

Questionnaire of 2021 SmofCon

1、 What dates are you bidding for?

August or September, 2023.

2、 What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city centre? How far is the site from the city centre?

Chengdu, Sichuan Province.

Our convention site is in a city center location.

3、 What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?

Chengdu New Convention and Exhibition Center.

The main venue is just five minutes walk from the hotels.

4、 Who is your bid chair? Who is on your committee? What experience do they have in general? In running Worldcons?

Our bid co-chairs are Tony Xia and Tina Wong , representing a committee from Chengdu Science Fiction

Society. We have six co-chairs in the committee to cover the full spectrum of the bidding preparation, they are:

Mr. Liu Cixin, Honorary Chair, author of *The Three Body Problem*, a Hugo Award winner.

Mr. Yao Haijun, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the *Science Fiction World* magazine, President of Chengdu Science Fiction Society.

Ms. Liang Xiaolan, Vice President of **Chengdu Economic Daily Marketing & Planning Co, ltd.**

Ms. Yang Feng, CEO of Chengdu Eight Light Minutes Cultural Co., LTD.

Mr. Jiang Zhenyu, Associate Professor with the Institute of Science Fiction Studies, Sichuan University.

Mr. He Hongwei, aka He Xi, prominent science fiction writer, multi-award winner in science fiction.

Together with Mr. Tony Xia and Ms. Tina Wong, the committee has wide range of experiences in convention running and event promotion.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?

We haven't voted yet.

Have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus?

Yes, we agree to participate in Pass-Along Funds. We are willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus.

Travel

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Dublin, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Brisbane, etc.?

See below for the price both in Chinese Yuan and US dollar.

Please note that the prices are average from before the

pandemic and are approximate. The final prices are subject to specific airline policy by the time of booking.

Query of fares in various places (One Way)			
1	London-Chengdu	¥8,000	\$1,254
2	Boston-Chengdu	¥8,000	\$1,254
3	Los Angeles-Chengdu	¥10,000	\$1,567
4	Tokyo-Chengdu	¥11,000	\$1,723
5	Melbourne-Chengdu	¥16,000	\$2,507

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Chengdu has two international airports — Shuangliu International Airport and Tianfu International Airport. It is the third city after Beijing and Shanghai in China to have a double airports system.

By the end of May 31, 2020, there are 363 routes: 128

are international (regional) routes, 217 are domestic routes, and 18 are international routes with one domestic stop. From CTU, passengers could fly out to five continents around the world.

In 2019, the passenger throughput of Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport will reach 55.859 million, of which the International (regional) passenger throughput will reach 6.738 million.

You can find a full list of airlines fly in/out of Shuangliu Airport here:

<http://www.cdairport.com/airline.aspx?t=3>

International airlines at Shuangliu include AIR CHINA, CHINA EATERN AIRLINES, SICHUAN AIRLINES, UA (USA), ANA (JAPAN), INDIGO (INDIA), ASIANA AIRLINES (KOREA), KLM (HOLLAND), QATAR AIRWAYS, EVA AIR, CATHAY PACIFIC, CATHAY DRAGON, SILKAIR, SINGAPORE AIRLINES, AIR PHILIPPINES, AIR ASIA, NOK AIR, ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES, ETIHAD AIRWAYS, THAI AIR ASIA etc.

International airlines at the new and much larger Tianfu Airport will be a major expansion for the city's ability to connect domestically and internationally,

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

The convention site is 15.2 km from Shuangliu Airport, 59 km Tianfu International Airport, and 12.9 km from Chengdu Eastern Train Station.

Public transport cost: \$1(Shuangliu and Eastern Train), \$6 (Tianfu)

Taxi cost: \$5 (Eastern Train), \$10 (Shuangliu), \$20 (Tianfu).

Facilities

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms have you secured, what type are they, do they accommodate accessibility needs, etc.?

Choice A.

InterContinental Century City Chengdu.

It offers 555 guest rooms and suites, with an array of outstanding restaurants and lounge areas, a stylish Spa and first-class event and business facilities.

Choice B.

Holiday Inn. Only 2-minute walk to InterContinental Century City Chengdu. It offers 970 guest rooms equipped with business-friendly facilities and an attractive variety of dining and entertainment choices.

Both hotels are 5 minutes walking distance from the convention venue and will surely accommodate accessibility needs.

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet access in the room? How firm are these rates? What additional taxes and fees are there?

The rates of InterContinental Century City Chengdu are from 152 dollars to 456 dollars (including breakfast).

The rates of Holiday Inn Chengdu Century City are from 100 dollars to 137 dollars.

Both of them include free internet access in the rooms. The rates will not float much. Rates include taxes and fees.

What does parking cost at your main hotels?

Free parking for hotel guests.

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

The distance is approximately 500 meters. The hotels offer wheel chairs for guests with mobility difficulties.

Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

The Crystal Room will be chosen to hold Hugo Ceremony.

It has 2800 square meters area with a 10-meter ceiling. Masquerade will be held in Tianfu room, which has 730 square meters area, with 6-meter ceiling.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

In 2011, Chengdu was recognized by UNESCO as a city of gastronomy. It's a paradise for foodies and our friends who have visited Chengdu can tell you how much they enjoy the food scene, including our late-night restaurants and street vendors!

Beside local Chinese restaurants, other choices would be American, French, German, Italian, Mexican, Japanese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indian restaurants. Vegetarian, Halal, and even Kosher restaurants are also available.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

Chengdu is famous for its vibrant nightlife. You can always find your cup of tea: bars, cafes, live houses, street food stands, karaoke, etc. The convention venue

option 1 is close to downtown, which means all of the fun places are easy to reach, some are even within walking distance. We do have a corkage waiver.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention centre, and city.

