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[Report of Honor] TWAS Elects 4 Academia Sinica Academicians as Members, 2 Taiwanese Scholars Receive Prizes, and 1 Researcher becomes Young Affiliate

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Academia Sinica Newsletter (2011/11/22) The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) announced the election of four Academia Sinica Academicians among its 2011 list of new members on November 21. In addition, two more Taiwanese scholars, one from Academia Sinica, received a TWAS Prize, and one research fellow from Academia Sinica was elected a TWAS Young Affiliate. The announcement of the conferral of the accolades was made at the 22nd TWAS General Meeting being held from November 20 to 23 in Trieste, Italy.

The four new TWAS members are, in order of announcement, Academician Wen-Chang CHANG, Chair Professor of the Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Taipei Medical University and Honorary Distinguished Chair Professor of National Cheng Kung University; Academician Pei-Jer CHEN, Professor of the Graduate Institute of Clinical Medicine, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University; Academician Yuan-Pern LEE, Chair Professor of the Department of Applied Chemistry, National Chiao Tung University, and Adjunct Research Fellow of the Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences, Academia Sinica; and Academician Shih-Lin CHANG, Honorary Chair Professor of National Tsing Hua University and Director of National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center.

The two Taiwanese TWAS prize winners are, in order of announcement, Vice President of National Chiao Tung University Dr. Yi-Bing LIN, (Engineering Sciences Section), and Dr. Shun-Jen CHENG, a Research Fellow at the Institute of Mathematics, Academia Sinica (Mathematics Section).

In addition, an Assistant Research Fellow at Academia Sinica's Institute of Physics, Dr. Keng-Hui LIN was elected a 2011 TWAS Young Affiliate, an honor given each year to exceptional scientists below the age of 40.

Academician Wen-Chang CHANG was elected to the area of Biological Systems and Organisms. Academician Chang has been contributing to our understanding of the functions of prostanoids and unsaturated fatty acid oxidation metabolites for nearly 40 years. His major research finding was the discovery of a then new prostaglandin 6-keto PGF1α in inflammatory tissue in 1976. His recent major research contribution is to discover the transcription factor Sp1 can function as an anchor protein to recruit transcription factor c-Jun to gene promoter to regulate gene expression in inflammation and tumorigenesis, and also play a neuroprotective role against brain neuronal injury, indicating the important physiological and pathophysiological functions of Sp1.

Academician Pei-Jer CHEN was elected to the area of Medical and Health Sciences. His research accomplishments are finding new insights into Hepatitis D virus RNA replication and Hepatitis B virus carcinogenesis, and mechanisms and treatment of viral hepatitis and related liver cancer.

Academician Yuan-Pern LEE was elected to the area of Chemical Sciences. He has been taking leading roles in time-resolved Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy and matrix isolation spectroscopy using para-hydrogen, and has made significant contributions to spectroscopy, kinetics, and dynamics of free radicals that are important in atmospheric, combustion, or planetary chemistry, including production and identification of more than 60 new free radical or unstable species.

Academician Shih-Lin CHANG was elected to the area of Physics. His outstanding contributions are developing X-ray multiple diffraction methods to solve the X-ray phase problem in crystallography and condensed matter physics and demonstrating first the resonance interference of the X-ray Fabry-Perot resonator using dynamical diffraction from crystalline solids.

Dr. Yi-Bing LIN is Vice President of the National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan. He has been widely recognized for his research work in mobile computing and wireless communication, including (among many other honors) being named a Fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery, a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is the author of three textbooks: Wireless and Mobile Network Architecture (co-author with Imrich CHLAMTAC, 2001), Wireless and

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Mobile All-IP Networks (2005), and Charging for Mobile All-IP Telecommunications (2008).

Dr. Shun-Jen CHENG works on the representation theory of Lie algebras and Lie superalgebras. In recent years, he and his coauthors used the novel concept of super duality to solve the irreducible character problem for a wide class of modules over the classical Lie superalgebras. He is currently a Research Fellow at the Institute of Mathematics, Academia Sinica.

Related website: http://twas.ictp.it/

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