Dear Friends of the Nam Center:

The Nam Center for Korean Studies began the academic year 2011-12 with a bang. A really exciting bang! The Nam Center and its faculty have explored various initiatives and opportunities that would enhance its scholarly programs, student learning, and cultural outreach, and I am extremely thrilled to report that the Center has recently secured major gifts and grants, which altogether are worth about $2.9 million. These funds will certainly open new chapters for Korean Studies at U-M. Here is a brief summary of the recently secured funds:

- **Chairman Woon-Hyung Lee**, a U-M alumnus and the Chairman of SaehA Group, will establish two endowment funds at the Center, each with $500,000: Woon-Hyung Lee Korea Culture Fund and Woon-Hyung Lee International Korean Studies Fund. These funds will strengthen the Center’s programming that promotes cultural, educational, and international experiences. The University’s President’s Donor Challenge Fund will contribute additional $250,000 to the Woon-Hyung Lee International Korean Studies endowment. In addition, the SaehA-Haen Art & Science Scholarship Foundation, for which Chairman Lee serves as Director of the Board, has committed to providing $50,000 each of the next three years in support of the Center’s activities in cultural and teacher-training programs.

- The Academy of Korean Studies awarded an Overseas Leading University Program for Korean Studies (OLUKS) grant to the Center. This five-year grant that totals KRW 1,000,000,000 (approximately $860,000) will significantly strengthen the Center’s scholarly programs. During the next five years, the grant will allow the Center to fund state-of-the-art research projects, international conferences, publications, and student fellowships, among others.

- The Korea Foundation agreed to provide funds to create the Korea Foundation Korean Language Program Directorship. This $750,000 gift will be utilized to make the directorship a permanent position at the U-M, thereby bolstering the Korean Language Program (KLP) with organizational stability and programmatic leadership.

This academic year is filled with exciting events and programs. We have a strong line-up of colloquium speakers and hosted the annual gathering of the North American Workshop on Korean Literature (NAKOKIL) in October. The Center will sponsor two major conferences in 2012, titled “Ma hyo 2.0: The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media” on April 6 and “Social Media and Citizenship-in-Asia” on May 24. One of the Center’s main focuses this year is to strengthen the Center’s graduate student community, and we will launch some programs that will benefit our fabulous graduate students. The very first campus- and community-wide Chuseok event at the beginning of September was very successful, and the film series, whose theme this year is “Cinematic City: Seoul,” continues to be a popular attraction.

Several faculty and staff have joined the Nam Center community this year. Assistant Professor John Ahn, who studies Korean Buddhism, began his position in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. Dr. Sangjoon Lee, the Center’s post-doctoral fellow, teaches courses on Korean and Asian films in the Department of Screen Arts and Cultures. Hunjin Jung joined the Korean Language Program as a teaching faculty member. Do-Hee Morsman and Anna Boot are now on board as the Center’s outreach coordinator and office assistant, respectively. This year’s Korea Foundation Graduate Fellows are Susan Hwang (Korean Literature) and Inho Sohn (Korean Film).

Dr. Insung Ko, who had served as acting director of the KLP, accepted a position at Washington University, and Mitch Park, who took care of the Nam Center’s computing and multi-media needs, left to start his professional career. Many thanks go to Dr. Ko and Mitch for their wonderful years at the Nam Center.

Elder Sang-Yong Nam’s passing in late March is something that still eludes me. I imagine how excited he would have been in completing other people. I imagine how passionate he would have been in envisioning what’s next the program should aim at. I miss him.

Nojin Kwak

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**In Memoriam:**

Elder Sang-Yong Nam

March 5, 1934 —March 29, 2011

There is an excitement that comes with a new school year and all the hope and promise and challenges that accompany the fall semester. It has been over six months since our family leader, Elder Sang Y. Nam has passed away and while there is a big empty space in our hearts and we all miss him dearly, life marches on. Many of the dreams and goals that were established while Elder Nam was alive are still in place and there has been progress on some points, but there is much work still to do.

The Nam Family is still here and still committed to the long term success that the Nam Center can achieve by working with all of you and the University of Michigan and other entities. Obviously, no one person can replace Elder Nam’s passion and commitment and drive, but through a collective and sustained and focused effort the process of constant improvement and the commitment to excellence is in place and will be for as long as the Nam Family is around. We want to extend many thanks to all of you that have been supporting the Nam Center efforts and especially want to recognize Prof. Nojin Kwak for his leadership and Ms. Jiyoung Lee for her administrative excellence. Apologies to all of the important team members that we did not identify by name as it would make this welcoming letter too long but please know that all of your work and efforts are greatly appreciated by our family.

We look forward to meeting new friends and seeing familiar faces again as our family will be active in Nam Center events and supporting the students, faculty, workers, alumni, and the University of Michigan while making the Nam Center a program associated with the Leaders and Best.

Go Blue!

