

NAM CENTER *for* KOREAN STUDIES

University of Michigan  Fall/Winter 2010 Newsletter

From the Director

Dear Friends of NCKS:

2009-10 was a busy and productive year. My first year as Director of the Nam Center for Korean Studies was full of exciting and encouraging learning experiences, thanks to many helping hands. In particular, the Nam Center's staff, **Jiyoung Lee** (administrator) and **Mitch Park** (IT specialist), have been remarkable, putting long hours and best efforts, ever without forgetting warm smiles. In addition, **Minsun Lee**, who worked as an outreach coordinator, was of great help.



Nojin Kwak

There were several "firsts" last year. We had a first cohort of the Korea Foundation Graduate fellows, **Youngchi Chang**, **Sun-jae Hwang**, and **Jin-yeon Kang**, who each had a productive year and gave a public presentation of their research during the fellowship year. In August, the Nam Center offered a teacher workshop that was dedicated to Korea. Given that teacher education at Michigan has been designed as an East Asia-

International Institute-wise program, the center's annual teacher workshop is expected to help teachers develop curriculum specifically on Korea and to complement the existing programs. On the outreach front, there were also notable initial attempts. For example, we switched the venue for the film series to the historic Michigan Theatre, generating significantly more interest and attendance than in previous years. The cultural event that specifically aimed to reach out to students,

Dynamic Korea with Korean b-boy dancers, demonstrated a possibility that popular cultural events could be an important gateway to Korea on campus.

The most important "first," however, occurred on the 31st of August of this year. As highlighted in this newsletter, the center was re-born as the Nam Center for Korean Studies. Many students, faculty, friends, and supporters came to the inaugural ceremony and celebrated the beginning of the Nam Center. The naming was to honor **Elder Dr. Sang-Yong Nam** and his wife, **Moon-Sook Nam**, who had endowed the center with their generous gift. Following Elder and Mrs. Nam's vision, the Nam Center, as the hub of Korean Studies at Michigan, will continue to foster cutting-edge pedagogical, intellectual, and cultural dialogue on Korea.

The Nam Center will be true to its mission in 2010-11. Its lecture series is featuring well-respected scholars of Korean Studies, including Professors **Chin Hong Chung**, **Andre Schmid**, **Youna Kim**, **Karen Thornber**, and **Elaine Kim**. The film series, *Coming of Age in Korean High School*, is screening a total of six films that address a variety of issues and anxieties that young Koreans encounter in this stage of life. In October, the center hosted the third annual North American Workshop on Korean Literature, a three-day workshop that was attended by 21 leading and emerging scholars of Korean literature from universities throughout the U.S. and Canada. In addition, several cultural events were held, including the Asian improvisation concert and lectures in early December, which were part of this year's annual festival/conference of the International Society for Improvised Music.

This year's Korea Foundation Graduate fellows are **Mike Prentice** (Anthropology) and **Dam Hee Kim** (Communication Studies). This year's Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow (FLAS) is **Sean Baxter** (Architecture). The center is hosting two visiting professors this year: **Woong Ki Park** (Soongsil University, Korea) and **Saangjoon Baek** (Waseda University, Japan). Professor Baek is teaching Korean Economy in the Department of Economics during the 2010-11 academic year. From this year, the Korean Language Program will be led by **Dr. Sangkyung Han**, who was recently hired as Director of the program. Professors **David Chung**, **Youngju Ryu**, and **Jongjin Kim**, along with Korean librarian **Yunah Sung** and **Dr. Han**, will serve on the center's executive committee this year.

Finally, I'd like to emphasize that the growth of the Nam Center would not be possible without the support and encouragement that all of you have extended to us. In particular, I would like to thank President **Byung-Kook Kim** of the Korea Foundation, Chairman **Woon-Hyung Lee**, Chairman **Chu-Yong Lee**, Chairman **Yoon-Dae Euh**, **Madame Socheon Young Hi Park**, and **Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Gross**. The Nam Center and I are most grateful.

Sincerely,

Nojin Kwak

SPECIAL SECTION

Elder Sang-Yong Nam's Dream for Korean Studies Becomes a Reality

by Kristy Demas,
LSA Development writer



A standing room only crowd gathered at the International Institute on Tuesday, August 31 when the Center for Korean Studies officially became the Nam Center for Korean Studies. Dignitaries from across the state and the nation converged to dedicate the center and honor the man who made it possible, Elder Sang-Yong Nam.

The guest of honor, Elder Nam, and his wife, Moon-Sook Nam, were surrounded by their sons,

Andrew and Anthony Nam, their wives, and seven grandchildren. Joining the festivities were U-M president Mary Sue Coleman, College of LSA Dean Terrence J. McDonald, NCKS director Nojin Kwak, Consul General of Korea from Chicago, Chul Huh and two undersecretaries. Also attending were past and current Korean Studies faculty and former NCKS directors, Professor Meredith Jung-En Woo, and Professor Y. David Chung.



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Elder Nam's support for Korean Studies at Michigan stems from the program's fledgling days in the mid-1990s. Moved by a desire to see Korean Studies grow on campus, Elder Nam was at the forefront of building the program which, at the time his sons were students at Michigan, was non-existent. Back then there were no Korean Language classes and only a handful of Korean books in the University Library.

