



KAUPA
KOREAN-AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS ASSOCIATION
북미 한인 대학 교수 협회
WWW.KAUPA.ORG

Newsletter 14-2

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I. Introduction

The KAUPA is an academic, educational, non-profit and non-political organization. The objectives of the Association are:

- To encourage and facilitate academic research and scholarly cooperation among members, especially research on Korean-Americans and on Korea-U.S. relations.
- To facilitate academic exchanges of scholars and scholarly works between North America and Korea.
- To sponsor programs for its members and Korean-Americans.

The KAUPA also plans to:

- Hold annual academic conferences with seminars.
- Publish membership directories, newsletters and academic journal.
- Hold joint conferences or seminars with other academic organizations.
- Sponsor cultural and educational programs for Korean-Americans and its members.
- Sponsor other programs that are consistent with Association's objectives.

The KAUPA membership has two categories at this moment:

- Regular membership is open to all those who hold academic positions (including emeritus) in universities or colleges in the U.S.A. and Canada.
- Associate membership is open to those persons who support the KAUPA objectives and activities.

II. President's Welcoming Message

Prof. Kang-Won Wayne Lee (University of Rhode Island)

Our Korean-American University Professors Association (KAUPA) has become one of the most versatile professional organizations through the strong leadership of past presidents and officers, and more importantly, the passion of its dedicated members. We have promoted encouraging and facilitating academic research and scholarly cooperation among members, especially research on Korean-Americans (K-As) and on Korea-U.S. relations, facilitated academic exchanges of scholars and scholarly works between North America and Korea, and sponsored programs for its members and Korean-Americans. However, we are facing some pressing challenges in order to meet the demands of both our changing organizations and society. Thus, I would like to focus on the following tasks during my term.

- (1) To make our KAUPA more relevant to the Korean community in the North America, including your professors, I would like to develop and expand venues for interaction such as topical and inter-disciplinary conferences, symposia, and workshops through which they can appreciate and be encouraged by the scope and accomplishment of K-A professors.
- (2) We plan to start strengthening our connections with existing K-A professional societies to promote an open environment and a quality-oriented image so that outstanding professors will feel that it is worthwhile to obtain and maintain membership and participation in KAUPA activities.
- (3) To be more proactive in reaching out to K-As whose primary or only mode of communications in English, i.e., 1.5 and 2nd generations, we will expand our current programs.
- (4) We will continue strengthening our financial stability.
- (5) The 15th Executive Committee will also work to increase our KAUPA membership. We are fortunate that our immediate past President, Professor Sunwoong Kim will work as an honorary web master and will help us to increase membership.

I am optimistic about the future of KAUPA because its members have the skills and knowledge to improve the general societal welfare through our common interests. Let us continue helping each other to achieve the fullest satisfaction of our professional careers as one giant family of K-A Professors in the USA and Canada. Thank you and have a great spring.

III. History of KAUPA (Provided by the 5th President, Professor Emeritus Ki-Hyun Kim)

Highlights of KAUPA History consist of three parts: (1) history, (2) academic conference, and (3) publications. This news letter will provide only concise history as follows:

- KAUPA had an initial organizational meeting at James Madison University in Virginia on October 12, 1985.

- An inaugural assembly was held in South Carolina on May 16-17, 1986, and passed the KAUPA Bylaw.
- Prof. Sung Hyung Lee of Appalachian University (language) was elected as the first President (5/17/86 to 12/13/88)
- The second administration was led by Prof. Tae Hwan Kwak of Eastern Kentucky University (Politics) from 1/1/89 to 12/31/90.
- The third administration was led by Prof. Yeon Kim of Utah State University (Sociology) from 1/1/91 to 12/31/92.
- The fourth administration was led by Prof. Euihang Shin of South Carolina University (Sociology) from 1/1/93 to 12/31/94.
- The fifth administration was led by Prof. Ki-Hyon Kim of North Carolina Central University (Physics) from 1/1/95 to 12/31/96.
- The sixth administration was led by Prof. Youn-Suk Kim of Kean University (Economics) from 1/1/97 to 12/31/98.
- The seventh administration was led by Prof. Hang Yul Rhee of Shepherd University (Government & Politics) from 1/1/99 to 12/31/2000.
- The eighth administration was led by Prof. H. Thomas Hahn of UCLA (Mech. Engineering) from 1/1/01 to 12/31/02.
- The ninth administration was led by Prof. Yoon-Shik Park of George Washington University (International Finance) from 1/1/03 to 12/31/04.
- The tenth administration was led by Prof. Nak Ho Sung of Tufts University (Chemical and Biological Engineering) from 1/1/05 to 12/31/06.
- The eleventh administration was led by Prof. Sunwoong Kim of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (Economics) from 1/1/07 to 12/31/13.

IV. Major Conferences Organized (1987 – 2013) – Provided by the 11th President, Prof. Sunwoong Kim

Since 1987, the KAUPA has hosted more than 20 conferences and symposiums on various topics related to Korea. The three most recent conferences are as follows:

1. Globalization of Korean Cuisine and Culture (December 2, 2011) held at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Co-sponsored with the Korean General Consulate of Chicago

2. Perspectives on the Sovereignty Issue over Dokdo (December 8, 2012) held at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
3. Sovereignty of Dokdo/Takeshima and Nationalism (December 6, 2013) held at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

V. Introduction of KAUPA officials for 2014 - 2015 term

President: Prof. Kang-Won Wayne Lee (University of Rhode Island)

Kang-Won Wayne Lee is a faculty of Civil & Environmental Engineering (CVE) and Director of RI Transportation Research Center (RITRC) at URI. In 1992, Prof. Lee established the RITRC, the recipient of a \$12 million research grant under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA21) in 1998, and served as R&D Director for the URI Transportation Center (TC) Grant Program from 1999 to 2003.

