee@yahoo.com

如审核符合要求, 签证代办中心将会受理你的2年多次签证申请。

1) 申请表(上面标明2年多次访问签证)、照片、至少25个月的有效护照; 曾经办理过的签证记录或者原中国护照

2) 邀请信

3) 如有中方特聘教授或者人才计划的聘书 也请复印提供

4) 多伦多中国签证申请中心的程序等见:
http://www.visaforchina.org/YTO_ZH/

5) 收费参照一年多次签证收取

其他:

1) 签证申请中心可以受理通过旅行社递交签证申请材料

2) 步骤1一般需要5个工作日, 步骤2一般需要3-4个工作日。步骤1和步骤2之间间隔最好不要超过1周时间。

Collaborations with Universities in China 2012

Dr. Pei Liu, Dean of School of Public Health at Southeast University in Nanjing, China, visited University of Manitoba between Oct. 9 and Oct.13, 2012. During his short stay in Winnipeg, he visited Department of Community of Health Sciences and Faculty of Medicine to discuss research matters of mutual interest. He visited the George and Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation at the UM, and discussed the new Strategy for Patient Oriented Research initiated by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

He participated in the symposium of Department of Community Health Sciences to address staff/students / others on research in epidemiology and biostatistics. The two faculties showed mutual interest in collaborative research in the future and will establish the memorandum of understanding between University of Manitoba and Southeast University.

(Depeng Jiang, Community of Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba)



Dr. Brian Postal from UM and Dr. Pei Liu from China
(Photo by Deping Jiang)



Dr. Patrick Choy, Dr. Pei Liu and Dr. Depeng Jiang
(Photo by Deping Jiang)

2012 was a fruitful year for collaborations between the Faculty of Science, University of Manitoba and Lanzhou University.

In May, Dr. Xue Desheng, Dean of Physics and Technology, LZU, visited the Department of Physics and Astronomy at U of M, and gave a seminar. He collaborates with Dr. Hu Canming, Department of Physics and Astronomy. The U of M obtained joint research funding of 200,000 RMB. Dr. Xue Desheng also invited Dr. Francis Lin from the Department of Physics and Astronomy to visit LXU in December, 2012, to give a lecture and discuss future collaboration.

In September, Dr. Jing Tao, Vice president of LZU headed 11 delegates visited UM. He and Dr. Digvir Jayas, Vice president of UM signed an agreement of 2+2 program between the two universities. Students in this program will take the first and second year courses at LZU, which are credited by UM, and take the third year and fourth year courses at UM. If they meet all the requirements, the students will be awarded the degree from both universities.

July and August, 28 students and 4 staff members from LZU attended Intensive English Program (IEP program). They studied English and travel to Banff National Park as well. This program will continue in 2013.



From Left to right, Dr. Xu Pengfei, Director of Education Admin Office, LZU, Dr. Jing Tao, Vice President of LZU, Dr. Digvir Jayas, Vice President of UM, Dr. Mark Whitmore, Dean of Faculty of Science. UM

(Provided by Xuezhi Zhou)



Delegation from Lanzhou University

(Provided by Xuezhi Zhou)



IEP students from Lanzhou University in Banff

(Provided by Xuezhi Zhou)

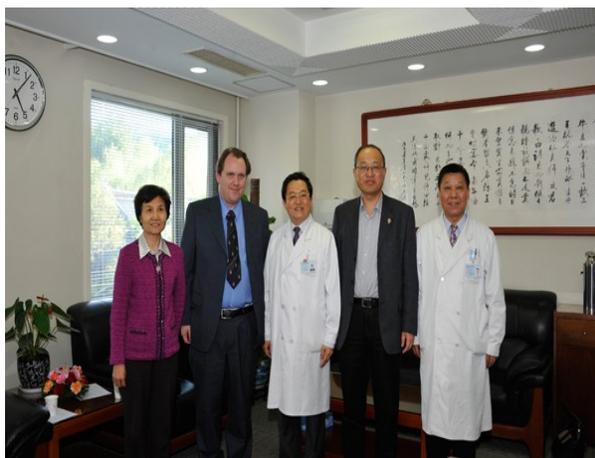


IEP students from Lanzhou University in UM Campus

(Provided by Xuezhi Zhou)

Collaborations with Universities in China 2012

In April 23-26, 2012, Dr. Neal Davies (Dean of Pharmacy) and Dr. Yuewen Gong (Associate Dean Research of Pharmacy) of the University of Manitoba visited the China-Japan Friendship Hospital. Dean Davies gave a talk at the China-Japan Friendship Institute of Clinical Medical Science and both Dean Davies and Dr. Gong met Dr. Shuqiang Xu (the President of the Hospital), Dr. Ping Li (the Vice Director of the Institute), and Dr. Fujun Cai (the Director of International Department) to discuss further collaboration between both institutes (Yuewen Gong, Pharmacy, UM).



