PCI Board member Tom Plate is a Syndicated Columnist, Distinguished Scholar of Asian and Pacific Studies at Loyola Marymount University, author of seven books, former Editorial Page Editor of the Los Angeles Times and New York Newsday, and winner of the Distinguished Writing Award from the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Tom Plate writes about America’s relationship with the Pacific Rim and travels frequently to Asia. Over the last dozen-plus years, Prof. Plate’s columns have appeared and continue to appear in many world papers, including The South China Morning Post in Hong Kong, The Straits Times in Singapore, The Khaleej Times (Dubai, United Arab Emirates), The Japan Times in Tokyo, The Korea Times in South Korea, The Jakarta Post (Indonesia), The Seattle Times, The Providence Journal and some mid-sized and small U.S papers. The collective circulation of these core newspapers is easily in the millions.

Prof. Plate is the author of seven books, including “Confessions of an American Media Man” (2nd Edition, 2009, Marshall Cavendish) and is currently working on a series of political portraits titled “Giants of Asia.”

The first in that series - “Conversations With Lee Kuan Yew” - was a bestseller in Southeast Asia last year.

"Conversations With Mahathir Mohamad," volume 2 of Giants of Asia series by Prof. Plate, is due in February. The book is based on 8 hours of interview, 4 sessions of two hours each, with Dr. Mahathir Mohamad in either Putrajaya, the administrative capital of Malaysia, or in his office at the top of Petronas Tower number one in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia.

Dr. Mahathir, a medical doctor by training and credentialing, has served as the fourth Prime Minister of Malaysia for 22 years from 1981 to 2003.

The Chinese (simplified) edition of book one “Conversations With Lee Kuan Yew” will be available in all Chinese sectors of Asia, including the mainland.