



People Profile

Dr. David T Wong

Dr. David T Wong has achieved a lifetime of excellence in the area of science, particularly the fields of biochemistry and neuropharmacology. He is one of three scientists from Eli Lilly who discovered the anti-depressant drug, Prozac.

Dr. Wong has had a very distinguished career in research, postdoctoral training, and service to the scientific and community organizations at local, national as well as international levels.

Dr. Wong received his B.Sc. in Chemistry in 1961 from Seattle Pacific University and his M.Sc. in Biochemistry from Oregon State University in 1964. He was awarded Ph.D. was awarded in 1966 from the University of Oregon Medical School (now the School of Medicine of the Oregon Health & Science University) as the result of research on the "Metabolism and Ion Transport of Frog Skin: Biological Effects of Ouabain," his advisor being Professor John T. Van Bruggen. He was then a postdoctoral fellow of Biophysical Chemistry supervised by Professors Britton Chance and Chaun Pu Lee at the Johnson Research Foundation and the Department of Biophysics and Physical Biochemistry, University of Pennsylvania, 1966—67. Following this training, he worked from 1968 at the Lilly Research Laboratories until his retirement at the rank of Lilly Research Fellow in 2000.

Dr. Wong is a co-discoverer and inventor of several centrally acting drugs, which have revolutionized the field of psychiatry and neuropharmacology, including the drugs, Prozac, Strattera, and Cymbalta. He has received several notable awards for his contributions to science, including the 1993 Discoverer's Award from the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, the 1996 Pharmaceutical Discoverer's Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, the 1996 Outstanding Achievement in Research, Development and Innovation Award, Indiana Health Industry Forum, the 2000 Outstanding Achievement in Neuroscience Research Award, Lilly Neuroscience, Eli Lilly and Company, and the 2002 Excellence in Science Award from the US Pan-Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

Besides his many scientific awards and honors, Dr. Wong has played a very significant role in the US Chinese-American community and has represented both Indianapolis and Eli Lilly internationally.

Dr. Wong has published over 150 papers and book chapters in the field of neuropharmacology and biochemistry, and has been credited as an inventor or co-inventor in 35 US patents.

Currently president of DT Wong Consulting, Dr. Wong is an internationally acknowledged biochemist and neuropharmacologist. He is also an adjunct professor in the Neurobiology Program, Department of Psychiatry, Indiana University Medical School.

Dr. Wong presently serves as a consultant to several pharmaceutical companies. He is a board member of a start-up bioscience company and several local non-profit organizations. ●