

Dear colleagues,

It's my great honor to have the chance to deliver a statement here and I am impressed by the excellent contribution made by the previous Co-Chair / Chairs of ICGI. Thanks for your hard work in the past four years. Today, I am very glad to run for the co-chair of cotton functional genomics for the second term.

I hope that I'm qualified to take this position. First of all, I love cotton research and cotton society. Since 1998, I have been working on cotton biotechnology in Huazhong Agricultural University. In past two decades, most of my research is focusing on the cotton biotechnology including developing the high-efficient cotton genetic transformation system by using two elite cotton genotypes: YZ-1 and Jin 668 , creating mutants by T-DNA insertion strategy, RNAi mediated insect resistance, chloroplast transformation. Recently, my lab developed a high-efficient CRISPR-Cas 9 system and its off-target effect evaluation system by using the whole genome re-sequencing technology, the first CRISPR-Cas12a (cpf1), the first CRISPR-Cas12b (C2c1), the first base editing system (CBE and ABE) in cotton (we published 9 papers regarding the cotton genome editing in several well-known journals including Trends in Plant Science, Advanced Science and Plant Biotechnology Journal), which strongly promoted the development of cotton functional genomics. More importantly, I shared all these materials (YZ-1 and Jin668 seeds), plastid vectors of CRISPRs and related techniques to the whole cotton community. Up to now, more than 40 labs are using YZ-1 and Jin668 for cotton genetic transformation, more 90 labs are using our CRISPRs vectors to perform the genome editing in cotton plants.

In addition, I have served as an associated editor of Plant Biotechnology Journal since 2018. This journal is a leading journal in plant science field that currently ranks #3 (Scopus Citescore 14.1) or #5 (ISI impact Factor 8.15) among plant science journals publishing original research. In the past three years, more than 20 high standard researches have been published in this journals from several major cotton research groups worldwide including Tianzhen Zhang, Yuxian Zhu, Xianlong Zhang, Shuxun Yu, Fuguang Li, Xiongming Du, Kent Chapmen, Keerti Rathore's group etc and I am honored to be the handing editor for these submissions from cotton research community.

If I am honored to be elected the co- Chair again, I will try my best to serve the society. I will take serial activities to enhance the international communication, collaboration, and technology and resource development for cotton functional genomics research.

So, my wise friends, please vote for me ---that's because I am your right choice!
Thank you!

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