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**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Correspondent Member Governor
Board of Governors 2016-2017**



**Kate WHITEHEAD
Affiliation: Freelance**

I'm a freelance journalist and over the last three years have written for many international media outlets, including Acumen, BBC Travel, CNN, Forbes, Publishing Perspectives, Time, Travel & Leisure and Women's Wear Daily. I also write for local publications, chiefly the SCMP. I was raised in Hong Kong and have been a journalist here since 1994 on staff at the Hong Kong Standard and the South China Morning Post and then as editor of Cathay Pacific's inflight magazine Discovery.

For more than two decades the club has been a home-from-home and now as a freelance journalist I value it more than ever. It's so much more than a place to meet friends. It's where I conduct many of my interviews. And as a freelance journalist it's an absolute rock. I am acutely aware of how vulnerable journalists can be, especially when they don't have the support of a big organisation. The FCC is a major media centre in Hong Kong for exchanging views and facilitating better journalism. I am committed to fighting for the rights of journalists and upholding the freedom of speech, which is now more important in Hong Kong than ever.

I am keen to be more involved in helping the club develop. As a board member I hope to play a role in putting the club back on a sound financial footing. I have always enjoyed the club lunches and dinners and would like to contribute to the professional committee by suggesting and helping facilitate speakers and generating ideas for club events. I would also support the move to improve the club's facilities, particularly the Main Dining Room which is a fantastic but underused space.

Bio :

Kate Whitehead is a freelance journalist and covers many topics, notably arts and culture, profiles and travel. She is based in Hong Kong and over the last three years has also reported from North Korea, Myanmar, China and South America. She is the author of two non-fiction crime books - *After Suzie: Sex in South China* and *Hong Kong Murders*.