

---

---

**Cheng-Chang Lien, M.D., Ph.D.**

Institute of Neuroscience, School of Life Sciences  
National Yang-Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU)  
No. 155, Sec. 2, Li-Nong Street, Beitou District, Taipei 112, Taiwan  
Phone No.: 02-2826-7325  
Fax No.: 02-2821-5307  
E-mail: [cclien@nycu.edu.tw](mailto:cclien@nycu.edu.tw)  
Web: [LIEN LAB](#)

---

---

**Education**

1998-2003	Ph.D., Physiology, University of Freiburg, Germany
1990-1997	M.D., Medicine, China Medical University, Taiwan

**Research and Professional Positions Held in Chronological Sequence**

Since Aug. 2025	Chair Professor, NYCU, Taiwan
Since Nov. 2020	Dean of the School of Life Sciences, NYCU, Taiwan
Since Nov. 2023	Director of the Life Sciences Research Promotion Center (LSRPC), National Science and Technology Council, Taiwan
Since Jan. 2023	Convener of the Morphological Medicine and Physiology Division, National Science and Technology Council, Taiwan
Since Aug. 2023	Permanent Distinguished Professor at the Institute of Neuroscience, NYCU, Taiwan
2017-2023	Distinguished Professor at the Institute of Neuroscience, NYCU, Taiwan
2017-2021	Director of the Institute of Neuroscience, NYCU, Taiwan
2015-2019	Visiting Professor at Charité – Medical University of Berlin, Germany
Since Aug. 2015	Professor at the Institute of Neuroscience, National Yang Ming University, Taiwan
2011-2015	Associate Professor at the Institute of Neuroscience, National Yang Ming University, Taiwan
2006-2011	Assistant Professor at the Institute of Neuroscience, National Yang Ming University, Taiwan
2004-2006	Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of California, Berkeley, USA
2003-2004	Postdoctoral Fellow at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany
1997-1998	Resident at the Department of Neurology, National Taiwan University Hospital, Taiwan

**Research Interests**

We use electrophysiology *in vivo* and *ex vivo*, optogenetic/chemogenetic tools, calcium imaging, behavioral assays, viral vector, and pharmacological strategies to investigate the healthy and diseased brain. My laboratory studies brain circuits and behavior, with a recent focus on understanding neural mechanisms of emotion and cognition in the limbic system, including the hippocampus and amygdala. Using optogenetics and chemogenetics combined with

electrophysiology and calcium imaging, we establish causal relationships between circuits and behavior. We also use optogenetics-assisted circuit mapping to uncover network organization. Our research highlights the role of GABAergic circuitry in both network and cognitive functions.

#### **Major Honors and Awards**

2024	National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Outstanding Research Award
2024	"Integrated Biomedical and Health Technology Research Program" for 6 times
2020	Honors with Qualifications for Permanent Assessment Exemption for Teachers
2012-2019	NYMU Academic Excellence Award
2016	Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) Outstanding Research Award
2016	German Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers
2016	"Newly Approved Integrated Research Grants in Health and Medical Sciences" for 3 times
2015	Young Scientist Award - TienTe Lee Biomedical Foundation
2015	NeuroCure Fellow of Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
2012	DAAD Scholarship for the research visit at the Institute for Physiology and Pathophysiology, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Germany
1998-2003	German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) scholarship for PhD study
2008-2025	Outstanding Educator Award, School of Medicine, NYMU & NYCU