

## Introduction of the School of Life Sciences at Fudan University

The School of Life Sciences at Fudan University (SLSFU) was established in 1986 by the late Professor Jiazhen Tan (C.C. Tan) in 1986 through merging the Department of Biology (founded in 1926) and the Institute of Genetics. It was the inaugural School of Life Sciences established in a Chinese university. It has been one of the most prominent Chinese institutions in the field of biological research, with a supportive academic environment for both scientists and professors who are dedicated to the advancement of life sciences and biological technologies. Its current Dean is Professor Lingfei Luo.

The SLSFU is comprised of eight departments: the Department of Genetics and Genetic Engineering, the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and the Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, the Department of Computational Biology, the Department of Human Genetics and Anthropology, and the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology.

The SLSFU has three national-level research platforms: the State Key Laboratory of Genetic Engineering, the National Observations and Research Station for Wetland Ecosystems of the Yangtze Estuary and the National Advanced Talent Student Training Center in Biology. Furthermore, the SLSFU hosts two key laboratories and one engineering research center funded by the Ministry of Education: the Key Laboratory of Biodiversity, the Key Laboratory of Contemporary Human Biology and the Engineering Research Center of Gene Technology, as well as the Shanghai Engineering Research Center of Industrial Microorganisms.

The SLSFU offers three undergraduate programs (Biological Sciences, Biological Technology and Ecology) and is accredited to award MSc and PhD degrees in the fields of Biology, Ecology and Biological and Pharmaceutical Engineering. The school currently has over 1,400 graduate students enrolled. It also has a nationally supported postdoctoral program in the fields of Biology and Ecology. The SLSFU has been awarded two "Double First-Class Disciplines" in the fields of Biology and Ecology, achieved excellent results in the most recent round of discipline evaluation.

The SLSFU takes talent cultivation as its mission, having trained 17,000 students for the country, who are spread across the globe. Early graduates such as Dizhou Tong, Depei Feng, and Shijiao Chen became the first generation of academic members in China. After the founding of the People's Republic of China, the college trained 14 academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Chinese Academy of Engineering and 3 academicians of the American Academy of Sciences. A significant

number of the institution's alumni have gone on to become prominent figures in academia, industry, and politics, making invaluable contributions to the country's development.

The SLSFU currently has 229 members of faculty and staff engaged in research and instruction, including 85 full professors. Among them, there are four Members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (including 2 members with dual appointments). 25 professors are "national-level talents" and 37 professors are "national-level young talents".

In the past five years, our faculty members have been approved for 14 National Key Research and Development Program of China (including projects for young scientists), one scientific center project from the National Natural Science Foundation, five National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. The institution has also hosted 18 National Natural Science Foundation of China major or key programs, 19 key Projects of International Cooperation and Exchanges or major research plan projects NSFC , 6 Excellent Youth Science Fund projects, and 167 general programs and youth fund programs. The average annual vertical research funding exceeds 150 million yuan.

Our faculty has been awarded one second-class award for the National Natural Science Award, one second-class award for the National Science and Technology Progress Award, one first-class award for the Shanghai Natural Science Award, and one first-class award for the Shanghai Science and Technology Progress Award. Moreover, one clinical trial approval for a novel veterinary pharmaceutical has been obtained, and the world's inaugural set of multi-omics standard substances, designated "Chinese Family No. 1", has been developed.

Over the past five years, the college has published approximately 1,800 papers in the Science Citation Index (SCI), with over 300 of these papers identified SLSFU as the first affiliation institution. These papers have been published in a number of highly distinguished journals, including Nature, Science, and Cell, demonstrated the significant research achievements of SLSFU.

The School of Life Sciences is committed to fostering international scientific exchange and collaboration. Its faculty members have actively initiated and participated in collaborations with leading international universities and research institutions. The school has organized a number of numerous international conferences, with internationally recognized reputation.

With the committed faculty, staff, and students, the School of Life Sciences will continue to flourish in both education and scientific research.