

## **A Statement of Interest**

Dear Esteemed Members of the Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy,

I am honored to present myself as a nominee for the role of Vice President of SACP. I am Professor of Philosophy at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, specializing in Asian and Comparative Philosophy. Since 2017, I have published four edited volumes in this field.

Additionally, I have been privileged to receive the Distinguished Scholar Research Award in both 2018 and 2024, a prestigious honor awarded annually to a single scholar by the Senator of Pennsylvania, the Council of Trustees, and the President of WCU.

Since 2019, I have been the coordinator of the Asian and Comparative Philosophy Reading Group within the Greater Philadelphia Philosophy Consortium (GPPC). My engagement with the Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP) began in 2016, and I have held the position of chair for the SACP Central Division of the American Philosophical Association (APA) since 2019. In this capacity, I have organized numerous conference sessions and personally presented ten papers at both SACP and the Central Division of the APA.

As an elected board member of the Society of Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP), I am committed to enhancing the global and intergenerational influence of our field. My objective is to engage a wide array of audiences, particularly emerging scholars, through initiatives that include inviting esteemed scholars from Korea and organizing panels specifically tailored for graduate students and early-career researchers. It is imperative that we expand our academic reach beyond North America, promoting our discipline on a global scale while fostering connections across generations. For sustainable growth, we must emphasize venues in Asia, Europe, and North America, fully acknowledging the distinctive role we occupy within the humanities.

If elected as Vice President of SACP, I will diligently support our president and members in creating meaningful gatherings that foster intellectual engagement. I look forward to collaborating with our fellow administrators to enhance our collective efforts. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

## **Bio**

Dr. Jea Sophia Oh is Professor of Philosophy at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, where her research focuses on Asian and comparative philosophy, environmental ethics, the interplay between religion and ecology, as well as feminist and postcolonial theory. Her pioneering first book, *A Postcolonial Theology of Life: Planerarity East and West* (Sopher Press, 2011), represents a significant advancement in Korean ecofeminist theology and the comparative philosophy of Process thought and 東學 *Donghak* (Eastern Learning).

In addition to her monograph, Professor Oh has edited and co-authored several influential volumes, including *Nature's Transcendence and Immanence: A Comparative Interdisciplinary Ecstatic Naturalism* (2017), *Suffering and Evil in Nature: Comparative Responses from Ecstatic Naturalism and Healing Cultures* (2021), *Emotions (Jeong/Qing 情) in Korean Philosophy and Religion* (2022), and *Greening Philosophy of Religion: Process, Ecology, and Ethics* (2024).

An active participant in various scholarly organizations, Professor Oh is an elected board member of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy (SACP), where she also serves as chair of the Central Division. Additionally, she chairs the International Society of Chinese Philosophy (ISCP) at the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association (APA) and oversees the Society for the Study of Process Philosophy (SSPP) at the APA, covering all three divisions.