



European Chamber
中国欧盟商会

Southwest Board Election 2023

Candidate Motivation Letter

Name of Candidate: Clare McDermott

Chapter: Southwest Chapter

Position: Southwest Board Member



Motivation Letter

Please insert text (not more than 300 words)

I have been a resident of Chengdu for 5 years and have seen many changes. The pandemic greatly impacted the city, local businesses, international firms, and expat families. Many businesses have suffered. With the end of the COVID restrictions and the opening of the borders, this is an important time in the city, and in all of China. The European Chamber of Commerce, Southwest Chapter is a strong advocate for building business relationships for local businesses looking to expand into the European market and for foreign businesses to invest in the area. As the director of an international school that provides a vital service for foreign businesses, I would like to be more involved and to add my voice to support the business community.

I am a member of the Board of Directors for ACAMIS, the organization of international schools in China and Mongolia. ACAMIS has worked cooperatively with the several Chambers of Commerce over the past few years to facilitate flights and visas for expatriates coming to work in China. Having a strong system of international schools is vital for foreign investment and expansion. ACAMIS is a unique voice in the business community.





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Chengdu has my heart. I have a personal and professional interest in helping the businesses grow and make new connections. Therefore, I would like to support the business community with action and become an active member of the European Chamber Southwest Chapter.

Biography

Please insert text (not more than 250 words)

I am Clare McDermott, the Director at QSI International School of Chengdu, which has provided education to expatriate families in Chengdu for 20 years. This is my 5th year in Chengdu, and 16th year in China, having also worked in Shanghai and Shenyang. Originally from New York, USA, I graduated from Cornell University, with a BS in Nutritional Science, have a Master of Education from the University of Florida and my Doctorate was earned at Nova Southeastern University.

After a career in health care as a dietitian, I moved into the field of education and have never looked back. First as a teacher, then as an administrator, I have been able to assist students and their families adjust to life overseas. I am passionate about education and believe that strong relationships at school and home, academic support and opportunities, and adequate time for learning are keys to success.

