

## Committee on Human Rights Annual Briefing Speakers



**Dr. Xiaoxing Xi** is Laura H. Carnell Professor of Physics at Temple University. Prior to 2009, he was Professor of Physics and Materials Science and Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University. He received his PhD degree in physics from Peking University and Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in 1987. After several years of research at Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center, Germany, Bell Communication Research/Rutgers University, and University of Maryland, he joined the Physics faculty at Penn State in 1995. His research focuses on the materials physics of oxide and boride thin films. He is author of over 350 refereed journal articles and 3 U.S. patents. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a Fellow of American Physical Society.

In 2015, U.S. federal agents arrested Dr. Xi on economic espionage-related charges that carried up to 80 years in prison and a fine of 1 million USD. After it became evident Dr. Xi had instead shared information about his own published research with Chinese colleagues, the U.S. government dropped all charges. Since 2015, he has spoken out actively for open fundamental research and against racial profiling, for which he received the American Physical Society 2020 Andrei Sakharov Prize.



**Dr. Gang Chen** is the Carl Richard Soderberg Professor of Power Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He served as the Department Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at MIT from 2013 to 2018. His research interests center on nanoscale thermal transport and energy conversion phenomena and their applications in energy storage and conversion, thermal management, and water treatment and

desalination. He received an NSF Young Investigator Award, an R&D 100 award, an American Society of Mechanical Engineers' (ASME) Heat Transfer Memorial Award, an ASME Frank Kreith Award in Energy, a Nukiyama Memorial Award by the Japan Heat Transfer Society, a World Technology Network Award in Energy, an Eringen medal from the Society of Engineering Science, and the Capers and Marion McDonald Award for Excellences in Mentoring and Advising from MIT. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Physical Society, the ASME, and the Guggenheim Foundation. He is an academician of Academia Sinica, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the US National Academy of Engineering.

Professor Chen was indicted and arrested in January 2021 based on his alleged omission of certain China-related affiliations during an application for a U.S. Department of Energy grant, in a case that reflected prosecutorial confusion about how research is conducted and funded. On January 20 of this year, prosecutors dropped all charges against Dr. Chen, acknowledging that he did not in fact unlawfully conceal information from the U.S. Government.