

## Ling-juan Zhang

---



**Current Position:** Ph.D. student in Pharmaceutical Sciences at Oregon State University

**Education:** B.S. in Biochemical Engineering (2003) from Beijing Institute of Technology

**Non-scientific Interests:** Music, volleyball and travel

After finishing my B.S. degree in China, I came to the United States to pursue my Ph.D. degree in the laboratory of Dr. Mark Leid at Oregon State University. I found the work done in the Leid laboratory, which combines study of signal transduction and transcriptional regulation, to be most fascinating and relevant. After several years of training with Dr. Leid, I have learned to think critically, and I have become skilled in a variety of molecular and biochemical techniques.

In the present study, I successfully purified a cellular complex harboring the orphan nuclear receptor COUP-TFI using a TAP (tandem affinity purification) strategy and identified several COUP-TFI interacting proteins. We also studied how this COUP-TFI complex regulates transcription of a gene involved in the TNF $\alpha$  signaling pathway. This present study is the first proteomic analysis of COUP-TFI complex components, and it may contribute to a better understanding of the mechanism of COUP-TFI function, which likely underlies its important physiological roles. Currently, I am investigating my second thesis topic in which I study transcriptional regulation by Ctip2, a COUP-TFI-interacting protein. I anticipate defending my Ph.D. thesis in Spring 2009.

---

**Read Ling-juan Zhang's article entitled:** A Chicken Ovalbumin Upstream Promoter Transcription Factor I (COUP-TFI) Complex Represses Expression of the Gene Encoding Tumor Necrosis Factor  $\alpha$ -induced Protein 8 (TNFAIP8)

<http://www.jbc.org/cgi/content/full/284/10/6156>