Current Lab members

Yin Shen, Ph.D.

Principle Investigator

Dr. Yin Shen has been a member of the Institute for Human Genetic and Assistant Professor of the Department of the Neurology at UCSF since 2015. Yin obtained a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences and Technologies from Nanjing University in China. She was a California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) pre-doctoral fellow and conducted her graduate study in Dr. Guoping Fan’s lab at UCLA. Yin obtained a Ph.D. degree in Human Genetics in 2008 and then joined Dr. Bing Ren’s laboratory [1] at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and UCSD. She was trained in genomics and gene regulation in the Ren lab. Yin was the project leader for the mouse ENCODE project of San Diego Center and has contributed significantly to the functional annotation of the mammalian genome. Yin’s postdoctoral work was also supported by a postdoctoral fellowship from the International Rett Syndrome Foundation.
Xingjie Ren, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

As the saying goes, "Interest is the best teacher." I found myself that I had fallen in love with biomedical research when I was a graduate student. Many interesting biomedical questions that needed to be uncovered triggered me in achieving my Ph.D. degree at Tsinghua University. During my graduate years at THU, I entered the field of CRISPR, a powerful biotechnology. Transitioning from THU to UCSF, I joined the Shen lab where I believe I could contribute to understanding human diseases with my background knowledge in CRISPR and drosophila genetics. Here in the Shen lab, I will shift my focus from Drosophila genetics to human genetics. In my spare time, I like photography and playing sports.

Xiaoyu Yang, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

Human brain is the most amazing system in the world. I chose to study in the field of neurological disorders in my PhD work, in Shanghai Institute of Materials Medica. My thesis focuses on the modulation of histone modifications involved in stroke and Parkinson?s Disease, and seeking for potential drug targets in the HDAC family. Now I?m extending my study in Shen Lab, investigating how noncoding risk variants within cis-regulatory element act in gene regulatory in neurological disorders, further annotating the function of putative enhancers in temporal and cell specific manners. Scientific research is a course into the unknown. The beauty in this journey depends on your knowledge, and how much you enjoy and love it!
Kirsty Jamieson, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Fellow

I obtained a Ph.D. at the University of Oregon where I identified key elements that define how H3K27me3 is distributed in *Neurospora crassa*. After a brief postdoc at UC Berkeley, I’m excited to study the relationship between genome architecture and transcriptional regulation in the Shen lab. I am currently studying non-coding *cis*-regulatory elements in the retinal pigment epithelium with the hope of eventually using therapeutic genome editing to silence the expression of dominant disease alleles.

Michael Song, M.S.

PSPG Graduate student
Ryan Ziffra, B.S.

BMS Graduate Rotation student

I grew up in Chicago and received my B.S. in Biomedical Science from Dominican University in 2015. I then worked as a research tech in the labs of Drs. Carole Ober and Marcelo Nobrega at the University of Chicago studying the role of genetic and gene regulatory dysfunction in preterm birth. I moved to SF in the fall of 2017 to attend grad school at UCSF. I am interested in understanding the structure and syntax of gene regulatory networks, how variation in these networks contributes to specific phenotypes and diseases, and how this knowledge can be applied to the development of somatic gene therapies. My research in the Shen Lab is focused on the functional characterization of human accelerated regions in neural stem cells. In my free time, I enjoy travelling, hiking, camping, rock climbing, and cycling.

Lenka Maliskova, M.S.

Research Associate

I have graduated from SFSU in 2015 with M.S. degree in Biomedical Science as a CIRM scholar. I completed my internship at Dr. Ahituv’s lab at UCSF where cis-regulatory regions were dissected and studied and I took a great interest in this science niche. I’m interested in innovative research that at the same time strives to advance scientific knowledge and where scientific discoveries broaden our understanding of the workings of the non-coding regions in our DNA. In my free time I like to bake and try out new recipes. I immensely enjoy reading good science fiction, as well as spending time in nature.
Ian Jones, B.A.

Junior Specialist

I recently graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A. degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology with an emphasis in Genetics. While at UC Berkeley, I had the opportunity to join the Glass Lab and work to identify the roles of the functional domains of zinc binuclear cluster transcription factors involved in plant cell wall degradation in *N. crassa*. Now at the Shen lab, I am excited to learn and grow as a scientist as I have always been fascinated by the field of epigenetics. In my free time, I love to play and watch sports with friends.

Tsz Wai Tam, B.S.

Junior Specialist

I graduated from UC Berkeley majoring in chemical biology. While I was at UC Berkeley, I took a complementary Molecular cell Biology lab class, which triggered my passion toward epigenetic and bioinformatics. Before I joined Shen lab, I worked at a biotechnology company, which has an innovative technology for detecting protein expression. Now at Shen lab, it is my first research position, and I am excited about learning all the researching techniques and skills. In my spare time, I love to play basketball, hiking and travel around.

Former Lab members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Left</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position at Shen Lab</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Yien-Ming Kuo, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>Morphology Core Director at Ophthalmology Department, UCSF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Role</td>
<td>Education/Institution</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Jean Badroos</td>
<td>Work Study Undergraduate from UC Berkeley</td>
<td>Undergraduate at UC Berkeley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Seokho Kim, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Post-Doctoral Scholar</td>
<td>Postdoc at Stanford University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Gabrielle Kleyner</td>
<td>Summer Intern</td>
<td>Undergraduate at Rutgers University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Vasco Morais</td>
<td>CIRM Intern</td>
<td>Undergraduate at UC Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Yuan Wang (Simon), Ph.D.</td>
<td>Post-Doctoral Scholar</td>
<td>Postdoc at Harvard University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Jonghoon (John) Chang</td>
<td>Junior Specialist</td>
<td>Graduate Student at Georgetown University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UCSF Main Site

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**Source URL:** [http://shenlab.ucsf.edu/people](http://shenlab.ucsf.edu/people)

**Links:**
[1] [http://bioinformatics-renlab.ucsd.edu/rentrac/](http://bioinformatics-renlab.ucsd.edu/rentrac/)