

曾尚儀 Beatrice Tseng

2025 SCCCA ELECTED DIRECTOR CANDIDACY STATEMENT



1. Why are you interested in serving as a board director and what goals do you want to see accomplished within your term as a board director?

I would like to support SCCCA's mission in promoting the learning of Chinese language and culture and further enhance its visibility in the community. As a foreign language educator, I can assist with accreditation, curriculum and teaching methodologies for the Irvine Chinese School and the Chinese Immersion School. Additionally, I wish to continue strengthening SCCCA's relationship with the Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF) and the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD).

2. What is your background and experience? Have you served as a committee member and/or board director for any association or non-profit organization? If yes, please elaborate on this experience.

I was born in Taiwan but left at the age of four. I grew up in Brazil, Colombia and Panama (for a combined 14 years) and came to the USA in 1984 to study at UCLA, where I obtained my BA and MA in Spanish and Portuguese Literature. I've been teaching Spanish at Irvine Valley College since 1991, serving in various capacities such as Chair of the World Languages Department and past member of the Online Education Task Force, Honors Program Advisory Committee, Academic Affairs, and others.

I'm the co-author of the "Instructors' Resource Kit" that accompanies the college level Spanish textbook *Dos mundos* and have presented numerous workshops on the natural approach in language teaching, the usage of technology in the foreign language classroom, and teaching Spanish online.

In 2004, I was named "IVC Teacher of the Year" by the OC Department of Education and also received a "Model Online Course" award from the California Virtual Campus. In 2011, I was the recipient of the "Most Inspiring Professor of the Year" award presented by IVC's Psi Beta Chapter, the National Honor Society in Psychology.

In addition to my dedication to my profession as an educator, I have been involved in the community with five organizations:

- **SCCCA/ICS:** served as SCCCA Board member twice 2012-13 and 2014-15 (I was secretary during my first term). Together with Yulan Chung and IPSF, we created and organized the PACE program (Program to Advance Culture and Education), a three-day summer seminar on Chinese History and Culture for Irvine teachers and staff (2013 to 2019).
- **Irvine Parent Teacher Association (PTA)** (elementary to high school, 2003-2019): served in many committees as chair and in executive board positions, including President, Vice-President, and Secretary at Northwood High School. Our goal is to support the school, the students and the staff.
- **Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF):** served as trustee (2011-2017), as the liaison between SCCCA and IPSF, and chaired IPSF Community Relations Committee for four years. IPSF main goal is to raise funds to support programs in music, arts and STEM for the 37 schools in Irvine.
- **Irvine Unified School District (IUSD):** served on the following committees: IUSD Educational Advisory Committee (2014-2019 representing Lauren Brooks), IUSD School Boundary Committee (2013-2014 and 2017-2018), and District English Learner Advisory Committee (2007-2010).
- **Assistens of Irvine:** My two daughters were involved with this charitable organization from 2010- 2019, assisting Irvine families in need. I supported their many philanthropies and served as grade advisor for two years.

For my involvement in schools and our community, I've been honored with the "Parent Volunteer of the Year" (2009) and the "Spirit of Community" (2014) awards, both bestowed by IPSF for contributing to educational excellence.

3. Have you served or are you presently serving on any Committee or Club in SCCCA?

My first involvement with SCCCA/ICS was in 1997-1999 when I registered as an adult student, taking Chinese on Sundays at University High School. Later, both of my daughters were students at ICS for more than 10 years. During that time, I served three times as Room Parent Leader and was a member of the PTO Board of Directors (2009 – 2010). In October of 2009, I was tapped to be the liaison between SCCCA and the Irvine Public Schools Foundation (IPSF), and in 2014, I was a member of the Meet the Candidates and the Bylaws Revision committees.

4. Have you obtained any recommendations from SCCCA Trustees and / or current Board Directors? If yes, please specify their names.

James Guo and Janie Tsao

5. Any other information you would like to provide.

I believe that my experiences in various capacities, as a student, as a parent, as an educator, and as a community leader have prepared me well to contribute to SCCCA. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.