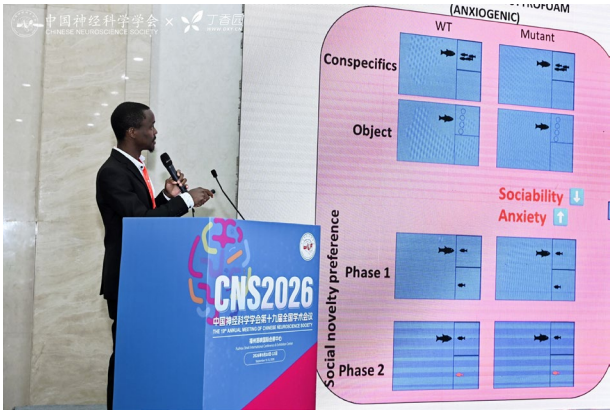
Participation Report

The 19th Annual Meeting of the Chinese Neuroscience Society (CNS2026)
Fuzhou Strait International Conference and Exhibition Center, Fuzhou, Fujian, China
10–13 September 2026



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JNS–CNS Travel Award 2026



I have been awarded the **JNS–CNS Travel Award 2026**, to attend the **19th Annual Meeting of the Chinese Neuroscience Society** in Fuzhou (China) from 10 to 13 September 2026. I delivered an invited talk and presented my research as a poster and it was a great experience overall.

I was invited to open SS02 Youth Forum, an English-language session for early-career researchers held on the first afternoon of the meeting, with speakers from Japan, China, the United States, and elsewhere. My talk was about my findings that environmental context affects sociability in *ube3a* mutant zebrafish. Mutations in the ubiquitin ligase gene *UBE3A* are strongly associated with autism spectrum disorder. Using *ube3a* mutant zebrafish, we found that social interaction and group cohesion are impaired relative to controls, but that this impairment is substantially modulated by the sensory properties of the surrounding environment. In a plexiglass arena, the mutants showed improved social preference and social recognition compared with a Styrofoam one. cFos in situ hybridization together with RNA sequencing and overrepresentation analysis pointed to sensory-processing and circuit-development pathways, including an enrichment of vision-related disease terms (**Dougnon et al., *Molecular Psychiatry*, 2026**).

The opening session was smooth and the audience had questions about my findings which I was pleased to answer. It was a great session and I am happy that scientists and students from diverse parts of the world learned about my work and the advantages of using the zebrafish as an animal model.

I presented the same work as a poster the following day, and the session was busier than I had anticipated: visitors came almost without pause and I spoke to several people during the whole period. It was a unique experience to present in two different formats, and interact with people with diverse background.

Of the wider program, I attended several lectures, and seeing the scale and pace of Chinese neuroscience in person, particularly in circuit mapping and brain–computer interfaces, was very much



instructive. For researchers considering this award, my practical advice is to prepare for the conference and apply for the award because this is a great opportunity to learn and exchange with peers all over the world.

I am sincerely grateful to the Japan Neuroscience Society and the Chinese Neuroscience Society for the JNS–CNS Travel Award 2026. I hope to encourage students and postdocs in our institute to apply in the coming years.