

INVITATION LETTER

ICG Special Symposium: Double Helix and Life Sciences

Dear _____:

The discovery of the DNA double helix by Professor James D. Watson fundamentally transformed the trajectory of modern life science. Beyond this epoch-making scientific breakthrough, Prof. James D. Watson was also a generous mentor, sincere collaborator, and long-time friend to most of us in the global genomics community. Over the decades, we have worked alongside him, drawn deep inspiration from him, and witnessed his extraordinary vision, courage and passion for science.

November 6, 2026 marks the first remembrance of Prof. James D. Watson's passing. BGI-Beijing will host the ICG-21 Special Symposium, titled "Double Helix and Life Science" in Beijing. In light of your fond memories of James D. Watson and your outstanding academic achievements, we sincerely invite you to join this warm, intimate, and meaningful reunion as an invited speaker.

This one-day Special Symposium will be held at the Institute of Genetics and Developmental Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China.

This is more than an academic conference; it is a long-awaited reunion of old friends who knew and respected Professor James D. Watson. Your shared experiences with him and profound academic vision constitute the most precious asset of this event. We earnestly hope you can spare your valuable time to come to Beijing, to recall the old days together and jointly envision the future of life science.

We look forward to your reply and to reuniting with you in Beijing, as we remember our respected friend Watson and explore the future of life science hand in hand.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Huanming YANG
The Organizing Committee of ICG-21