INSIDE:
Summer in Korea
U-M/USC Korean Studies Undergraduate Conference
CIC Korean Studies e-School
NEKST Conference
Dear Friends of the Nam Center:  

One of the most rewarding experiences that I enjoy having as the Director of the Nam Center is to meet with so many people with interesting stories, amazing perspectives, and sincere dedication to pursuing Greater Korea knowledge. Again and again, I would find myself learning from these experiences, getting excited to envision what the Center could do better, and re-affirming how fortunate I am to have this privilege of directing the most dynamic Korean Studies center.

Late Chairman Woon-Hyung Lee of SeAH Group, in particular, is someone that I will be forever thankful to. Chairman Lee, who was so successful, yet so humble; so inspiring, yet so amiable. Chairman Lee's gifts have helped open the Woon-Hyung Lee and Haiam Foundation, which Chairman Lee directed, allowing the Center to award a total of 22 SeAH Haemil scholarships. At Chairman Lee's private service in Seoul, which LSAS Assistant Dean Peggy Burns and I attended, people remembered Chairman Lee, who was so successful, yet so humble; so inspiring, yet so amiable. Chairman Lee's gifts have significantly transformed the Center, and I personally will cherish the warm smiles that Chairman Lee shared at meetings. The SeAH Foundation has recently pledged another $100,000 support for the next five years. I'd like to thank Chairman Soon-Hyung Lee, the new chairman of the SeAH Foundation, and Taesung Lee, an executive director of SeAH Holdings.

The life at the Nam Center this academic year is filled with exciting and innovative opportunities and events. The Center offers three academic conferences this year. On October 12-13, we hosted the third gathering of the Perspectives on Contemporary Korea international conference series, themed (Re)Discovering Sport in Korea. On May 22-24, as part of the International Communication Association’s annual convention, the Center will be hosting an Asia-themed pre-conference, titled News Media and Citizenship in Asia: Values, Digital Politics, and Civic Well-Being. The Center inaugurated the International Conference of NextGen Korean Studies Scholars (NEKST) last year, and the 2014 NEKST conference will be held in May of 2014.

The Nam Center continues its commitment to student programming. The graduate exchange program with the Seoul National University will enter into its third year. In February of 2014, Nam Center will be hosting the second annual meeting of the U-M/University of Southern California Korean Studies Undergraduate Conference. The Summer in Korea study abroad program, not surprisingly, proved to be a game changer for students even in its first year. This program, made possible by the generous gift from Chairman Dae-Woon Moon, is expected to draw lots of interest from students who want to study and experience Korea.

The CIC-Korean Studies e-School, which is funded by the Korea Foundation, is in its full implementation. This course share-initiative among CIC member universities leverages each school's faculty's expertise and the Nam Center is the administrative home of the CIC e-School. Through the e-School, students are able to take Korean studies courses that are not available at their respective schools and have an opportunity to engage students at different campuses. Although there are things that need to improve, this initiative is certainly an important forward-step for Korean studies in this region.

There have been lots of changes to center staffing. Joonhye Lee, a long time Center Administrator, left the post to be the assistant director of the U-M-Confucius Institute, a well-deserved promotion for her, and I would like to thank her for the wonderful performance over the years. Do-Hee Morsman, the former outreach coordinator, was appointed as the new center administrator. This year, the outreach programming is managed by a team of new staff, David Yang, Mi-Eun Kim, and Jisu Ryu. Soyoung Lee has been appointed as the CIC’s e-School Coordinator, and Adrienne Sords, Senior, Social Computing Informatics, Korean Language, joined our office as an online coordinator. Not only did I gain a more comprehensive understanding of Korea academically, but my interest in Korean studies also doubled as a result of my time spent in Seoul.

Noinj Kwak

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An Interview with Chairman Dae-Woon Moon

How did you come to the University of Michigan?
I was advised to go to the University of Michigan for my MBA by Professor Suk-Chul Yuon. I learned Operational Research from him during my senior year of college. Professor Yuon was a visiting Post-Doc fellow at University of Michigan Business School, beginning in the 1970’s.

What images and memories come to mind when you think of the University of Michigan?
I have many great memories during my time at the University of Michigan. When I think of the University of Michigan, I also think about what a great city Ann Arbor is and how this city provides a wonderful environment for students to improve their knowledge. Lastly, something I appreciated about the University of Michigan was how this institution continually strives to improve their academic environment.

