

Patrick X. Zhao is an Associate Professor of Bioinformatics in the Plant Biology Division, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation. He also holds an Adjunct Assistant Professor appointment in the Department of Computer Science, Oklahoma State University. Dr. Zhao received his Ph.D. degree in Communications and Information Systems from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2000. After his graduation, he joined Dr. Eugenia Wang's Lab in the School of Medicine, University of Louisville, as a bioinformatics research associate developing bioinformatics technologies to discover genes and biological networks that are essential to the determination of the normal aging process, in particular those related to successful aging in centenarians. In 2004, he joined the Samuel Robert Noble Foundation as a faculty member. Dr. Zhao's current research centers on Plant Bioinformatics and Plant and Soil Microbe Functional Genomics. His lab develops innovative computational methods to tackle large-scale plant 'omics' data, with specific focus on: 1) gene function, regulation, and networks, 2) comparative 'omics' and genome annotation, 3) functional genomics and metagenomics for understanding plant-microbe interactions, and 4) biological data integration, mining, and knowledge discovery.