



## PCE<sub>3</sub> Seminar Series

Thurs, May 23<sup>rd</sup>

12 p.m. EST/9 a.m. PST

More information & registration:

[prebioticchem.info/seminar-series/index.html](http://prebioticchem.info/seminar-series/index.html)



### Min (Neal) Deng

Postdoctoral Associate  
*Scripps Research, Department of Chemistry*

"Symmetry Breaking and Chiral Amplification in Prebiotic Peptide Ligations"



### Jinhan Yu

Graduate Student  
*Scripps Research, Department of Chemistry*

"Prebiotic access to enantioenriched amino acids via peptide-mediated transamination reactions"

Topical introduction by Professor Donna Blackmond,

## Min (Neal) Deng

Neal is currently a Postdoctoral Associate in Prof. Donna Blackmond's lab at Scripps Research, where he is investigating the emergence of biological homochirality in prebiotic conditions. Guided by Prof. Gaël Ung, he obtained his PhD in Chemistry at the University of Connecticut in 2021 by studying circularly polarized luminescence from chiral emissive complexes. He received his BS degree from Southern University of Science and Technology (SUSTech) in China, where he explored asymmetric organocatalysis with Prof. Bin Tan and Prof. Xin-Yuan Liu. Throughout all these year, Neal's research topics are very diverse, but they all fall into the same theme - chirality

## Jinhan Yu

I was born in Guangdong Province, China in 1998. I obtained my B.Sc. degree at Nankai University guided by Prof. Qi-Lin Zhou and Prof. Shou-Fei Zhu, focusing on organic synthesis and asymmetric catalysis. I am currently a Ph. D. graduate student with Prof. Donna G. Blackmond at Scripps Research. My research interests lie in the origin of biomolecular homochirality and mechanistic investigations in organocatalysis.