

## Biographical Statement

**Xiao-Ya Chen**

ICGI Overall Co-Chair Candidate

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ICGI is an important and influential organization of scientists who are interested in cotton. Its various activities and scientific meetings have facilitated communications and collaboration among scientists of different aspects, which benefit both the research and the application in cotton. If elected, I will further promote such collaboration for the development of cotton genomics, biology and biotechnology. I obtained Ph.D. in 1985 at Reading University, U.K., being lecturer and associate professor in Nanjing University (1986-1991), visiting scientist in Tübingen University, Germany (1991-1992), postdoctoral fellow in Purdue University, USA (1992-1994), and professor of Institute of Plant Physiology & Ecology since 1994, and I also serve as President of SIBS (2008-2013). My research interests are in biology and functional genomics of cotton. I and my colleagues have isolated and characterized several transcriptional factors and enzymes critical in gossypol biosynthesis and fiber development, engineered cotton plants with improved traits, and developed plant-mediated RNA interference technology for insect pest control. Recently I am involved in organizing the *Gossypium barbadense* L. genome sequencing project sponsored by a textile company. I serve in several professional committees, including Chinese Society for Plant Biology (Vice President). I was elected member of Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2005, member of TWAS in 2008, and received HLHL Foundation Prize for Scientific and Technological Progress also in 2008.

Homepage of my lab: <http://sippe.ac.cn/xy/index.html>