



So-Hye CHO

Home Country
Republic of Korea
(South Korea)

Degree
Post-Doctorate
in Inorganic Chemistry

Expertise
Chemistry

Research Focus
Electron-Dense Labels
for Use in Electron
Microscope Imaging

Host University
The Scripps Research
Institute, United States

Fellowship Awarded
2007

So-Hye Cho was born and raised in South Korea. She received her undergraduate degree in chemistry in 1998 from Ewha Womans University in Seoul, where in 2000 she also obtained her graduate degree in organic chemistry. In 2006 she completed her doctoral studies in inorganic chemistry at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois in the United States.

During her academic studies So-Hye received numerous grants and awards including a Korean-American Scientists & Engineers Association San Diego Chapter Service Award; a BP Chemicals graduate student award for excellence in environmental molecular science; Ewha alumnae award for Best Master's Thesis in Science; and Best Graduate Student award from the Basic Science Institute at Ewha Womans University.

In her post-doctoral studies at The Scripps Research Institute in California, So-Hye is working on the development of electron dense labels for use in the electron microscopic imaging of biomolecules such as proteins. This work is intended to provide insights into the enzyme functions and molecular mechanisms of biology. She is also researching the development of novel polymer materials and investigating reversible surfaces and their applications. Her work may help us better understand diseases such as the Hepatitis B virus.

So-Hye is active in organizations that encourage the participation of women in science. As executive director of the national Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (KWise) organization, she plans career development seminars and forums through which she encourages the participation of women professionals and female undergraduates. She has also mentored numerous undergraduate researchers and is supervising a senior undergraduate student at University of California San Diego.

So-Hye hopes to teach at one of the top universities in South Korea.