Sincerely,

Moon S. Nam and Andrew and Anthony Nam and their families
Saying Good-Bye to a Dear Friend

The past year has been filled with significant milestones for the Nam Center for Korean Studies, the highlight being when the Center was officially named the Nam Center for Korean Studies in honor of its benefactor and longtime friend Elder Sang-Yong Nam.

On August 31, 2010, a standing-room only crowd gathered to witness its inauguration as the Nam Center for Korean Studies. Dignitaries from across the nation traveled to the University of Michigan to observe the dedication and honor the center’s longtime benefactors and friends, Sang-Yong and Moon-Sook Nam. The Nams, their sons, Andrew and Anthony, their daughters-in-law, and their seven grandchildren, were joined by U-M President Mary Sue Coleman and College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Dean Terrence J. McDonald. Nam Center director Nojin Kwak served as emcee.

Elder Nam was well known on campus as Korean Studies was not the only beneficiary of his legendary generosity. He also supported the Asia Library, the University of Michigan Museum of Art, and the College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

As a dedicated member of the Alumni Association at Michigan, he was awarded its highest honor, the Distinguished Alumni Service Award, in 2010. Despite being diagnosed with cancer, Elder Nam lived the last months of his life with enthusiasm. At his 77th birthday on March 5, 2011, Elder Nam was surrounded by friends and family, sharing his joie de vivre and wisdom in his trademark funny and engaging style. He will be terribly missed by those who loved and knew him over the years. As his son, Anthony Nam, says on the preceding page, his dedication to the Center and to the University he so loved will be carried on through the Nam Family. This continuation of his dedication and commitment is a tremendously meaningful way for his memory to be honored.

“I give to build recognition and respect for the history and culture of my homeland.”

August 31, 2010: Nojin Kwak speaks to a standing-room only audience at the Nam Center inauguration ceremony.

Elder Nam poses with the Bboy dancers after their demonstration and Q & A session.
Korean Exhibitions at UMMA

From April 2 to June 26 of 2011, the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) presented the first major temporary exhibition of Korean art, *Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists*, in its newly renovated facilities. The artists presented in this exhibition interpret their heritage from one of the world’s greatest ceramic traditions with a modern sensibility nurtured through their diverse training and artistic contexts. Kim Yikyung (born 1935), one of Korea’s leading ceramicists, combines the white porcelain ware of Korea’s Joseon period (1392–1910) with a strong sense of forms developed through her interest in and study of African art and the iconic sculptural work of Constantin Brancusi (1876–1957). The facetted and angular-shaped works in the exhibition are both functional objects and contemporary sculpture. Yoon Kyoung-cho (born 1946) is attracted to the dynamism and spontaneity of historical building膏 ware, graph stone work with surface decorations of delicate white clay slip made in the early Joseon period. Traditional techniques merge with a personal and contemporary approach, as the artist creates large, powerful vessels reflecting his Buddhist beliefs and deep appreciation for nature. Similarly, Lee Kang Hyo (born 1956) also takes the banchung tradition as his inspiration in order to create groups of objects with playful and subtle effects. The series of plates called *The Sky* (2009) is a fascinating study of the manipulation of clay, glass, and fire designed to reach their maximum expressional potential.

Two artists whose careers and practices bridge Korea and the West, Lee Young-Jae (born 1950) and Lee Jin Chin (born 1963), make large-scale installation work. Lee Young-Jae’s installation of 111 bowls, all placed on floor, was born out of her experience of making communal food for a church in her adopted country of Germany. However, the delicate hue and design of her bowls—each slightly different—ties her work to the Goryeo period (918–1392) celadons. Lee Jin Chi’s work of stacked pots, on the other hand, shares the simple and gregarious nature of Korean folk pottery known as onggi ware. Lee grew up in the United States and later moved to Korea, and has been fascinated by onggi ware—used for fermenting cooking sauce and vegetables, and often stored outside—visible in the Korean countryside. Yet his exhibition strategy, with its dynamic use of space, aligns well with international contemporary art practice.

In 2012 UMMA will feature the contemporary artist duo from Seoul, Korea, Young-hae Chang Heavy Industries (YHCHI), from August 18th through November 18th. Blurring the boundaries between media, technologies, and cultural histories, YHCHI has gained international acclaim for their “net art” productions—edgy digital poetry presentations that flash to the beat of compelling musical scores. Their sophisticated and seductive narratives feature words in simple but bold typeface that flash from the relationship between neoliberal capitalism and a revival of interest in historical fiction and film in Korea to the representations of the child in colonial-period magazines. In accordance with NAOKOL’s central mission of mentoring, the discussions were carried out in an intense, concentrated workshop setting that allowed younger scholars to benefit from the feedback of their senior colleagues. These workshops were followed by in-depth dialogues about the common challenges facing scholars in the fledgling Korean literature and how a collective such as NAOKOL could help overcome these obstacles. The condensed and concentrated nature of the proceedings this year marked an interesting contrast to the tenor of last year’s events. Held over three days, NAOKOL 2010 broadly addressed the topic of translation, so crucial to the promotion of Korean literature in the Anglophone world, and offered both small academic workshops and public forums. Especially noteworthy in the latter category were the bilingual readings given by major Korean fiction-writers such as Kim Yong-sook and Kim Young-ha. Kim read from the brand new English translation of his novel, *Your Republic is Calling You*, an acclaimed portrait of lives and psyches in divided Korea. Shin read excerpts of the then unpublished English translation of Please Look After Mom and gave us the first intimate look (in America) of the novel that would go on to become a New York Times bestseller. Her stirring, intensely personal account of motherhood in a time of radical social transformation brought the audience to the verge of tears.

