

Yijun Liu Memorial Fund

As you may know, Professor Yijun Liu passed away on 17 July 2015 in China due to a sudden and severe stroke, unfortunately leaving his wife (Qiumei Zhang) and two daughters (Mary and Shannon) in Florida, USA. Prof. Liu was one of most distinguished members of Overseas Chinese Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (OCSMRM), an outstanding scientist and international leader in the research field of functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI).



Professor Yijun Liu

Prof. Liu graduated from Shanghai Jiao-tong University with a bachelor degree in Biomedical Engineering, and received his doctoral degree in Physiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA). He was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the prestigious Research Imaging Center at UTHSCSA before he joined in the Department of Psychiatry and McKnight Brain Institute at the University of Florida as a tenure-track assistant professor. Prof. Liu became an associate professor with tenure in 2006 and River Branch Professor in 2009. He was a chair professor of biomedical engineering at the Peking University during 2011-2013, and became the director for the psychology branch at Southwest University in China in 2013.

Prof. Liu was a prolific researcher in fMRI with broad collaborations all over the world and his research work had been published in many high-impact journals. When he was a graduate student, he developed the within-condition interregional covariance analysis and temporal-clustering analysis methods for dynamic mapping of human brain and first applied these techniques to reveal the human brain parallel-processing systems and neural responses following eating. Prof. Liu conducted a series of fMRI research projects to investigate neural-timing mechanisms involved in various cognitive-affective processes, and to model brain circuits associated with function under normal condition as well as dysfunction in neuropsychiatric illnesses, such as obsessive compulsive disorder and substance-use disorders. Prof. Liu was a member of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), the Society for Neuroscience, and the Organization for Human Brain Mapping. Prof. Liu had made huge contribution to the MRI and brain science community. His mentoring of both staff and postgraduate students was highly valued and immensely appreciated. He was truly a world-class scholar, mentor, collaborator and researcher. The unexpected death of Prof. Liu was a huge loss for our community, left extreme sadness and challenges for his family not only mentally and but also financially. His wife has no job and one daughter just enters a college. Due to severe financial constrain, his family has put their house for short sale and returned the leased car. No doubt, now is the worst time for Yijun's family and financial support is essential for helping his family. There was a close tie between the OCSMRM community and Yijun professionally as well as personally. Some of our members had met him during the CSMRM-OCSMRM join conference in Wuhan just few weeks before his tragedy.

Many of OCSMRM members and close friends of Yijun have expressed strong wish to

support and help Yijun's family at the most difficult time. With tremendous help from many colleagues listed below, the OCSMRM organization has helped Yijun's family to establish the Yijun Liu Memorial Fund for receiving donations that should directly benefit his family. We want to rally around Yijun's family and reduce their stress as much as we can as a community. We invite Yijun's professional peers, friends and OCSMRM members to contribute as much as they wish as an expression of the academic community's appreciation and admiration for Yijun's scientific impact, legacy and friendship. There are two vehicles to accrue your donation money for this intent: one is to mail a personal check with the title of "Yijun Liu Memorial Fund" to the following address:

Mrs. Qiumei Zhang
P.O Box 141344
Gainesville, FL 32614
USA

Another way is to donate money online by the link:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_donations&business=meimay2007%40gmail%2ecom&lc=US&item_name=Yijin%20Liu%20Memorial%20Funds&no_note=0¤cy_code=USD&bn=PP%2dDonationsBF%3abtn_donateCC_LG%2eqif%3aNonHostedGuest . All donated money will be directly sent to the Yijun's family bank account associated with the Yijun Liu Memorial Fund.

Your generous help is highly appreciated.

Jia-Hong Gao, Wei Chen, Qun Chen, Yuan Chun, Yiping Du, Xiaoping Hu, Debiao Li, Yi Wang, Ed X. Wu, Yihong Yang, Xiaoliang Zhang, Xiaohong (Joe) Zhou, Jianhui Zhong, 程康, and Jie Tang