



water

2023 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD WINNERS

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce that the first prize of the *Water* 2023 Young Investigator Award has been granted to Dr. Zhe Yang, and the second prize has been granted to Dr. Li Gao.

Dr. Zhe Yang is a Research Assistant Professor of the Department of Civil Engineering, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China. Dr. Yang's research work focuses on membrane-based water and wastewater treatment by designing high-performance reverse osmosis and nanofiltration membranes and unveiling their fundamental formation and transport mechanisms. Dr. Yang received his PhD in 2018 and has an outstanding publication record, comprising over 50 referred international journal papers with total citations of over 4200. He has an H-index of 35 based on Google Scholar. Dr. Yang were featured in the prestigious World's Top 2% Scientists list published by Stanford University since 2021, which is an impressive record for a young membrane researcher and an outstanding achievement in today's competitive environment.

Dr. Li Gao is a researcher at the Institute for Sustainable Industries & Liveable Cities, Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia, and an Adjunct Associate Professor at Griffith University, Australia. Dr. Gao's research work focuses on providing strong technology and knowledge support to the sustainable water management, including water/wastewater treatment, emerging contaminant removal, resource recovery, advanced separation materials and processes, and algae biotechnology. Dr. Gao received his PhD in 2019 and has published over 80 journal papers with total citations of over 1700. His Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) is 4.4 from 2019–2022 (SciVal, accessed on the 24 December 2022), indicating his publications are 340% more cited than the global average benchmark, which demonstrates an outstanding research track record.

As the awardee, Dr. Zhe Yang will receive an honorarium of CHF 2000 and an offer to publish a paper free of charge before 31 December 2023 in *Water* after peer-review; and Dr. Li Gao will receive an honorarium of CHF 1500 and an offer to publish a paper free of charge before 31 December 2023 in *Water* after peer-review.

We would like to thank all the nominators from various fields of study for their participation and all the Award Committee Members for their evaluation of the many excellent nominations.

Dr. Jean-Luc PROBST
Editor-in-Chief, *Water*

