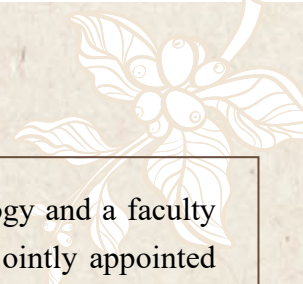


Speaker Bio



Dr. Chuan Ku is an associate research fellow at Institute of Plant and Microbial Biology and a faculty member of TIGP Bioinformatics, Academia Sinica, Taiwan. He is also an adjunct or jointly appointed associate professor at Institute of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Genome and Systems Biology Degree Program, National Taiwan University, Department of Life Sciences, National Cheng Kung University, and Biotechnology Center, National Chung Hsing University. He received his bachelor's and master's degree from National Taiwan University, did his PhD in biology at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany, and worked as a postdoc researcher at Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel. He is an elected Global Investigator of European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and Associate Editor of *Genome Biology and Evolution*. His research interests include the origins and early evolution of microbes, evolutionary and regulatory genomics of microalgae and giant viruses of eukaryotes, environmental microbial interactions, bioinformatics, and single-cell omics. He has received an NSTC 2030 International Outstanding Young Scholars grant, National Science and Technology Council (2025), Outstanding Teaching Award, National Taiwan University (2024), Early Career Travel Grant Award, Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO), USA (2024), Outstanding Young Scholar Award, Taiwan Society of Plant Biologists (2022), Young Scholars' Creativity Award, Foundation for the Advancement of Outstanding Scholarship, Taiwan (2021), Academia Sinica Career Development Award (2020), and Best Dissertation Award, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany (2017).