Today students can take four levels of Korean Language, the Korean Collection at the University Library rivals the best in the nation, the University of Michigan Museum of Art's Korea Gallery holds more than 200 pieces of Korean ceramic art, there is a Korean Graduate Fellowship program, and Korean cultural groups on campus perform numerous times throughout the year.

"My goal is, and has always been, to make Michigan's Center for Korean Studies the best in the nation. Today, I feel as though we have reached this goal."

Elder Nam has been committed to the program's development and has been nurturing its growth from its beginning. In 1997, he inaugurated the Nam Essay Competition, encouraging students to write essays in Korean at each level of instruction. In 2003, he underwrote the purchase of the Nam-Hasenkamp Korean Ceramic Collection. Today, the Nam Center for Korean Studies' inauguration reflects Elder Nam's overall commitment, which will eventually total more than \$4 million in support.

"My goal is, and has always been, to make Michigan's Center for Korean Studies the best in the nation," Elder Nam said. "Today, I feel as though we have reached this goal."

The dedication ceremony was begun with speeches from visiting dignitaries and campus leaders culminating in Elder Nam addressing the room, which drew a standing ovation. After his remarks and vow to further increase NCKS's stature, each of his seven grandchildren presented him with a flower.

As NCKS director Nojin Kwak noted in his opening remarks, it was a joyful day, perfect for honoring Elder Nam who made it all possible.

"There is one hero, the hero, whose dream, energy, and dedication make our celebration today possible. We are here today to honor and thank Dr. Elder Sang-yong Nam, whose vision, legacy, and humor will always be vibrant in coming years with the Nam Center for Korean Studies."

Dean McDonald presented Elder and Mrs. Nam with a specially commissioned glass plaque featuring the new logo of the Nam Center for Korean Studies. Similar smaller mementos were presented to Andrew and Anthony Nam.

The dedication was followed by the ribbon cutting outside the center's suite conducted by Elder and Mrs. Nam, President Coleman, Dean McDonald, Consul General Huh, Professors Woo and Kwak, and Vice-President Jerry May. After the ribbon cutting, Dean McDonald hosted a dinner at the Michigan Union for the Nam family and their guests.



A happy crowd—including Elder Sang-Yong Nam's guests, family members, and university officials—gathered to view the naming ceremony and celebrate Elder Nam's contributions to the center. Consul General Chul Huh, right, joined in the celebration.

UM President Mary Sue Coleman gave remarks at the dedication and naming of the Nam Center for Korean Studies.

An Interview with Madame Park

Earlier this year, the Nam Center interviewed Madame Sochon Young Hi Park, the founder of the Sochon Foundation, which awards scholarships to those pursuing Korean Studies at the University of Michigan and other universities around the world.

What influenced your decision to offer scholarships to students by establishing the Sochon Foundation?

Madame Park: In the early 1950s, I found myself a college student amidst the ruins of the city of Seoul, which had been devastated by three years of war. However, I considered myself lucky, as I was able to successfully complete my studies through my mother's burning dedication for my education, as well as a generous scholarship which allowed me to attend the university. I have thought about this scholarship quite often over the years, and one of



Madame Park, founder of the Sochon Foundation

“The impression that I got of the University of Michigan was that it was a beautiful institution with nearly perfect facilities and an environment for learning.”

the thoughts that I have acted on is my desire, as a student, to grow into an adult who would be able to give scholarships to students with financial difficulties in their pursuit of education. Many people, when they hear about my scholarship fund, ask, “Why did you set up a scholarship fund?” Others ask, “Are you rich? America is plenty rich – you don't need scholarships there.” I award scholarships

to students around the world and only to those who are pursuing Korean Studies in their college education. I am thankful to the students who pursue their studies on Korea, the small foreign land of the morning sun. Ultimately, I would like to help them to complete their doctorate studies on Korea and assist them to become faculty that will teach about Korean Studies. I believe that this will help more people learn about my mother country, Korea. Currently, the Sochon Scholarship Program is established in ten universities around the world.

Many people are impressed by how generous and active you have been in volunteering for various organizations over the years. You are currently teaching computer classes for senior citizens. Could you tell us about how you became interested in volunteer work?

Madame Park: I graduated from Seoul National University from the School of Education with a major in math, and continued my studies with a graduate program in education at Yonsei University. Due to the extensive traveling required of my husband's job, I lived in many countries around the world. I was highly impressed by the volunteer and community service culture in those countries, and when I returned to Korea, I started devoting myself to volunteering for national and local organizations.

Since its inception in 2007, the Sochon scholarship program at Michigan has provided scholarships for undergraduate students in Korean Studies in LSA. What made you consider Michigan for the scholarship program?

Madame Park: Recently, the University of Washington in Seattle suffered from financial difficulties. I heard of their difficult situation from Dr. Young-Sook Park and established a foundation

at the University of Washington-Seattle. Furthermore, the Sochon Foundation now offers a post-doctorate fellowship, which has helped the center to thrive. Afterwards, Dr. Young-Sook Park introduced me to Dr. Meredith Woo, then director of the University of Michigan Korean Studies Program, and after exchanging many e-mails with her, I decided to establish the Sochon Scholarship Program at the University of Michigan.

What was your first impression of Michigan when you visited Ann Arbor for the signing ceremony for the Sochon Scholarship Gift Agreement? Is there anything you would like to say to students?

