2014 CLTA-WA Board Election
Candidate Bio

**Zoe Jiang** has been teaching Chinese for more than ten years at various schools including East China Normal University, Taipei Language Institute in Shanghai, Concordia International School Shanghai, Sponge school, and currently at Sammamish High School. She holds both a B.A. and a M.A. in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language. In addition to the WA teacher certificate, she has also obtained the certificate for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language granted by the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China. For the past six years she has devoted herself largely to volunteer work (CIWA, WA Chinese Language and Talent Competition, Microsoft Immigration Family Network, Microsoft Asian Heritage Month, CHIME’s mandarin program, Mandarin Garden, China Tomorrow Educational Foundation, and etc.). She joined the Board of Directors of CLTA-WA in 2012.

**Chiu-Hsin Lin** has a MA TESL from Eastern Washington University and a B.Ed. in Early Childhood Education and a teaching credential from the National Taipei University of Education in Taiwan. She has been an instructor at Eastern Washington University since 2007 specializing in English as a Second-Language and Chinese. Her research interests are second language reading strategies and authentic assessment. In addition, she also helps facilitate the Chinese Conversation Club for faculty and staff members along with EWU students who are interested in learning the Chinese language. Chiu-Hsin also participates in university recruiting trips to Taiwan and China. Prior to completing her graduate studies in the United States, Chiu-Hsin was a kindergarten teacher in Taiwan. She enjoys yoga, hiking, cycling, snowboarding, traveling, and reading. Chiu-Hsin currently resides in Spokane, Washington, with her husband who is also a faculty member at EWU. She hopes to bring more opportunities for professional development for teachers in the Spokane area and to continue to promote the Chinese language among colleges and high schools.

**Tiffany Lin** founded the Legacy Multicultural and Educational Service Center in 2003, which provides instruction to those who want to explore Chinese language and culture. Over the past years, Tiffany has served in various capacities in bilingual education programs: as principal, president of the PTA and director of the school music program. She has been working in leadership positions with the Northwestern Association of Chinese Language Schools (NWACLS) which represents 35 member schools in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming, and helps coordinate numerous events involving Chinese culture, including teacher conferences, singing contests, scholastic competitions, summer camps, food bazaars and youth leadership camps. Currently a board member, Tiffany also served a one-year term (2012-2013) as the President of CLTA-WA.

**Yvonne Louie** was born and raised in Portland, OR, in a Cantonese speaking home. She learned Mandarin in college and went on to teach a Chinese club at Annie Wright Schools for two years. Yvonne currently privately tutors Chinese and teaches Kindergarten in Tacoma, WA.

**Nancy Mar:** I had my BA on Chinese Linguistics and Literature from the National Taiwan Normal University（国立台湾师范大学，中国文学系），MA on Instructional Design and Curriculum Development from School of Education in University of Washington, a combined Ph.D. research program on Bilingual Education from Stanford University CA and Oxford University England. I am sure you know that the first community-run Mandarin language program in Seattle was established 40 years ago by the Seattle Chinese Women's Club and the Chinese Engineer Association, I was the first teacher; now the school has nearly 400 students every weekend. I was also the one established the Mandarin Chinese Language Program for the Foreign Language Department (now called the "International Language Dept." for the Seattle Public School District nearly 35 years ago, besides setting up the program for the whole school district, I also taught the classes in person in Franklin High School, Cleveland High School and the "then-Sharples Jr. High". Betty Lau was the one who took over my position then when I left for Stanford and Oxford. I also set up a federal pioneer program on teaching Chinese culture in Bailey Gatzert Elementary School at that time. Chinese language and literature has been always my passion, and teaching was my "trained trade". I am a Mandarin Chinese instructor for Berlitz Language Center currently.

**Xiaoyun (Cheyenne) Matthewson** teaches Chinese at Lakeside Upper School.  Prior to joining Lakeside, she taught heritage students and worked for a time as a translator and interpreter.  She studied international business and economics in college and in graduate school in both China and U.S.  She has also taken part in the STARTALK/PLU World Language Certification Program.  She has served on the CLTA-WA board for the past two years and currently as the Recording Secretary.

**Chen Tang**: I came to Seattle for a master program in College of Education at UW in 2009. I still believe that it was one of the most hilarious decisions that I made to change my life. Before that, I had been through a variety of jobs, such as Account Executive in Advertisement Company, brand assistant manager in marketing dept. in Shanghai, cabin crew with Emirates Airline in Dubai, and private Mandarin tutor for multiple level learners. I love trying out different things and work with people with multicultural backgrounds. Eventually I was inspired and motivated to pursue a professional life in teaching Mandarin. This is my story of coming to the U.S. I graduated with Master of Education at UW in 2011. At the same time, luckily I became a Mandarin teacher in Franklin High School in Seattle Public Schools and taught Chinese 1 & 2.I love my students and enjoyed teaching and working with them every day. I also enjoyed being involved in CLTA-WA community where I met so many of Mandarin teachers with great passion and knowledge. I love the workshops that CLTA-WA held and they are inspiring for my professional development. Thus, I can’t wait to serve on the Board of Directors and work with teachers who are also committed to dedicate on promotion of Mandarin teaching and learning in WA. Now I am a substitute teacher in Bellevue School District. Except for subbing in Chinese language class, I take most of the classes including special ed, social studies, ELL, and arts, etc. It’s been a wonderful experience working in other classroom and co-teaching with teachers. I am very glad to see how other teachers manage their class. I really enjoy it. I like playing piano and cooking. I am a vegetarian. My sons is about 15 months old and he loves swinging his body when there’s pop music. My husband and I are very proud of him.

**Sarah Yao:** I'm a current board member of CLTA-WA. It's my honor to be considered for another term. I've been teaching Chinese since 2010. After teaching in several private schools and getting my teaching certificate, I started teaching Chinese at Odle Middle School in Bellevue since fall 2013. Besides my teaching experience I've also done various volunteer work with CLTA-WA, CIWA (Confucius Institute at Washington) and CE (Cultural Exploration of Greater China). With CLTA-WA I was a treasurer recording and board member for four years. With CE I was a facilitator and judge in CE's annual scholastic competition for the past four years. With CIWA I was a teacher in their Chinese Corner program and helped them host several major events. I have had great experience working with many amazing Chinese teachers and Chinese culture lovers in the community. It would be my pleasure to continue to serve in CLTA-WA as a board member. Thank you for your consideration.