

Bio & Policy Statement from A Nominee for Journalist Member Governor Board of Governors 2024-2025

Zela CHIN Affiliation: TVB



I am honored to be nominated by Jennifer Jett and Lee Williamson to run for the board again.

I am proud of what we have accomplished in the past board year. We hired our new General Manager, David Brightling, who can often be seen talking to members and their guests. Now that the member survey is complete, the board will be working on recommendations to make the club an even better place for all of us to eat, drink and have intellectual discussions.

As co-convenor of the communications committee, I also interviewed and hired Ann Tsang, editor of The Correspondent magazine. I work closely with her on the editorial direction of the magazine from the selection of stories to monitoring the quality and accuracy of the content.

These two additions to the club will make a significant impact for years to come.

Also, I am passionate about supporting young journalists, helping them to navigate their careers, and providing them with the skills to be future leaders of our industry. I have selected the club's Clare Hollingworth Fellows for the last several years. I will be one of the mentors at the speed mentoring workshop for early career journalists on April 23, and I've been organizing the FCC Journalism Conference, which returns after five years.

As a TV reporter, I would like to see more opportunities for broadcast journalists at the club. I have worked closely with one member, Jarrod Watt, on producing the FCC podcast, which was relaunched this year. Check out FCC The Correspondent podcast on Spotify or Apple Podcasts. You can find my interview with our new Clare Hollingworth Fellows and my HK Literary Festival panel discussion on the anthology "The Stories Women Journalists Tell".

As a member of the wall committee, I brought an exhibition about Myanmar to the Main Bar in February, three years after the military coup. This was an important reminder of a conflict in our region that has been a little forgotten in the wake of the conflicts in Ukraine and Israel.

I'm pleased to share that later this year I will be bringing an exhibition by local photographer Jeeyun Kim, entitled "Where are you from?" It's a collection of photographs of mothers and their mixed-race children. The exhibit explores identity, race and culture. The club is a melting pot of different races and ethnicities, and I think the members will find the photographs very relatable. And I hope the exhibit will be a conversation starter.

Last but certainly not least, as a member of the press freedom committee, we continue to draft statements on press freedom. It's important for the FCC to speak up on behalf of journalists and defend the freedom of the press as journalism in Hong Kong and the region comes under pressure.

Thank you, members, for the opportunity to serve the club. The FCC is an important part of the Hong Kong community, and I look forward to representing our members and leading the club.

About me: I believe I am the first person from TVB, Hong Kong's flagship broadcaster, to join the board. An award-winning journalist, I work for TVB Pearl's weekly, prime-time documentary program "Pearl Magazine." And I have spent many years producing business features, most recently with the program "Money Matters." This year, I was promoted to Supervising Producer.

Hailing from the U.S., I have an undergraduate degree from Duke University. I started my career at the CNN headquarters in Atlanta, and later joined CNN in Hong Kong. And I received a master's degree in journalism from the University of Hong Kong.

In addition to board matters, I am often at the club hosting events in my capacity as the Executive Vice President of the Asian American Journalists Association's Asia chapter and Chair of the Duke Hong Kong alumni association.