

14

**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Journalist Member Governor
Board of Governors 2021-2022**



Clifford BUDDLE

Affiliation: SCMP

BIO

Cliff has been a Journalist Governor on the Board for the last six years. He is a senior editor and columnist at the South China Morning Post. Cliff has been a journalist for three decades, having worked in London before joining the SCMP in 1994. His roles have included news editor, deputy editor and acting editor-in-chief. He is currently Special Projects Editor.

Cliff has legal qualifications, including a Master's Degree in Human Rights Law from the University of Hong Kong. He teaches media law part time at the university's Journalism and Media Studies Centre.

Cliff is a member and former Chair of the editorial committee at the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA).

POLICY STATEMENT

This has been another extraordinary year for the Club and for Hong Kong. It has presented both the FCC and the media industry with unprecedented challenges.

Journalists are adapting to a new political climate. The impact of the national security law and tightening of access to government databases are among the profession's concerns.

The Club has an extremely important role to play in standing up for press freedom and supporting both the international and local media. It must continue to issue strong, authoritative statements on matters relating to press freedom. The voice of the Club has never been more important.

It should also continue to speak out on press freedom issues concerning the mainland and the region. Journalists are working in increasingly difficult situations from Thailand, to the Philippines, to Myanmar.

The Club has a valuable role to play in furthering debate.. The Webinars organised during the pandemic have been excellent and have served to raise the status of the FCC around the world.

Over the last year, I have served as a Co-convenor of the Membership committee. I would like to see more young journalists joining our Club. I have served on the Constitutional Committee for six years, and bring that experience to the Board. I am also a long-serving member of the Press Freedom Committee.

I am honoured to have been a Journalist Governor for the last six years. This has been a tough year, but the Club has stayed open. Credit is due to our wonderful staff.

The Club has been a source of comfort for its members during these difficult times. I look forward to it continuing to provide a home-from-home, with excellent food and drink and great company. All of this while upholding its fine traditions and providing strong support for press freedom.