

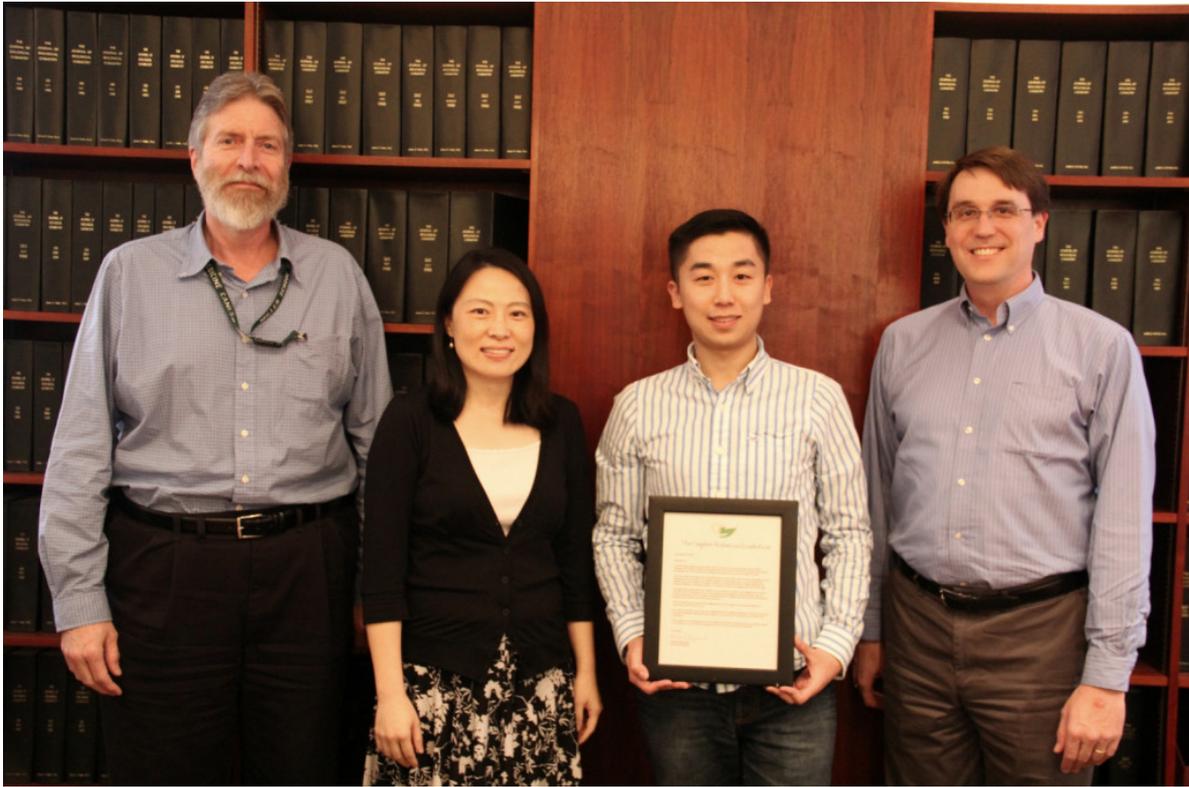
# The Snyder-Robinson Foundation Awards Predoctoral Fellowship



The Snyder-Robinson Foundation

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**THE SNYDER-ROBINSON FOUNDATION AWARDS PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP  
TO CHONG LI, UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI GRADUATE PROGRAM OF HUMAN  
GENETICS**



Pictured from left to right are Charles Luetje, PhD, Professor and Chair, Department of Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology; Grace Zhai, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology; Chong Li, Graduate Program of Human Genetics and Genomics; Bill Scott, PhD, Professor and Vice Chair for Education and Training, Department of Human Genetics, and Director, Program of Human Genetics and Genomics.

**McLean, VA** – The Snyder-Robinson Foundation is delighted to announce that it has awarded a Predoctoral Fellowship to Chong Li of the University of Miami Graduate Program of Human Genetics and Genomics. Chong Li will receive \$10,000 to support his work in elucidating the role of spermine synthase (SMS) and polyamines in the nervous system.

“The Snyder-Robinson Foundation is very fortunate to have such a brilliant and dedicated scientist researching Snyder-Robinson Syndrome (SRS),” said Michael Raymond, the

Foundation's Executive Director. "We are confident that Chong's research will positively impact the lives of children afflicted with Snyder-Robinson, and their families, in ways that we could not imagine just a short time ago. We are very grateful for his work, and wish Chong much continued success."

SRS is a rare genetic disease characterized by intellectual disability, seizures, osteoporosis, hypotonia, and a host of other medical problems. SRS is caused by a mutation in the SMS gene which creates an imbalance in polyamines, ubiquitous molecules that are essential for many cellular processes, such as cell growth and differentiation. However, the underlying mechanisms are unclear. Chong Li's research will help reveal the cellular processes resulting from this polyamine imbalance, and will aid in the development of therapies for patients with SRS and related diseases.

#### **About The Snyder-Robinson Foundation.**

Founded in 2014, The Snyder-Robinson Foundation was formed to advance medical and scientific research relating to Snyder-Robinson Syndrome and related diseases. Please visit [snyder-robinson.org](http://snyder-robinson.org) for more information about Snyder-Robinson Syndrome and The Snyder-Robinson Foundation.

