



# VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM

## Dr. Yuichi Sugiyama

Sugiyama Laboratory, RIKEN Innovation Centre, Tokyo

**27 February, 2017 (Monday)**

### EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Scientific presentation by Dr. Yuichi Sugiyama.  
Venue - LT 28 (9:30-11:00 am)  
"Drug Transporters: Role in Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics/Toxicodynamics"
- Research presentation session by PG students  
Venue - S4A L3 Seminar rooms(2:30-4:30pm)
- Department Seminar - Career Development Talk by Dr. Yuichi Sugiyama  
Venue - S4A L3 Seminar rooms (5:00- 6:00pm)  
**FORK IN THE ROAD; Which road should be selected ? Why do you select it?**

### BIOGRAPHY

Prof. Yuichi Sugiyama is the Head of the Sugiyama Laboratory at the RIKEN Innovation Centre, Tokyo. His research focuses on two areas: 1) prediction of drug disposition from in vitro biochemical data, and 2) molecular pharmacokinetics of drug transport in the liver, kidney, intestines and brain. He has won the prestigious FIP Hoest Madsen Gold Medal in 2009 and awarded Medal with Purple Ribbon by the Japanese government in 2010. He lives by the Motto: "I am OK and you are OK"

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## **AAPS-NUS Student Chapter: Visiting Scientist Program 2017**

### **Professor Yuichi Sugiyama**

**At the Department Of Pharmacy, National University Of Singapore on 27 February 2017**

The Visiting Scientist Program of AAPS provides an excellent forum for pharmaceutical scientists to visit colleges and share their knowledge, personal experiences, and ingenious ideas with students. The graduate students pursuing research are always going through an ordeal trying to strike a balance between lab-acquired and industry-required skills. Building on a professional network becomes a lucrative skill to stay ahead in such competitive times.

*"The Visiting Scientist Program is a golden opportunity for students and faculty to gain first-hand knowledge of cutting edge pharmaceutical science. The program allows scientists to stimulate the students' interest in the field by sharing their experience and expertise."*

The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists – National University of Singapore Student Chapter (ANSC) embarked on a new year with the Visiting Scientist Program under AAPS-PPDM education initiative on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2017. The distinguished guest was Professor Yuichi Sugiyama.

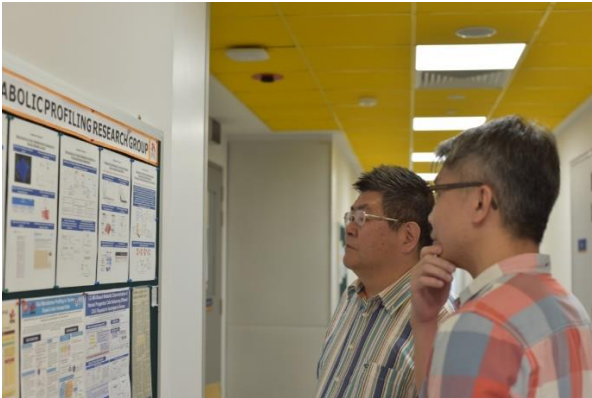
Prof. Sugiyama serves as the Head of the Sugiyama Laboratory at the RIKEN Innovation Center in Tokyo. His research focuses on two areas: 1) prediction of drug disposition from in vitro biochemical data, and 2) molecular pharmacokinetics of drug transport in the liver, kidney, intestines and brain. His original articles published between January 1997 and February 2007, have received the highest number of citations in the field. In particular, the article "Studies on drug transporters and the quantitative analysis of the role of drug transporters in drug clearance and tissue distribution of drugs" has been highly cited for the last 10 years. He was ranked as the top cited scientist in the field of Pharmacology & Toxicology and has received numerous awards and prizes including: the PSWC (Pharmaceutical Sciences World Conference) Research Achievement Award in 2007, John G. Wagner Pfizer Lectureship Award in Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2006. With a distinguished career spanning more than 30 years, he has established himself as an internationally recognized leader in pharmacology and toxicology, renowned for his pioneering research in the emerging field of transporter biology. Apart from research, he indulges in playing golf, watching baseball, listening and singing hip-hop music.

The event encompassed the Scientific Presentation by Prof Sugiyama, a guided and interactive tour of the Laboratory for Experimental and Applied Pharmacokinetics and Pharmaco-omics (LEAP<sup>2</sup>) of NUS Pharmacy, four research presentations by Pharmacy postgraduates, ending with the afternoon tea Career Development Talk for postgraduate students.

Dr. Kang Lifeng, the faculty advisor of AAPS-NUS student chapter gave the welcome speech and introduced Prof. Sugiyama to an enthusiastic audience of 60. Prof. Sugiyama's first talk of the day was on "Drug Transporters: Role In Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics/Toxicodynamics". He shared meaningful insights into the research arena of drug transporters before engaging the intrigued audience with a brainstorming session of questions and answers. The audience were in for a pleasant surprise when he announced he was giving prizes for the best question asked by postgraduate students.



Picture from top left to bottom left (clockwise): i) Dr. Kang Lifeng giving the welcome address; ii) Prof. Sugiyama giving his presentation; iii) Aneesh receiving the 'Best Question' prize; iv). Dr Lin Haishu asking a question.



Pictures from left to right: i) Prof. Sugiyama with A/P Eric Chan discussing student posters at LEAP<sup>2</sup>; ii) Prof. Paul Ho, Dr Lau Aik Jiang and Dr Lin Haishu with Prof. Sugiyama.





*Pictures from top left to bottom left): i) Tee Jie Kai; ii) Eleanor Jing Yi Cheong; iii) Siyan Chen; iv) Mai Gamal Ahmed making their presentations to Prof. Sugiyama and the audience.*

The eventful day came to an end on an optimistic note with Prof. Sugiyama’s career talk. The topic entitled “**FORK IN THE ROAD: Which road should be selected? Why do you select it?**” aroused a lot of curiosity among the 30 postgraduate students. The distinguished speaker drew numerous instances from his personal life explaining what helped him excel in a competitive research career. He shared the motto he lives by : ‘I am ok, you are ok’. The Q&A session was intriguing. He replied to the question “Which factors attribute the most towards his immense successful position today?” was “an unwavering passion towards science”. Prof. Sugiyama left a lasting impression that has inspired the budding researchers and faculty members.



Picture from top left to bottom left: i) Prof. Sugiyama during the career development talk; ii) Prof. Sugiyama sharing excerpts from his life with students during Q&A; iii) Prof. Sugiyama with the graduate students of the department; iv) AAPS-NUS Student Chapter Ex-committee with Prof. Sugiyama, Dr Kang Lifeng and A/P Chan Sui Yung.

**The 12<sup>th</sup> AAPS-NUS Student Chapter Executive Committee**

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The 12<sup>th</sup> ANC extends our warmest thanks and appreciation to the following who made this event possible:

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