President’s Report

Fall 2018

In the spring 2017 issue of our newsletter, I proposed to develop ACCCJ into an organization that affectionately serves our members, actively collaborates with other groups and organizations, strategically makes necessary changes, and continuously and judiciously achieves our missions and goals. Over the past two years, ACCCJ has grown steadily with an increasing influence on and contribution to the development of Chinese criminology and criminal justice around the world. Some statistics signal that we are moving in the right direction.

Our number of members has increased more than 50%, expanding from 65 in the spring 2017 to over 100 in November, 2018. Our 100th member and also a life-time member is Dr. Min Shi, who received her doctoral degree in sociology from Xiamen University and currently works at Shenzhen, China. It should be noted that nearly 30% of our members hold a life-time membership. Young faculty who are not our permanent members should seriously consider upgrading your membership category.

We are also in sound financial condition. Our cash reserve has risen more than double over the past two years. A stable increase in membership income has brought adequate resources that enabled us to upgrade and maintain our website, pay for our student paper contest awards, and subsided our annual dinner gathering.

The number of submissions for our student paper contest has increased several times over the few years. Congratulations to Tobias Smith of Berkeley who is the recipient of this year’s Jiang-Land-Wang Outstanding Student Paper Award. Thanks for committee members (Shanhe Jiang, Bin Liang, Jianhua Xu, and Yue Zhuo), who read, ranked and provided comments on all papers.

This past summer also witnessed another highly successful ACCCJ delegation to Chinese societies. We visited six universities in five cities, including Peking University and People’s Public Security University of China in Beijing, East China University of Political Science and Law in Shanghai, National Chung Cheng University in Jiayi, Central Police University in Taoyuan, and National Taipei University in Sanxia. In Taiwan, we also visited a prominent law enforcement agency, Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau. We had not only our first official trip to universities in Taiwan but also a record-breaking number of participants with more than 20 members participated in one or more sites.

Looking forward, what should we do to ensure a health development of ACCCJ? Two broad areas come to mind. First, two years ago when Chris Eskridge, ASC’s executive director, attended our board meeting, he mentioned the idea of developing ACCCJ into an ASC’s division. Back then, all board members agreed that it would be a long shot. But now, I personally feel it's an issue that deserves our greater attention and discussion. Second, we ought to upgrade the function our landmark event, summer delegation to Chinese societies, by discussing and pursuing more in-depth collaboration with Chinese universities that extends beyond conferences or talks. Summer training seminars/programs and collaborative scholarly projects (e.g., edited books or special journal issues) are some examples of expanding the function of our delegation to events that carry greater impact to the long-term growth of criminology in China.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve you. Thanks for board directors who have furnished great assistance to me and excellent service to all members over the past two years: Bill Hebenton, Bin Liang, Siyu Liu, Fei Luo, Jianhua Xu, Shi Yan, Sara Zhong and Yue Zhuo. I have been a board member, president-elect, and president for a total of 7 out of the 8 years of ACCCJ’s history. It’s definitely time for me to pass the baton to our next board of directors. Under the leadership of Bill Hebenton, I am quite confident that ACCCJ will continue to flourish and be successful.

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