Now is a time of both excitement and concern for the field of Korean literature in North America. While faculty strength has improved significantly over the years, much uncertainty still remains about the future. The role of scholarly collectives like NAOKOL becomes all the more crucial in this context. At such a critical juncture, NAOKOL is both grateful and proud for the meaningful partnership it has forged with the University of Michigan and the Nam Center for Korean Studies.

Looking for Korean Journal Articles?

Many of the Library’s Korean journal and magazine subscriptions are online, and represented in *MyJEn*, the library catalog of the University of Michigan. Links to online journals are included in the *MyJEn* record for the journal or magazine title.

If you are looking for full-text journal articles written in Korean, you can search ArticlePlus from any library webpage just by selecting the ArticlesPlus tab above the search box and entering your search terms in the search box.

From a simple single search box, ArticlePlus searches full-text content from a wide variety of sources and returns a list of relevancy-ranked results. You can also access full-text Korean journal articles through Google Scholar. When you’re on campus and do a search in [Google Scholar](http://scholar.google.com) using Google Scholar, Scholar recognizes your computer as part of the UMich network and provides you with availability at UMich links next to article citations. When you’re off campus, please log into Scholar via Search Tools before your searches.

The Korean Studies Collection at the Asia Library provides a wide range of resources, including books, journals, electronic resources, and databases. Please visit the Research Guide at [http://go.slib.umich.edu/koreanstudies](http://go.slib.umich.edu/koreanstudies) and contact the Korean Studies Librarian to learn about the resources and research strategies available to you in your field of study.

Youngju Ryoo, Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures

North American Workshop on Korean Literature (NAOKOL) Convenes in Ann Arbor

Launched in 2008 with the mission of promoting Korean literary studies in North America, NAOKOL annually brings together scholars of Korean literature in the U.S. and Canada for a time of intellectual exchange and professional and academic mentoring. After two successful years at the University of Chicago, NAOKOL found a new home at the University of Michigan in 2010. With the generous support of the Nam Center and Korean Literature Translation Institute, NAOKOL returned to Ann Arbor this fall for the second year in a row. On an October day that turned out to be one of the windiest of the entire year, scholars from as far-flung locations as Vancouver and California, and New York and London, gathered at the University to discuss the latest scholarship on Korean literature and the state of the field.

The focus this year was on exploring possible points of contact between literary studies and media-based disciplines such as cinema and popular culture studies. Young, emerging scholars presented their latest work on topics ranging from the relationship between neoliberal capitalism and a revival of interest in historical fiction and film in Korea to the representations of the child in colonial-period magazines. In accordance with NAOKOL’s central mission of mentoring, the discussions were carried out in an intense, concentrated workshop setting that allowed younger scholars to benefit from the feedback of their senior colleagues. These workshops were followed by in-depth dialogues about the common challenges facing scholars in the fledgling Korean literature and how a collective such as NAOKOL could help overcome these obstacles.

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Engaging Korea: Comparative Approaches to Understanding Modern and Contemporary Korea, aims to investigate social, cultural, and political facets of modern and contemporary Korea in comparative contexts, with large—inter-national, inter-period, and inter-disciplinary. The project consists of a series of international conferences/symposia, fellowship programs for graduate students, a new Korean Studies book series and other strategic plans for publication, and state of the art research projects. A multi-disciplinary project team has been formed, led by Professor Nojin Kwak, director of the Nam Center for Korean Studies at U-M, and consists of 10 faculty members from seven different academic departments/schools at U-M.

As central components of the project, three categories of conferences/symposia will be organized with different foci. UM will host an annual Korean Studies Conference, titled “Comparative Perspectives on Korea,” with a wide range of participants from overseas and domestic institutions. A Korean Art and Culture Symposium, focusing on the renewed understanding of the Korean Wave and Korean Art in the global context, respectively, are being planned. Finally, an International Pre-Conference Series, titled “Medio and Citizenship in Asia,” will be organized annually as part of the International Communication Association’s annual convention. The pre-conference series will be co-sponsored with the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and is expected to become a premier venue for Asian communication studies, helping situate Korea in a broader, comparative context.

There will be three venues for scholarly publications. First, a new Korean Studies series, tentatively titled “Comparative Perspectives on Korea,” will be published by the U-M Press. The book series will dovetail the annual U-M Korean Studies conference series and the 2015 Korean Art and Culture symposium. Second, the grant will support four manuscript projects by junior faculty. Finally, the AKS grant will produce a number of publications in SSCI journals and other academic venues. Overall, it is expected that the AKS grant will help to publish a total of nine books.