You are not allowed to smoke in the rooms of hotels, but it's free to smoke outdoor.

Given the current pandemic, have you considered any arrangements have been made for social distancing and the health and safety of members? If you have, can you describe what your current plans are?

Currently we strictly follow the city's policies and regulations on the current pandemic situation, and adopt full measurement, including body temperature check, one-meter distancing, and mandatory in-door facial masking. The local government also issues a mobile app to track users' health condition in relating to COVID-19 with a color code system.

We do hope by the time we hold the convention, if we

win the bid, the pandemic will be long gone and the whole world is back to normal, peacefully.

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention?

What is the average temperature during that time of year?

It will be summer or the end of summer. Usually August is the hottest month in Chengdu. The 24-hour daily mean temperature in July and August is around 25 °C (77 °F), with afternoon highs sometimes reaching 33 °C (91 °F). Average between 72°F and 86°F. Sustained heat as found in much of eastern China is rare, also super sunny days are rare. September is a bit cooler.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Even though the city that has long been well-known for its panda breeding/research center, Chengdu has more than 4000 years of history and such a unique culture that it is among the major tourist destinations nationally and internationally. Hosting the Summer Universiade on Aug 8 to 19 in 2021, the sceneries here are so beautiful and the lifestyle so laid-back that

it is dubbed as a city that once you come, you'd never think about leaving. Its tourist attractions are many and amazing (including multiple world class museums, ancient temples, historic streets, and more). For general information, you can start with the Wikipedia entry at: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chengdu>

The city's Facebook page might also help:

<https://www.facebook.com/places/si-chuan-sheng-cheng-dou-shi-huo-dong-gong-e/106487912721749/>

Here is VR of some of Chengdu attractions:

<http://www.worldconinchina.com/vaChengdu.html>

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups and which ones?

Yes. We will have discounts for certain demographic groups. The plan will be issued later.

What is your vision for your Convention? How do you plan to make it happen?

The rapid growth of fandom and the creative potential in Chinese science fiction is calling for a Worldcon to take place in China as are many of our fans and

professionals. As the respected and adored capital of Chinese science fiction, Chengdu is eager to embrace wholeheartedly the world science fiction and fantasy community and contribute to international culture, fandom and otherwise, in a more positive and proactive way. The science fiction community in China has been highly influenced, nurtured and benefit from the world sci-fi culture, and WSFA is highly respected. We are familiar with many Hugo Award winners or their works, in Chinese translations, and now we hope it's time for us to host a Worldcon, to create and to give back. If science fiction is all about possibilities, we are going to prove it in Chengdu. We want to run a Chinese Worldcon, which means new ideas in a new place, with a combination of the best of Chengdu and the world, carrying heritages from long-enduring Chengdu and the long-standing Worldcon. We want the participants to remember Worldcon'23 as the future of what could be, and a testament to Chinese fandom joining with the Worldcon community. This is what our fan-centered and fan-loving community is pushing for.

What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your Convention?

Fandom in Chengdu is about diversity and inclusion. Beside general sci-fi themed events, we now have developed some new and unique fan-centered activities, including Han Cosplay (Traditional Chinese Clothing from fictional movies and anime). Incorporating these elements, a Chengdu Worldcon will be a fantastic audio-visual feast.

Do you have a code of conduct? If so, is it available online and if so, where?

Yes. The full text is available on our official website:

<http://www.worldconinchina.com/kh/codeofconduct.pdf>

What do diversity and inclusion mean to you?

Diversity is about empowering people by respecting and appreciating what makes them different, in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, education, and national origin. Inclusion is an organizational effort and practices in which

different groups or individuals having different backgrounds are culturally and socially accepted and welcomed, and equally treated.

How are you working towards your goals in these areas?

Each individual in our committee brings with a diverse set of perspectives, work and life experiences, as well as religious and cultural differences. The power of diversity can only be unleashed and its benefits reaped when we recognize these differences and learn to respect and value each individual irrelevant of their background. At 2023 Chengdu WorldCon, we help organizations to implement diversity policies that will help instill inclusion, respect and appreciation across the entire areas.

What would concrete achievements look like in these areas?

We are conscious of the desires to develop a diverse fandom, which is part why we're here and bidding! Chengdu has various ethnic groups, international residents and visitors, and more. We always have had a very diversified volunteer bod. Chengdu City and

Sichuan Province are historically and culturally diverse and we're excited for fans around the world to come and experience it first-hand. We have many ethnic groups living peacefully together in Chengdu along with other minority/special interest groups. For example, Chengdu has the largest and most-vibrant LGBTQ+ community in China! Please feel free to go to gay bars in Chengdu. You can dress whatever you like.

What changes or challenges do you expect the current pandemic to present?

In Chengdu, the number of COVID-19 cases is low, with total confirmed cases just over one thousand since the pandemic and death toll kept at single figure. We believe by the time of the convention in 2023, the pandemic will be gone, and all aspects of life will resume to its normal state. Tourism industry is expected to recover fully in 2022 globally, so we do not expect any major impact on the guests. It might occur that visitors and all residents need to follow local regulatory procedure for health coding system on mobile app, if the current system to be continued.

Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?

Yes. Given the experiences we had during the pandemic and the technology available to us, we will take the full advantage of the newest tech method to incorporate virtual components for fans who can't attend the convention physically. Also with some live broadcast during the convention.

Your members vote for Hugo Finalists who are then excited and wish to play a full part in the convention programme. How do you plan to facilitate the Finalists' input as recognised by your community?

We'll do our best to include all finalists on programming, supporting them by providing accommodation and travel allowances. The detail would be made known to all once we have the full plan in place, but yes for sure that we want to see them all be here celebrating with fans in Chengdu, and will facilitate their physical presence as part of the Worldcon Chengdu'23 experiences.