How did you arrive at the idea for the Summer in Korea program?
The director of Nam Center, Professor Nojin Kwak, and Assistant Dean of LSA, Mrs. Peggy Burns, visited my office several times and we were able to discuss opportunities that I could partner with the University of Michigan and contribute to the school.

What do you hope that the students who participate in the Summer in Korea program will take away from their experience?
The first thing I would love to see in our students who are participating in the “Summer in Korea” program would generate a better understanding about Korean culture, Korean history and social awareness among the people. Even though some students may struggle to transition to Korean culture, if they are able to learn through their experiences, I think they will have gained much more than just receiving course credit.

What kind of contributions do you think that places like the Nam Center can make to enhance the position of Korea on the global stage?
University of Michigan is one of the greatest Universities in the United States. Since U of M is such a globalized school, our graduates are able to work in many different areas all around the world. Therefore, if our students are able to provide a better understanding and knowledge about Korea, history, culture, and language, then naturally, our country’s reputation will rise on the global stage.
Overseas Korean Cultural Heritage Foundation Research Team Visits UMMA

From August 19 through August 30, 2013, a team of five Korean art specialists and two professional photographers visited the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) to conduct a comprehensive survey of its Korean art collection. During their two-week visit, the team measured, photographed, and examined more than 400 objects from UMMA’s collection.

For this visit, OKCHF brought together preeminent scholars in their respected fields, including Rha Sunhwa, former Director of the Collections and Cataloging Department of Ewha Women’s University (ceramics), Song Manyoung, Senior Curator of the National Folk Museum and former professor of Hongik University (woodcraft and folklore objects), and two researchers from OKCHF, Kim Donghyon (Buddhist art) and Oh Gayan (painting). Due to the fact that many masterpieces from the collection are permanently displayed in the Woos-Hyung Lee and the Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art in the Maxine and Stuart Frankel and the Frankel Family Wing at UMMA, the research and photography of these objects were done inside the gallery during hours in which the Museum was closed to the public. The two study rooms, usually used for class visits during academic year, became the ad hoc research site for the most of the remaining collection. Experienced staff from UMMA’s Collections Department orchestrated a complex task of moving, presenting, and storing the objects, to ensure that the team’s survey process was as smooth as possible.

The research and publication program of Korean art collections in foreign institutions has long been spearheaded by Korea’s National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage. More than 20 museums in North America, Europe, and Japan have benefited from the program, including the Guimet Museum in Paris, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Tokyo National Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Since OKCHF was established in July 2012, it has completed a survey of the Korean art collections of the University of Minnesota, the UCLA Library, and the University of Vermont. These programs not only provide participating institutions with valuable information about their collections, they also help to disseminate the research about each collection to other institutions worldwide.

The development of the project was guided by academic advisors in Korea and the United States. As part of their work, the team conducted in-depth research on the history and context of the art objects, and contributed to the understanding of the cultural significance of these artifacts.

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We would like to express our gratitude to the Nam Center for Korean Studies for support. The second Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lecture was held at the Rackham Amphitheatre, on March 20, 2013. The Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lecture was established in remembrance of Elder Sang-Yong Nam who passed away on March 29, 2011, and for his inspiration in developing Korean studies here at the University of Michigan. Dr. Sang-Woo Nam, Dean of the KDI school of Public Policy and Management and Executive Secretary of the OECD-Korea policy Centre, was invited to speak at this year’s memorial lecture. The 2013 Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lecture opened with remarks by Professors Youngju Ryu, Ken Kilbom, John Ahn, and Andrew Nam. Dr. Sang-Woo Nam’s lecture titled, “Korean Chaebol: Heroes or Villains?” The term, chaebol, refers to the nation’s family-controlled business conglomerates. This lecture explored the complex relationship between the chaebol and the Korean economy, highlighting their impact on economic growth, political influence, and social cohesion. It also shed light on the challenges faced by the chaebol in adapting to modern market trends and regulations.

