



Dr Shan Gao, Professor at Ocean University of China, recipient of the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. She has been focused on examining the fundamental process of epigenetics, primarily using a model ciliate *Tetrahymena thermophila*. Her recent work emphasizes regulatory mechanisms and functional divergence of DNA N⁶-methyladenine (6mA) in eukaryotes, as well as the role of histone modifications in replication-transcription conflicts. she has published over 70 papers in top-tier journals including *Genes & Development*, *Genome Research*, and *Nucleic Acids Research*.

Dr Gao has served as a committee member of the International Congress of Protistology (ICOP), Vice Chair of the Ciliate Advisory Board, Secretary-General of the Asian Congress of Protistology (ACOP-II), Executive council member of the Chinese Society of Protozoology (CSP), and Junior Editor of *Science China Life Sciences*. Her awards include the Holz-Conner Award from the International Society of Protistologists, the Career Development Grant from the Chinese Society for Cell Biology, the Changlong Award and Young Scientist Award from the China Zoological Society, and the Shandong Province Natural Science Award (Youth Award).

