



## American-Chinese Biotech-Pharma Association

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### *In Memory of Professor Ru Yun Ji*

American Chinese Biotech-Pharma Association (美中药学会)

On Saturday May 15, 2010, Professor Ru Yun Ji, a pioneer for Chinese pharmaceutical research and a prominent member of Chinese Academy of Sciences, quietly passed away after a three year battle with cerebral thrombosis. Learning the news from Jian Wu, a student of Prof. Ji, I was so astonished that I was totally at loss for quite some time. Though not lucky enough to get personally acquainted with Professor Ji, his name became so familiar to many of us from the America Chinese Biotech-Pharma Association as early as in 1980s. Professor Ji's contributions to the Chinese pharmaceutical industry have been tremendous. He was an inventor of Artemether, an Artemisinin derivative and the first drug discovered in China. He led a research group that discovered and developed a new antibiotics glycyrrhizin. Professor Ji was also the first in the world to complete the total synthesis of Huperzine A. In addition, Prof. Ji was the first person in China who developed and continued to promote a computer-assistant drug design. All members of ACBPA, just like me, have been deeply grieved and sorry for the loss of such a distinguished scientist and educator. We think one of the best ways to commemorate Professor Ji is to continue to promote the pharmaceutical research in China, and strengthen the communication between the Chinese and American pharmaceutical and biotech industry. This, we believe, is also what professor Ji hoped and expected for.

Professor Ji will forever live in our hearts. Our deepest sympathy will go with his family.

Gui-Dong Zhu

on behalf of the American Chinese Biotech-Pharma Association

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