The Nam Center for Korean Studies presented the 2013 Sang-Yong Nam Award in Korean Studies to Minjoo Kim. Minjoo graduated from the University of Michigan with a triple major in Political Science, International Studies, and Economics in 2012 and left her mark on campus by leading various Korean interest groups as well as garnering numerous distinctions and awards. She is currently in a Master’s program in City Planning, with a concentration on Community and Economic Development at the University of Pennsylvania, where she continues her efforts to examine Korean communities both at home and abroad. She plans to donate a portion of this award to Project T.E.A.C.H., a non-profit organization devoted to serve underprivileged students in Korea.
U-M/SNU Graduate Exchange Program

This May, more than forty graduate students and professors from across the US and Korea descended to Ann Arbor for a four-day gathering among students from Seoul National, the Nam Center, and universities across the US and Korea. The event was highlighted by the first annual two-day conference on Korean Studies, organized by the U-M and SNU students, called NEXTK (NextGen Korean Studies Scholars). Based on the success, the conference promises to be one of the leading graduate student conferences in Korean Studies in the US in the coming years.

The topic of the conference this year was “Translating Value and the Value of Translation,” with a keynote lecture from Serk Bae Suh, professor of Japanese and Korean literature at the University of California, Irvine.

The U-M/SNU exchange program, which had been planned for more than a year, was a resounding success thanks to the joint efforts of the Nam Center staff and student organizers: Ha Yeon Lee (Anthropology & Social Work), Inha Sohn (Asian Languages & Cultures), Susan Hwang (Asian Languages & Cultures), and Michael Prentice (Anthropology).

The panels were held, each panel concluding with insightful remarks from faculty discussants (Youngju Ryu, Michael Prentice, PhD Candidate (Anthropology) and Ernie Lee, PhD Candidate (Anthropology)).

The conference was certainly the first of its kind, bringing together a range of academic fields and topics, including food studies, Joseon-era history, Japanese Buddhism and many others. Faculty discussants from U-M and SNU provided commentary and critical feedback. On Friday, participants were welcomed by the keynote from Professor Suh on the topic of “Translation and the Colonial Desire for Transparency” following which participants continued academic and social mingling at Seoul Garden with a feast for the eyes. On Saturday, the conference concluded with a riveting roundtable event discussing the problems and potentials of translation across English and Korean sides of the Korean Studies spectrum.

The exchange concluded with a roof-top session, concluding with insightful remarks from faculty discussants (Youngju Ryu, Michael Prentice, PhD Candidate (Anthropology) and Ernie Lee, PhD Candidate (Anthropology)).
Transgression as a Secular Value: Korea in Transition?

The conference in the Perspectives on Contemporary Korea series was held in Ann Arbor, MI on Oct 25-26, 2012. Sixteen speakers in six panels spoke in front of 60 attendees addressing different angles of contemporary Korean society and the emergence of transgressive acts as a secular value. Crossing over limits, infringing on the law, and ignoring convention expressed a deep appreciation to the Academy of Korean Studies for its active support since the preparatory phase of this conference series. Conference organizers would like to express a deep appreciation to the Academy of Korean Studies for its active support since the preparatory phase of this conference series.

Taking cue from the proliferation of successful Korean films that take transgression as their central theme, the conference brought together scholars from social sciences, humanities, and the law to address these and other similar questions about the significance of transgression in modern and pre-modern Korea. Papers explored topics such as changing gender roles, modern legal precedent, widening generational gaps, upward mobility, transgression as an agent of social change, and physical acts of transgression such as extreme violence or the use of products derived from the human body in the beauty industry. Nancy Abelmann (University of Illinois) provided the keynote address titled “The Melodrama of Mobility, Transgression as an Agent of Social Change, and Physical Acts of Transgression.”

The conference was organized by Professors John Ahn (ALC) and Nojin Kwak (Comm. Studies, Nam Center). Conference organizers would like to express a deep appreciation to the Academy of Korean Studies for its active support since the preparatory phase of this conference series.

Korean Studies e-School

The Nam Center is the administrative host of the CIC Korean Studies e-School, which is funded by the Korea Foundation. The Korean Studies e-School program leverages the existing distance learning framework of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) to provide high-quality instruction in Korean Studies in the US Midwest region.

Following a very successful first year, the e-school program is offering a total of 8 Korean studies courses this academic year, with 10 universities participating as home campuses.

