

I am running for the affiliate representative position on the AKRI board because I want to contribute to the process of re-affiliation with the opportunity to make changes internally and externally for AKRI. I see the affiliate representative role as a bridge connecting AKRI and the affiliate centers to create a space for communication and collaboration. Moreover, this role is still in working process to further define its boundaries, authority, role, and task. My vision is to develop a collaborative system together with the AKRI board and affiliate presidents so each affiliate center can exercise its expertise and passion to address particular needs of its membership and further expand the AKRI community.

My involvement in the group relations world started in 2014 at the Northwestern Annual Conference directed by Solomon Cytrynbaum when I was a student in the Master of Counseling program and studied in his class about group and organizational dynamics. I was very intrigued by what occurred in the conference and curious about what a conference would look like in a different cultural and societal context. Thus, after I attended another conference directed by Jeffrey Roth with the theme of mental health and addiction recovery in 2015, I joined him to work on conferences in China since 2016. My role in conference work has evolved from cultural interpreter, co-consultant, and administrator to a consultant. I've also worked on the staff for Taiwan group relations conferences in 2018 and 2021 directed by Ming-Hui Hsu, as a convener for interpreters and as a consultant. Other than that, I have also participated in different weekend and residential conferences as a member to deepen my understanding about this work, including New Orleans 2016, Boston 2017, OFEK 2019, and WBC 2021.

My current goal is to work on social changes consistent with my vision and I believe that AKRI is one of the best place for me to find supports to work towards this vision together. No matter whether I am elected or not this time, I would be happy to continue my participation in AKRI and GREX to further our work.