



COUNCIL INSIGHTS



Meet the Council

Michael Kuan

Michael Kuan's passion lies in the process through which innovations and ideas are sourced in one country and then adapted and improved in another country. He calls it “co-innovation” and feels this philosophy is perfectly aligned with TEDx.

“TEDx’s mission statement of “ideas worth spreading” on the community level is completely on the mark,” Kuan said. “Making TEDx an important conduit for true global cooperation and understanding.”

It’s a philosophy that also mirrors Kuan’s biography.

Born in China and educated in the United States with a background in venture capital, Kuan founded Kuan Capital in 2013, an investment holding company operating in both the United States and China. Kuan Capital’s objective is to “lead, participate and double down,” with a focus primarily on companies with a digital, healthy living or green lifestyle.

Kuan was introduced to TED by fellow TEDx Council Member Craig J. Watson and attended his first TED conference in 2016. He was immediately struck by the “can-do, anything is possible attitude” which he feels is the most important component of world citizenry. “The positive, constructive energy of so many people meeting for the sole purpose of sharing ideas, impacted me greatly and has forever changed my outlook,” he said.

As a member of the TEDx Council, Kuan is excited to see how China and TEDx can grow together.

“TEDx stands in the forefront as a knowledge bank to be accessed by ordinary people,” he said. “I am excited by the prospects of contributing to the furtherance of TEDx through localization and translation into Mandarin, thus allowing meaningful and effective communication to one-third of the world’s population... There are endless possibilities for TEDx in China”