

Xiaoliang Sunney Xie received a B.S. from Peking University (1984), and Ph.D. from the University of California San Diego (1990), did a brief post doctorate at University of Chicago. In 1992, joined Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, where he became Chief Scientist. In 1999, he was appointed Professor of Chemistry at Harvard University, the first full professor at Harvard from the People's Republic of China since China's reform in 1978. He is currently the Mallinckrodt Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Harvard and the Cheung Kong Visiting Professor at Peking University. He is also the Director of Beijing Advanced Innovation Center for Genomics and the Director of Biodynamics Optical Imaging Center (BIOPIC), both at Peking University.

Xie is among the first doing fluorescence studies of single-molecules at room temperature in early 1990s. He has made major contributions to the emergence of single-molecule biophysical chemistry and its applications to biology and medicine.

His honors include Albany Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, U. S. Department of Energy Lawrence Award, Biophysical Society's Founders Award, National Institute of Health Director's Pioneer Award, Sackler Prize for Physical Sciences, American Chemical Society's Peter Debye Award, fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, member of the National Academies of Sciences and Medicine.