Perspectives on Contemporary Korea International Conference series

The third conference in Perspectives on Contemporary Korea International Conference Series, is “(Re) Discovering Sport in Korea: Guts, Glory and Geurimja.” This year’s conference is organized by Prof. Kwak (Dae Hee) and Director Kwak. Twenty speakers representing 25 different institutions from Israel, Korea, and the United States are participating including Jen-Ho Kang from Seoul National University (SNU), who is the keynote speaker. This conference is very significant because not only is this the first conference that focuses on sports in the context of Korea, but it is also the largest gathering regarding sports in the context of Korea in the United States. The conference focuses on the past, present, and future of sports and also the physical culture in the context of Korea from a multidisciplinary perspective. Director Nojin Kwak and Prof. Dae Hee Kwak hope to channel the integrative and cohesive characteristics inherent in sports into this conference, to discover—or re-discover—the role of sport in Korea.
Global Course Connections Study Abroad in Seoul

The course “Great Cities of Asia” served as an introduction to the history, sociology, and culture of four great cities in Asia: Tokyo, Seoul, Shanghai, and Mumbai. In addition to being the most populous cities in the world these four great cities are also the world’s most creative producers of new music, art, films, food, and dazzling consumer goods whose impact is felt all over the world. This course focused on a number of key issues that are critical to making sense of these cities: industrialization, modernization, cosmopolitanism, poverty, class, gender, suburbanization, alienation, urban culture, politics, etc. Students had the opportunity to continue their studies with a two-week study abroad trip to Seoul.

Jan Jimenez, Undergraduate Student

On May 11, 2013 I had the privilege to explore the city of Seoul with a few peers, along with Professor John Ahn and GSI Nora Hauk. Through CGIS and the GCC program, we were able to make the experience equally enjoyable as it was educational. Upon our arrival, we quickly became familiar with Seoul’s efficient and ubiquitous subway and bus systems and explored many nearby neighborhoods. The first day we climbed Bukaksan and on the second day we were able to meet with the students at Yonsei University’s international campus.

We also visited many historical Korean sites, such as Cheonggyecheon, Gyeongbokgung Palace, Namdaemun, Dongdaemun, and the DMZ and JSA. Along with sightseeing, we were able to experience little things that make Seoul special as well, like the food culture, haggling in marketplaces, picnicking in the park, and cycling around Yeouido. Along with exploring the city, we also learned a great deal through our group discussions and discussions that surround Seoul. For instance, we experienced Hallyu Sve via K-pop, witnessed the power and regular presence of plastic surgery, shared our thoughts on cultural differences and dating, and talked about the relationship between North and South Korea. I was so embedded in Korean culture and language that I could catch myself answering with “네.” If you would like to read in detail about my trip and how I spent each day, please feel free to take a look at the blog that I kept for my class www.janjinweblog.com

Finally, I would like to thank the Nam Center for Korean Studies for offering financial assistance with this trip. I appreciate the support greatly and hope that my experience made the funding worthwhile for the center as it was for me. Thank you.

Ryan Lee (B.A. 2013)

KLP End of Year Ceremony

U-M/USC Korean Studies Undergraduate Conference

The U-M/USC Undergraduate Exchange Program is aimed not only to pique students’ interest in Korean studies and contemporary Korean issues early in their careers, but also to help them receive the necessary structure and guidance that will allow them to continue on to graduate degrees in Korean studies. Nam Center undergraduate fellows and their experience will culminate in a annual conference with their counterparts from the University of Southern California (USC) Korean Studies Institute. In February 2013, U-M students traveled to USC to present papers based on their work with faculty members and other experiences, participate in an open discussion session with Korean Studies faculty, and learn about additional research as well as future career opportunities in Korean Studies. In 2014, USC student fellows will travel to Ann Arbor for the conference and other exchange programs.

Ryan Lee

Korean Language Program

During AY 2012–2013, Dr. Sangkyung Han, the Korea Foundation director of the Korean Language Program (KLP), taught 3rd year Korean for the first time and continued to teach 4th year Korean classes. It has been encouraging to see a steady enrollment number over the past few years, specifically seeing growth every year in the 4th year Korean classes. For the same academic year, Professors Kyongmi Park and Hunjin Jung taught 1st and 2nd year Korean classes, and Professor Woonjo Kim was hired as a new lecturer and taught 2nd year Korean class.

The KLP continues to provide great opportunities for their students, one of which, is our Korean language table. Along with students having the ability to practice and apply what they learn inside the classroom, it is an outside context. Also, this opportunity also allows for relationships to form among our Korean students.

