

# ASSOCIATION FOR CHINESE COMMUNICATION STUDIES



# ACCS Newsletter

SPRING 2020

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# President's Statement

*Chiaoning Su*  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Communication,*  
*Journalism, and Public Relations*  
*Oakland University*

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Dear ACCS members,

2020 has been an unusual year, not least because of COVID-19. I do not think any of us could have envisioned the events of these past months when we parted our ways after last NCA. Days have been filled with too many online meetings and too little in-person interaction. Rising socio-political tensions in both local and international contexts brought even more uncertainties into our lives. Yet, often it is in the face of such difficulties that the best of humanity and scholarship emerges—new scholarly inquiries await and call for hybrid methods and critical perspectives.

In 2018, at the start of my presidency, I shouldered the responsibility to transform ACCS from an affiliation to an



official division of NCA. Although the attempt was unsuccessful, it was a worthy undertaking that not only solidified our members but also forged new collaborations with external partners. Our experience was well reflected in last year's "Surviving Academia as 'Others': The Past, Present and Future of the Association of Chinese Communication Studies" panel in which eight past and present ACCS presidents discussed the history and

## President's Statement ...

the future trajectory of our association. Some of their words are collected in this issue to provide a reflection as well as a glimpse into the future as ACCS turns thirty years old.

As my term comes to a close, I confidently pass the baton to Dr. Patrick Shaou-Whea Dodge to lead our organization during this challenging time. With his expertise in rhetorical studies and his connections in both the US and China, Dr. Dodge will play an essential role to ensure our voices are heard and our missions accomplished. Accompanying him to serve in this new term are: Dr. Julie Lin Zhu (vice president), Dr. Xiaowen Xu (secretary and treasurer), Mr. Andrew Gilmore (newsletter editor), Dr. Hsin-I Cheng (research committee chair), Dr. Zhi Li (external affairs committee chair), and Ms. Lingyan Ma (student committee chair).

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our officers for their dedication and contributions to our organization over the past year. Thank you to the full team, including: Vice President, Dr. Patrick Dodge (University of Colorado, Denver); Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. Yi

Jasmine Wang (University of Louisville); Newsletter Editor, Dr. Shaohai Jiang (National University of Singapore), Research Committee Chair, Dr. Lin Zhu (University of Massachusetts, Boston), External Affairs Committee Chair, Dr. Qinghua Yang (Texas Christian University), Student Affairs Committee Chair, Ms. Chen Zeng (Temple University); NCA Program Planner, Dr. Meina Liu (George Washington University), and Webmaster, Dr. Rya Butterfield (Nicholls State University).

As this pandemic continues, it is possible that NCA will become an online convention this year. However, we will strive to make virtual gathering as meaningful as in-person ones. Please make sure to check the program and the messages from us to schedule your NCA appearances.

I wish you a restful and productive summer!

Best regards,



# A Dialogue among Presidents

## The Past, Present, and Future of ACCS

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Founded in 1991, the ACCS is a nonprofit professional and academic organization registered and headquartered in the United States. Since then, it has been an affiliate of the NCA, aiming to promote, enhance, and facilitate Chinese communication studies concerning mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao, and Chinese expatriate communities. Nearing its 30th anniversary, the organization is looking to benefit from a critical reflection on its past, present and future trajectory. This 2019 NCA panel invited past and present ACCS Presidents to share their memories about the origin, development, and transformation of this scholarly community and their visions for its future.

### Panel Participants



Dr. Mei Zhong  
2001-2002



Dr. Todd Sandel  
2006-2007



Dr. Qi Wang  
2013-2014



Dr. Hairong Feng  
2014-2015



Dr. Rya Butterfield  
2015-2016



Dr. Meina Liu  
2016-2018



Dr. Chiaoning Su  
2018-2020



Dr. Patrick Dodge  
2020-2022

Before becoming the president, I had served as chair of the Nomination Committee, newsletter editor, secretary, and vice president. These opportunities allowed me to learn about ACCS well. I also worked with Xiao Xiaosui and developed the ACCS logo.

During my presidency, ACCS had 59 members and many interested visitors. We maintained the Yahoo and Facebook accounts and started Twitter.

The biggest event that happened in my presidency was the registration of ACCS as a formally independent, non-profit organization. Every five years, ACCS needs to renew its status with NCA. The renewal happened in my term. We had a big discussion about whether we want to continue to be an affiliate or start applying for a status change to a caucus or a division.

As we finally decided to keep our affiliate status, NCA informed me that ACCS had never been a formally registered, legally incorporated organization. They couldn't continue their relationship with us unless we were an independent incorporation.

