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MAY 6, 2020 6:27PM ET

# Coronavirus Researcher Killed In Pittsburgh Murder-Suicide

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**Bing Liu, 37, was found dead of gunshot wounds in his townhouse**

By **EJ DICKSON** 



University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

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Bing Liu, a University of Pittsburgh research assistant professor studying **COVID-19**, was **found shot and killed in his townhouse on Saturday** in what was apparently a murder-suicide, authorities say.

Officials found Liu in his home in Ross Township, Pennsylvania, with gunshot wounds to his torso, neck, and head. Local police say they believe a second man, software architect Hao Gu, 46, who was found dead in his car, may have shot Liu before shooting himself.

According to a statement issued by the university's Department of Computational and Systems Biology, Liu was "on the verge of making very significant findings toward understanding the cellular mechanisms that underlie SARS-CoV-2 infections and the cellular basis of the following complications." Dr Ivet Bahar, the head of the Computational and Systems Biology Department, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that Liu "was just starting to obtain interesting results" in his work on the virus.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, conspiracy theorists (who have been hard at work **sowing misinformation during the pandemic**) have already latched onto Liu's passing, with some incorrectly **linking** him to a **team** at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine that had been working on a COVID-19 vaccine candidate. In a **statement**, however, Ross police Sgt. Brian Kohlhepp said that they found "zero evidence that this tragic events has anything to do with employment at the University of Pittsburgh, any work being

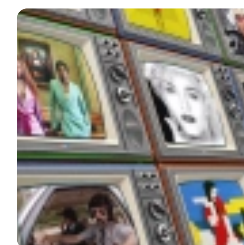
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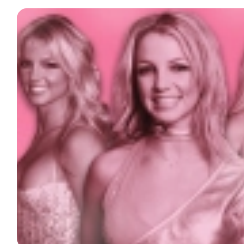
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conducted at the University of Pittsburgh, and the current health crisis affecting the United States and the world.”

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Police suggested that Liu’s death may have resulted from “a lengthy dispute regarding an intimate partner,” though they did not reveal any additional details about the relationship between him and Gu.

**In This Article: coronavirus, covid-19**

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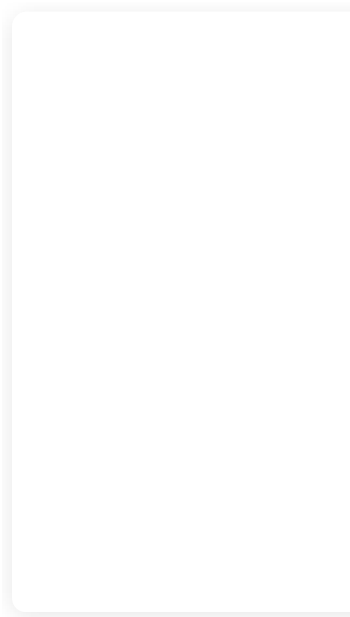
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**P** **PurplePretzel** • 7 May, 2020

The great thing about being a conspiracy theorist is that you're always right.

"Police say Liu was killed because of his reasearch? I told you so."

"Police say Liu wasn't killed because of his research? Well, that's what I expect them to say."

Reply 1

1 reply

**O** **OrangeRaindrop** • 11 May, 2020

Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai, a candidate for a US Senate seat for Massachusetts, believes Liu was one of his students on computational systems biology, which Dr. Shiva created in a collaboration between MIT and a university in Singapore.

Here is the course that Dr. Shiva (Twitter @va\_shiva ) helped create y...**See more**

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**O** **OrangeRaindrop** • 11 May, 2020

In a recent interview, Dr. Rashid Buttar mentioned that he used to be in the special forces and that he has identified Shiva as the enemy that needs to be "taken out." Now someone closely

associated with Shiva as one of his former students and working in the same field while on the verge of making ...**See more**

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**Ron Ablang** · 7 May, 2020

Hmmm. He's Chinese. Perhaps China had him killed because they don't want him to discover the cure?

Reply 3 2

1 reply

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**P** **Puertorico** · 13 April, 2022

I think this was all created to get out trump out the picture! Think and compare where we are vs with Trump.

Reply

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**B** **BlueMustache** · 7 May, 2020

There is a good chance Trump had these men killed. Trump is working with Xi to spread COVID all over the globe to cause chaos and destroy humanity. It's their evil plan to rule the planet as tyrants along with Putin and Kim Jong.

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**o** **OrangeHammer** · 7 May, 2020

Well there is certainly a conspiracy theory if I ever heard one....

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