



International Association for China Tourism Studies

中国旅游研究国际联合会

The 2018 IACTS Conference

Fellows' Business Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date : Friday, 3 August 2018
Time : 11:00am – 12:30 pm
Venue : Kaiping Hall, Pan Tower International Hotel, Kaiping, China

Present (by Wolfgang Alrt, Jigang Bao, Songshan (Sam) Huang, Gang Li, Shina Li,
family name Fang Meng, Haiyan Song, Xiaobo Su, Ning Wang, David Weaver,
alphabetically): Honggen Xiao, Jingjing Yang

Prof Haiyan Song chaired and opened the meeting.

President report

Prof Haiyan Song delivered a brief report as the President of IACTS. Main points of the report include:

- IACTS has so far a total of 31 fellows, including 7 founding fellows, 15 fellows nominated and confirmed in the first round nomination and 9 nominated and accepted in the second round of fellows nomination. The target number of IACTS fellows is 60.
- Journal of China Tourism Research was confirmed as IACTS journal in the last Fellows Business Meeting. The Journal is envisaged as a platform to publish high quality research. Fellows are encouraged and called to contribute their best work to the Journal. The Journal is not a SSCI journal yet, but has been listed as an Emerging Sources Citation (ESI), which is the first step towards being included in SSCI.
- The 1st IACTS Biennial Conference was held in Yangshuo in September 2016. It has been discussed that Yangshuo could be considered as a permanent venue for IACTS biennial Conferences. We need volunteers to organise future conferences.
- Over the years, several PhD training camps were jointly organised by Sun Yat-sen University and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The PhD training camps aim

to train doctoral students to improve their research skills and capability. This year's training camp will be following the IACTS Conference. About 140 participants have registered.

- Journal report will be provided by Dr Honggen Xiao and JCTR Special issues will be updated by guest editors.
- Two issues of IACTS newsletter have been publicised. Sam Huang has been volunteering his work as the newsletter editor.

Bylaws Amendment

The proposal to amend the bylaws was moved by Sam Huang and seconded by Xiaobo Su, and Ning Wang. The amendment will need to be approved by all fellows through voting. The Secretariat will send follow-up emails for voting.

David Weaver suggested to add the word “normally” into the revised clause, so that it will read as “A member will normally lose membership after failing to attend three (3) consecutive IACTS biennial conferences.” This suggestion was endorsed by Fellows at the meeting.

Election of New Board:

According to the amended bylaws, two of the existing board members will not continue their board directorship. Therefore, there is a need to add at least two new members to the Board. The president asked whether the existing board members would like to serve for another terms. All four board members (H. Song, J. Bao, G. Li, S. Huang) present at the meeting expressed they are willing to continue their service.

Wolfgang Alrt and Xiaobo Su were nominated by Jigang Bao to be new board members. It was discussed that a female board member should be considered. Fang Meng was nominated to be on the Board. New board members will be confirmed and announced by email.

Next Conference Venue

This issue is put on hold. Jigang Bao said Yangshuo could always be the venue. If some other places can get government support, we can consider to get a different venue. In principle, fellows should cover international travel and accommodation costs themselves.

Fang Meng suggested conference time should be before mid August so that fellows from North America can make time to attend.

Fellowship Nomination

Haiyan Song reiterated the criteria for nominating new fellows: nominees should be active researchers who have published on topics in relation to China tourism and normally hold an academic position of associate professor or above. The last round nomination committee was led by Gang Li. Haiyan Song suggested the same committee (Gang Li, Honggang Xu, Huimin Gu) work for the next round fellows nomination.

Xiaobo Su asked whether there is an English language proficiency requirement for new fellows. Follows discussed and agreed that fellows should have the ability to speak some English.

Outstanding Young Scholars (OYS) nomination

Sam Huang volunteered to form a work group with Jigang Bao and Jingjing Yang and the work group will work on the criteria of nominating OYS and update the progress to the Board.

IACTS Journal report

Honggen Xiao had a stand-up presentation with the journal's development and updates. Current JCTR Features include full research articles with a china focus; case studies, short communications and book reviews. JCTR has 7 ongoing special Issues. A WeChat public account was proposed by some fellows.

A journal summary was tabled.

Haiyan Song: Honggen will lead the journal to a SSCI journal. Sam Huang: authors in China could be encouraged through collaboration with IACTS fellows and publish their work in JCTR. Gang Li: Special issues could be a strategy. David Weaver: making searchable

database on the website. Honggen Xiao: review papers may increase impact but also self citations.

JCTR Special Issues

Sam Huang briefed on the special issue progress.

IACS-MCSTO China Tourism Scholarship

Jigang Bao briefed on the financial Issues in relation to IACS; the following expenditures were contributed by Sun Yat-sen University:

- 2016: 1st IACS Biennial Conference by Sun Yat-sen University: RMB 31,800 Yuan;
 - 2016: 2 China Tourism PhD Scholarships in the last round: RMB 30,000 Yuan (RMB 15,000 Yuan each)
 - 2016: Printing and manufacturing of fellows certificates and plates: RMB 4,026 Yuan
 - 2018: The current round China Tourism PhD scholarships: RMB 45,000 Yuan (3 scholarships; RMB 15,000 RMB each)
 - 2018: Printing and manufacturing of fellows certificates and plates: RMB 1,647 Yuan
 - 2018: 2nd IACS Biennial Conference: RMB 11,405 Yuan
- Total: RMB 123,878 Yuan

Haiyan Song commented, according to the IACS bylaws, Fellows need to pay a membership fee to be a member of IACS, but Prof Jigang Bao suggested that the UNWTO Observatory can cover the membership fees with its operating budget.

Other businesses:

Xiaobo Su suggested to have a Best Student Paper Award provided by IACTS and published in the Journal.

Haiyan Song: good suggestion.

Jingjing Yang: IACTS may also consider providing training to Deans and Heads of Schools in the field. Jingjing observed some research ethics issues with some heads of tourism schools in China. Prof Song and Prof Bao are in the best position to do this type of training.

Haiyan Song concurred on the ethics issues: as an editor, I observed some cases that published articles had to be retracted due to plagiarism.

Chairman
Haiyan Song

Fellow Meeting Secretary
Sam Huang