Prof. Lee earned his B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Seoul National University. Following two years of consulting work as a civil engineer for Lyon Associates and TAMS Inc., he returned to academia and earned his M.S. degree in Geotechnical Engineering from Rutgers University and received his Ph.D. degree in Transportation Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1982. He began his higher education teaching career at the King Saud University in 1982, and joined the URI faculty in 1985. He worked as Graduate Program Director from 1996 to 1999, and served as CVE Chair from 2005 to 2008.

Vice President: Prof. Byung H. Kim (University of Massachusetts at Amherst)

Byung Kim is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. His current research interests are in the area micro/nano embossing and its application to a large area. He is on the editorial board of the *Polymer-Plastics Technology and Engineering Journal*. His professional affiliations include membership with the SPE, ASME, SME. He received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley in 1978 and M.S. and Ph.D. from MIT in 1980 and 1983, respectively.

Secretary General: Prof. Jongsung Kim (Bryant University)

Jongsung Kim is a Professor of Economics at Bryant University in Rhode Island. He received his BA and MA in Economics from Kyung Hee University, and Ph.D. in Economics from the Johns Hopkins University with specialization in labor economics.

Treasurer: Prof. Woonsup Choi (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Woonsup Choi is a faculty member of the Department of Geography at the UW-Milwaukee. Dr. Choi earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at Seoul National University and doctorate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is currently President of Korea-America Association for Geospatial and Environmental Sciences.

Honorary Web Master: Prof. Sunwoong Kim (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Sunwoong Kim is Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. After receiving B.S. in architecture and Masters in Urban planning from Seoul National University, he move to the U.S. for his graduate education at Harvard

(Planning) and M.I.T. (Ph.D. in Economics). He is a specialist in applied micro-economics. His current research interests include economics of education, urban and real estate economics, public policy and political economy. He served as the 11th KAUPA president from 2007 to 2013.

VI. Member News and Activities

1. KAUPA President, Prof. Kang-Won Wayne Lee received a Presidential Citation



The KAUPA president, Prof. K. Wayne Lee, received a Presidential Citation on March, 2014 from the Korean government. On behalf of the President Park Geun-hye, the Korean Consul General in Boston Mr. Park Kangho delivered the citation at the Korean Consulate General in Boston. The citation was to recognize Prof. Lee's lifelong achievements in his research and dedicated service to the professional and local Korean community.

2. The KAUPA Secretary General, Prof. Jongsung Kim delivered a lecture, entitled “Korean Unification: An Inevitable Challenge for Prosperity” at the Forum with Scholars at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island on March 15, 2014. The Forum was held at Saloman Hall and sponsored by the National Unification Advisory Council (NUAC) Boston Chapter and Korean-American Association of Rhode Island (KAARI) and organized by Brown University’s Korean International Students Association and Liberty in North Korea (LINK).

3. Our 7th KAUPA President, Prof. Emeritus Hang Yul Rhee of Shepherd University moved to North Carolina. However, recently his wife needed a series of operation, and is recovering slowly. Our 5th President, Prof. Emeritus and Mrs. Ki Hyun Kim visited her hospital, and provided a flower vase on behalf of KAUPA. We wish her quick and smooth recovery.

4. Our 8th KAUPA President, Distinguished Research Prof. H. Thomas Hahn of UCLA successfully finished his assignment as a World Class Faculty at the Soul National University, and returned to Los Angeles. We welcome him.

5. Our 10th KAUPA President, Prof. Nakho Sung was retired from Tufts University last year, and spent last winter in his new Florida home. We wish him good luck on his new life.

6. The KAUPA provides \$1,000 financial support to Korea-America Association for Geospatial and Environmental Sciences (KAGES). A recent issue of KAGES newsletter is available in the following link.

<http://www.kages.org/season2/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/KAGES-Newsletter-11-1.pdf>.

7. The KAUPA President Lee attended a candlelight vigil for the ferry victims at Narragansett beach in Rhode Island on April 21, 2014, and presented his condolence on behalf of KAUPA.

8. The KAUPA plans to host a symposium on Dokdo at the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee in October 2014. (More details to come)

VII. Announcements

1. KAUPA Membership

We encourage you to become a member of KAUPA. To become a member, you need to register and pay the annual membership fee of \$25 (make the check payable to KAUPA). Please send the attached application along with the fee to the Treasurer of KAUPA: Woonsup Choi, Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, PO Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413.

Recent new members:

Prof. Mun Shig Son, University of Vermont
Prof. Emeritus Moo-Young Han (M. Y. Han), Duke University
Prof. Myung Jong Lee, The New York City University
Prof. Yongho Sohn, University of Central Florida
Prof. Hosin David Lee, University of Iowa
Prof. InHwan Oh, [Organizational Leadership](#)
Prof. Jun-Seok Oh, [Western Michigan University](#)
Prof. Byunkyu Brian Park, [University of Virginia](#)
Prof. Seri Park, [Villanova University](#)
Prof. Seungbae Park, [The State University of New York at Binghamton](#)
Prof. Jae Hyeon Ryu, [University of Idaho](#)

2. News Contribution

To help us share your news on your recent academic, professional activities, achievements and other news of interest, please email Jongsung Kim, the KAUPA Secretary General at jkim@bryant.edu. Your contributions (not necessarily financial) will be greatly appreciated.