

## **Robert K.S. Lim (1897-1969): Academician of Academia Sinica and Chancellor of National Defense Medical Center in Silent Shadow**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Robert K.S. Lim, a famous physiologist, contributed greatly to the teaching and research on physiology and played a key role in the development of military medical system during the Sino-Japanese War. Founded under his inspiration and design, the Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica and the National Defense Medical Center are dazzling monuments for Taiwan's advance in biomedical sciences and modern medical education, respectively. However, compared with his international eminent status in physiology in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Robert Lim's name was soon forgotten after the above two institutes were established, and he was only mentioned by medical historians in the narratives of medical development in Taiwan.

By accessing archives at various locations such as Rockefeller Archive Center (New York, US), Shanghai Municipal Archive, and Archive Room at National Defense Medical Center (Taiwan), the authors explored comprehensively Robert Lim's contribution and historical roles. This article aims to portray Robert Lim's career within the context of history of China and modern medicine as well as the multiple roles he played. Moreover, this study supplements the missing facets of contemporary studies on Robert Lim, and contributes to unveil the establishment of modern public health and medical care system in post-WWII Taiwan by a group of mainlanders who came to Taiwan during the 1949 retreat.

**Keywords:** Robert K.S. Lim, Military Medicine, Modern China, Public Health, Physiology.