The project is also poised to enhance the Akam Center for Korean Studies at U-M and potentially transform the field of Korean Studies by, among others, enhancing the significance of Korea in academic inquiries, particularly among those who have not yet considered the nuances and insights that Korean cases have to offer and helping the Nam Center solidify its role as a Korean Studies hub for the Midwest region of the U.S.

New Media and Citizenship in Asia: Social Media, Politics, and Community-Building International Communication Association Preconference Arizona State University, Phoenix May 24, 2012

The role of new communication technologies, such as the internet, social media, and mobile phones, in political and civic engagement has generated significant interest from not only scholars, but also organizations, politicians, and ordinary citizens. While recent events in the Middle East help recognize the potential of new communication media as an agent of change, macro-level political changes, these new communication tools are also being utilized in more traditional political processes, such as electoral campaigns.

In addition to the grant signing ceremony attended by College of Literature, Science, and the arts Dean Terrence J. McDonald, Associate Dean Teia Ardil, International Institute Director Ken Kollman, and Assistant Dean Peggy Burns, Nam Center faculty and graduate student representatives, President Chung and the delegates visited the Nam Center, toured the Wason-Hyang Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art at the U-M Museum of Art, and viewed the Asia Library. On Saturday afternoon, they met with a group of undergraduates for a Q&A luncheon where President Chung talked about his life and achievements. Afterwards, the delegates toured the campus and observed how much Ann Arbor and Central Campus has changed since President Chung was here as a Ph.D. student in Political Science in the 70’s.

President Chung and AKS delegation visit Ann Arbor

Hallyu 2.0: The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media April 6, 2012

Hallyu (the Korean Wave), a term coined to describe the widespread popularity and regional/trans-regional influence of Korean cultural products, has recently come into its own as a subject of academic inquiry and broad intellectual interest. However, while much attention has been paid to the impact of the Korean Wave on Korea’s national image or domestic economy, as well as its implications for transnational cultural flow, there has been little discussion about the impact of new communication technologies, such as social media.

Hallyu is indeed entering the new age of social media. For the last few years, a myriad of social networking websites have hosted the dissemination of Korea’s popular media content to regions where the traditional media had never reached before. “Hallyu 2.0: The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media” conference seeks to comprehend and interpret the meaning of this new and powerful cultural industry. The conference will stage interdisciplinary dialogues among scholars of cinema, media, and visual studies, and of area studies and communications studies, by implicating multiple approaches in deciphering the intricate web of contemporary media ecosystems.

Nam Center Director Nojin Kwak shares a laugh with President Chung.
An Interview with Chairman Woon-Hyung Lee

Woon-Hyung Lee (MBA ’74), head of Korea’s major steel pipe and tube producer, SeAH Group, is a proud U-M alumnus and Nam Center supporter. He has already demonstrated his personal commitment to the visual arts through generous support of a gallery dedicated solely to Korea at the University of Michigan Museum of Art. The “Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art” is one of the few galleries of its kind at an American university. With this additional gift to promote Korean culture and support research in Korean Studies, Chairman Lee ensures that the University of Michigan develops into a premier hub for Korean culture and research.

Q: “Woon-Hyung Lee” 대표 이의존님의 기부는 무엇의 일로 인한 결과로 주요한 결과를 설명해 주시겠습니까?

What things come to mind when you hear “The University of Michigan”?

A: 복잡한 세계의 기술과 과학분야의 새로운 빛까지, 평화로운 야외 활동의 기회, 그리고 우수한 교육, 그리고 다양한 프로그램, 그리고 저의 친구들...나는 제 가장 귀중하게 생각하는 것 중 하나가 바로 U-M의지 confiscated internal memories. I stumbled upon the old apartment building in which I used to live in my student days. Surprised at how little it had altered after all those years, I was happy to be greeted by the familiar nooks of the beautiful city that carried me back to my days as a Wolverine.

Memories of Snowy Winters and Weary Days Past

If there is a place that remains true and unchanged over toves of time, it would be the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Prevaling over my various memories of Michigan are the long winters that bore snowfall after snowfall: I remember the time when my car was buried deep in snow and I was unable to drive to school; I could only stomp my feet helplessly against the unplowed road in frustration.

Thirty-seven years have passed since I graduated from the U of M in 1974, but even now the bitter cold of Michigan winters and piles of snow reside vividly in my memory. Alongside this, life in Michigan occupies yet another special place in my heart. It was there that my first as well as second child were born – an incredible life experience by which I came to be, albeit as a student, juggling my studies while raising a family in a foreign country was not an easy experience, but the difficulties encountered back then only make the memories of all my days in Michigan the more poignant.

The opening of the Korean Art Gallery in March 2009 afforded me a meaningful occasion to return to Ann Arbor for a visit. U of M is not only my alma mater but my home as well, a place doubly dear to my heart. I thus was delighted to lay my eyes once again on the age-old campus, which was as picturesque as I had remembered it to be. Walking through the quaint college town of Ann Arbor, immersed in my own memories, I stumbled upon the old apartment building in which I used to live in my student days. Surprised at how little it had altered after all those years, I was happy to be greeted by the familiar nooks of the beautiful city that carried me back to my days as a Wolverine.