Ryan Lee
Korea from “A Single Shard”

B sed City Jr. High; City School, Grand Blanc; and Levey Middle School, Southfield were the 2012–2013 recipients of the Nam Center’s grant for the Korea from “A Single Shard” middle school program. 5-7th grade students from these schools received a classroom set of the book “A Single Shard” by Linda Sue Park to follow the adventures of an orphan in Goryeo dynasty Korea learn the art of Celadon pottery. In the classroom, they explored this setting with books, DVDs and artifacts provided by the Center while reading the book. Then they visited the University of Michigan’s Museum of Art to see real examples of Goryeo Celadon and learn about the science and art of ceramic making. These students also had the chance to try the sanggam technique for decorating pottery with ceramic artist Carol Socks-Porter.

Koreans, Who Are They?

F or the Nam Center’s fourth an- nual Professional Development Workshop, participating K-14 teachers explored the history and identities of an cient and modern Korea with the theme “Koreans, who are they?—Reflections on identity in a globalized Korea.” The workshop was composed of three major sessions with traditional Korean identities, identities of Korea as divided nations and identities of Korea as a globalized nation, according to the Korean historical timeline. The morning session began with a lecture of Paul Kaliszewski (Cranbrook Middle School for Boys), who emphasized the importance of Korea in the K-14 curriculum and shared his experience at the KAFE (Korean Academy for Education) seminar with other teachers who came from Southeast Michigan area. Do-Hae Morrisan, the Nam Center administrator who learned Korean folk-painting under the folk-painting artist Jae Gwon Eom, led a hands-on folk painting demonstration with explaining Korean traditional ideas embodied in symbols of the paintings. Jo Yiu followed with the seminar about the Korean identity as divided nations. As a K-14 educator in South Korea, she guided teachers on how South and North Korea, which had shared a strong identity as one nation more than 1,200 years, developed two stark different identities after the division.

After lunch of Korean cuisine and watching a Korean film ‘Welcome to Dongmakgol’, Professor Sangjoon Lee started the main lecture, identities of a multicultural globalized Korea. The lecture and the following round table discussion provided a valuable opportunity to learn about the changing identities of Koreans through the contemporary Korean cinema and popular culture. To close out the day, an activity was given to discuss the way in which teachers could apply the resources and lessons from the conference to their own classroom instructions. Forming in small groups, teachers develop various lesson plans about Korean culture and history, and shared the ideas with their colleagues. The response to the teacher workshop has been overwhelmingly positive, with participants sharing what they have learned with other teachers at their schools and their excitement to learn more about Korea.

Asia Library

Korean Studies Collection

The history of the Korean studies collection can be traced back to 1982 when a number of Korean graduate students and local Korean community leaders realized the weakness of Korea related materials and launched the “Donating one book per person” campaign. Starting from only 100 Korean books, the collection has steadily increased through the years. One epoch-making development of the Collection is to join the Korean Collections Consortium of North America (KCCNA: http://koreancollections.org/) as the 10th member in 2003. The Consortium is funded by the Korea Foundation (http://en.kf.or.kr) and each member is committed in develop- ing in-depth collections on assigned subject areas to make them available through Inter Library Loan. Established in 1994 with 6 founding members, the membership continued to grow to 18 prominent academic libraries by 2013. Michigan’s assigned subject areas are as follows:

- Auto industry, Historiography, Democratization, Reunification questions (1945- )
- Labor relations, Publications on Korea and Korean published in Japan, Publications on Korea and Koreans published in Detroit and Mid-West Area
- During the past decade, the Korean stud- ies collection has grown more than 300 %, becoming one of the fastest growing collec- tions in North America. As of June 2013, the collection comprises around 50,000 volumes in the Korean humanities and social sciences, predominantly in modern history, social and economic conditions, language & literature, and political science. All major Korean stud- ies scholarly periodicals are available online via DBPIA, KISS, RISS International, and Artslibre.

