

13

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

Joe PAN

Affiliation: ImpactNFT Alliance and News



I am honoured that Zela Chin has asked me to run for a position on the Board of Governors.

I joined FCC at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021 when the club's operation hours and services were curtailed and I had had travel plans already. The conventional wisdom was that I would not get my money's worth given the restrictions and months of absence. As I mark my one year anniversary with the club in May, I am pleased to say FCC HK has not disappointed.

After all, FCC HK is not a conventional club; to many it's their home away from home. To those who agree with that cliché, I would like to add a new moniker that FCC is my office away from the office. With limited access to my regular office and without a proper home office set up, FCC's library has served me well as my office during my transitional period from working for Forkast News to starting a new venture in covering non-fungible-token or NFT. The FCC staff can attest to my regular routine as I am indebted to their kindness and help as I shuttled between using the dining areas for meetings and the phone booths for calls.

I am honored that a new member like me can have the opportunity to serve and contribute. If elected, I would start by joining the Professional Committee which has produced some of the most thought provoking and sometimes entertaining Zoom talks. Leveraging on my study and coverage on environmental and sustainability impact in the Web3 space, I hope to help in facilitating and increasing our members' understanding of ESG in the crypto and Web3 space.

In addition, we should continue the club's drive to diversify membership and to promote an inclusive environment, appealing to a broader audience including freelance journalists who wear multiple hats, taking on side hustles or an unconventional career path in face of a fast changing media landscape.

As a foodie and supporter of smart farming and local suppliers, I hope to contribute to the House/Food & Beverage committee, seeing the club continue its tradition, while selecting from sustainable food producers and providing the best organic cuisine possible.

Last but not least, it's of absolute importance that the club continues to defend press freedom while seeking engagement with the authorities in the current media environment. The Press Freedom Committee has done a great job in being the voice of the voiceless with its timely and unequivocal support for journalists in the region. Despite the unprecedented pressure and headwind, we shall do our

best to “hold the line”, in the words of Maria Ressa, the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and founder of Rappler.

About me:

For most of my twenty-year career, I have worked in the journalism space and media management, including traditional newspapers from local weekly papers to the LA Times and a radio station. I have taken a few detours to work on consulting gigs on political campaigns and investor relations. I launched my own consultancy after moving to Asia in 2007.

In 2019, I joined Forkast News as the Head of Studio, started creating content covering the cryptos space. As an entrepreneur, I wear multiple hats including acting as the editorial consultant for a soon-to-be launched NFT news portal focusing on ESG related impact in the Web3 space, as well as being the co-founder of a green metaverse and a NFT project showcasing the work of the Kowloon King, Hong Kong’s cultural icon and most famous street calligrapher. I have been a longtime member of Asian American Journalists Association - Asia Chapter and an executive committee member of the chapter’s annual N3 Conference since 2013. I have taken on various committee leadership roles over the years and I am an alumni of AAJA’s Executive Leadership Program.