Q: Is there something you would choose these new funds to support?

A: 둘 다. 한국문화를 알리고 가치를 전파하는 역할에 기대하는 것이 있습니다. 또한 한국학연구소에 당부하시는 것이 있다면 말씀해주십시오.

"PREVAILING OVER MY VARIOUS MEMORIES OF MICHIGAN ARE THE LONG WINTERS THAT BORE SNOWFALL AFTER SNOWFALL."

Korea Culture Fund & International Korean Studies Fund

Chairman Woon-Hyung Lee will provide an endowed gift of $5,000,000 to establish two funds that will be named the Woon-Hyung Lee Korea Culture Fund and the Woon-Hyung Lee International Korean Studies Fund.

The Korean Culture Fund will be used for purposes that promote or advance the understanding of Korean culture through the University, such as but not limited to Korean art-related programming coordinated with the University of Michigan Museum of Art, Korean Art curator training, Korean art and culture K-12 teacher training, and educational programs that utilize the Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art, campus cultural events such as Korean film screening and musical performance, center staffing in the Korean cultural outreach and research, and scholarship on Korean culture.

The International Korean Studies Fund will be used for student and faculty research, scholarship and internship opportunities related to Korean Studies and related purposes. The portion of each payment allocated to the Woon-Hyung Lee International Korean Studies Fund may be matched by the University’s President’s Donor Challenge Fund, and such matches shall support the purposes of the International Korean Studies Fund.

SeAH-Haiam Foundation Support for Korean Culture

SeAH-Haiam Arts & Sciences Foundation also is pleased to provide a gift of $3,000,000 to the Nam Center for Korean Studies for Korean cultural events on campus including Korean art, history, dance, music and other cultural options. The gift can also support teacher training and educational programs that utilize the Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art.
The hermit concept will be produced based on this summer research in March 30th and 31st at Duderstadt Video Studio. In this performance, the concept of hermitage, which is an essential feature of her being, will be explored from a new angle, The Art of Hermit, and also the performance will show how to use her Korean heritage to create her contemporary work in 21st century as a group dance, Thatness to Hereness.

Dam Hee Kim
From June to August of 2011, Dam Hee completed an internship at the Federal Communications Commission’s Office of General Counsel through the 2011 COMPASS Summer Fellowship program in Washington D.C. During this time, under the guidance of Mark Lloyd, the FCC’s Chief Diverse

ity Officer, she conducted research on “The Triangle of Ownership, Employment, and Content: A Review of Studies on Minority Ownership and Diversity.” The work completed during this time will be presented at the COMPASS Retreat titled “What Can Scholars Contribute to Policy Debates,” which will be held in October 2011 at the Annenberg Foundation in Sunnyside, Rancho Mirage, California. Dam Hee is also preparing two papers on news and film media for which the data were collected in Seoul, Korea, titled “Exemplification Effects on Online News Articles” and “The Effects of Country of Origin and Sequel on Films’ Performance.”

Jonson Porteux
A fifth-year PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science, this past academic year (2010-2011), he conducted his dissertation field research in South Korea through a Fulbright award. His research broadly investigates how states organize violence in the face of changing economic and political environments, and differing levels of capacity across time, space, and issue area. More specifically, he examines the issue of the outsourcing of force to non-state, private entrepreneurs of violence by investigating the regulation of black goods and service markets including construction (forced evictions), gambling, prostitution, protection rackets, and illegal street vendors. The research consisted of mass interviews and observations, and the collection of data through other sources. Interviews were conducted with police, prosecutors, politicians, business people, journalists, academics, violent entrepreneurs, and victims, predominately in Seoul, but in other areas as well.

Michael Prentice
This summer, thanks to the funding from the SeHt Haem Arts & Sciences Scholarship, Michael began his pre-

liminary ethnographic fieldwork in Seoul. His two main activities involved spending one month embedded at a company in Northyeon-dong and presenting a paper about this experience at Chonbuk University in Jeonju. He also took a ten-week language course at Ehwa University Language School. His research examined how corporate voices are created through the everyday practice of employees. In the conference presentation, Michael discussed how the properties of digital documents (such as PowerPoint), can enable as well as constrain new outcomes that have a bearing on the social lives of the company and its employees. He plans on continuing this thread of research as he looks at broader connections between material practices and identities inside chaebol companies. One of the interesting findings from this research was that while employees spoke in Korean, many of their documents were written in English. This al

lowed the company to create an identity for the company that was English-speaking on “papers,” expanding its sense of personhood to that of an English-speaking subject. He will be heading back to Seoul to continue the initial research at a new company for the summer 2012.

