

# Empower Your Scientific Journey in Singapore

- Singapore International  
Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA)
- Singapore International  
Graduate Award (SINGA)
- A\*STAR Research Attachment  
Programme (ARAP)



Scan for  
more info

**Sophie Guillemot**  
France  
ARAP Recipient, 2022



**Brian Formento**  
United Kingdom  
SINGA Recipient, 2020



**Jasper Chiu**  
Hong Kong  
SIPGA Recipient, 2023  
SINGA Recipient, 2024



# Home Ground for the Best-in-Industry

**Science. It's at the heart of everything we do.** At the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR), we are focused on pushing boundaries to develop Singapore's scientific capabilities and ecosystem, as well as nurture the next generation of scientific leaders.

Home to a vibrant ecosystem, leverage A\*STAR's resources and support to turn your research into industry-ready solutions.

At A\*STAR Graduate Academy (A\*GA), we believe that diversity fuels innovation and interdisciplinary research. With an opportunity to study and conduct research at top institutes and universities in Singapore, be a part of a community of curious minds dedicated to overcoming the challenges of tomorrow's science and research landscape.



## The A\*STAR Ecosystem

Place yourself at the heart of Singapore's robust science and research ecosystem. A\*STAR is Singapore's lead public sector agency that spearheads economic-oriented research to advance scientific discovery and develop innovative technology.

With over 17 A\*STAR research entities, benefit from cross-disciplinary and multi-sectoral research opportunities, facilitating diverse career pathways in science, engineering, academia, technopreneurship, and industry. Gain access to state-of-the-art labs, where you can work alongside and tap on the expertise of scientists in your field. Collaborate with A\*STAR's global talent pool of over 4,000 professionals from over 60 countries, and leverage diverse perspectives and best practices in research and development.



## Nurturing Talent, Cultivating Success

Immerse yourself in a nurturing environment where mentorship thrives. At A\*STAR, you'll benefit from guidance and support that puts your growth first, with mentors who are passionate about fostering your academic and personal development. Navigate the complexities of scientific research with the guidance of experienced researchers and unlock your full potential in the world of science.



# Singapore. Where Science and Culture Converge.

As a modern cosmopolitan city-state that embraces a multicultural ethos, Singapore stands at the forefront of Southeast Asia as a hub for global R&D partnerships. By leveraging science and technology, Singapore is committed to establishing itself as a thriving centre for research and innovation on the global stage.



**Immerse yourself in a city where lifestyle meets culture. Experience world-class research facilities alongside a vibrant, multicultural community in a lush landscape of greenery.**

## **Your Garden in The City**

Find yourself surrounded by open green spaces in our tropical city, perfect for enjoying the outdoors all year-round. From the iconic Gardens by the Bay to the serene Botanic Gardens, this is where nature seamlessly integrates with urban living.

## **Globally Connected**

Experience seamless flight connectivity in Singapore, offering you the freedom to explore and travel effortlessly. With most destinations in Southeast Asia just a few hours away, spontaneous weekend getaways are easily within reach.

## **A Melting Pot of Cultures**

Where diversity and multiculturalism thrive, you'll experience the rich tapestry of Singapore's multi-ethnic society. From cultural festivals to culinary delights, immerse yourself in a city that blends tradition with modernity.

## **A Taste of Singapore**

Discover the culinary paradise that is Singapore, from bustling hawker centres serving affordable local delights to Michelin star restaurants offering gourmet experiences. Whether it's savouring traditional dishes or indulging in contemporary fusion cuisine, Singapore's vibrant food scene is sure to provide an exciting culinary adventure.



# Shaping Our Scientific Landscape

A\*STAR is split into two research councils, each playing a pivotal role in driving Singapore's research.

## Biomedical Research Council (BMRC)

The Biomedical Research Council (BMRC) plays a dual role in Singapore's biomedical sciences landscape, driving economic impact and advancing healthcare outcomes. BMRC supports research initiatives across all Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) with a strong emphasis on use-inspired research that can be translated to clinical applications for patient care.

## Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC)

The Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) fosters innovation across various sectors including communications, materials, and computational sciences. SERC oversees multiple research entities and cutting-edge facilities, addressing global technological challenges and paving the way for future industries.



