



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

2025 IACTS Conference

Business Meeting Minutes

Time: 1st meeting: 17:30pm-18:35pm, 05 August 2025; 2nd meeting: 8:30am-9:00am, 07 August, 2025; GMT+8
Venue: THB 104-105, B1/F, SHTM, Hong Kong

Attendees (alphabetic order by family name) (at first meeting)

Wolfgang Arlt
Billy Bai
Jigang Bao
Ganghua Chen
Mingming Cheng
Cristina Chi
Qingming Cui
Dogan Gursoy
Cathy Hsu
Sam Huang
Xin Jin
Chunxiao Li
Gang Li
Hui Li
Mimi Li
Robert Li
Qiuju Luo
Fang Meng
Li Miao
Bing Pan
Noel Scott
Kevin So
Haiyang Song
Dan Wang
Chenguang Wu
Honggen Xiao
Honggang Xu
Jingjing Yang
Chaozhi Zhang
Xiaoyue (Carol) Zhang

Welcome and brief introduction of IACTS

Prof. Sam Huang chaired the meeting and delivered a brief introduction of the IACTS:

- IACTS was founded in 2015 by 7 co-founding fellows in China, Hong Kong, Australia, UK, and US.
- After IACTS was founded in 2015, there were 5 rounds of fellow nominations and 3 rounds of OYS nominations.
- Following the IACTS bylaws, IACTS should hold membership conferences/meetings every 2 years. Until now, IACTS has held 5 biennial conferences in 2016 (Yangshuo), 2018 (Jiangmen), 2020 (online due to COVID), 2023 (Gejiu/Yuanyang), and 2025 (Hong Kong)
- By August 2025, IACTS has 49 fellows (including 3 fellows who gained their fellow status after being an OYS for 5 years), and 6 current OYS.

Fellows and OYS Nomination in 2025

Prof Gang Li reported on the fellow nomination and OYS nomination in 2025. After member voting, four nominees passed the nomination process and became new fellows in 2025; they are:

- Prof Dan Wang, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Prof Han Shen, Fudan University
- Prof Dogan Gursoy, Washington State University
- Prof Feifei Xu, Southeast University

The following three OYS nominees passed the nomination process and became new OYS in 2025:

- A/Prof Xiaoyue (Carol) Zhang
- A/Prof Jianwu Bi
- Prof Sai Liang

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.

Members' comments:

- Prof Jigang Bao: each IACTS member should consider submitting two manuscripts to the journal every year
- Prof Dogan Gursoy: IACTS members can submit opinion piece articles to the journal; conference panel discussions can be recorded and turned into articles to be published in JCTR.

Discussion on the conference attendance requirement in maintaining IACTS membership

According to the bylaws, members who fail to attend three consecutive IACTS biennial conferences will normally lose their membership. Following this rule, 5 fellows would have lost their membership. This issue was discussed in both the first and second business meetings at the 2025 IACTS conference. Extensive discussions were conducted and members provided comments on the issue in the meetings. Prof Robert Li commented that a more considerate approach should be considered and those fellows who could not attend IACTS conferences may be offered an “emeritus” or “senior” membership.

After members’ discussion, it was proposed and confirmed that IACTS members who are over 65 years old, or officially retired, can apply for a Senior Membership to the Membership Committee, and upon approval, can be exempted from attending IACTS conferences in maintaining their membership.

New Board of Directors (BoD) members

Following the bylaws, a new BoD needs to be elected. Prior communications with Prof Xiaobo Su and Prof Jie Zhang confirmed their willingness to serve on the BoD for another term. Prof Mimi Li was proposed to be the new head of the Secretariat and a new BoD member. The meeting confirmed the following new BoD for the term of 2025-2027.

Prof Haiyan Song (Founding President)
Prof Jigang Bao (Past President and Chair of the Board)
Prof Sam Huang (President)
Prof Gang Li (1st Vice President - Membership)
Prof Xiaobo Su (Treasurer)
Prof Fang Meng
Prof Jie Zhang
Prof Mimi Li (Head of the Secretariat)

Next Conference

Prof Jigang Bao announced that the next IACTS conference will be held in Altay, Xinjiang.

Other Businesses

In the two business meetings, members also discussed the following issues:

- Prof Mingming Cheng asked whether there is an official website for IACTS. Prof Haiyan Song responded that SHTM can host the IACTS website if needed.
- Prof Mingming Cheng suggested IACTS can organize webinars to have members exchange their experiences in topics like how to be a good editor.
- Prof Haiyan Song proposed IACTS should have its regular newsletters to report members’ achievements and related news.
- Prof Haiyan Song suggested that IACTS may co-organize open conferences with partner universities to expand its outreach and impact. JCTR can also sponsor conferences to attract submissions.