

Speaker Bio

Wen-Ya Ko, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at the Department of Life Sciences and the Institute of Genome Sciences at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU), Taiwan. With a robust academic background and extensive research experience in molecular evolutionary biology, Dr. Ko's work focuses on understanding the evolutionary forces shaping genetic variation in humans and other species. Before joining NYCU, Dr. Ko held postdoctoral positions at the University of Pennsylvania and Kyoto University, where he conducted pioneering research in human genetics and genomics. His expertise in computational and analytical methods, combined with his proficiency in laboratory techniques, allows him to approach complex biological questions with a multidisciplinary perspective. He also received the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Postdoctoral Fellowship and the Trainee Research Semifinalist Award from the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG). Throughout his career, Dr. Ko has contributed significantly to the field of population genetics and genomics. His research interests span a wide array of topics, including recent human evolutionary adaptations, admixed ancestry characterization, and conservation genomics.