**Yeshe Kway**  
Germany  
SIPGA Recipient, 2018  
SINGA Recipient, 2019



# Charting Your Academic Pathway

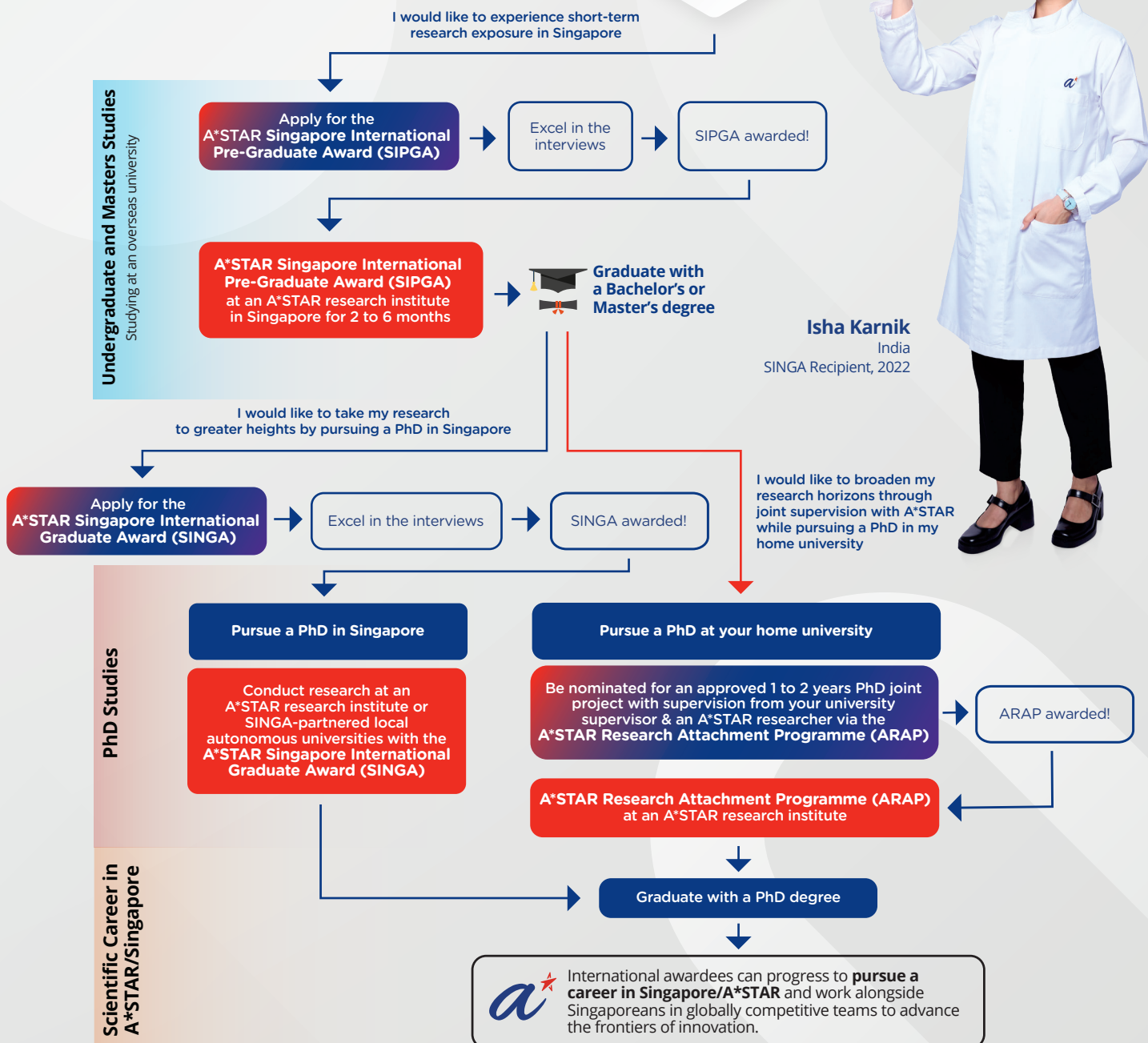
Many awardees find their experience with A\*STAR invaluable, often choosing to pursue further studies and research with us, eventually building a career here. Seamless continuation of research projects with familiar supervisors fosters continuity and maximised productivity.



## Embracing Diversity, Connecting Globally

The A\*STAR International Awardees Network (AIAN) is a platform for current and former A\*STAR international awardees to connect and support each other throughout your academic journey in Singapore. Tap into this vibrant community to engage with peers or seek assistance with any questions or challenges you may face to ensure a smooth transition and enriching experience.

