



**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Correspondent Member Governor
Board of Governors 2022-2023**



Olivia PARKER

Affiliation: The New York Times

I've known the FCC as a home for the last five years. I share its values, have great respect for its mission to defend press freedom and am always proud to take people to its beautiful bar.

I am a first-time nominee for governor, and if elected I would be honoured to contribute my enthusiasm and energy to the running of the club in return for all it has given me.

This moment in Hong Kong comes with cumulative uncertainty and stress, for the FCC itself as well as for many journalists. One practical way I would like to help, if elected, is by seeing what focus we can put on mental health support.

I see this as an important part of the FCC's core mission to facilitate journalism of the highest standard, and one I think we could talk about more. If we recognise that mental health issues – depression, trauma, addiction – are not a niche experience, and that they sometimes intersect with our work, we can reduce the stigma around them. If this is one factor that enables journalists to keep doing their best work, it seems to me to be worth the focus.

With its famous social scene, I believe the club could help set a tone of support about this topic alongside the more practical resources and solidarity we offer. It is hard to talk about, but small things like listening and knowing what to say go a long way.

I see this as a way of maintaining our community's strength as we come under ever more scrutiny, and I hope that it might particularly benefit and engage younger journalists.

I think I would be well placed to help drive this: I am a board member at the charity Mind HK, whose mission is to make sure no one in Hong Kong faces a mental health problem alone.

If elected to the board, I would aim to organise talks, training and resources about mental health for our staff and members, and to see how we might establish more permanent systems of support.

Beyond this, I would love the chance to contribute my ideas and organisational skills to the club's outstanding intellectual programmes, the wall exhibition and particularly the Human Rights Press Awards, bringing experience from helping to put on the Mind HK Media Awards and the Hong Kong Blue Tie Ball for several years.

If elected, I'd also like to help bring more people into the club by gauging interest in an authors' network, and in an idea for collective writing sessions, which can be great for productivity.

Thank you for your time and I hope I can count on your support.

About me:

Originally from the UK, I moved to Hong Kong in 2017 and work as a staff editor with the New York Times International Edition.

Previously, I covered the advertising, media and marketing industry in Asia Pacific as deputy editor at Campaign Asia, also based in Hong Kong; and before that I spent six years as a commissioning editor and reporter for the Daily Telegraph in London.