When I received the news in the summer of 2014, I was leading a China program in Shanghai. Immediately I called Joyce Chen, who was a past president and website master. Together we completed the process of registering ACCS as an independent, non-profit organization in Iowa, Article of Incorporation, under 504.202 regulation. The effective date was November 5, 2014.

### **Dr. Qi Wang**

Associate Professor  
Villanova University  
ACCS President from  
2013-2014



During 2014-2015 academic year, ACCS affiliate renewal was granted by NCA in late 2014, which enabled ACCS to have another five-year affiliate status with NCA from January 1st, 2015 to December 31st, 2019. During this process, Drs. Qi Wang and Joyce Chen had spent a great deal of time. Joyce Chen worked tirelessly to register ACCS as a legal non-profit organization as a necessary step of this renewal. With ACCS affiliate renewal granted by NCA, ACCS started to discuss about applying for a Chinese Communication Caucus/Division within NCA.

Another major business during this term was reaching out. China Association for Intercultural Communication (CAFIC) held its annual conference in Hong Kong in July 2015. ACCS proposed a panel by then Research Committee Chair, Dr. Bo Feng. ACCS members presented papers and made presence in this conference. ACCS had continued its past tradition of collaboration with other associations and institutions. ACCS members had continuously made presence at CAFIC, IAICS which generated collaborations at different levels. All these had increased the visibility of ACCS across East Asian countries such as China, Japan, South Korea, and Singapore.



**Dr. Hairong Feng**

Professor

University of Minnesota Duluth  
ACCS President from 2014-2015

I am not of Chinese heritage. Early on, I was concerned that I would feel like an outsider among Chinese China studies scholars. Happily, I have not. Chinese China studies scholars have always allowed my research to speak for itself. Rather, I have felt the personal sense of “otherness” from Communication scholars who are unfamiliar with China Studies but have a desire to hire or partner with someone who is. As anecdotal as my experience may be, I have gotten the distinct impression that in situations like these, other Communication scholars presume a China Studies scholar who is Chinese to be more competent than one who is not, before scholarship is even considered. It is easy to see why this happens. It is an issue that crosses paths with many other very real and important concerns. Likewise, I do not think this presumption is ever made with malicious intent. Yet, as scholars concerned with advancing scholarship, we need to be aware of how detrimental these presumptions can be.

Over the past couple years, as we considered the future of ACCS, I became concerned that I might be facing “otherness” of still another kind. We had three options on the table: remain an association, change to a division, or change to a caucus. The NCA website defines a “caucus” as a group developed to “represent the interests of a specific demographic or socially defined segment of the NCA membership.” The ACCS mission, on the other hand, is “to promote teaching excellence and research prosperity, enhance academic exchange, facilitate career development of young scholars and graduate students, and build a sense of community among global scholars in the field of Chinese Communication Studies.” In other words, a caucus is concerned with advancing the interests of a group. Our association is concerned with advancing the concerns of a field. It is ethnically inclusive and actively cross-cultural. I am proud that we upheld our mission and thankful for the way I have been embraced by the ACCS family over the past eleven years.



**Dr. Rya Butterfield**

Associate Professor

Nicholls State University

ACCS President from 2015–2016



**Dr. Patrick Shaou-Whea  
Dodge**

Associate Professor  
University of Colorado  
Denver  
International College  
Beijing  
ACCS President from  
2020-2022

In 2018 we formed a committee that created a proposal for the establishment of a Chinese Communication Studies Division (CCSD) of the NCA. Along with the application, we secured the signatures needed on the NCA petition w/200+ NCA member signatures and over 400 total signatures. Chiaoning and I represented our efforts on the floor of the Legislative Assembly in Salt Lake City in November 2018. Unfortunately, we were not able to carry the vote.

Despite not being able to carry the vote, we received lots of support and suggestions from past ACCS leaders on the following issues:

1. Identity: discussing who we were, who we are, and who we are becoming as an Association.
2. Community: ACCS was and continues to be an establish academic home for many. It is the connections, the network for Chinese scholars and allies, for graduate students, and for young scholars.
3. Future: recently we turned to expanding our collaborations, looking for growth, and reaching out to collaborate with others. We have worked to increase our visibility as an Association.

My sense after the discussion was that there was support for the ACCS remaining an Association (and not necessarily wanting to become an NCA Division). Our status as an Association enables us the continued potential for growth, expansion, collaboration, etc.