This summer Dr. Ying Kong took 23 University of Winnipeg students on a field trip to study in Shanghai. The hosting university was Shanghai Normal University. Students did research on Topics in Chinese Culture. In May 2013, Dr. Kong is going to take students from UM to trace Catholic Heritage in China. The Travel and Study program will become a unique chapter in their lives and will have a deep impact on their future. (Ying Kong, Religion and Culture, University of Winnipeg)



ACPMB Main Events in 2013

2013 Chinese New Year Dinner Party

The party will be at 6:00 pm February 2nd in Summer Palace Restaurant. 20 copies of Chinese Scenery Calendar will be distributed to ACPMB members who will be at the party.

ACPMB Information exchange session

This information sessions is to share and exchange information on ACPMB members' academic research and projects. The tentative date is scheduled on April 13th.

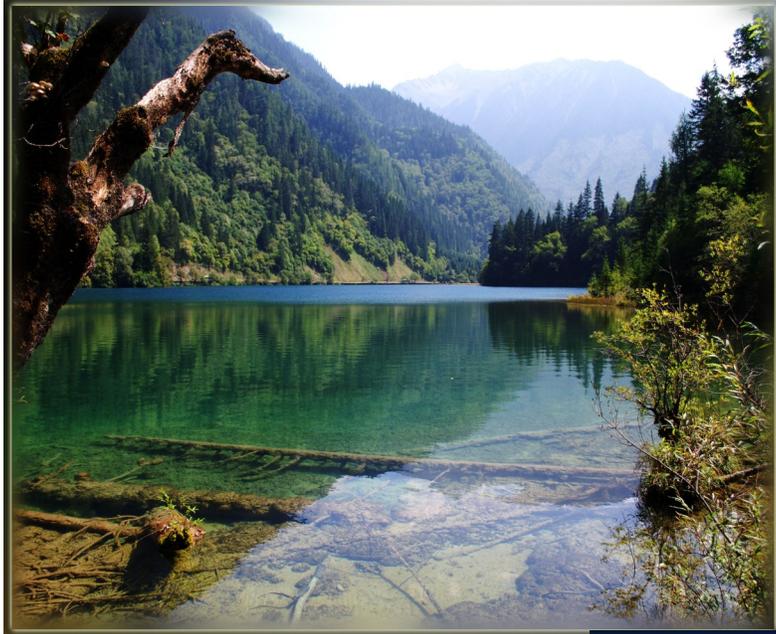
Dialogue between Chinese professors and Chinese students on Academic Integrity

As UMCSSA requested, ACPMB members will have information session on Academic integrity for Chinese students.

Workshops for Tenure Promotion will be in May, and for NSERC and CHRP Grants will be in early September 2013.

Chinese Landscape and Poetry

Photographed by Kai-Zhi Liu; Poems by Zhaohai Yang



山水之灵

落基山脉的班夫，
有你挺拔的身姿；
漠北的贝加尔湖，
有你翠绿的深邃。
你比她们更加傲人的，
是还养育了熊猫宝贝。

伴水而依

没有浪花，
而水有深海的湛蓝。
无人栽培，
花草依偎在你身畔。
还有还有，
滋润呵护这一汪宁静生命的，
那天的高远和山的伟岸。



Photographer's Biography

Dr. Kan-Zhi Liu, originally grew up in Hunan and obtained his M.D. from U of Soochow and Ph.D. U of Manitoba. Now he works at the National Research Council Canada as a Senior Research Officer and Professor at UofM. His photograph was once awarded the first prize in Manitoba Photo Contest.

缕水情深

想是月宫嫦娥姐姐的玉梳
 掉落人间？
 才给山溪妹妹
 分出这许飘逸的发线。



迷天水镜

我是水，
 妩媚活泼漂流不定，
 睁开好奇的眼睛到各处寻觅。

我是地，
 立定一方沉默不语，
 拥抱你我给你最深的美丽。

Poet's Biography

Zhaohui Yang, grown up in Zhengzhou, Henan province, immigrated to Winnipeg in 2006, and proceeds with engineering design and draft work, as well as editor in the local Chinese magazine *Fenghua Voice*.

Thanks to our contributors:

Simon Liao, Yuewen Gong, Xi Yang, Francis Lin, Depeng Jiang, Xuezhi Zhou, Kan-Zhi Liu, and Zhaohui Yang

Editor: Ying Kong

Formatting, Layout & Design: Ying Kong