## Your Journey As An Awardee



# Experience Global World-class Research

The A\*STAR Graduate Academy has various prestigious awards for outstanding international Bachelor's, Master's and PhD students, providing them with enriching opportunities in Singapore.

## International Awards



### Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA)

#### Learn Beyond Your Borders

The **Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA)** offers you the chance to immerse yourself in a dynamic scientific landscape at A\*STAR's research institutes. Gain short-term research experience under leading scientists and develop industry-relevant skills in your area of interest, as you explore opportunities for PhD training and build connections with a diverse network of researchers.



### Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA)

#### Open the Doors to International Research

With the **Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA)**, leverage Singapore's vibrant research ecosystem and receive a bond-free award to pursue a PhD at a leading university in Singapore. Engage in diverse research environments alongside the mentorship of renowned researchers and state-of-the-art facilities.

A collaboration between A\*STAR and leading universities in Singapore, you can choose to base your research at A\*STAR research institutes or universities. Training will be conducted in English, and you will be conferred a PhD degree by one of these universities:



### A\*STAR Research Attachment Programme (ARAP)






#### Unleash Your Global Research Potential

The **A\*STAR Research Attachment Programme (ARAP)** provides a unique opportunity to experience the research scene in Singapore while pursuing your PhD in your current university. Benefit from the guidance of researchers from both A\*STAR and your university in your PhD journey.

**Aloisius Rabata Purnama**  
Indonesia  
ARAP Recipient, 2018



# International Awards at a Glance

 Awards & Programme	Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA)	Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA)	A*STAR Research Attachment Programme (ARAP)
 Education Level of Sponsorship	Undergraduate year 3/4, Masters	Graduate	Graduate
 Duration of Award	2-to-6 month attachment	4 years of PhD funding	12-to-24 month attachment
 Eligibility Criteria	International applicants studying in an overseas university	International applicants without any prior studying experience in Singapore	International applicants pursuing a PhD in an overseas university, on a nomination basis only*
 Courses Applicable	Biomedical Science   Computing and Information Sciences Engineering and Technology   Physical Sciences		

**Note:**

\* International applicants pursuing a PhD in an overseas university who are nominated by their university supervisor(s). University supervisor(s) must be working on a joint project with A\*STAR researchers.



# The Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA)

## How to Apply



### Benefits

- Awarded applicants will receive a monthly stipend of S\$2,000 during the attachment in Singapore.

### Duration

- 2 to 6 months.

### Eligibility

- Open to international 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year Bachelor's and Master's students from overseas universities in STEM courses.
- Obtained/on track to obtain at least a Second-Class (Upper) Honours or equivalent for a Bachelor's degree.
- Students must remain matriculated in their home university during the attachment period.
- Proficient in written and spoken English.
- Strong interest in a research career.

Note: The above eligibility criteria are not exhaustive. A\*STAR may include additional selection criteria based on prevailing scholarship policies. These policies may be amended from time to time without notice.



Apply Now



Find Out More

# The Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA)

## How to Apply



\*A\*STAR Supervisors and Projects, NTU Colleges and Schools, NUS Graduate School, SMU School of Computing and Information Systems (SCIS), and SUTD Pillars/Clusters and Research Centres.

### Benefits

- Funding support for up to four years of PhD studies
  - Tuition fees
  - Monthly stipend
  - One-time airfare grant
  - One-time settling-in allowance
- Supervision by outstanding researchers at A\*STAR and the universities.
- English PhD training in labs with world-class infrastructure.

### Eligibility

- Open for application to all international students with a passion for research and excellent academic results (SINGA is intended for international students studying for the first time in Singapore).
- Strong passion for research and excellent academic performance.
- Proficient in written and spoken English.
- Strong academic references.

Note: The above eligibility criteria are not exhaustive. A\*STAR may include additional selection criteria based on prevailing scholarship policies. These policies may be amended from time to time without notice.



