

2020 KFP In Science Laureate
Professor Xiaodong Wang
Acceptance Speech

It is with great honor I accept the King Faisal Prize. This honor is not just for me personally, although I do take a great personal pride to receive this prize, it is also a recognition for the team of scientists who have worked in my laboratory to dissect the biochemical pathways of programmed cell death, a biological phenomenon that involves in many human diseases ranging from cancer, autoimmune diseases, to neurodegeneration.

I was born in Wuhan, China and got my education there until college and received my scientific training in the US. I worked in the US for 20 years before returning to Beijing and has been working there for another 10 years now. In a way, I am a citizen of the world and a citizen of scientific community all my adult life. Considering the coronavirus epidemics, starting from my hometown, it is never so important that we work together to battle the challenge facing all of us. As a scientist working in the life science field, I am a soldier in the front line battling our common enemy of diseases that affect all of us. I will take this prestigious prize as an encouragement from his royal highness and people of Saudi to fight harder and together with scientists from all countries for the benefit of mankind.