

Academic Appointment

Assistant Professor (July 2025 – Current)
Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Education

Ph.D. in Communication, University of Washington (United States), 2025
Dissertation: *Ties with Thais? Chinese Media Expats and China's Soft Power Footprint in Thailand*
Committee: Drs. Matthew Powers (Chair), Adrienne Russell, David Bachman,
Radhika Govindrajan (GSR).

M.A. Communication, Renmin University of China (China), 2015

B.A. Communication, Beijing Jiaotong University (China), 2013

Publications (Published name as *Tucker Wang-Hai*)

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Wang-Hai, T. 2025. Trustable news from China? How Chinese journalists negotiate epistemic authority in transnational digital news production. *Digital Journalism*. 13(3): 604-622. [DOI: 10.1080/21670811.2024.2355475](https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2024.2355475).

Wang-Hai, T., B. Lin. 2025. State interests, global platforms: How Chinese journalists normalize American platforms at work. *Social Media+Society*. 11(4). Online first.
[DOI:10.1177/20563051251378989](https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051251378989). (corresponding author)

Wang-Hai, T. 2024. Digital hope or digital trap? Understanding China's "waixuan jizhe" (foreign-aimed journalists) in the internet age. *Made In China Journal*. 9(2): 124-129.
<https://doi.org/10.22459/MIC.09.02.2024.15>

Manuscripts Under Review

Wang-Hai, T. & Y. Fan (under review). *Behind the "Kidney-harvest (Ga Yaozi)" Panic: Thailand-Focused Content Creators and the Spillover of Geopolitical Discourse on Chinese Platforms*.

Fan, Y., & **Wang-Hai, T.** (under review). "TikTok refugees": *Understanding the political associates*

of transnational platform migration.

Wang-Hai, T. (R&R). *Individual “illusio” as a national soft power mechanism: Job attractions of Chinese media expats in Thailand.*

Research Reports

Wang-Hai, T. 2020. *Chinese media go digital in SE Asia: Report on Indonesia-directed news-making*, presented on 2020 China-Asia Media Cooperation Seminar. Beijing, China.

Research Grants & Funding

NTU Start-Up Grant (SUG), 2025–2028, S\$ 35,000

Project: *Geopolitics, Power, and Global Journalism Arena: Reinterpreting China’s Regional Soft Power Through the Lived Practice of Media Expats in Southeast Asia*

Singapore Ministry of Education Tier 1 Academic Research Fund, 2025–2028, S\$ 50,000

Project: *Artificial Intelligence and Transnational Publics in Southeast Asia: Journalism, Activism, and Human Rights in the Digital Age*

Scholarships & Awards

Top Faculty Paper, Popular Media & Culture Division, ICA, 2026

James Markham Top Student Paper (2nd place), ICD, AEJMC, 2024

Barbara Warnick Dissertation Proposal Award, 2023

UW Chester Fritz International Research and Study Fellowship, 2023

UW Communication Graduate Research Fund, 2024

UW Communication Graduate Research Fund, 2023

UW Communication Graduate Research Fund, 2021

National Scholarship for Graduates, 2014

RUC Postgraduate Fellowship, 2013/14, 2014/15

National Scholarship for Undergraduates, 2012

BJTU Top Academic Fellowship, 2012

National Scholarship for Undergraduates, 2011

BJTU Top Academic Fellowship, 2011

BJTU Secondary Academic Fellowship, 2010

Conference Presentation

Wang, H., Yibin, Fan. *Behind the “Kidney-harvest (Ga Yaozi)” Panic: Thailand-Focused Content Creators and the Spillover of Geopolitical Discourse on Chinese Platforms*. Popular Media & Culture Division, International Communication Association (ICA) 2026, Cape Town, South Africa

Wang, H. *State Interests, Global Platforms: How Foreign-aimed (wai xuan) Chinese Journalists Use American Platforms at Work*. Association of Asian Studies (AAS) 2026, Vancouver, Canada,

2026.

Wang, H. *Staying in the Soft Power Game: Belief, Negotiation, and the Daily Practice of Chinese Expat Journalists in Thailand*. National Communication Association (NCA) 2025, Mass Communication Division, Denver, U.S., 2025.

Yibin, Fan, **Wang, H.** *The Political Associates of Platform Migration in International Contexts: The Case of “TikTok Refugees”*. National Communication Association (NCA) 2025, Political Communication Division, Denver, U.S., 2025.

Wang, H. *Negotiating Dual Loyalty: How Chinese Journalists in Thailand Define ‘Best Work’ under Soft Power Mandates*. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2025, International Communication Division, San Francisco, U.S., 2025.

Wang, H. *All Roads Lead to Bangkok: Chinese Journalists and China’s Soft Power in Thailand*. 2024 Northwest China Forum (NWCF), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, 2024.

Wang, H. *Individual “Illusio” as National Soft Power Mechanism: Job Attractions of Chinese Media Expats in Thailand*. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2024, International Communication Division (**Top Student Paper Award**), Philadelphia , U.S., 2024.

Wang, H., B. Lin. *“I Am Working on Conflicting Expectations”: Collapsing Journalistic Roles in China’s Transnational Digital News Production*. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2023, International Communication Division, Washington D.C. , U.S., 2023.

Wang, H. *Openness versus Control, Traffic versus Limit: Negotiating Social Media Technologies in China’s Transnational News Production*. The Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) 2022, International Communication Division, Detroit, U.S., 2022.

Wang, H. *Crafting the News or Cracking the Barriers? Understanding China’s Transnational News-making on Global Social Media*. International Communication Association (ICA) 2022, Journalism Studies Division, Paris, France, 2022.

