

Report on the 1st AEARU Distinguished Lecture Series

(May 21, 2012)

As proposed by President Lih J. Chen of Tsing Hua University- Hsinchu, Chairman of the AEARU Board of Directors, the 1st AEARU Distinguished Lecture Series was hosted by Nanjing University on May 21, 2012 during the 110th Anniversary celebration.

AEARU Distinguished Lecture Series, originally AEARU Forum, is intended to provide an opportunity for the students and professionals from the AEARU member universities, as well as the general public, to understand more about AEARU and to acknowledge the recent researches that are happening within member universities. It is expected that such an activity will bring visibility to the association and positive impact on the speakers and their researches.

To invite the distinguished speakers, invitation letters have been sent to all BOD member universities. Later, with the help of the AEARU Secretariate, further invitations were extended to other member universities including Peking University, Fudan University, Tsing Hua University and USTC. Finally, three scientists registered for the program. They are Prof. Ann-Shyn Chiang, Distinguished Chair Professor at the Institute of Biotechnology, Tsing Hua University- Hsinchu; Prof. Ben Jong-Dao Jou from Hydrotech Research Institute, Taiwan University and Prof. Zhang Chenyu, Dean of the School of Life Sciences, Nanjing University.

We have had the honor of the presence of President Lih J. Chen and other senior representatives from Tsing Hua University- Hsinchu at the opening ceremony. President Chen expressed his appreciation of Nanjing University in hosting this academic event, and gave a brief introduction of AEARU to the audience, emphasizing its influence and positive role in boosting international educational and academic exchanges.

Prof. Ann-Shyn Chiang is a leading scientist in neuro-science. His presentation was entitled “Systems Consolidation of Olfactory Long-Term Memory in the Drosophila Brain”. With very gripping language, he introduced where long-term memory is stored and how it is formed. Prof. Ben Jong-Dao Jou shared his insights on the topic of “Typhoon and Society: A Research Perspective”. Based on the climate data of Taiwan in recent years, he explained to the audience the fundamental knowledge of Typhoon, the relationship between Typhoon and climate change, and frontier research on Typhoon. Finally, Professor Zhang Chenyu gave a presentation in his research area, the title being “Circulating MicroRNAs, Secreted MicroRNAs and Exogenous Plant Micro RNA”. He talked about the discovery of MicroRNA, and explained their function and applications in an interesting way. All three lectures were warmly welcome by the audience.

In general, we find the program a very useful platform for sharing and learning.



Group Photo at the 1st AEARU Distinguished Lecture Series,
Xianlin Campus, Nanjing University

