

Chinese, U.S. Researchers in Chemical Biology Meet

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Twenty-four of the leading researchers in chemical biology from the U.S. and China met last week in Shanghai to discuss the latest advances in chemical biology.

The workshop was the first of a series organized by the American Chemical Society and the [National Natural Science Foundation of China](#) to catalyze research collaboration between young scientists located in the U.S. and China.

Enhanced ties between Chinese and American scientists are increasingly important as China's leadership in science and innovation grows. Within just a few years, and very likely by 2010, the U.S. and China will be the top two producers of technical publications in chemistry in journals that are indexed by the Institute for Scientific Information.

Many Chinese and American scientists that are shaping the discipline are under the age of 45. However, these researchers have few forums in which to interact directly. Yet it is increasingly vital for young chemical scientists in the United States to be acquainted with the latest research practiced by their counterparts in China, and just as crucial for early-career researchers from this country to be acquainted with the best young chemical scientists in the United States. ACS partnered with the [NSF-C](#) to offer this discipline-specific interaction to enhance ties between Chinese and U.S. early-career scientists.

A bilateral organizing committee developed the [technical program](#) for the invitation-only symposium. Symposium topics and participants were selected to encourage the development of new collaborations and identification of priorities for research in the specific area. Discussions on grand research challenges identified some of the opportunities for the field to develop over the next 10 years. A brief report from the workshop is forthcoming.

The meeting was hosted by the [Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry](#), a world leader in research. Major financial support for U.S. participation in the workshop was provided by the [U.S. National Science Foundation](#).

NSF and NSF-C have provided funding for three bilateral workshops. The next bilateral workshop will focus on topics in materials chemistry and will be held in North America. Participants in the third workshop will discuss topics in supramolecular chemistry and will meet in China. The workshops are intended to enhance the exchange of scientific information, contribute to the development of future R&D collaborations, enhance international networking among young scientists, and identify challenges and opportunities for future international collaboration between U.S. and Chinese researchers. The workshops are coordinated by the [Office of International Activities](#) on behalf of ACS.