With the strong commitment and sup- port of the Korea Foundation, the Korean Studies Collection will continue to help fa- cilitate groundbreaking scholarship in Korean Studies. For further information, please visit the Korean Studies Research Guides at http://guides.lib.umich.edu/koreanstudies.
Student and Alumni News

Ha Yeon Lee (PhD Student, Joint Program in Social Work and Anthropology) was able to broaden her understanding on many topics such as, the Vietnamese marriage migrants in an increasingly multiethnic Korean society, the works of NGOs and government agencies, research on the issue in Korea, and the lives of women in their families and communities as part of her pre-dissertation research. Ha Yeon also spent time conducting participant-observations and had informal conversations with people at NGOs and a Vietnamese Church in Incheon. This trip provided Ha Yeon with many thought-provoking questions regarding her research and was very satisfying with the productivity of her trip.

BoRin Kim (PhD Candidate, School of Public Health) is focusing her research on dynamic linkages between various types of social support and health among older people across different social and cultural contexts, particularly in social and cultural contexts of South Korea where the cultural norm of filial piety, and the tendency to value privacy and independence in old age coexist. Her dissertation work examines the living arrangements of older people, which are the most proximate social environments. Policy concerns have arisen over the transition in living arrangements of older Koreans reflecting a weakening of traditional family support. Therefore, research on health and living arrangements is particularly important in expanding social services for older Koreans, and thus a vital area of public health research.

Michael Prentice (PhD Candidate, Anthropology) has been embarking on two years of ethnographical research. He is working for his dissertation on changing policies and practices around communication, democracy, and hierarchy among Korea’s largest companies. He visited a number of organizations in Seoul, including churches, universities, and corporations to understand how ideas about hierarchy are changing and in what ways communication practices are related. The majority of his research involved interviewing human resources personnel at major corporations and spent a year as an embedded worker at two corporations. While in Seoul, he attended Sogang University’s intensive language program in San Francisco and connect with other people in the film industry who have moved to the U.S.

Jisu Ryu (MA Candidate, School of Education) is studying educational infrastructure in South Korea through cooperation and Development (OECD) nations. To conduct a comparative review, she selected three-countries from the high-, middle- and low-performing nations respectively, based on student achievement rankings of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). Those countries are South Korea, Finland, and New Zealand (High performers); United Kingdom, Sweden, and Poland (middle performers); and Mexico, Turkey, and Italy (low performers). Ms. Ryu will examine the framework of educational infrastructure for each country, and analyze what elements of these infrastructures are correlated to high student achievement, thus gaining insight into what factors build a strong educational system.

Sara Steams (Undergraduate Student, Asian Languages and Cultures) received an opportunity from the FLAG program to travel to Seoul, Korea this past summer. During her time there she was able to learn about the Korean language, culture, and meet new friends. She quoted her experience to be, “mind-blowing” and that she has no doubt the experience she has gained has been a person from her time in Korea.

Cynthia Yoon (B.A. Political Science ’13), assisted the Center with Outreach activities after her Fulbright in Vietnam, and is currently at Oxford University in England as a Clarendon Scholar in Migration Studies.

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Jisu Ryu (MA Candidate, School of Education) is studying educational infrastructure in South Korea through cooperation and Development (OECD) nations. To conduct a comparative review, she selected three-countries from the high-, middle- and low-performing nations respectively, based on student achievement rankings of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). Those countries are South Korea, Finland, and New Zealand (High performers); United Kingdom, Sweden, and Poland (middle performers); and Mexico, Turkey, and Italy (low performers). Ms. Ryu will examine the framework of educational infrastructure for each country, and analyze what elements of these infrastructures are correlated to high student achievement, thus gaining insight into what factors build a strong educational system.

Sara Steams (Undergraduate Student, Asian Languages and Cultures) received an opportunity from the FLAG program to travel to Seoul, Korea this past summer. During her time there she was able to learn about the Korean language, culture, and meet new friends. She quoted her experience to be, “mind-blowing” and that she has no doubt the experience she has gained has been a person from her time in Korea.

Cynthia Yoon (B.A. Political Science ’13), assisted the Center with Outreach activities after her Fulbright in Vietnam, and is currently at Oxford University in England as a Clarendon Scholar in Migration Studies.
Facility and Staff Updates

Faculty

David Chung (Professor, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design) was appointed the second Kim Koo Visiting Professor at Harvard University in the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies. The Kim Koo Visiting Professorship at Harvard was established by a generous gift from Dr. Ho Young Kim and Mrs. Min Kim of the Kim Koo Foundation in honor of the memory of Kim Koo, the famous Korean president of the exiled Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea during Korea’s colonial occupation by Japan. At Harvard, Professor Chung taught a class on past war Korean film titled, Korea: Rarobon. He worked closely with the Korea Institute and the Harvard Film Archive during his residency in Cambridge. During the summer, David Chung continued his relationship as faculty with the Ewha Harvard summer program.

