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**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Journalist Member Governor
Board of Governors 2019-2020**



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Affiliation: Cedar Communications

I've now sat on the FCC's Board for two years, and the last year has been busy by any measure.

We thought the trickiest transition to manage would be the arrival and bedding in of our new GM, Didier. But in truth he's stepped into the role with aplomb and cost savings.

The trouble we've had has been of a far more worrying nature – the consequences surrounding the Andy Chan talk, which ultimately led to the de facto expulsion from Hong Kong of one of our members.

We've paid a dear price, a price many didn't expect to have to pay, for sticking to our guns. Nonetheless, I stand by the decision to hold the talk – we have to value our role as a place which will always discuss what matters in this city and beyond.

Yet at the same time, we need to find ways to render the future of the club as secure as possible. We have an (expensive) building to care for. We have people to look after – members and staff alike. That's what I want to work on in the coming year.

And it's in the spirit of looking after our members and staff that I categorically stand by the club's anti-harassment policy.

I'm proud that the board passed it, unanimously. I'm open to refining it, but we must, must, must work towards the goal of making the FCC a place where all – male and female, young and less so – feel welcome to come hang out, to talk, or have a quiet drink at the bar on their own. Perhaps some don't realise that we're not there just yet.

In my second year on the Board I've remained on the Wall and Communications committees. On Wall, we've brought you a pretty strong offering in the past year – and keep an eye out for some great new shows coming up, including the second of our now annual student photo exhibitions. If I remain on Wall, I'd like to see a more comprehensive refresh of what hangs from some of the other rooms in the club.

On Communications, we've been bringing you some excellent issues of The Correspondent. I hope you'll join me in commending the talented team which puts the magazine together (and do offer your services if you'd like to write for it!).

As I say, this year has been difficult. We might not be guaranteed the freedoms we'd once assumed. But we remain a bulwark of standing up for freedom of expression, of speech. And we remain a club where a conversation can always be had, where viewpoints can be expressed and heard and vigorously debated. I hope to continue to help the club thrive.

Bio: Hong Kong born-and-raised, Adam White is incoming Group Editor at Cedar Communications, where he will look after Discovery and Silkroad, the Cathay Pacific and Cathay Dragon magazines. He was previously Production Editor of the SCMP's Inkstone, and before that was the Senior Editor of HK Magazine, which he ran for four years until the magazine was shuttered.