



Greg Wang receives 2019 Hettleman Prize along with three others

August 22, 2019

The annual Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prizes for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement have been awarded to four associate professors who exemplify groundbreaking and innovative research along with future career promise.

The late Phillip Hettleman, a member of the UNC class of 1921, and his wife Ruth established the prestigious award in 1986 in order to recognize the achievements of outstanding junior faculty. The recipients will be recognized at the September 13 Faculty Council Meeting, and later this semester, each one will deliver a presentation on their research.

This year's Hettleman Prize awardees are: [Uffe Bergeton](#), associate professor in the Asian studies department within the College of Arts & Sciences; [Kavita Singh Ongechi](#), associate professor in the maternal and child health department within the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health; and from the School of Medicine, [Li Qian](#), associate professor in the pathology and laboratory medicine department, and [Greg Wang](#), associate professor in the biochemistry and biophysics department.



Greg G. Wang PhD, associate professor

Wang has developed a highly successful research program focused on the epigenetic changes that occur in cancer, along with development of potential new therapeutics to treat this terrible disease. Using cutting-edge technologies including biochemistry-based discovery tools, CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genomic editing, and next-generation sequencing-based genomics profiling, he leads a research team to dissect and understand the mechanisms and pathways by which a particular gene alteration leads to development of cancer including aggressive acute myeloid leukemia and prostate cancer. His scholarly work covers a broad range from fundamentals of epigenetic and genetic regulation to translational works in drug discovery and therapeutics. Wang is also a UNC Lineberger Cancer Center member, an American Cancer Society Research Scholar, and a Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Scholar.

“There is no doubt that his productivity will continue to grow in the future, and that he will become one of the top researchers in cancer and epigenetic research not only at UNC-Chapel Hill but also in the country,” said Leslie V. Parise, professor and chair of the biochemistry and biophysics department.

Wang holds a doctorate in biomedical sciences from the University of California at San Diego and carried a subsequent postdoctoral training at The Rockefeller University. He also holds a master’s in cancer biology and a bachelor’s in biochemistry from Fudan University.

Wang's research is supported by an impressive series of awards from various cancer research foundations including the V Foundation for Cancer Research, the Sidney Kimmel Foundation for Cancer Research, the American Society of Hematology, Concern Foundation for Cancer Research, Gabrielle's Angel Foundation for Cancer Research, Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program, When Everyone Survives (WES) Leukemia Research Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Defense. In the past year, he was awarded three R01 grants from NIH.

[Click here for the original announcement by UNC Research](#)

Filed Under:

[News](#)

More from Biochemistry and Biophysics

August 2019 Welcome to the New Semester

UNC researchers captured a new culprit in multiple myeloma, a common hematological cancer

BBSP Graduate Student Rotations available