Lyndsay Twining
FLAS Summer Fellowship Recipient, Lyndsay Twining spent two-and-a-half months studying at Yonsei University’s Korean Language Program in Seoul, South Korea as part of her fellowship. During her time there she completed her second year of Korean Language study. She is currently a sophomore in the USA Honors College majoring in Korean Studies, where she is now enrolled in third-year Korean. During the summer, she spent her spare time attending hip-hop concerts, exploring the neighborhoods of Seoul and practicing her Korean with her classmates and Korean friends. Inspired by the culture she was immersed in during the summer, she intends to complete an honors thesis before graduation and hopes to focus on some aspect of Korean media and its interaction with society, potentially the Korean independent hip-hop scene.

Inae Chung
Currently enrolled in the M.F.A program in Dance at the University of Michigan, she is a dancer, choreographer, and dance educator. As a person, who experiences transnationalism, Inae felt that understanding her heritage is significantly important to communicating with people from different cultures especially in this 21st century. In the summer of 2011, she went to Korea to research the dances Bong-amsa (masked dance of drama) and Sequel on Films’ Performance."
Dae Party Chuseok

The first floor of the School of Social Work Building was taken over by the sights, sounds, and tastes of Korea on September 10, 2011, as the Nam Center held its very first community festival in the celebration of Chuseok. Over 300 visitors were welcomed to the Nam Center’s very first annual Great Chuseok Party (추석 대 파티). Like the traditional thanksgiving holiday in Korea, community residents and U-M students, staff, and faculty united as they enjoyed the festivities. Student volunteers led guests in traditional games of chance, strategy, and skill, such as Yonori, Gonggi, Paengi, and Jage Chag. The craft table, where kids learned to make and decorate Bangpae yeon-style kites, was a big hit with our youngest guests. Visitors to make and decorate Bangpae yeon-style kites, were served guests Korean treats, typical of that are so unique to Chuseok. Other volunteers served guests Korean treats, typically of Chuseok meals. Performances of traditional and contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students exhilarated guests of all ages throughout the event. Ina Chang demonstrated the art of Salpuri Chum, which derives its exorcist ritual, and good fortune for the year was heralded by the performances of Sinaboro whose performances of herbal rituals, were displayed in bboying contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students. Performances of traditional and contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students exhilarated guests of all ages throughout the event. Like the traditional thanksgiving day in Korea, community residents and U-M students, staff, and faculty united as they enjoyed the festivities. Student volunteers led guests in traditional games of chance, strategy, and skill, such as Yonori, Gonggi, Paengi, and Jage Chag. The craft table, where kids learned to make and decorate Bangpae yeon-style kites, was a big hit with our youngest guests. Visitors to make and decorate Bangpae yeon-style kites, were served guests Korean treats, typical of that are so unique to Chuseok. Other volunteers served guests Korean treats, typically of Chuseok meals. Performances of traditional and contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students exhilarated guests of all ages throughout the event. Ina Chang demonstrated the art of Salpuri Chum, which derives its exorcist ritual, and good fortune for the year was heralded by the performances of Sinaboro whose performances of herbal rituals, were displayed in bboying contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students. Performances of traditional and contemporary Korean music and dance by U-M students exhilarated guests of all ages throughout the event.

Choseok Dae Party

After taking the position of KLP director in the fall of 2010, Dr. Sangkyung Han has overseen staff changes and a great deal of growth in the program. In 2010-2011, Kyongmi Park taught a 1st year distance learning Korean class in addition to a 3rd year Korean class. Although it was the first time for her to teach a distance learning class, she led the class in which students at UIC (University of Illinois in Chicago) joined U-M students via a polycom to great success. Hyunjin Jung became a new member of KLP faculty in the fall of 2011. She received her master’s education in curriculum & instruction at the University of Minnesota and taught Korean language at U of Minnesota before joining KLP faculty. Insung Ko left the KLP in the summer of 2011 and teaches at the University of Washington in St. Louis beginning fall 2011. During his 5 years at U-M, Insung Ko contributed to KLP in many ways and his excellent teaching of Korean has been recognized by the many students whom he taught. The KLP continues to see strong growth in enrollment in Korean classes from last year. There was a 30% increase in the number students in the fall semester of 2011, compared to 2010, many of which were non-heritage learners. Twice, during each fall and winter semester, the KLP arranges a Korean Language Table (KLT) for students. The KLP is a good opportunity for students taking Korean classes to meet students from other classes and practice their Korean language skills outside of the classroom. Students taking Korean classes to meet students from other classes and practice their Korean language skills outside of the classroom.

The annual Nam Essay contest was held on March 22, 2011. Students taking Korean language classes chose between a common topic or a given topic depending on their classes. Students taking Korean classes to meet students from other classes and practice their Korean language skills outside of the classroom.

The KLP end of year party was held on April 20, 2011 at the event room in North Quad. Following an opening speech by Dr. Han (KLP director), Dr. Lopez (the chair of ALC) gave a congratulatory speech. Mrs. Moon-Sook Nam congratulates the award winner.

The Nam Center is pleased to announce that the University is the recipient of a grant from the Korea Foundation to support the Korean Language Program Directorship as a Lecturer position at the University. The Foundation plans to donate $75,000 over the next five years to establish an endowment fund for this position.

