

Bio & Policy Statement from A Nominee for Journalist Member Governor Board of Governors 2023-2024

Joe PAN Affiliation: NFTMetta News



I am honored to have been asked by Zela Chin and Jennifer Jett to run for the Board of Governors.

Reflecting on my past term as a member of the Board, I have gained valuable experience by actively participating in the Professional Committees, Press Freedom Committee, Membership, and Wall Committees. These committees serve as crucial channels of communication within the Club and to the outside world.

I am eager to return to the Board and utilize my experience to benefit the membership. I am particularly excited to build upon the successful initiatives we launched in the past year after the renewal of our lease and the lifting of Covid restrictions. I led the charge in launching our popular breakfast series, which features diverse and relevant topics that serve the interests of our C&J and Associated members. The breakfast format also creates an opportunity to reach new audiences and potential new membership pools while activating underutilized time slots for revenue generation.

As a Co-Convenor of the Professional Committee, I had the opportunity to participate and/or lead in organizing a variety of events, including Zoom events, lunch talks, movie nights, wall exhibition (the QEII memorial exhibition), training workshops, podcast, and Clare Hollingworth Fellows events over the past year. I am confident that with an increased membership in the new year, we will take our events to the next level.

The past year has been a defining period for the Club as we faced challenges and intense scrutiny. The Board worked in concert to create solutions for different scenarios before the lease was eventually renewed, a process that was sobering as we had to review the devastating and costly alternative. However, these events have reinforced the significance of FCC's core values and the vital role it plays in promoting freedom of expression and the media industry in Hong Kong. They serve as a reminder of the value of our membership and the honor it is to serve as a Journalist Governor.

If elected, I would continue to focus on the dual mission of promoting dialogue to mitigate risks without compromising the Club's core value of media freedom as well as enhancing the Club's financial stability to ensure a sustainable future. Another pet project of mine is to find a reciprocal club for the FCC in Southern California, where I visit regularly.

About me:

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

Currently, I write, produce and edit for NFTMetta News (www.nftmetta.com) and serve as the contributing editor for Blockchain Asset Review. I am also the head of content for ImpactNFT Alliance, a collective of Web3 and NFT projects dedicated to creating impact in the physical world with Web3 technologies. Prior to that, I was the Head of Studio for Forkast News. As an entrepreneur, I wear multiple hats, including co-founding a green metaverse and a Web3 project showcasing the work of Kowloon King (www.kok.xyz), Hong Kong's cultural icon and most famous street calligrapher.

I have been a longtime member of the Asian American Journalists Association - Asia Chapter and have served as an executive committee member of the chapter's annual N3 Conference since 2013. Over the years, I have taken on various committee leadership roles, and I am an alumnus of AAJA's Executive Leadership Program.