

Bio & Policy Statement
Journalist Member Governor
Board of Governors 2014-2015



Wyng CHOW

Affiliation: The Standard

Dear FCC colleagues:

I am now completing my third term as a Journalist Governor and seek your support for election to a fourth term on the 2014-15 Board of Governors.

As many of you know, I have been a very active (and visible) member of the FCC since joining eight years ago following my relocation from Canada, where I worked for several decades as a journalist/editor at a leading Vancouver daily newspaper. I now toil as a sub-editor at The Standard, where I also mentor young reporters.

On the FCC board at present, I serve as co-convenor of the all-important Finance Committee, as well as remaining keenly active on the Membership Committee, which I co-convened the previous year.

Currently, I am also the club secretary.

During 2012-13, in addition to Membership, I was co-convenor of the Publications Committee, and to this day, many of you see photographs I regularly take at various FCC events published in our “Correspondent” magazine.

Working this past year with our highly capable treasurer -- Tim Huxley -- along with a very knowledgeable supporting cast on the Finance Committee, we have managed to keep a tight rein on the club’s finances and expenditures, while endeavoring to find new revenue streams, in order to keep price increases to an absolute minimum, to give members tremendous value for their money. It is essential to keep experienced hands on deck.

On the membership front, I plan to continue pushing for more diversity to keep the FCC vibrant and dynamic. We particularly need to work toward attracting younger members in general and more females in particular. Currently, only 23 per cent of all active members are women. That is a serious imbalance that needs addressing.

Age-wise, 38 per cent of our about 2,164 total active members are 55 years and older, with more members aged 65 to 74 (10 per cent) than members under 35 years (8 per cent). In a nutshell, we need an infusion of younger blood to lower our current average age of 51, to be progressive and add flavor and liveliness to the premises.

I have also taken a keen interest in the Professional Committee, and intend to keep helping bring top-notch club luncheon speakers to the FCC – such as Insp. Bill Majcher, the former top covert operator -- who recently spoke to a sold-out audience.

I am also a huge supporter of live music, and will strive to ensure that we bring more of the best musicians in town to perform at Bert's Bar – the top live music venue in Hong Kong.

As previously mentioned, I am very involved with the FCC -- both in a board capacity and as a regular customer -- and am always willing to listen to members' concerns (even complaints!). For example, despite not being on the Food & Beverage Committee, I succeeded in getting lamb chops restored to the main lounge menu – much to the joy of a number of irate lunch regulars at the member's table who kept bending my ear!!!

Thank you for your continued support!

BIO: Wyng is a Canadian expatriate whose journalistic career in Vancouver entailed several decades of investigative reporting, along with covering crime, courts & legal affairs, politics and business news. He also served on the executive of the Vancouver Press Club for 13 years, including various terms as President or Treasurer. Wyng currently works at The Standard as a sub-editor and de facto journalism instructor. He's also a (semi-retired) pool shark.