



Laboratory of *Drosophila* Research
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
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Fly from a fly lab – My 439 days in LDR

In 2003, I had the first taste of scientific research as a summer helper in the Laboratory of *Drosophila* Research (LDR). At that time I had no research experience at all, but was so attracted by the new lab life. Spending over two months, I accomplished my first mini-project on molecular cloning of three EGFP-tagged polyglutamine proteins. I treasured this project very much as it was a precious beginning of my “journey” of scientific research.

In the next academic year, I left LDR for Germany, becoming an exchange student in the University of Heidelberg. This wonderful opportunity allowed me to be exposed in more specialized and advanced fields of life science.

After coming back to CUHK, I returned to LDR for my final year project. Having suffered from the dreadful epidemic of SARS in Hong Kong, I devoted myself to the investigation of the SARS coronavirus (SARS-CoV). After one-year persisting work, I completed a genome-wide screen project of a SARS-CoV gene using *Drosophila* as well as a bachelor thesis on that. The project was inspiring that it later led to my first scientific publication.

Now, I returned Heidelberg again to pursue a master degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology. Later, I may fly to somewhere else to continue my scientific journey.

Wherever I fly to, I flied from LDR, the start of my scientific life.

By Echo Chen Yiwei

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