



Candidate for Director (Associate Member) for the 2022 Election

Name: Mary Corbett

Title: Producer

Affiliation: Cresner Media

The success of FCCJ's next chapter rests with our resilience and preparedness to navigate through the many challenges and contingencies which continue to face us. Fingers crossed, we are about to settle down to a new era of 'with corona', which of course we hope will be little more than the proverbial 'cold', as many already describe it. Signs that FCCJ events and attendance are making a comeback, with private bookings increasing and members returning in baby steps to their former treasured routines at the club, give us hope that the club is on the start line of a new era, wiser for the important lessons learned and ready to map a successful course in rebuilding the club. I would very much like to contribute to that important process.

It seems just yesterday that I was writing my first campaign statement in the sunset days at Yurakucho. Back then, my fellow first time candidates and I thought due diligence and providing a transparent reporting line to members were the most significant areas of our club governance at a time of many unanswered questions as we transitioned to Marunouchi. I still believe these are critical priorities. A proactive and transparent Board with the support of an informed and engaged membership is the key to our future.

At a recent FCCJ function honouring the work of journalists who braved extraordinary risks to deliver truth, I was reminded once again of the significant role the club must continue to play in promoting press freedom, particularly in a region where catastrophic obstacles have been thrust on many journalists. At the same time, restrictions rendered by COVID on public gatherings, press conferences, and real time connections with all points across the globe, have increased and accelerated PAC's efforts to upgrade technical support and expertise, in spite of severe funding setbacks. That we are all aware of the collective mission we serve as members of the club will do much to galvanize these efforts.

With our new General Manager at the helm, a superb new Masukomi sushi service, and the hoped for bye bye to our old nemesis COVID, we have much reason to expect more quality time at the club this summer and be reminded of the membership value which FCCJ has always represented. I hope that I can contribute to the new phase, in particular to lend continuity and benefits of institutional memory, to map the way forward.

パンデミックの影のもと、感染防止策や活動自粛に戸惑いながら、FCCJ にとって苦しい2年半でした。しばらくは'ウィズコロナ'の日々が続きそうではありますが、やっと今後の復帰の波に期待をかけ、色々動き出そうとしている新たなスタートラインを感じとれる時が来たように思えます。丸の内への移転前に遡り抱えている未解決の課題に重ねて多くのイベント中止やサービスの縮小などのコロナ打撃をいち早く改善しなければならぬと思っています。

私は20年以上 Professional Associate メンバーであり、FCCJ に対し深い尊敬と感謝を感じてきました。継続性と制度的記憶にあたり、伝えて行きたいものも多くあります。このような時代であるからこそ、より報道の自由を守るべき活動も支えて行きたいと思えます。新たな GM を迎え、期待のマスコミ寿司もオープンし、明るいニュースが久々に入ってくるようになってきました。メンバーの期待に答え、愛され、サポートされるクラブの新たな成長期を応援できればと思い、再び立候補いたしました。どうぞよろしく願いいたします。