



CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM



Kuok Yap

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Kuok completed his Bachelor of Science (Honours) at the University of Adelaide in plant-based biochemistry.

His PhD research focuses on yeast-based sustainable bioproduction of cyclic and linear disulfide-rich peptides. A major objective is to produce commercially viable scale-up technologies in bioreactors as well as expanding the current capabilities to incorporate unnatural amino acids (UAA).

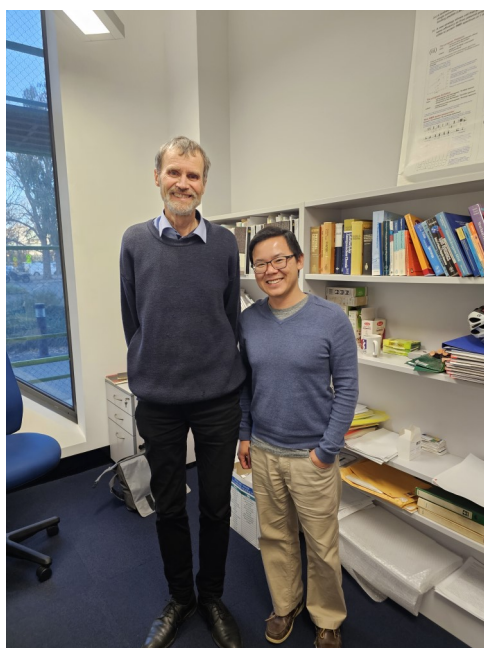
Granted by the Capacity Building Program Kuok had the opportunity to travel from Queensland to the capital of the nation, Canberra. Here, Kuok worked with Professor Gottfried Otting and Dr Elwy Abdelkader Ali at the Australian National University. Kuok says that he has gained valuable knowledge and exposure from this experience “especially the advantages of clean-in-place bioreactors where we worked to incorporate UAAs in yeast”.

During his visit at the ANU Kuok comments that “my best experience was the ability learn in a fresh working environment and using cutting-edge technology for protein and peptide development.

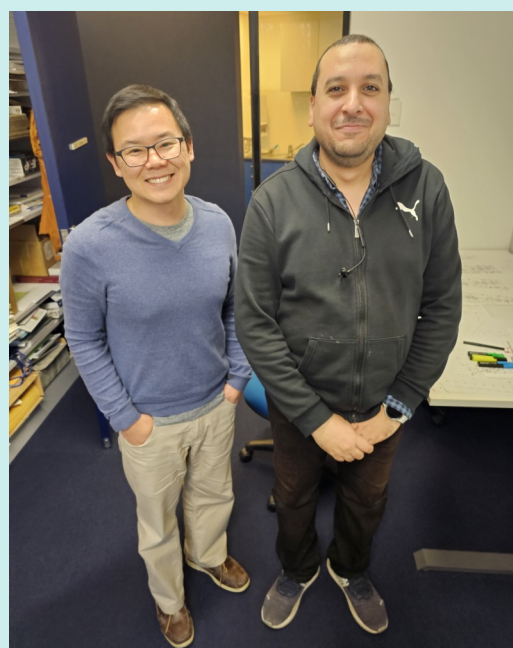
Prior to this visit I would have to set up experiments to incorporate UAAs from scratch. However, at ANU, I was able to access the Infors-HT LabCIP system, which accelerated the production in yeast”.

Kuok’s experience to take part in the inter-nodal exchange granted by the CIPPS Capacity Building Program was truly inspiring for his research.

Kuok says to “definitely take the invaluable initiative to explore other CIPPS-affiliated research groups that specialize in a completely different research area. This helped me gain otherwise unreachable experiences”.



Professor Gottfried Otting (Left) and Kuok Yap (Right)



Kuok Yap (Left) and Dr Elwy Abdelkader Ali (Right)