

# Columbia University

in the city of new york

University Senate

Office of Student Engagement

Interschool Governing Board (IGB)

## Student Group Recognition Application

The mission of the Interschool Governing Board (IGB) is to represent and serve the needs of Columbia University student interschool organizations whose membership and mission is interschool in nature and includes a combination of graduate and undergraduate professional schools, groups and students who do not fall under the immediate jurisdiction of other governing boards or individual school councils. IGB is dedicated to overseeing and supporting such student organizations in their efforts to bridge the gaps between various students and academic disciplines on the Columbia University campus.

To apply for recognition, this form and all necessary materials must be completed and submitted electronically to the following email address: [igb@columbia.edu](mailto:igb@columbia.edu). The IGB Budget Committee will determine if everything has been submitted and forward a recommendation to the IGB General Body for official voting. Student Club leadership may be required to follow up with the Budget Committee or attend an IGB meeting to clarify budget details and justifications.

To be considered for recognition, clubs:

- Must complete and submit the Student Group Recognition Application
- Can have a faculty/staff **mentor** (a logistics **advisor** will be assigned to you from the Office of Student Group Advising after IGB recognition)
- Must have a designated President/Chair and Treasurer
- Must submit a written constitution, and if available, a set of bylaws

Student groups must submit the Student Group Recognition Application and all relevant materials by:

**For FALL SEMESTER recognition:**

**March 1** of the previous school year

**For SPRING SEMESTER recognition:**

**November 1** of the previous calendar year

\* No applications will be accepted over the summer.

Date of Application: 2/19/2018

Application for: (circle one) FALL SPRING (year) 2018

Applicant's Name: Zhexi Lin Columbia Email (UNI): zl2453

Phone Number: 302-367-6818 Relationship to Club: President

**Club Info:**

Club Name: The Columbia University Society for the Philosophy of Tibetan Buddhism

Number of Members: 11

Breakdown by School (approximate %'s): SEAS(36%), TC(27%), CC(27%), GSAS(9%)

Club Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_ Columbia Email (UNI): \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor's Relationship to Columbia: \_\_\_\_\_

Club President: Zhexi Lin Columbia Email (UNI): zl2453

Club Treasurer: Yuan Liu Columbia Email (UNI): yl3433

**Please provide a brief summary of the club's goals, why you feel IGB recognition is important, and how students may benefit from your club.**

By the 20th century, particularly in western countries, the material standards of living have already reached an extremely high level and our generation is of great material wealth and opulence. If as human beings, our needs are purely material, then all the conveniences brought by contemporary science and technology should satisfy our needs. However, in a society where the pace of living is ever increasing, where we live amongst constant competition, and feel a great amount of pressure in our everyday life, we characteristically lack a sense of safety and happiness. Regardless of having religious faith or not, we face the similar predicament of spiritual crisis-- the inner state of great emptiness, loneliness, fear, violence, anger, depression, to an extent that could lead to depression. Therefore, scholars and academics in both the East and the West have devoted great energies to probing into such predicaments that affect people's lives. In this context where we are looking for a sense of safety, happiness and equanimity, perhaps the answer is to be found in the ancient philosophical traditions and wisdom.

As one of the ancient philosophies, Buddhism is primarily a system of education, a science that guides us to explore the truth of life and liberate ourselves from the inner obstructions that prevent us from being happy. Columbia University is the home of the largest collection of Tibetan Buddhist books in the western hemisphere. Out of interest, we have created a private study group for Tibetan Buddhism. After one year's study, we noted a growing interest from both graduate and undergraduate students in exploring the rich on-campus academic resources and addressing the question of how to live a happy life. To this end, we are excited to establish a student club named "The Columbia University Society for the Philosophy of Tibetan Buddhism", whose mission is to provide students an opportunity to achieve the inner well-being by applying the traditional Buddhist philosophy to address issues in our personal lives as well as the society. Due to the academic nature of our club and the involvement of both graduate and undergraduate students from different schools, we believe that IGB is most suited to our group. IGB's recognition will best represent and serve the needs of our group members and a wider community of like-minded Columbia students.

**Please provide the signatures of ten (10) club members.**

1. Name: Zhexi Lin Columbia Email (UNI): zl2453@columbia.edu

School: SEAS Signature: Zhexi Lin

2. Name: Geri Luo Columbia Email (UNI): gcl2157@columbia.edu

School: GSAS Signature: Geri Luo

3. Name: <sup>Ran</sup> (Grace) Tian Columbia Email (UNI): rt2668

School: Teachers College Signature: Grace Tian

4. Name: Zhen Zeng Columbia Email (UNI): ZZ2312

School: Teachers College Signature: Zhen Zeng

5. Name: Qiang Chang Columbia Email (UNI): QC2236

School: Teachers College Signature: Qiang Chang

6. Name: Jay Mok Columbia Email (UNI): jm4304

School: SEAS Signature: Jay Mok

7. Name: Jackie Shi Columbia Email (UNI): ds3441

School: CC Signature: Jackie Shi

8. Name: Muhammad Sybil Columbia Email (UNI): mjl2220

School: CC Signature: Muhammad Sybil

9. Name: Albert Zhang Columbia Email (UNI): alz2121

School: CC Signature: Albert Zhang

10. Name: Hy Nguyen Columbia Email (UNI): hdn2106

School: SEAS Signature: Hy Nguyen

**Thank you for your application! You will receive a formal response from us via email within sixty (60) days of submission with a conditional approval or denial. From there, we will detail you with any next steps.**