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## News: Environmental scientists receive National Science and Technology Awards

China's major achievements in science and technology were publically recognized and celebrated at a recent National Science and Technology Award Conference, held in Beijing on January 8, 2019. The National Preeminent Science and Technology Award, the top award, was presented by President Xi Jinping to two outstanding scientists. Five scientists/teams received the International Science & Technology Cooperation Award. The National Natural Science Award, the National Technological Invention Award, and the National Science & Technology Progress Award were presented to 278 scientists/teams/projects.

Congratulations to Drs. Hongbin Cao, Liyuan Chai, Hongying Hu, Jingfu Liu, Aiqin Wang, and their research teams for being recognized with the **National Science and Technology Awards**. These award-winning scientists have all published extensively in peer-refereed journals, including the *Journal of Environmental Sciences (JES)*.



**Dr. Hongbin Cao**, Professor in the Institute of Process Engineering, Chinese Academy of Sciences, received a National Science & Technology Progress Award (Second Prize). He has published more than 300 peer-reviewed papers on the topics of industrial process pollution control, industrial wastewater treatment, and solid waste recycling. Dr. Cao is a member

of the editorial board of *JES*. In the recent years, he and his group have published a number of papers in *JES*, for example, on the topics of catalytic degradation of chlorophenol (Duan et al., 2014), efficient extraction of noble metal ions (Chen et al., 2015), and membrane fouling (Zhao et al., 2019).



**Dr. Liyuan Chai**, Professor in the School of Metallurgy and Environment, Central South University, received a National Technological Invention Award (Second Prize). Dr. Chai and his team have published more than 300 papers on various topics of prevention and control of heavy metal pollution, wastewater treatment, and recovery of metal resources. His representative publication in *JES* described a mechanistic study involving

the decomposition of copper-ammonia complex and the enhanced removal of ammonia and copper from wastewater (Peng et al., 2017).



**Dr. Hongying Hu**, Professor in the School of Environment, Tsinghua University, received a National Science & Technology Progress Award (Second Prize). Dr. Hu's research has focused on environmental microbiology, environmental biotechnology, safe water reuse, and water disinfection. His publications in *JES* demonstrate recent advances in the removal

of biological nitrogen from secondary effluent (Shi et al., 2015) and the removal of dyes and fluorescence compounds (Wu et al., 2016a, 2016b).



**Dr. Jingfu Liu**, Professor in the Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, received a National Natural Science Award (Second Prize). Dr. Liu's team has made significant contributions to analytical characterization of nanomaterials and understanding of the environmental fate and behavior of nanomaterials and other emerging contaminants. Dr. Liu has published 10 papers

in *JES*, exemplified by his recent work on characterization of silver nanoparticles (Dong et al., 2018), interactions between engineered nanoparticles and dissolved organic matter (Yu et al., 2018), and removal of metals, e.g., Cr(VI), using natural or engineered carbonaceous materials (Xu et al., 2019).



**Dr. Aiqin Wang**, Professor in Lanzhou Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, received a National Technological Invention Award (Second Prize). Dr. Wang has published extensively, including eight highly-cited papers in *JES*, on the development and application of mesoporous materials and nanocomposites for the removal of environmental

contaminants. His recent papers published in JES are represented by the improvements of mesoporous materials and nanocomposites for the enhanced adsorption of methyl violet (Tian et al., 2016), efficient removal of chlortetracycline (Wang et al., 2017), and treatment of wastewater (Tang et al., 2019).

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