



恩科心血管研究院

The Academy of Cardiovascular Research Excellence

In Memoriam

Jianming “Jimmy” Li, MD, PhD, FHRS
1962 – 2020

Dear friends and colleagues:

It is with tremendous sadness that we learned of the passing of Dr. Jianming Jimmy Li. We will miss him as a caring cardioelectrophysiology expert, a dedicated medical scientist and educator, a visionary leader, and a close friend, colleague, and valued collaborator of many in the field of cardiac research and the ACRE.

Jianming was born on September 24, 1962 and grew up in Jilin, China. At age of 15, he enrolled in Nanjing University in 1978 and obtained a BS degree in biochemistry in 1982. He was selected as one of the sixty students for the China-US Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Examination and Administration (CUSBEA) exchange program and came to the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas for his graduate study in 1983. He investigated the function of tRNA methyltransferase and was awarded a PhD in 1988. He then obtained his MD and CM (Master of Surgery) from McGill University Faculty of Medicine in 1995. As a productive medical scientist, he won the Medical Scientist Award from the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada three times, the Young Scientist Award from the 15th International Society of Hypertension in 1994, and the Sandoz Research Excellence Award in 1995. He completed his internal medicine residency at University of Toronto from 1995 to 1998 and finished his cardiology and cardiac electrophysiology fellowship at University of Texas Southwestern Medical School from 1998 to 2002. Dr. Li joined University of Minnesota and began his medical practice in Minneapolis VA Medical Center (VAMC) in 2002. He rose through the ranks and became full professor. As a leader in his field, he served as the Director of Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology at VAMC and the Associate Director of Cardiac Arrhythmia Center at University of Minnesota. Dr. Li was a patient advocate and promoted clinical evidence-based medical therapies. He received the “American Heart Association Hero” Award in November 2013 for his outstanding contribution to cardiovascular care and research.

Beyond his considerable contributions to cardiac clinics and research, Dr. Li tirelessly advocated and promoted the collaborations among the Chinese cardiovascular research and clinical communities across the US and China. As former President of the Chinese American Heart Association, over the years, he collaborated with the ACRE and other sister cardiovascular societies to organize the Annual Symposium and China Night at the Annual American Heart Association Scientific Sessions in November. He was a strong and visionary leader.

Dr. Li contributed his time to the community education and volunteered in free medical clinic. He tirelessly promoted quick and easy access of cardiopulmonary resuscitation through community education and awareness training. In April 2013, he received ‘outstanding contribution award’ from Chinese Heart Rhythm Society for his role in advocating pacemaker infection awareness and management in China.

Dr. Li educated many young physicians. His trainees are all over the world. He was an effective communicator in education and selflessly passed his clinic skills and expertise to his students. In July 2014, he was elected “Teacher of the Year” in cardiovascular medicine at University of Minnesota.



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In this difficult time, we, on behalf of the ACRE community, offer our deepest condolence to Jianming's family. May our dear friend and wonderful colleague, Jianming, rests in peace. We will miss you dearly!

On behalf of all ACRE members
The Board of ACRE
June 17, 2020