Madame Park: The impression that I got of the University of Michigan was that it was a beautiful institution with nearly perfect facilities and an environment for learning. I also got the impression that it was a place that encouraged its students to desire and independently pursue their studies. I am very thankful to the Center for Korean Studies and the undergraduate students who attended the agreement signing ceremony. If possible, I would like to assist more students, especially graduate students, who pursue Korean Studies at Michigan. ☺

Sochon Foundation offers scholarships in the following institutions around the world: University of Michigan, Seoul National University, Chinese Cultural University, University of Washington-Seattle, Johns Hopkins University, University of California-Los Angeles, University of Washington in Seattle suffered from financial difficulties. I heard of their difficult situation from Dr. Young-Sook Park and established a foundation

David Chung's "Pyongyang"

David Chung has been continuing his work developing documentary film projects with the Nam Center for Korean Studies. He has also been working with NCKS staff member Mitch Park in bringing the selected interviews from the *Archive of Diasporic Korea* online in a new internet web-based project. In April 2011, Professor Chung will present a new drawing exhibition at the Institute for Humanities at the University of Michigan titled, "Pyongyang."

North Korea exists for most people as an imaginary place, created from television clips and newspaper articles. Portrayed as a nation of uncompromising dictatorship, a land of famine, and a people ruled by an ideology whose hatred for the United States is matched in fervor only by the adoration of their deified leaders, North Korea is a country that remains an enigma to the world. Working from video and photographs from a recent trip to North Korea, the birthplace of his parents, David Chung plans to create a drawing installation which seeks to capture this place which lives in our minds and in our dreams. ☺

Notes from the Field: Son Dong-hyun and Contemporary Korean Ink Painting

By Assistant Professor Joan Kee, Department of History of Art



Son's Munjado series includes the depictions of the logos of the two athletic shoe giants Nike and Adidas.

Much venerated as an artistic tradition, ink painting accounts for a sizable proportion of artistic production in East and Southeast Asia. Yet few critics, curators, and institutions actively regard it as contemporary art, a telling reminder of the extent to which the contemporary art field remains beholden to certain definitions of the new and noteworthy.

If Son Dong-hyun is concerned about what may be one of art history's largest blind spots, he hides it well. A 2005 graduate of Seoul National University's celebrated ink painting department, Son is among the most prominent of a talented brigade of younger Korean artists who openly identify themselves with his Munjado series. Literally meaning "ideograph painting," munjado refers to a genre of folk painting especially popular in the 19th century. Examples depict a single enlarged ideograph representing one of the eight Confucian virtues, including filial piety (hyo, 孝)

and loyalty (ch'ung, 忠). Typically an ideograph was embellished with smaller images painted in a brilliant assortment of colors.

In the Munjado series, Son replaces the ideograph with Roman letters spelling out various commercial brand names and accompanying logos ranging from "Marlboro" to "Starbucks." Almost all the works depict names of U.S. businesses, a deliberate gesture calling attention to the prevalence of U.S. culture in Korea, a common theme in Korean art since the early 1980s. Each letter is magnified to almost cartoonish proportions which both emphasizes the name as well as raise questions about its meaning. Munjado tended to be anonymously made, yet Son adds a red seal, the traditional mark of authorship in an ink painting, just to the right of the Nike logo. The size and position of the seal recalls the copyright symbol often affixed to brand names, a clever reminder of the close association between commercial profit and property law. In working within the conventions of munjado, Son makes a case for ink painting and its ability to raise questions in an immediate and physically engaging way. ☺

News from the Asia Library

By Brian Vivier, Associate Librarian, and Yunah Sung, Senior Associate Librarian

The Asia Library has undergone some significant changes over the past year. We have completed a thorough renovation of the Asia Library reading room, greatly improving the comfort and usefulness of the space with new furniture and carpet. The Asia Library's reference collection has returned to the reading room and is available for use. The newly refurbished space also includes a seminar room, which will be available for classes starting this fall. Faculty interested in using this room should contact the Asia Library's public services librarian, Brian Vivier.

Additionally, the Asia Library is looking to expand its program of public services. We would like to work more closely with teachers to find ways to better use Asia Library resources to support classroom instruction, and we eagerly welcome suggestions for library instructional sessions and opportunities to better support ongoing courses in Korean studies.

The Korean Studies collection has received generous funding support from the library administration despite the financial crisis in Michigan and the U.S.



The Korean Studies collection has increased in size by 215% since 2003.

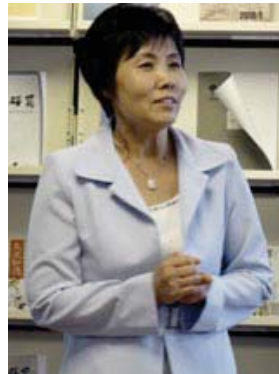


Korean Studies Librarian Yunah Sung gives a tour of the Asia Library located at the Hatcher Graduate Library.

in general. The library continued to fully support the collection to reflect emerging needs from faculty and students. The collection has increased 215% from 2003 to 2009 and became the fastest growing library collection in North America. This rapid growth couldn't have been accomplished without strong financial support from the Korea Foundation which has been supporting the Korean Collections Consortium of North America since 1994. As one of 12 members of the consortium, UM is designated to develop in-depth collections on North Korea, as well as on Korea-Japan relations.

