

Speaker Profile



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Dr Xi Chen

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Dr. Chen is an Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Engineering and the Director of Columbia Nanomechanics Research Center. Dr. Chen received his B.S. in Engineering Mechanics from the Special Class of Gifted Youth of Xi'an Jiaotong University (China) at the age of 18, his M.S. in Engineering Mechanics from Tsinghua University (China) in 1997, and his Ph.D. in Solid Mechanics from Harvard University in 2001. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University from 2001-2003. He joined Columbia University as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2003 and was promoted to an Associate Professor in winter 2006.

Prof. Chen uses multiscale theoretical, experimental, and numerical approaches to investigate various research frontiers in materials addressing challenges in energy and environment, nanomechanics, and mechanobiology. He has published over 130 journal papers with a h-index over 23. He received the National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award in 2007, the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) in 2008 (nominated by NSF), Outstanding Oversea Young Investigator Award from Chinese National Science Foundation in 2009, and Changjiang Chair Scholar Award from Chinese Ministry of Education in 2010. In 2009 he was chosen by KOSEF as perhaps one of the youngest foreign scholars to participate the World Class University (WCU) project at Korea, collaborating with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Hanyang University, on nanotechnology enabled sustainable infrastructures.

Dr. Chen is a member of the American Academy of Mechanics (AAM), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Materials Research Society (MRS). He chairs the Multifunctional Materials Technical Committee of ASME. He is a member of Nanotechnology Council of ASME. He is the Associate Editor of Mechanics Research Communications and on Editorial Board of a few other international journals.