



International Association for China Tourism Studies
中国旅游研究国际联合会

2023 IACTS Conference

Business Meeting Minutes

Time: 16:00pm-17:50pm, 12 August 2023; GMT+8

Venue: Oness Hotel, Yuanyang

Attendees: (19 in total)

Jigang Bao
Ganghua Chen
Christina G. Chi
Guoqing Du
Sam Huang
Xin Jin
Mimi Li
Robert Li
Zhiyong Li
Qiuju Luo
Li Miao
Bing Pan
Noel Scott
Xiaobo Su
Maoying Wu
Honggen Xiao
Cathy Hsu
Chaozhi Zhang
Jie Zhang

Welcome and President's Report

Prof Jigang Bao as the President of IACTS, opened the meeting and thanked all members for visiting his hometown.

Prof Bao delivered a short oral report:

- Due to the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, many planned activities had to be cancelled. IACTS planned its biennial conference in 2022 but unfortunately had to postpone it until this year because of the COVID-19 situations and restrictions in 2022.
- IACTS completed its fourth-round nomination of fellows since its establishment in 2015. The following 7 people were nominated and passed the voting requirements to be new fellows:
Yang Yang, Temple University

Hui Li, Nankai University
Xin Jin, Griffith University
Kevin So, Oklahoma State University
Qiuju Luo, Sun Yat-sen University
Zhiyong Li, Sichuan University
Mimi Li, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Currently, there are 42 fellows and 3 Outstanding Young Scholars (OYS).

- Prof Huang, Prof. Bao and A/Prof Xin Jin completed the JCTR special issue “Tourism recovery under COVID-19: Experiences from China”
- Visits between IACTS fellows: 2022: Prof Bao visited Prof Miao in Macau; 2023: Profs Song and Hsu visited Prof Huang while attending the CAUTHE Conference in Perth; Prof Bao visited A/Prof Xin Jin and Prof Huang.
- The following fellows supported the 2023 PhD student training camp by delivering workshops and lectures: Prof Haiyan Song, Prof Li Miao, Prof Robert Li, A/Prof Xin Jin, Prof Jigang Bao, Prof. Honggang Xu, Prof. Chaozhi Zhang, Prof. Qiuju Luo.
- Prof Jigang Bao was awarded the UNWTO Ulysses Prize for Excellency

Bylaws Amendment

Prof Sam Huang read out the amended part in the bylaws. Members were asked for comments and then for a voting by raising their hands. All members present at the meeting voted for the amendment and the bylaws amendment was passed.

According to the amendment of the bylaws, Prof Haiyan Song is currently the Chair of the Board of Directors.

New Fellows Nomination

There is still a need to further the nomination of fellows and expand the IACTS membership. Some members asked for a clear operational procedure (including specific criteria) for nominating IACTS fellows. After discussion, it was agreed that IACTS will continue its new fellows nomination after the conference and Prof Gang Li and the membership nomination committee will develop a fellows nomination operational procedure with specific criteria. After member consultation, the operational procedure will be used in the next round of fellows nomination.

2023 OYS Nomination

Prof Sam Huang provided explanations on the 2023 OYU nomination: An OYS Nomination Criteria and Procedures policy document was developed and distributed to IACTS members for nomination. Four cases of nomination were received. 21 members voted (out of 42 current fellows). Two issues arose in the process of voting: 1) It was found that two candidates were awarded the PhD 10 years ago, while the OYS Nomination Criteria and Procedures policy document states “An OYS in IACTS should be an outstanding researcher in his/her early to middle career stage (5-8 years after PhD conferment)”; 2) The valid votes remained relative low (however, there was not statement in the policy document how many valid votes should be received from existing fellows).

After discussion, it was agreed that for the eligibility criterion mentioned above (point 1), flexibility should be given in terms of how many years after the candidate’s PhD conferment

should be applied. The relevant clause was therefore revised as “An OYS in IACTS should be an outstanding researcher in his/her early to middle career stage (**usually** 5-8 years after PhD conferment)”.

It was decided that 50% of the current fellows should submit their votes for determining the result OYS nomination. Candidates must obtain no less than two-thirds of the “Agree” voting counts over all valid voting counts in order to be considered as eligible for formal selection.

Accordingly, the relevant part of the nomination procedure was revised as follows: “Candidates must obtain no less than two-thirds of the “Agree” voting counts over all valid voting counts in order to be considered as eligible for formal selection. **At least 50% of the current fellows should submit their votes.**”

IACTS Journal Report

Prof Honggen Xiao presented an updated report for the Journal of China Tourism Research (JCTR). He also encouraged IACTS members to submit their research papers to JCTR and cite JCTR in their research and teaching.

Election of New Board of Directors (BoD)

According to the amended bylaws, Prof Haiyan Song has become the Chair of the Board of Directors (BoD). Prior communications with the BoD members who could attend the 2023 IACTS conference showed that while Prof Gang Li and Prof Fang Meng would continue to serve on the BoD, Prof Brian King decided to step down from the BoD. For the vacancy on the BoD, Prof Jie Zhang was nominated and voted to be a new member of the BoD.

The new BoD members elected at the 2023 IACTS conference are:

Prof Haiyan Song (Founding President, Chair of the BoD)
Prof Jigang Bao (President)
Prof Sam Huang (1st Vice President-Conferences)
Prof Gang Li (2nd Vice President - Membership)
Prof Xiaobo Su (Treasurer)
Prof Fang Meng
Prof Jie Zhang

Next Conference

Expressions of interest for hosting future conferences were sought among the attendees. Prof Sam Huang conveyed Prof Haiyan Song’s interest of hosting the IACTS conference in 2025. Prof Zhiyong Li expressed the interest in hosting the IACTS Conference in 2027. These expressions of interest for hosting future conferences were noted in the meeting.

Other Businesses

Members expressed their appreciation to the Gejiu/Yuanyang government for hosting this conference and sincerely wish they can repay back. Prof Xiaobo Su proposed to set up a IACTS fund to contribute to the local development of the two hosting places. IACTS

members are encouraged to make donations to the IACTS fund at an amount of RMB 100-1,000 yuan. The fund could be used to donate to the Kafang Central Primary School (where Prof Bao used to be a student) and the Azheke village's library construction.

Encl.

1. Amended IACTS bylaws
2. Amended OYS nomination criteria and procedures