The Korea Foundation KLP Directorship Endowment

Winning Nam Essay

by Pei Ying Chew

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Winning Nam Essay

by Pei Ying Chew
Korea Foundation Graduate Fellows

Susan Hwang, a Rachid Meht Sell Fellowship recipient at the start of her Ph.D. studies in the Department of Asian Studies and Cultures, completed her M.A. at Columbia University before coming to the University of Michigan. Currently residing in Ann Arbor, Susan works on Korean literature, in particular, modern Korean literary criticism. For her dissertation, she is examining the shifting relationship between literary practices and political resistance in contemporary Korea and its implications for problematizing essentialist notions of literary forms and literariness.

After graduating from Seoul National University, Irhe Sohn moved his focus from mathematics to cinema studies. His M.A. thesis at Korea National University of Arts deals with the interrelation between film spectatorship and its star cult during colonial period in Korea. He currently is a doctoral student in Asian Languages and Cultures, with the grateful assistance of the Korea Foundation. The 5 week course documentary film class in Korea with Harvard University's Korea Institute. The Nam Center’s first annual Chuseok Dae Party to kick off the academic year in 2011. She plans to continue developing these outreach opportunities as well as increasing the center’s programming offerings to school-aged children, with field trips, knowledge competitions, and more.

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Sangjoon Lee is a postdoctoral research fellow in Korean Cinema Studies at New York University in May 2011. His dissertation “The Transnational Asian Studio System: Cinema, Nation-State, and Globalization in Cold War Asia” received the Jay Leyda Award for Academic Excellence from NYU. Prior to his graduate studies in America, Lee worked for film and TV productions in Korea as a screenwriter, director, and assistant producer. He is currently teaching “Transnational Film and Television in Globalizing Asia” and scheduled to teach Korean Cinema in winter semester at the University of Michigan.

In other news, Chung was promoted to Professor at the School of Art & Design. Over the summer, he was invited to co-teach a documentary film class in Korea with Harvard University’s Korea Institute. The Nam Center’s first annual Chuseok Dae Party to kick off the academic year in 2011. She plans to continue developing these outreach opportunities as well as increasing the center’s programming offerings to school-aged children, with field trips, knowledge competitions, and more.

Faculty

John Ahn, assistant professor of Buddhist and Korean Studies, specializes in modern Buddhist, Chinese, and Japanese Buddhism. He has recently completed a book-length study on the history of knowing the Way for oneself (Ch. zhaozi) in Chan/Zen learning and an illness known as the malady of meditation. The book is tentatively entitled, On Knowing the Way for Oneself: Meditation, Illness, and the Crisis of Authority in Zen Learning. He is currently working on a new book, which focuses on the history of Korean Buddhism during the fourteenth century. This book will attempt to clarify how new responses to the question of identity that emerged in the fourteenth century subtly changed the koryo elite’s relation to Korean Buddhism.

In March 2010, David Chung exhibited new work titled, “Pyongyang” at the University of Michigan Institute for the Humanities Art Gallery. The installation featured a large sculpture representing the Juche flame surrounded by two mural-scale drawings. Chung has also been conducting further research on the Nam Center’s Aviary of Diaspora Korea.

The Nam Center welcomes Hwa-Jin Kim, a professor of law and business at Seoul National University School of Law, to Michigan as the sixth William W. Cook Global Law professor. Professor Kim will be teaching at Michigan in the winter semester.

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Hunjin Jung recently joined the Korean Language Program this year as a lecturer. She received her B.A. from the University of Utah in Linguistics & TE-SOL and her master’s degree in Curriculum & Instruction at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities where she also taught Korean language. Her research interests are second language learning & cultural studies in school settings as well as language through contents.

Since joining the Nam Center in January of 2011 as the Outreach Coordinator, Do-Hye Morsman has been planning many of the Center’s events for K-14 students and teachers, including the annual teacher workshop and collaborative programs with the Centers for Chinese and Japanese Studies and the University of Michigan Museum of Art. Much of her efforts also went into planning the Nam Center’s first annual Chuseok Dae Party to kick off the academic year in 2011. She plans to continue developing these outreach opportunities as well as increasing the center’s programming offerings to school-aged children, with field trips, knowledge competitions, and more.

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Korean-related undergraduate student groups have seen unprecedented growth this year. Not only are there more groups on campus to serve the various interests of students, but all of the groups report higher than anticipated participants in recruitment meetings in September. This past year has also seen a greater attempt on the part of the groups to support and recognize each other as fellow Koreanists.

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. Starting with meet ups in Korea over the summer, KISA creates opportunities for undergraduate students from Korea to gather with a wide variety of social events planned with other student groups. This year, KISA’s Superstar MG is being planned for April 7th.

KDM KDM’s K-pop dance cover team at U-M. KDM consists of 9 girls who love dancing and are interested in contributing to promote awareness of Korea through music, K-pop. KDM has participated in dancing at various events such as K-pop culture shows, Chosun Party and more.