Nojin Kwak (Director, Nam Center for Korean Studies, and Associate Professor, Department of Communication Studies) was a co-chair and keynote speaker for the International Conference on e-Democracy and Open Government (JeDEM 2012). The conference was held in Singapore, Nov. 14–15 2012. Dr. Kwak is also a guest editor for the forthcoming special issue titled "New Communication models for decentralizing government relations". She is a leading role from the birth of the repository. She hopes to pursue either a Masters in Exercise Science in hopes of becoming a College Strength and Conditioning Coach, or work in the financial field and coach Olympic Weightlifting on the side.

Jaeyeon Ryu, a public administrator at the Nam Center for Korean Studies, held a Ph.D. in Communication at the University of Michigan. Lee is a Korea Foundation Visiting Assistant Professor at the Nam Center for Korean Studies at the University of Michigan. Prior to the doctoral program at Michigan, he studied political economy of East Asia at Stanford University. Lee’s current research agenda encompass social impacts of entertainment media and new communication technologies in cross-national and cross-cultural contexts.

Korea Foundation Visiting Assistant Professor

Moon Lee holds a Ph.D. in Communication at the University of Michigan. Lee is a Korea Foundation Visiting Assistant Professor at the Nam Center for Korean Studies at the University of Michigan. Prior to the doctoral program at Michigan, she studied political economy of East Asia at Stanford University. Lee’s current research agenda encompass social impacts of entertainment media and new communication technologies in cross-national and cross-cultural contexts.

Staff

Formerly the Outreach Coordinator, Do-Hee Morsman assumed the primary administrative responsibilities at the Center in December of 2012, overseeing existing scholastic and cultural programming. As the new Center Administrator, Morsman hopes to increase the Center’s mission to support and enhance knowledge of Korea on campus and in the community at large.

Originally from Toronto, she moved to Kansas City after meeting her husband in Seoul. She received both a BA in Linguistics and Mass Communications and a MA in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics from York University in Toronto, Canada before PhD work in Linguistics at the University of Toronto.

Jay Choi, office assistant at the Nam Center, is currently a junior at the University of Michigan. He is majoring in Economics and minor in Applied Statistics and Chinese. Jay is currently the VP of the Nam Center’s student association, a undergraduate fellow at the Nam Center For Korean Studies, the sports and social chair for the Korean Student Association, a undergraduate research fellow at the Nam Center for Korean Studies, apart of the Korean Student Association, and was a former market research analyst of Michigan Advertising and Marketing Club.

Park Patricia, office assistant at the Nam Center, is an undergraduate senior at the University of Michigan. She is from Rochester Hills, MI and is currently studying actuarial mathematics. For her future plans she hopes to pursue either a Masters in Exercise Science in hopes of becoming a College Strength and Conditioning Coach, or work in the financial field and coach Olympic Weightlifting on the side.

Faculty Spotlight

Markus Nornes (Professor and Chair, Screen Arts and Cultures) visited Korea to research the use of calligraphy in Korean cinema. He met filmmakers, designers, calligraphers, historians, and visited the props department of the KOFIC Namyangju Studios. He also gave lectures at the Korean Film Archive for a conference sponsored by Korean National University for the Arts, and also at Sungkyunkwan University. Recent publications include “The Crisis” (for Concentric, on the present state of Asian documentary), “The Creation and Construction of Asian Cinema Redux” (for Film History, a historiography of the term “Asian cinema”), “Eastward” (for The BFI Companion to Documentary, on the history of Asian documentary and its relationship to the term,” Yamagata—Asia—Europe; The International Film Festival Short-Circuit” (for an upcoming Oxford reader on Japanese film), as well as “The Twinking Eyes of the Secret Room” (a Japanese essay in memory of director Wakamasu Koji).
Upcoming Events 2013–2014

Chuseok Dae Party
9/21/2013
In Korea, around the Autumn equinox every year, the whole nation takes a three day holiday to return to their hometowns and reunite with family. The Nam Center invites you to join our family in celebrating the harvest moon this year. Filled with programing for all ages, guests can watch traditional and contemporary Korean music and dance performances by U-M students.