The Korean Studies Collection provides users with comprehensive collections of electronic resources, such as databases, articles, e-journals, indexes, web resources, and e-books, in addition to printed books and journals. Users have seamless on- and off-campus accessibility to major Korean full-text electronic resources, which are also available at prestigious academic libraries in Korea. Most frequently

accessed e-resources at UM include DBPIA, RISS4U (RISS International), and KISS. Detailed information on the collection can be found from the Korean Studies Research Guide at <http://guides.lib.umich.edu/koreanstudies>.



Yunah Sung and staff welcome suggestions for increasing support of Korean studies.

Korean Art at UMMA

New Display of Roof-end Tiles in the Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art and *Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists*

Natsu Oyobe, Research Curator of Asian Art

Since its dramatic reopening in 2009, UMMA has offered to the campus community a series of exciting exhibitions, programs, and hands-on learning experiences of arts and cultures from around the world. This academic year, we will feature two new exhibitions of Korean art. This fall, twelve historic roof-end tiles will be displayed in the Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art in the Museum's beautiful new Maxine and Stewart Frankel and the Frankel Family Wing. In early April of 2011, in partnership with the UCLA Fowler Museum, UMMA presents the major exhibition *Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists* in the A. Alfred Taubman Gallery.

The historic roof-end tiles are on long-term loan from Mr. Chang-Jong Yoo, who received his law degree from UM in 1984 and is currently manager of the law firm Shin and Kim's China office. He became interested in roof-end tiles over thirty years ago, and since then, he has formed the largest private collection of Korean roof-end tiles in the world. His collection also includes tiles from China and Japan, where he has stayed on business. Recently a part of his collection was donated to and exhibited in a special gallery in honor of his gift at the National Museum of Korea. He also opened the YooGeum Museum in Seoul with his wife, Mrs. Key-Sook Geum, to exhibit his vast collection and Mrs. Geum's collection of Chinese clay figures.

Roof-end tiles were used in traditional ceramic roof structures in Korea. The roof was lined alternatively with two types of tiles—slightly curved tiles and semicylindrical tiles—and ends of each row were capped by roof-end tiles. These roof-end tiles were visible on the edges of the eaves and frequently decorated. In

existence since the Three Kingdom Period, they are important objects for the study of social and technological history, Buddhism, and art and architectural history. In recent years, roof-end tiles have become increasingly appreciated and collected by individuals and museums.

The presentation of Mr. Yoo's collection at UMMA has been developed in collaboration with UMMA's Asian art intern, Gabby Hyunsun Park. A senior at UM, Gabby worked on the layout of the display and interpretive materials that introduce the social and art historical significance of roof-end tiles. She is one of many students working at UMMA, part of the Museum's strong commitment to teaching and fostering a deeper interest in art and visual culture among University students.

On view April 2 through June 26, 2011, the first Korean art exhibition at the new UMMA, *Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists*, will present some of the most accomplished ceramic artists working in Korea today. For anyone who has visited the Woon-Hyung Lee and Korea Foundation Gallery of Korean Art would know, UMMA boasts a strong collection of historic ceramics, including burial pots from the Three Kingdoms Period (57–668 CE), elegant celadons from the Goryeo Dynasty (918–1392), and Buncheong wares and white porcelains from the Joseon Dynasty (1392–1910). Contemporary artists featured in *Life in Ceramics* interpret these ceramic traditions and create visually stunning works of art through a dialogue with the past. Kim Yikyung's work, for example, has roots in the white porcelain ware used for Confucian rituals at the Joseon court. Another artist, Lee Young-Jae draws from the simple aesthetic of the early twentieth-century Bauhaus movement in Germany (where she lives and works now) and creates breathtaking installations of



bowls, which reflect on the ritualistic aspect of ceramic bowls in Korean culture. Curated by one of the foremost authorities of Korean art, Dr. Burglind Jungmann of UCLA, this exhibition will offer a rare opportunity for audiences to experience a wonderful array of works by this cohort of celebrated Korean ceramic artists.

Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists is organized by the Fowler Museum at UCLA. It is supported in part by a grant from the Korea Foundation and by Leland M. Garrison and Kweesook K. Garrison. UMMA's installation is made possible in part by the University of Michigan Health System.



Annual Performance by Sinaboro, April 17, 2010

Sinaboro's Annual Concert Wows Crowd

Founded in 1998 by nine members, Sinaboro has become one of the well established student organizations at the University of Michigan. The annual concert marks the zenith of the passion and effort put forth to build a better understanding of Korean culture. As the culmination for all Sinaboro events and performances for this academic year, the tenth annual concert was held at 7 pm, April 17, 2010 at Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. The concert portrayed modern interpretations of old and contemporary Korean culture in order to incorporate the multicultural communities of U-M. The main theme was 'love story', which masterfully integrated various mediums of performances—Korean folk song, acapella, Nanta, contemporary dance, Buk-Janggo dance, as well as Utdari, the main piece of the concert.

KSA Culture Show

The Korean Students Association (KSA) at the University of Michigan is a student organization that strives to fulfill the educational, cultural, and social

endeavors of all Korean American students on campus. They promote old and new ideas of Korean culture and seek to generate excitement for various events that will contribute to the overall character of students. On February 6, 2010, KSA was proud to host its annual Culture Show at the Mendelssohn Theater. All of their initiatives and ideas of Korean culture culminated in one night of performances. They prepared a variety of fun and exciting performances for the crowd such as a Korean traditional fan dance, Korean traditional drumming, hip hop dance, and vocal performances.