Apply Now



Find Out More

# Meet Dr Sarah Catherine Geiger

Scientist, Laboratory of Metagenomic  
Technologies and Microbial Systems  
Genome Institute of Singapore (GIS)

Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award  
(SIPGA) Recipient, 2016

Singapore International Graduate Award  
(SINGA) Recipient, 2017



UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA



## **2022 – Present** **A\*STAR Scientist**

Working in the Laboratory of Metagenomic Technologies and Microbial Systems under Dr Niranjana, Dr Geiger's research focuses on microbial systems that define the ecosystems around us. The climate crisis and a passion for nature ignited her curiosity in characterising how microbes support Singapore's tropical ecosystems and contribute to healthy, sustainable food systems.

## **2017 – 2022** **Doctoral**

Dr Geiger pursued her doctoral studies via the Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA) at A\*STAR GIS and was conferred her degree by the National University of Singapore (NUS). She studied the application of population genetic statistics to bacterial outbreaks and was also a Facebook ambassador for the A\*STAR International Awardees.

## **2013 – 2017** **Undergraduate**

During her undergraduate studies, Dr Geiger did an internship under the Singapore International Pre-Graduate Award (SIPGA), working with Dr Swaine Chen, where she designed and optimised protocols for studying combination antibiotic therapies for multidrug-resistant bacteria. Following this, she graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Miami University, Ohio.

Find out more about  
Dr Sarah Catherine Geiger



# A\*STAR Research Attachment Programme (ARAP)

## How to Apply



## Benefits

- Monthly stipend
- One-time airfare grant
- One-time settling-in allowance
- Monthly housing subsidy
- Medical insurance
- Conference support
- One-time IT allowance

Student progress report(s) is/are required to be submitted to A\*STAR Graduate Academy (A\*GA) for monitoring purposes.

Terms of award are reviewed periodically, and prevailing terms apply to awardees starting their ARAP attachment from January 2024 onwards.



## Eligibility

- International PhD students, on a nomination basis (Applicants with a Bachelor's degree with at least a Second-Class (Upper) Honours or equivalent may be nominated for this programme if their home university supervisor has a collaboration with an A\*STAR researcher).
- Strong referral reports.
- Possess a good track record in research.

Note: The above eligibility criteria are not exhaustive. A\*STAR may include additional selection criteria based on prevailing scholarship policies. These policies may be amended from time to time without notice.



## Duration

- 12 to 24 months.



Find Out More

# Meet Dr Danai Georgiadou

Scientist, Bioprocessing Technology Institute (BTI)

A\*STAR Research Attachment Programme (ARAP) Recipient, 2019



## 2008 – 2015 Undergraduate

Dr Georgiadou completed her Bachelor of Science in Biology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. Her final two undergraduate years were marked by a significant internship at the National Center for Scientific Research Demokritos (NCSR Demokritos) within the Molecular Botany department.

## 2015 – 2017 Master's Degree

Dr Georgiadou's interest to delve further into molecular biology led her to the Netherlands. She embarked on a Master's programme in Biomedical Science, specialising in Experimental Internal Medicine at the Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA).

## 2019 – 2022 Doctoral

Between 2019 and 2022, Dr Georgiadou pursued her doctoral studies with a focus on the embryonic and placental development during human pregnancy, starting her research at the UvA. The later phase of her doctoral journey took her to Singapore's Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (IMCB) at A\*STAR, where she expanded her research to include animal models and Embryonic Stem Cells (ESCs).



## Awards

2023

The Future Foods: 2nd Seed Grant Call

Overseas Travel Fellowship Program (OTFP) 2023 by Stem Cell Society Singapore

2019

Amsterdam Reproduction and Development (AR&D) Research Institute: Start Small, Think Big Grant

Find out more about Dr Danai Georgiadou



## The A\*STAR Story

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR) is Singapore's lead public sector R&D agency.

Through open innovation, we collaborate with our partners in both the public and private sectors to benefit the economy and society. As a Science and Technology Organisation, A\*STAR bridges the gap between academia and industry. Our research creates economic growth and jobs for Singapore, and enhances lives by improving societal outcomes in healthcare, urban living, and sustainability. A\*STAR plays a key role in nurturing scientific talent and leaders for the wider research community and industry. A\*STAR's R&D activities span biomedical sciences to physical sciences and engineering, with research entities primarily located in Biopolis and Fusionopolis.

For ongoing news, visit [www.a-star.edu.sg](http://www.a-star.edu.sg).

Have a question?  
Drop us an email at  
[Student\\_Services@hq.a-star.edu.sg](mailto:Student_Services@hq.a-star.edu.sg)



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awards