Curriculum Vitae

Kongju Zhu was born on 5 July1985 in Linyi, a city in Shandong Province of China. After completing secondary education at Hedong No.3 Middle School (Linyi) in 2003, he attended Linyi Normal University (now Linyi University) to study biology and got his Bachelor's degree in 2007. During this period, he became interested in cancer and developmental biology. His interest was further encouraged by Prof Xuebin Wang, who helped him in this direction. In the Autumn of 2007, he started his MSc study at Sun Yat-sen University, where, under the guidance of Dr Peiqing Cong and Prof Yaosheng Chen, he embarked on his journey to explore animal development. For his MSc project, he studied somatic cell nuclear transfer and nuclear reprogramming in pig. During his MSc study, he got an opportunity to do guest research in Prof Chang-sik Park's lab at Chungnam National University in South Korea. He obtained his Master's degree from Sun Yat-sen University in 2011. In 2013, he started his PhD study with Prof Tony Durston and Prof Herman Spaink at the Institute of Biology, Leiden University. His PhD project, entitled "A time-space translation mechanism for patterning the vertebrate anteoposterior axis", is described in this thesis.

List of publications

Zhu, K., Spaink, H. and Durston, A. (2017). Timed interactions between BMP and anti-BMP are involved in head-tail patterning of the vertebrate embryo. *In preparation*.

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