A2KIFF 2013
Michigan Theater, 601 E. Liberty
The Nam Center and the U-M Screen Arts and Cultures Department. A2KIFF presents a critical selection of independent films screened in an intense four day long period in the fall term. The films will be screened in Korean with English subtitles, open to the public. Free admission.

Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lecture
This annual lecture will take place March 2014. Details TBA.

Minhwa in the Midwest
2/3–2/7/2014
A lecture on this art form that captures traditional Korean symbolism and mythology will be given by Professor Byungmo-Chung (Columbia University) on Feb 6 which will be followed by a series of hands-on demonstrations by artists Chang Soo Song and Jung-Ye Nam at various locations at U-M and in Ann Arbor Feb 7–9. An exhibition of Minhwa (Korean Folk Art) is planned for the Michigan League Feb 3–9.

Korean Cinema Now Winter 2014 Film Series
Showcasing the best and brightest of contemporary popular Korean cinema, the Nam Center’s winter film series offers free films at the Michigan Theater most Saturdays during the winter term at 2 pm. Films are screened in Korean with English subtitles and open to the public. Titles subject to change.

Student Groups
KISA
The University of Michigan Korean International Student Association is an organization to promote unity and the well being of Korean students. KISA is committed to inform and help prospective students of the University of Michigan to make a smooth adjustment to the new academic and cultural environment on campus. https://maizepages.umich.edu/organization/kisa

KSA
The Korean Student Association Graduate at the University of Michigan is a nonprofit organization established in 1971 and has been working to foster international cooperation especially between the U.S. and Korea. https://umich.collegelink.net/organization/kas

KBC Undergrad
KBC Undergrad works collaboratively with MBA students pursuing career interest in business and passion to define the best career path for their futures. https://maizepages.umich.edu/organization/kbc

KSEF
The Korean Student Association is an organization that strives to increase awareness about Korean culture. https://umich.collegelink.net/organization/ksef

KSEA
The Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association is a non-profit professional organization established in 1971 and has been working to promote the advancement of science and technology for the general welfare of society and to foster international cooperation especially between the U.S. and Korea. https://umich.collegelink.net/organization/ksea

KUAS
Korean Undergraduate Association is a group of Korean undergraduate students at the University of Michigan pursuing career interest in business and passion to foster international cooperation. https://maizepages.umich.edu/organization/kuas

Sinaboro
Sinaboro is a Korean Traditional Drumming Group at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor. Sinaboro seeks to share Korean culture with the Ann Arbor community and beyond through samulnori and more. https://maizepages.umich.edu/organization/sinaboro

2013–2014 Colloquium Series
All colloquia will be held at 4 pm in Room 1636 of the International Institute (II) unless specified otherwise. The International Institute is located in the School of Social Work Building at 1080 South University Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

9/25/2013 Fellowship Forum
Irha Sohn, Inah Park, BobLin Kim - University of Michigan Graduate Students supported by the Nam Center present on current research and work.


11/6/2013 Earl Jackson Jr - Professor, National Chiao Tung University, “Subjective Ecologies in the Films of Kim Ki-young and Kim Ki-Duk”

12/4/2013 Sonja Ryang - Professor, University of Iowa, “Reading Volcano Island: Reflections on Joo 4.5 on its Fifty-Fifth Year”

1/12/2014 David McCann - Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University, “Performance Presentation in Korean Poetry: The Sijo”

1/14/2014 Byung-Mo Chung - Professor, Gyeongsu University, Minhsa, Korean Folk Art (Hatcher Graduate Library, Gallery, Room 100)


4/9/2014 Janet Poole - Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Toronto, “The Remains of Colonial History”
Enclosed is my gift of:  □ $50  □ $100  □ $250  □ $500  □ $1,000

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Gifts to the Nam Center for Korean Studies help support research, teaching, the Korean Language Program and the Korean Collection in the Asia Library. The Center also helps student organizations, provides graduate fellowships, and sponsors visiting scholars, public lectures, our film series and many other special events. Your gift will also help us recruit and retain the finest students and faculty. If you are interested in helping to support the mission of the center, please contact the Nam Center office. The University of Michigan can also work with your financial advisors to design a trust or bequest.

Please detach the form below and return with your check (payable to University of Michigan) to:

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