Chuseok Festival

On October 4, 2009, approximately 100 students attended the student organized *Chuseok* festival which took place from 4-6pm in the East Hall atrium. The three best represented groups of Korean undergraduate students at the University of Michigan, the Korean International Student Association (KISA), Korean Student Association (KSA), and Sinaboro, held a festival to celebrate a major holi-

day in Korea called *Chuseok*. *Chuseok* (or harvest festival) can be interpreted as an equivalent of Thanksgiving in the United States in its grandeur and importance.

The *Chuseok* festival encompassed all three student groups which helped promote the development of future endeavors to encourage multi-cultural awareness at the University of Michigan. Sinaboro and KDM both performed at the event delivering an outstanding performance of drum and dance. Professor Kwak, the director of the Nam Center for Korean Studies, gave encouraging words to both members and students who attended the event which was followed by a lavish Korean dinner.

KISA is comprised of Korean international students whose country of origin is in the motherland of Korea and whose native language is Korean. KSA is mainly comprised of members who are Korean-Americans whose hometown is in the United States and whose native language is English. Sinaboro is a Korean traditional percussion group that plays Samulnori. ●

Korean Language Program News

During the academic year of 2009-2010, the Korean Language Program (KLP) has put a special emphasis on various opportunities for students to be engaged in learning Korean language and culture. In addition to regular meetings in the classroom, KLP offered "Conversation Tables," where students at all levels could meet and have a free discussion on many topics. Hence, students had opportunities to communicate with each other despite limited proficiency in the Korean language.

As another highlight, KLP had their first annual Hangeul (Korean Script) Day celebration on October 9, 2009 as a campus wide event. Hangeul Day is a Korean national holiday which is unique in that it is a language related holiday. This event was a good chance to introduce the Korean language to attendees, and they learned about the creation of Korean script and participated in competitions of calligraphy in Hangeul, as well as a Korean-related quiz show.

Thanks to the support of the Nam Center for Korean Studies and Elder Nam, KLP awarded the 1st NCKS Korean Language Scholarship and the 16th Nam's Essay Contest Award to students enrolled in Korean language courses. The award for learning Korean language encouraged the interests and efforts of students taking courses from KLP at the University of Michigan.



The winners of the Korean calligraphy competition with Insung Ko (KLP lecturer) and Nojin Kwak (NCKS director) during the Hangeul Day celebration on October 9, 2009.

During the summer terms, KLP prepared a distance learning program that was scheduled to take place during the fall semester at the University of Illinois, Chicago, where Korean language courses were not offered yet. KLP provided instruction in a first-year level course through video conferencing technology. As of summer 2010, ten students at UIC requested the course.

Starting in Fall 2010, KLP was elevated to an independent language program along with four other language programs (Chinese, Japanese, South Asian, and Southeast Asian) in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. KLP welcomes Sangkyung Han (Ph.D., U of Pennsylvania) as the first director of KLP. ●



Winning Nam Essay by Linda Hyunjin Lee

어렸을때의 시절을 뒤돌아 보면 그 당시 나만의 소중한 것들은 끊임 없이 아니면 예쁜 공주 신발들이었다. 어디에 가든 꼭 나는 내 금인형을 데리고 다녔고 공주 신발도 신었다. 그렇기 때문에 이 작은 소품들은 나에게 있어서 제일 중요한 물건들이었다. 하지만 사람은 나이와 함께 세상을 조금씩 더 겪으며 철이 들어가고 또, 자기만의 해야 할 도리와 책임감들이 점점 많아진다고 생각한다. 나는 지금 스물한 살 대학생이다. 지금의 나를 열 살때인 나와 비교를 한다면 나도 많은 것을 배웠다고 느낀다. 무엇을 배웠다고 물어보면 가족과 친구들의 소중한 그리고 삶의 행복을 배웠다고 말할 것이다. 하지만 아직 스물한 살이기에 앞으로 인생에서 배울 것들이 지금까지 배웠던 것보다 비교할 수 없을 정도로 많을 것이라고 생각한다.

나, 이현진에게 있어 지금 이 순간 제일 소중한 것들은 나의 가족과 친구들 그리고 내 자신이다.

나의 엄마와 아빠 그리고 동생은 내 삶과 마찬가지로. 가족이라는 존재라는 나도 존재하지 않는다. 내 부모님은 나를 키워주셨으며 나를 어떤 한 속녀로 성장할 수 있도록 도와주셨다. 그래서 내 가족은 내 존재를 만들어 주었다고 할 수 있다. 내가 아플 때와 슬플 때 내 가족은 항상 옆에 있다는 사실과 내가 움직이지 못한 행동과 결과를 만들더라도 항상 사랑해 주시는 그 사실이 나만의 행복이다. 예를 들면, 내가 열 여섯살 때 부모님의 허락도 없이 동생과 함께 밤에 스케이트를 타러 가던 길에 차 사고를 내고 말았다. 다행히 내 동생과 나 그리고 상대방 모두는 무사했다. 이런 큰일을 냈음에도 불구하고 내 부모님은 나를 용서해 주셨으며 내 걱정만 하셨다. 그래서 나에게 있어 나의 가족은 가장 소중한 보물이다.