## NCA 2019 AWARDS

### TOP PAPERS

#### Zinzin Jiang & Alberto Gonzalez

for Rhetoric and Zhenming: Promoting Nationalism in The Voice of China



#### Zhiquiu Zhou

for Beyond Tongzhi and Sexual Identities' Instability in China



#### Yang Liu & Stephen Croucher

for Perceived Other-Identity and Sense of Not-Belonging-Here: Americans' Interpretation of Intercultural Experiences in Mainland China



#### Lichen Zhen

for Switching Power of the Rising Chinese Private Media Companies: A Case Study of Dalian Wanda Group



#### Ji Pan

for Temporality Alignment by Spatial Practice: How WeChat Fabu transforms Government Communication in Chinese Cities



## NCA 2019 AWARDS ...

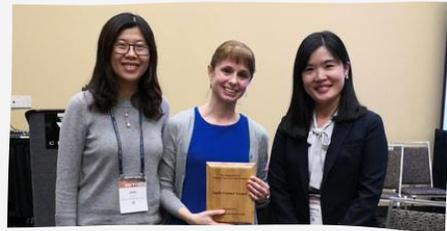
### OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD

Chuanli Xia



### EARLY CAREER AWARD

Michelle Murray Yang



### XIAO AWARD OF OUTSTANDING RHETORICAL RESEARCH

Stephen J. Hartnett

Patrick Shaou-Whea Dodge

Lisa B. Keränen



## NCA 2019 ANNUAL DINNER



# Achievements

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## *Publications and Conference Presentations*

**Dodge, P. S-W.** (Ed.). (2020). *Communication Convergence in Contemporary China: International Perspectives on Politics, Platforms, and Participation*. Michigan State University Press.

<https://msupress.org/9781628954111/communication-convergence-in-contemporary-china/>

Lin, C. A., **Xu, X.**, Dam, L. (2020). Information Source Dependence, Presumed Media Influence, Risk Knowledge and Vaccination Intention. *Atlantic Journal of Communication*. Published online.

**Xu, X.** & Lin, C. A. (May 2020). Exploring the Effects of Technology Fluidity and Flow of Newsfeed Advertising. Paper presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA). Gold Coast, Australia (Virtual conference due to COVID-19 pandemic).

**Zhou, Zhiqiu Benson.** "(Un)Naturality and Chinese Queer Masculinities on Ailaibulai," *Feminist Media Studies*. 20, no.4 (2020): 565-581.

## *Awards and Fellowships*

**Zhou, Zhiqiu Benson.** Loren Frankel Memorial Scholarship from American Men's Studies Association; Honorable Mention for the Kenneth W. Payne Prize from American Anthropological Association; Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship





# New Jobs and Promotions

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**Dr. Xiaowen Xu** will be an assistant professor at the Department of Strategic Communication of Butler University in Fall 2020.

**Dr. Zhou, Zhiqiu Benson** will be a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for the Study of Contemporary China starting fall 2020.

**Dr. Shuo Yao** is promoted to full professor at School of Communication, Radford University.

# Call for Papers

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The International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare has issued a call for papers on "human rights in healthcare during COVID-19 and other pandemics."

Details can be found through:

<https://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/journal/ijhrh/human-rights-healthcare-during-covid-19-and-other-pandemics>.

A new series from MSU Press, "U.S.-China Relations in the Age of Globalization," is calling authors working on "the best, cutting-edge work tackling the many opportunities and dilemmas of relations between the United States and China in the age of globalization." For enquiries about the series, or to discuss a possible submission, please contact the series editor: Stephen J. Hartnett, [stephen.hartnett@ucdenver.edu](mailto:stephen.hartnett@ucdenver.edu), (+1) 303-315-1914.

# 2018-2020 Officers

President	Dr. Chiaoning Su	Oakland University
Vice President	Dr. Patrick Shaou-Whea Dodge	University of Colorado Denver
Secretary/Treasury	Dr. Yi Jasmine Wang	University of Louisville
Newsletter Editor	Dr. Shaohai Jiang	National University of Singapore
NCA Program Planner	Dr. Meina Liu	George Washington University
Research Committee Chair	Dr. Julie Lin Zhu	University of Massachusetts, Boston
External Affairs Committee Chair	Dr. Qinghua Yang	Texas Christian University
Student Committee Chair	Chen Zeng	Temple University
Webmaster	Dr. Rya Butterfield	Nicholls State University
Founding President	Dr. Guo-Ming Chen	University of Rhode Island

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Contact the editor: Dr. Shaohai Jiang, National University of Singapore

If you have items to submit for our next newsletter, please email your information to [cnmjs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:cnmjs@nus.edu.sg).

Our website:

<http://www.chinesecommunicationstudies.com/>

