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**Christiana Wang, BS is the Recipient of
the 2024 ACMG Foundation/David L. Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award**

BETHESDA, MD – March 13, 2024 | The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine is proud to present the **ACMG Foundation/David L. Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award** to Christiana Wang, BS for her featured platform presentation at the 2024 ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting, “Antisense oligonucleotide targeting a linked-SNP provides allele-specific and effective knockdown to a dominant negative *SPTAN1* pathogenic variant.”

Christiana Wang, BS, is a second-year PhD candidate in the Department of Molecular and Human Genetics at Baylor College of Medicine. She graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science with honors in Biology and a minor in Data Science from Case Western Reserve University in 2021. She was awarded the Francis Hobart Herrick Prize for outstanding biological research and academic excellence in biology. She studied the molecular genetics of meiosis under the mentorship of Dr. K. Nicole Crown since January 2019. After graduating, she joined the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases to study immunogenetic mechanisms for establishing the maternal-fetal barrier in early pregnancy under the guidance of Dr. Eric O. Long. She joined Dr. Pengfei Liu’s laboratory in 2023 and spearheaded efforts to study disease mechanisms and develop translatable treatments for individuals with genetic disorders. The overarching goal of this research is to set forward a streamlined pipeline for n-of-1 therapy development and preclinical validation, helping families affected by rare genetic disorders.

“We are pleased to award Christiana Wang the Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award. Her work to create a platform to develop treatments for individuals with rare diseases exemplifies the intent of this award and Dr. Rimoin's legacy,” said Nancy Mendelsohn, MD, FACMG, president of the ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine.

The David L. Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award was created in memory of the late Dr. David L. Rimoin, one of the founders of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) who died in 2012. Dr. Rimoin touched the lives of generations of patients as well as trainees and colleagues. The award is a cash award given to a selected student, trainee or junior faculty ACMG member whose abstract submission was chosen for a platform presentation to be given at the ACMG Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting.

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“I am thrilled and honored to receive the David L. Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award. I would like to thank my mentor, Dr. Pengfei Liu, our wonderful collaborators, and the participating family for their support in my research. I hope our work on n-of-1 therapy will set forward a path for collaborative efforts between clinicians, scientists and families to study and develop individualized therapy for treating rare diseases,” Ms. Wang said.

“Ms. Christiana Wang, the winner of this year’s Rimoin Inspiring Excellence Award has earned this honor based on her exceptional research demonstrating the degradation of the monoallelic mutation responsible for DEE5 using an antisense oligonucleotide. Our family is proud to award her with this distinction and wish her continued success in clinical genetics and therapeutics,” said Dr. Ann Garber-Rimoin, Dr. Rimoin’s widow.

About the ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine

Founded in 1991, the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) is a prominent authority in the field of medical genetics and genomics and the only nationally recognized medical professional organization solely dedicated to improving health through the practice of medical genetics and genomics. The only medical specialty society in the US that represents the full spectrum of medical genetics disciplines in a single organization, the ACMG provides education, resources and a voice for more than 2,500 clinical and laboratory geneticists, genetic counselors and other healthcare professionals. ACMG’s mission is to improve health through the clinical and laboratory practice of medical genetics as well as through advocacy, education and clinical research, and to guide the safe and effective integration of genetics and genomics into all of medicine and healthcare, resulting in improved personal and public health. *Genetics in Medicine* and the new *Genetics in Medicine Open*, a gold open access journal, are the official ACMG journals. ACMG’s website, www.acmg.net, offers resources including policy statements, practice guidelines, and educational programs. The ACMG Foundation for Genetic and Genomic Medicine works to advance ACMG educational and public health programs through charitable gifts from corporations, foundations and individuals.

Note to editors: To arrange interviews with experts in medical genetics, contact ACMG Senior Director of Communications and Public Relations Kathy Moran, MBA at kmoran@acmg.net.

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