# Society of Sinophone Studies Introductory Guide

#### **Mission Statement**

The Society of Sinophone Studies (3S) is an international, nonprofit scholarly society, established as a California Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation on September 20, 2019. Our principal mission is to promote the study of Sinitic-language communities and cultures around the world. Through fostering communication across the humanities and social sciences, we encourage the development of new conceptual frameworks and methods that enable, on the one hand, the visibility of marginalized subjects and, on the other, synergy with fields as diverse as (but not limited to) postcolonial studies, migration studies, ethnic studies, media studies, gender & queer studies, science studies, indigenous studies, and area studies. Membership in 3S is open to anyone with an interest in Sinophone studies and any regional, disciplinary, or topical expertise.

## **Currently Planned Activities**

- Organizing an annual Sinophone studies conference.
- Maintaining an official website.
- Disseminating a newsletter at regular intervals with information relevant to the interests of the membership, including conferences and symposia, research opportunities, archives, and grants.

#### **Other Activities Under Consideration**

- Conferring an annual award for best book and/or article in Sinophone studies.
- Establishing a system of mentorship to support new scholars.
- Establishing a system to workshop papers.
- Gathering and disseminating relevant syllabi and course materials.

#### Membership

- Membership in 3S is open to any individual with an interest in Sinophone studies. An individual may become a member of 3S by contacting the Secretary at the email address below with a statement of research interest and expressing a desire to be a member.
- Currently no dues are required for membership. The Board may elect to collect dues from members in the future depending on financial need.
- Continuing membership may be subject to requirements.
- The Society will not share members' contact information with any external agencies. However, the Society reserves the right to post the membership list, including the names and affiliation of all members, on the 3S website.

## **Governing Board**

3S is governed by a Governing Board of six directors, with each director serving as one of the following officers: a President, a Vice President, a President Emeritus, a Secretary-Treasurer, a Program Director, and a Communications Director.

- The President, Vice President and President Emeritus each serves a one-year term. Following the end of his/her term, the Vice President automatically succeeds to the position of President, and the President automatically succeeds to the position of President Emeritus.
- The Secretary-Treasurer, Program Director, and Communications Director are elected by the membership to a three-year term. The Vice President is elected annually.
- The initial Governing Board, composed of the founders of 3S, is as follows:

President:	Howard Chiang (UC Davis)
Vice President:	E.K. Tan
Treasurer-Secretary:	Rebecca Ehrenwirth
Communications Director:	Lily Wong
Program Director	Brian Bernards (USC)

# Officers

- The President acts as the Chair of the Governing Board and provides executive leadership for all the activities of the Society.
- The Vice President acts as Vice Chair of the Governing Board and, in the absence of the Chair, presides at Board meetings and has the powers and duties of Chair. The Vice President assists the President to provide executive leadership in the activities of the Society.
- The President Emeritus serves as a resource to the President regarding the activities of the Society.
- The Secretary-Treasurer is responsible for maintaining 3S corporate and financial records.
- The Program Director is responsible for assisting with the organization and execution of events, such as the annual conference.
- The Communications Director is responsible for setting up and maintaining the 3S website, Facebook page, and other social media presence.

# **Board Election and Voting**

- Any member of 3S is eligible to vote in elections of Board members. Elections of Board members and voting on other proposals will be conducted by what the Board deems to be the most expedient and fairest means, either in person at the annual conferences (with proxy votes allowed), or via email or online, in accordance with the 3S bylaws.
- A list of candidates for the Board as well as any proposals that require a vote of the membership (e.g., an amendment to the bylaws) will be distributed to members sufficiently in advance of any vote.
- Candidates, who must be members of 3S, may nominate themselves or be nominated by other members so long as they agree to stand for election.
- In principle, individuals may not serve on the Board in the same capacity for more than two consecutive terms. If no current 3S members wish to fill a Board position, however, the current member may run for the position and serve again.

• In principle, efforts should be made to ensure the Board represents the diversity of the membership in terms of discipline, gender, ethnicity, research interests, and affiliation.

#### **Contact Information**

For membership requests: rebecca.ehrenwirth@gmail.com For general questions: hhchiang@ucdavis.edu

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