

GACL Constitution

(Revised September 2022)

Article 1. Purpose Statement

The Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics (**GACL**, 漢語語言學研究生聯合會) is a registered student organization with the goal of promoting the linguistic study of the Chinese language. Research interest covers the full range of Chinese linguistics — its norm and dialect variants, spoken and written forms, synchronic and diachronic aspects, and theoretical as well as applied linguistics and their pedagogical applications.

Article 2. Non-discrimination Statement

GACL and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis.

Article 3. Member Selection and Removal Process

All graduate students at The Ohio State University who are interested in Chinese linguistics, both theoretical and applied application for language teaching and research, are welcome to join this organization. To join GACL, one may contact any current GACL member or the advisor. Current GACL members may also invite new members. Undergraduate students who have a strong interest in Chinese linguistics may also join GACL. Undergraduate members, however, may not become GACL officers. GACL also welcomes alumni and graduate students on leave to join in non-officer membership roles. An individual will be considered for removal from the organization if s/he has conducted himself/herself in violation of The Ohio State University's code of student conduct.

Article 4. Meetings

Meetings are held irregularly, depending on the common interests of the current members. GACL holds, at the minimum, two meetings every quarter: one at the beginning of each quarter to discuss upcoming activities and goals, the other at the end of the quarter to summarize the accomplishments and progress of GACL members. There is no fixed meeting place for GACL meetings.

Article 5. Advisor

Professor Marjorie K.M. Chan is the Advisor of GACL. As the Advisor, Professor Chan is responsible for attending all GACL meetings, overseeing all activities organized by GACL, aiding in the transition of GACL officers, and representing GACL in any conflict with members of the University staff or faculty.

Article 6. Co-Advisor

Professor Zhiguo Xie is the Co-Advisor of GACL. The Co-Advisor assists the advisor in overseeing GACL, and serves as the Acting Advisor in the absence of the Advisor.

Article 7. Officer Selection and Removal Process

In spring, the President, in consultation with the Vice President (President-Elect), Treasurer, Secretary, and Immediate Past President, shall nominate candidates for the positions of Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Voting shall be conducted in late spring, and the new officers' terms begin on the first day of the new academic year. Only full-time graduate students majoring in Chinese Linguistics, with Chinese linguistics faculty as their academic advisor or co-advisor, can serve as elected GACL officers. In addition to elected officers are two appointed officers, a Webmaster and a Liaison Officer. The Webmaster and the Liaison Officer are appointed by the President in consultation with the officers, Advisor and Co-Advisor. An officer will be considered for removal from the organization if the individual has conducted himself/herself in violation of The Ohio State University's code of student conduct.

Article 8. Officer Titles and Duties

President – The President shall organize and preside over all meetings and events, ensure that all university requirements and stipulations are met, and serve as the face of GACL in all capacities.

Vice President – The Vice President shall assist the President as the President directs, serve as Acting President in the absence or incapacity of the President, and shall succeed to the Presidency at the end of the Vice President's term. The Vice President shall conduct membership drives and promote GACL activities from time to time during the year.

Immediate Past President – The Immediate Past President shall be available for advice and counsel to the President and other officers, and assist with the organization's activities.

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall manage the GACL bank account, document GACL funds (including reimbursements for financial aid, meeting and event expenses, GACL research equipment funding), fundraising, and accept and manage financial donations.

Secretary – The Secretary shall document and photograph all meetings and events, outreach and recruit new members, and promote GACL social events.

Webmaster – The Webmaster is appointed by the President in consultation with the officers, Advisor and Co-Advisor. The Webmaster shall oversee and maintain GACL's website. The Webmaster shall also maintain the GACL mailing list, and perform other tasks as needed to maintain GACL's online presence.

Liaison Officer – The Liaison Officer is appointed by the President in consultation with the officers, Advisor, and Co-Advisor. The Liaison Officer shall act as a link between GACL and the university when guests arrive at OSU for conferences, talks, job searches, special events, etc.

Article 9. Financial and Contractual Matters

GACL encourages its members to attend academic conferences and conduct original research. For this purpose, subject to availability of funds, GACL provides several forms of funding for its members, depending on the Association's budget at that time:

9.1. Conference attendance

For both international and domestic conferences.

9.2. Small research grant

GACL sponsors members' original research for such purposes: 1) payment to subjects; 2) fieldwork expenditure; 3) other related matters to be discussed at GACL meetings.

9.3. Application procedure

GACL members should request financial support in writing (email) to the Treasurer. When applying, GACL members should present financial receipts, proof of abstract acceptance or the research proposal with IRB approval. The Treasurer and President will meet (or discuss via email) and decide whether the application is approved. The President will email the applicant the result of his/her application. GACL financial support does not conflict with any other support that the department or university may provide, and can only be reimbursed after the conference is over or the research expenditure is used. GACL financial support may not exceed the actual travel or research expenditure.

Article 10. Amendments

With the permission of the GACL officers and members, this constitution may be amended.