

WEI GU

CV

SCIENTIFIC LEADER AT:

50 YEARS OF HISTONE ACETYLATION

BARCELONA CONFERENCES ON
EPIGENETICS AND CANCER**October, 1st and 2nd, 2014, Barcelona**

Wei Gu, Abraham and Mildred Goldstein Professor at [Institute for Cancer Genetic at Columbia University](#), New York, USA

Dr. Gu is recognized internationally for the pioneering contributions to the regulation of p53-mediated tumor suppressor function. Since p53 mutations are the most common genetic lesions associated with human cancer, a major objective of molecular oncology is to elucidate the mechanisms by which p53 is regulated. First, he discovered that p53 activity is controlled in large part by acetylation and deacetylation. His lab has established that acetylation of specific p53 residues is required for its transcriptional function and acts as the primary signal to differentially induce its canonical functions in apoptosis, cell growth arrest and senescence. Second, his lab has identified “dynamic ubiquitination” (polyubiquitination, monoubiquitination and deubiquitination) as the major mechanism by which the stability and subcellular localization of p53 protein are determined. Notably, several of his findings have had important implications well beyond p53 biology. Thus, his laboratory plays a leading role in the field of mechanistic studies of p53-mediated tumor suppression and his studies have uncovered several new strategies to target the tumor suppression pathway therapeutically. Dr. Gu is currently an Abraham and Mildred Goldstein Professor endowed chair Professor and Vice-Chairman for Cancer Research at the department of Pathology and cell biology and Institute for Cancer genetics in Columbia University. He received his Ph.D. in Molecular Pathobiology program from Columbia University Medical Center. Later he was a post-doctoral fellow of Dr. Robert Roeder at the Rockefeller University in New York City. Dr. Gu has received many honours; most recently including the Ellison Medical Foundation Senior Scholar, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Scholar Award, Irma T. Hirshl Trust Scholar Award, Life Science Research Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship and Dean’s Award for Outstanding Research Achievement from Columbia University

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