한편, 내 친구들도 나에게 있어 또 다른 행복을 주는 소중한 존재이다. 친구들이란 옆에 있어주면서 서로 위로하며 또 조언과 의견을 나눌 수 있는 존재들이다. 그러한 친구의 중요함을 늘 최근에 어떠한 일로 다시 한 번 느꼈 수 있었다. 이 번 동안 사친 남자친구와 최근에 헤어지는 일이 있었다. 그때의 슬픔으로 그 당시 난 내 삶의 중심을 잃어버린 채 너무나 슬픈 나머지 어떻게 회복할지를 모른 상태였으나 친구들의 덕분에 내 인생에서 가장 중요하고 소중한 것들을 다시 찾을 수가 있었다. 그 이 번 동안 나는 그 친구들을 의연했음에도 불구하고 내 친구들과 가족은 한결같이 내 옆에 있어 주었던 것이다. 언제나 전화하고 싶을 때 전화통화도 할 수 있고 언제나 영화가 보러 가고 싶으면 같이 갈 수 있고 또한 내가 기쁠 때나 심심할 때나 슬플때 같이 할 수 있는 그런 친구들이 내 옆에 있다는 것이 행복하다.

그리고 마지막으로 내가 아주 소중하게 아끼는 것은 나 자신이다. 내가 생각하는 크리스찬으로서의 가치관과 윤리를 지키며 내린 삶의 결정들이 나를 만들어, 나를 설명하고 나라는 존재를 이야기 해준다. 사람은 혼자 스스로 해야하는 일들을 해 내는 것이 제일 보람있는 것이라고 생각한다. 그리고 무엇을 하든 나는 내가 만든 결정들을 믿고 따를 것이다. 예를 들면, 기독교에 대한 나의 신앙심은 내가 만든 결정이며 끝까지 변함없이 믿고싶은 종교다. 내 종교는 나를 설명해 주는 또 한가지의 이야기라고 할 수 있다.

그래서 나의 인생에 있어 가장 소중한 것들은 내 가족과 친구들 그리고 나 자신으로써 앞으로 내가 배울것도 많지만 함께 여러 경험도 많이 쌓일 것이며 그럼으로써 나에게 있어 중요한 것들은 어쩌면 언젠가 바뀔 수 있을지도 모른다. 하지만 내가 말한 세 가지 보물은 앞으로라도 변함없이 내 마음 속에 있을 것이다. 아무것도 바라는 것 없이 항상 내 옆에 있어주는 보물같은 내 가족과 친구들이 있기에 나는 내 삶을 더 가치있게 살것이며 이 소중한 보물들을 절대로 놓치지 않을 것이다. ●

NCKS Events 2009-2010

The lecture series is part of our center's ongoing efforts to develop Korean Studies at the University of Michigan into one of the most vibrant programs in North America. With generous support from the Korea Foundation, the University has been making rapid progress toward this goal. As the hub of Korean Studies at the University, the Nam Center for Korean Studies (NCKS) not only supports students' and faculty's research work, but also hosts a variety of scholarly and cultural events such as lecture series, film series, readings, and symposia.

During the 2009-2010 academic year, NCKS hosted a very successful lecture series titled "Distinguished Korean Studies Scholars Series"; thirteen renowned Korean Studies scholars and special speakers were invited to give lectures. Speakers included **Namhee Lee**, Associate Professor of Modern Korean History, UCLA; **Edward Chang**, Professor of Ethnic Studies, UC Riverside; Consul General **Sung-hwan Son**, Korean Consulate General in Chicago; **Shin Dong Kim**, Professor, School of Communication, Hallym University; **Deborah Solomon**, Post-doctoral fellow, The Reichsarchiv Institute for Japanese Studies and the Korea Institute, Harvard University; **Heonik Kwon**, Reader in Anthropology, London School of Economics of Political Science; **Elise Prebin**, Lecturer of Anthropology, Harvard University; **Keith Howard**, Professor and Associate Dean of Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney (with special guests, **Chan E. Park** and **Jin Hi Kim**); **Dong Choon Kim**, Associate Professor of Sociology at Sung Kong Hoe University in Seoul, Korea; **Steven Chung**, Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, Princeton University; **Kyu Ho Youm**, Jonathan Marshall First Amendment Professor of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon; **Katharine Moon**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Edith Stix Wasserman Chair of Asian Studies, Wellesley College.



Professor **Chan E. Park** demonstrated p'ansori during **Keith Howard's** lecture, "Korean Kayagum Sanjo: Schools and Players" on **January 27, 2010**.

Amongst many other community outreach events, the film series screened at the Michigan Theatre was most successful. Five films titled "North Korea in Films" were well attended, and also received many compliments and encouraging feedback. Included in the film series were "Crossing," "Welcome to Dongmakgol," "Repatriation," "The Game of Their Lives," and "A State of Mind." Another exciting event sponsored by the center and organized by the U-M student break-dancing group, Element 1, was a workshop and demonstration session called "Dynamic Korea." Break dancing, the athletic high-energy street dance, has become part of popular youth culture in Korea, which produced many world famous bboys including TinoRoc, NautyOne, and BangRoc. This special event was especially meaningful in that the dancers were able to offer a rare cultural experience to the campus community and general public, where they could watch, meet, and ask questions to some of the top dancers in Korea and the world.

On March 31, 2010, **Sukhee Ryu**, Korea Foundation Fellow, gave a reading with the support of the Asia Library. She read "Carny," a story from her short story collection. It is a simple tale about a husband and a wife, both social outcasts, who make the difficult decision to abandon their only child. It was such an intriguing story that showcased her extraordinary work. Before she came to Michigan, she was an Iowa Arts Fellow, recognition given by the University of Iowa to the very best students in its arts programs.