KIUM Started last year, the Union for Korean Issues in Michigan (KIUM) spreads awareness of Korean issues by providing University of Michigan students and the Ann Arbor Community with an opportunity to build knowledge on Korea through discussions of Korean and its relevant international political, economic and cultural issues and participation in our monthly social and academic events. Our members consist of Koreans, Korean-Americans, and non-Koreans which create a diverse discussion environment. We will be producing annual journals to share our thought-provoking discussions beyond the weekly meetings. All are welcome to join our weekly meetings on Thursday.

KSA The Korean Student Association is a student organization that strives to inscribe the well-being and interests of Korean and Korean-Americans and to promote the mutual understanding and harmony among people of all races, religions, and national origins. KISA will be holding its annual cultural show on Saturday Jan 28, 2012.

KSEA The Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association/YG Chapter at the University of Michigan is a local chapter of a national non-profit professional organization. Established in 1971, it has grown to over 3000 registered members across the United States (www.ksea.org). As a new student group, the KSEA/YG Chapter at Michigan had a membership drive last September with over 50 students and within two months, it has grown to over 70 undergraduate members. KSEA has recently established a study group program to promote academic networking among Korean-American students and it is planning several events including conferences and seminars with professionals and other YG Chapters to provide academic networking and to build up international cooperation among Korean-Americans in the United States.

Sinaboro Started in 2009, Sinaboro is the University of Michigan’s K-pop dance cover team. Sinaboro members enjoy a wonderful time eating samgakppajang, playing games, and making smores at the camp fire. This event created a strong bond to ensure another great year of playing Samulnori together. On Oct 29, 2011, Sinabores performed at the ATU National Health Kick event, which is a fundraiser to benefit C S. Mott Children’s Hospital of the University of Michigan. The Nam Center welcomes all students, faculty, and the community to attend its annual colloquium series. Eleven eminent Korean Studies scholars from the U.S., South Korea, and Canada will present various topics of Korean Studies. All our colloquia will be held at 4 p.m. at Room 1636, School of Social Work Building; it is located on 1010 South University Ave, Ann Arbor, 48109.

Fall 2010


Winter 2011

11/1/2012 Dan Herbert, Assistant Professor, Department of Screen Arts and Culture, University of Michigan, "Feeling for History: Non-linear Time Structures in Contemporary Korean Cinema" 2/18/2012 Chinn-Sung Chang, Professor, Department of Art and Architecture, Seoul National University "Reading Barbrairs Hunting Screens: How the Manchus Were Viewed and Visualized in Late Chosun Korea" 3/22/2012 Elder Sang-Yong Nam Memorial Lectures: Chang-In Moon, Professor, Political Science and International Relations, Yonsei University "China’s Rise and the Future of the Korean Peninsula" 3/14/2012 Nam-lin Hur, Professor, Department of Asian Studies, The University of British Columbia "Korean Tea Bowls in the World of Japanese Wabi-scha in Premodern Times"

March 2012 Korea Quiz Bowl Middle-school, high school and novice learners of Korean compete for prizes and honor in the Nam Center’s Quiz Bowl, testing students’ knowledge about Korea and their proficiency in Korean.

April 6, 2012 Hallyu 2.0: The Korean Wave in the Age of Social Media A conference to discuss the impact of social media on the Hallyu phenomenon, see pages 8-9 for details.

May 2012 Professional Development Workshop for Educators: Fast-Forward Korea This year’s teacher workshop will focus on the high-speed, rapid change pace of change in contemporary Korean society. By examining contemporary culture, educators will examine issues in Korean society that are a result of rapid modernization and development.

May 5-23, 2012 Global Scholars’ Korea Trip Program Through this Global Course Connection experience, students will have the opportunity to engage in dialogic interactions with partner students at Seoul National University (SNU). Major themes covered in this 18-day field experience include culture, military engagement, and education. In this classroom collaboration, U-M and SNU students will go on field sites together and work on group assignments. All learning will be conducted in English and basic Korean language lessons will equip students with "survival" level words and phrases.

May 24, 2012 New Media and Citizenship in Asia An International Communication Association Preconference to discuss the role of new communication media in the development of democratic citizenship in Asia, see pages 8-9 for details.

Special Events in Winter 2012

Nam Center Film Series 2011-2012

Cinematic City: Seoul 2 p.m. Saturdays at the Michigan Theatre 603 East Liberty Street

In this screening series we examine the representations of Seoul in cinema, the relationship between cinema and architecture, the modern and post-modern city space, rapid urbanization, division and social conflicts, and the North-South division system through various genre films from South Korea. Going beyond mere location, a mega-city, Seoul, supports the mood or tone of a film and affects the characters and narratives in profound ways. From a scandalous melodrama of a wife who abandons her family to love with another man, produced in the 1930’s Seoul, to the merciless, psycho-sexual serial killer who incessantly sacrifices prostitutes, these films will bring you to the streets of Seoul and display many faces of the city throughout the history.

Korean English Translations of all Korean titles and names are based on KEMO (Korean Movie Database)
You Can Help!

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.

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