



## **HONGKUI ZENG, PH.D., EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR**

Hongkui Zeng joined the Allen Institute for Brain Science in 2006 and became Executive Vice President, Director of the Allen Institute for Brain Science in 2020. From 2016 to 2020, she led the Structured Science Division to develop and operate high-throughput pipelines to generate large-scale, open-access datasets and tools to accelerate neuroscience discovery. Since joining the Allen Institute, she has also led several research programs, including the Transgenic Technology program, the Human Cortex Gene Survey project, the Allen Mouse Brain Connectivity Atlas project, and the Cell Types and Connectivity program.

Zeng received her Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology from Brandeis University, where she studied the molecular mechanisms of the circadian clock in fruit flies. As a postdoctoral fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she studied the molecular and synaptic mechanisms underlying hippocampus-dependent plasticity and learning. Her current research interests are in understanding neuronal diversity and connectivity in mouse brain-wide circuits and how different cell types work together to process and transform information. Through her leadership of multiple scientific teams at the Allen Institute for Brain Science, she has built several research platforms to explore different properties of brain cells, all working toward the goal of creating a census and taxonomy of cell types and understanding their connectivity in mammalian brains. She has broad scientific experience and a keen interest in using a combined molecular, anatomical and physiological approach to unravel mechanisms of brain circuitry and potential means for treating brain diseases.

Zeng is the principal investigator on several large National Institutes of Health-funded projects, including a BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN) project to create a comprehensive whole-brain atlas of cell types in the mouse. She is an author on more than 100 scientific papers, including several reporting large-scale research efforts she led as the senior author. She has received many honors, including the 2016 AWIS Award for Scientific Advancement and the 2018 Gill Transformative Investigator Award. She serves on a number of advisory boards and councils, including the advisory board of the journal *Cell* and as a member of the National Advisory Mental Health Council.