Professor **Heonik Kwon** gave a talk titled "Why Aren't There Any War Cemeteries in North Korea?" on **December 2, 2009**.

Korea Foundation Graduate Fellows 2010-2011



Michael Prentice is a first-year doctoral student in Linguistic Anthropology. He lived in New York City for the previous three years where he worked as a brand strategist.

He graduated from Brown University in 2007 with a bachelor's in Linguistic Anthropology, Italian and Classics.



Dam Hee Kim graduated with Great Honor from Korea University in 2008, double majoring in Journalism and Mass Communication and Business Administration. She received her M.A. in Journalism and Mass Communication from Korea University in 2010. Her primary research interests reside in the transforming media effects under the new multi-media environment. Specifically, she is interested in the topics of media diversity and media multi-tasking in Korea.

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow 2009-2010



Sean Baxter studied International Law and Diplomacy and Mandarin Chinese at the University of Oregon, receiving a B.A. in 2003. He spent a year in Beijing, China and 3 years

in Busan, South Korea, studying language and teaching ESL. He is now in the Masters program at the UM Taubman School of Architecture. He plans to establish an architectural practice in Korea and study traditional Korean architecture.

2010 SeAH-Haiam Scholarship recipients **Cynthia Yoon & Alex Nguyen** describe their research on the experiences of Vietnamese migrant women

Vietnamese Brides in Urban Korea

This summer, Alex and I studied Vietnamese migrant women's living experiences in Korea. We spent a month in Daegu, analyzing counseling records from migrant women support centers and interviewing Vietnamese brides, government and civil organizations, and marriage agencies. Most women we interviewed were sold as brides to Korean men through marriage agencies. The husbands were on average 20 years



Giving voice to the women
The Korean government and various Korean support centers are running and developing great programs to support migrant women in Korea. However, the Vietnamese women we worked with often felt that their voice is ignored and hence that there is no reason to express their opinions. In front of Korean program managers, they simply agreed with new program ideas, even though they believed that the projects were point-



less. Korean organization leaders often talk about the women as ignorant children who need to be protected by Koreans. The goal of these centers is to empower the women, but many women felt silenced and disempowered within these organizations.

Writing the results of this research is important, but acting on them and working to improve the rights and protection of migrant women is even more important. Alex and I will continue to work closely with organizations in Korea and connect with those in Vietnam, and share with them our suggestions on how they can create a more effective program.



Top: Korean locals and immigrants (mostly from Southeast Asia) gathered at the 2010 Colorful Daegu Multicultural Festival on June 13th, 2010.

Middle: Flags on the tree by the entrance to the festival represented the various countries where immigrants came from.

Bottom: Alex stood on the mountainside during a hike looking down toward the city of Daegu.



NCKS Faculty, Scholar & Staff News

New Faculty

The Nam Center for Korean studies and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures welcomes a new director of the Korean Language Program, **Dr. Sangkyung Han**. He received his



master's degree in TESOL at Arizona State University and was honored with a Ph.D. degree in Educational Linguistics at the University of Pennsylvania. He taught various

levels of Korean language for over 10 years at the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton University. Dr. Han's research interests are second language acquisition, pragmatics and teaching Korean as a foreign language.

Visiting Scholars

Woong Ki Park graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in Communication Studies. He worked at Burson-Marsteller PR agency and BBDO advertising



agency in Seoul, Korea and worked with many international clients such as Nike, Gillette, and AMD. He received his master's degree in Advertising/PR at Sogang University in

Seoul, Korea and his Ph.D. degree in Mass Media and Communications from Temple University, PA. He taught at University of Southern Maine, Portland as an assistant professor for two years. He is now an associate professor at the Department of Journalism, PR and Advertising at Soongsil University in Seoul, Korea. His main research is on new media effects, media psychology, and mobile communications.



Saangjoon Baak is Professor at the School of International Liberal Studies of Waseda University in Japan. He received his B.A. and M.A., both in Economics, from

Seoul National University in Korea, and his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research fields are Macro-monetary economics, Heterogeneity and Economic Dynamics, and East Asian Economies. While at NCKS, Professor Baak will be teaching Korean Economy during the fall and winter 2010 and researching on East Asian exchange rates and global imbalance.

Faculty

David Chung, Associate Professor at the School of Art and Design, completed his fellowship year at the Institute for the Humanities where he was a Michigan Faculty Fellow. Professor Chung continued research work on a drawing and video project, part of which will be exhibited at the Institute for the Humanities Gallery in April 2011. Titled "Pyongyang," the project depicts life in the North Korean capital, from photographs and video Professor Chung recorded on a recent trip to North Korea.

Joan Kee finished two articles, one on the relationship between connoisseurship and copyright law for the *Journal of Law, Culture, and the Humanities*, and another on contemporary ink painting for *Art Journal*. Her review of leading Korean artist Yang Haegue was also featured in the April 2010 issue of *Artforum*, widely considered to be the world's most prestigious magazine of contemporary art. Fall speaking engagements include talks on the history of postwar Korean photography at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and on contemporary Korean art for "Korea Day" at the British Museum in London. Currently she

is preparing an article on artistic engagements with military culture within the South Korean context for an anthology on body and gender for the University of Heidelberg.



