



MATILDA

EFFECT

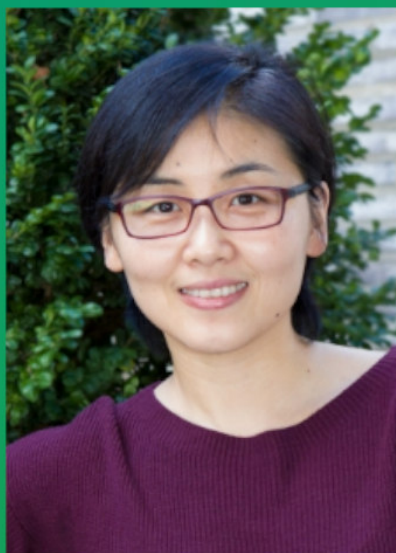


Pionierinnen der Forschung Female Pioneers
of Research

Pt.73

Nieng Yan





Nieng Yan (*1977)

Structural & Molecular Biologist

Born in 1977 in Zhangqiu, China,
she grew up in a family that
sparked her early interest in the
natural sciences.

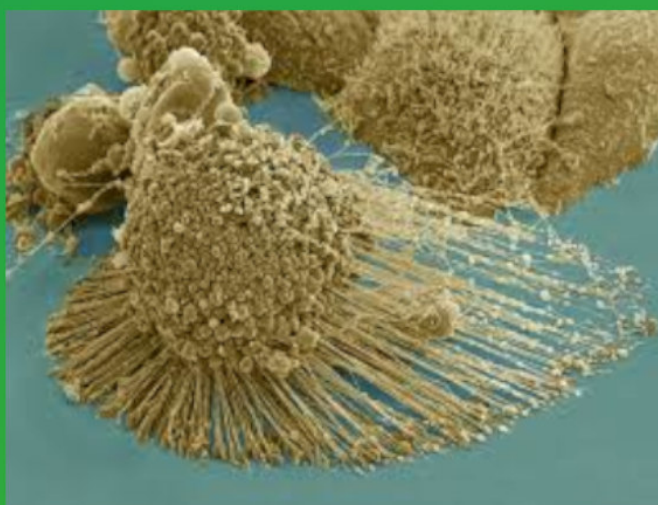
She therefore studied biology
and biotechnology during her
bachelor's degree at *Tsinghua*
University.



After completing her bachelor's degree, she moved to the United States to attend Princeton University, where she earned her PhD in 2004.



For her dissertation on the structural and mechanistic aspects of apoptosis (programmed cell death), she received the *Young Scientist Award from the American Association for the Advancement of Science*.





In 2007, she was appointed the youngest professor at *Tsinghua University* and became head of the Department of Biology.

There, she conducted research on membrane transport proteins.

After ten years, she left China again in 2017 – a significant blow to China's efforts to retain top scientists within the country.





Looking back, she criticized the conservative and risk-averse allocation of research funding in China.,

After returning to the United States, she became Professor of Molecular Biology at *Princeton University*.

There as well, she continues to focus on membrane transport and the proteins involved.





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„Being a woman in science
doesn't make me special – but it
does mean I have to be extra
prepared, because others may still
expect less.“

„Eine Frau in der Wissenschaft zu
sein, macht mich nicht besonders
– aber es bedeutet, dass ich
besonders gut vorbereitet sein
muss, weil andere vielleicht
immer noch weniger von mir
erwarten.“