Teaching

Instructor

Nanyang Technological University

- CS2022 News Reporting and Writing, Spring 2026
- CS0204 Basic Media Writing, Autumn 2025

University of Washington

- COMMLD 520 Qualitative Research for Social Media Marketing, Winter 2025 (Grad-level)
- COM 303 Social Effects of Technology and Social Media, Autumn 2023
- COM 303 Social Effects of Technology and Social Media, Summer 2023 (Online/Syn)
- COM 383 Qualitative Communication Research Methods, Autumn 2022
- COM 303 Social Effects of Technology and Social Media, Summer 2022

Teaching Assistant

University of Washington

- COMMLD 501 Leadership and Communities (Grad-level, Autumn 2024)
- COM 456 Media Ethics (Spring 2024)
- COM 444 Public Relations and Society (Winter 2023)
- COM 360 Journalism and Public Interests Communication (Winter 2022, Spring 2022, Winter 2024)
- COM 362 News Lab (Winter 2022, Winter 2024)
- COM 457 Journalism Portfolio (Spring 2022)
- COM 200 Introduction to Communication (Autumn 2021)

Journalism Coaching

- NTU Go-Far Overseas Reporting, Summer 2025 (Visiting Coach)
- UW Journalism and Trauma Training, Autumn 2024 (Coach)
- UW Journalism and Trauma Training, Spring 2024 (Coach)
- UW Journalism and Trauma Training, Winter 2024 (Coach)
- UW Journalism and Trauma Training, Autumn 2022 (Coach)
- UW Journalism and Trauma Training, Spring 2022 (Online, Training Assistant)

Guest Lecturer

Influence for Impact in Southeast Asia (i-SEA) Fellowship Programme, Singapore, December 2025

Seminar: “*Media Ethnics and the Content Creators Industry*”

Nanyang Centre for Public Administration (NCPA), Singapore, November 2025

Executive Education Programme: Global Education Index Branding and Outreach Strategies Seminar, Topics: “*Intercultural Communication and Digital Strategies in a Networked Era*”.

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, October 2024

Basic Media Writing, Topics: “*Crafting News Videos: Journalistic Rigor in A Digital Era*”.

Peking University, Beijing, China, October 2022 (Online)

Graduate Seminars on Communication Research, Topic: “*Interviewing as a Research Method*”.

University of Miami, Miami, U.S., April 2022 (Online)

Social Media Messaging and Strategies, Topic: “*Metrics in the Newsroom: Transnational News-making on Facebook*”.

Professional Services

Conference Discussant

Discussant, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, ICD, Journalism and Geopolitics Poster Session, 2025

Manuscript Reviewer

Information, Communication & Society

Journalism
Digital Journalism
Emerging Media

Association for Asian Studies, East and Inner Asia Council (EIAC)
International Communication Association, Journalism Studies Division
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, ICD
National Communication Association, Ethnography Division
National Communication Association, Association for Chinese Communication Studies
Western States Communication Association Convention

Roundtables & Webinars

Guest speaker on “AI and Transnational Human Trafficking Journalism”, AI and Communication Conference. East China Normal University, China, September 2025.

Roundtable: *Sustainable Writing Practices* at the University of Washington Dissertation Writing Intensive Resources, Panelist, June 2025.

“*Interrupting Privilege Exhibition: The Dual Pandemics*”, Northwest African American Museum (NAAM), Seattle, U.S., Co-Curator, May–July 2024

“Webinar: Reading *Global China as Method*”, Host/ Facilitator, October 2022.

“What makes qualitative methods viable? Online methodology roundtable”, Host/ Organizer, March 2022.

“Qualitative approaches in media studies”, online workshop hosted by @COMputation, August 2021.

Research and Staff Assistantship

Research Assistant, UW Center for Journalism, Media, and Democracy, 2020-2021
Research Supervisors: Drs. Matthew Powers, Adrienne Russell.

Visiting Researcher, National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT), 2023
Research Supervisor: Gen. Surasit Thanadtang.

Comm Lead Fellow, UW Communication Leadership Master Program, 2024-2025
Supervisor: Gretchen Ludwig.

Non-academic Career

Journalist & Social Media Manager, 2015-2020
China Report ASEAN 中国东盟报道, China International Communication Group (CICG)
Journalist, Chinese/English copywriter, and social media manager (ASEAN market).

Corporate Communication Intern, 2014
Volkswagen Group China

Memberships & Affiliations

Thai-Chinese Strategic Research Center at NRCT, affiliated researcher, Bangkok, Thailand, 2023
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, member, 2022-current
National Communication Association, member, 2021-current
International Communication Association, member, 2021-current
UW Communication Graduate Students Association, International Students Liaison, 2021-current
UW China Studies Graduate Association, 2021-current
UAW 4121, union member, 2021-current

Languages

English, Full Professional proficiency.
Mandarin Chinese 中文普通话, Native proficiency.
Thai ภาษาไทย, Elementary proficiency.

References

Matthew Powers, Ph.D., Dissertation Chair
Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington, mjpowers@uw.edu
Adrienne Russell, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington, adruss@uw.edu
David Bachman, Ph.D.
Professor, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, dbachman@uw.edu
Radhika Govindrajan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, rgovind@uw.edu
Ekin Yasin, Ph.D.,
Director of Communication Leadership Program, University of Washington, ekiny@uw.edu
John Tomasic,
Journalism Lecturer, Department of Communication, University of Washington, tomasic@uw.edu
Tamyra Howser,
Vice President for College Advancement, Tacoma Community College, thowser@tacomacc.edu