Markus Nornes, Professor and Chair of Screen Arts and Cultures, is starting a project on calligraphy in East Asian cinema. He received a grant from the Rackham

Graduate School to hire Ph.D. student Kim Jieum (Anthropology) for a summer research project; together they are looking for examples in Korean film, looking at writings in Korean, and contacting Korean filmmakers, title designers and calligraphers.

New Staff

Myunghee Kim started her three year appointment in May 2010 as an Information Resources Assistant Senior at the Asia Library. She has previous experience working as a Korean Language Acquisitions Assistant at the Asia Library. Her responsibility includes technical processing of Korean language materials. Also, she will help extend the Korean collections at the Asia Library and strengthen service to faculty and students in the Korean studies area.

The Nam Center welcomes **Do-Hee Morsman** as its new Outreach Coordinator, beginning in January 2011. She received her master's degree in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics from York University and did her Ph.D. studies in Korean Studies (Linguistics) at the University of Toronto. She will play an important role in the ongoing efforts to expand the center's outreach and teacher education programs.

NCKS Film Series 2010-2011

"Coming of Age in Korean High School"
2 p.m. Saturdays at the Michigan Theatre
603 East Liberty Street



Just as films about high school students have a long tradition in Hollywood, high school films are an important sub-genre of contemporary Korean cinema. Nonetheless, the significant differences that exist between U.S. and Korean high schools mean that such films inevitably differ from their Hollywood counterparts. Through six films of various genres we explore the issues and anxieties faced by young Koreans in this memorable stage of life.



Once upon a Time in High School
말죽거리 잔혹사

9.11.2010 말죽거리 잔혹사
(Once upon a Time in High School, 2004)

10.30.2010 품행제로
(Conduct Zero, 2002)

11.13.2010 천하장사 마돈나
(Like a Virgin, 2006)

12.11.2010 내 마음의 풍금
(The Harmonium in My Memory, 1999)

1.15.2011 킹콩을 들다
(Lifting King Kong, 2009)

1.29.2011 율학고 이티
(Our School's ET, 2008)

NCKS Colloquium Series 2010-2011

NCKS welcomes all students, faculty, and the community to attend its annual colloquium series. Thirteen eminent Korean Studies scholars from the U.S., South Korea, and France 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 unless specified otherwise; it is located on 1080 South University Ave., Ann Arbor, 48109.

Fall 2010

9.22.2010 Hyun Joon Park, Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania
"De-mystifying Stereotypes on Korean Education"

9.29.2010 Chin Hong Chung, Distinguished Professor in Religious Studies, Ewha Womans University, Korea
"Topography and Meteorology: Some Preliminary Remarks for the Study of Korean Religion"

10.6.2010 Rachael Joo, Assistant Professor of American Studies, Middlebury College
"Politicized Publics in the Wake of the 2002 World Cup"

10.27.2010 John Duncan, Professor of Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles
"Divided Loyalties: Korean Literati between the Yuan and Koryŏ" (Cancelled)

11.4.2010 (Thursday) Andre Schmid, Associate Professor of Buddhist Studies, University of Toronto
"Domesticity Across the Cold War Divide: the postwar reconstruction of the two Koreas"

11.10.2010 Youna Kim, Associate Professor of Global Communications, The American University of Paris
"Korean Women, Media and Transnational Mobility"

11.17.2010 Darcy Paquet, Independent scholar/film critic
"Pay No Attention to That Man Behind the Curtain"

Winter 2011

1.12.2011 Richard McBride II, Associate Professor of History Department, BYU Hawaii
"The Royal Monk Uich'on and the Golden Age of Koryŏ Buddhism"

1.26.2011 Saangjoon Baak, U-M CKS Visiting Professor of Economics, Waseda University
"Exchange Rate Issues in Korea and East Asia"

2.2.2011 Karen Thorber, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, Harvard University
"Changing Environments: Ecological Devastation and Modern Korean Literature"

2.9.2011 Alice Kim, Ph.D. Candidate, Rhetoric Department, University of California, Berkeley
"Farewell at Kimpo Airport: On Postcolonial Modernity in the South Korean Popular Imagination"

2.16.2011 Yong Jin Won, Professor of Communication Studies, Sogang University, Korea
"Victimhood Nationalism: Competing for a Historical Position of Victim in a Battle of Memory"

3.23.2011 Elaine Kim, Professor of Asian American Studies, University of California, Berkeley
"Asian American Woman in Hollywood and Beyond: Race, gender, and representation 1986-2010"

Special Events in Winter 2011

April 5, 2011 Drawing Exhibition and Special Lecture at the Institute for the Humanities

Professor David Chung will present a new drawing exhibition titled "Pyongyang," and Professor Bruce Comings from the Department of History, University of Chicago, will give a special lecture.

April 2011 Teacher Workshop: Korean Art in Action

This workshop for educators offers an opportunity to study cultural change in Korea by exposing them to both contemporary Korean culture and its historical roots.

April 2 to June 26, 2011 Exhibition: "Life in Ceramics: Five Contemporary Korean Artists"
Stunning work by celebrated Korean ceramic artists in UMMA's A. Alfred Taubman Galleries.



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Nam Center *for* KOREAN STUDIES

Gifts to the center 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. If you are interested in helping to support the mission of the center, please contact the NCKS 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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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106
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