

# THE GLOBE

A Newsletter of the KDI School of Public Policy & Management

## Commencement 2003

**A**s the final stragglers scurry to take their seats, "Pomp and Circumstance" begins pouring from the auditorium's sound system. A few brief moments later, Prof. Woochan Kim enters the auditorium, proudly holding the KDI School flag before him. Trailing closely behind are the rest of the faculty members, filing into the auditorium one by one, grinning widely and waving as the audience whoops and hollers, cheering them on. Thus was the scene from the opening procession of KDI School Commencement 2003.



*Prof. Woochan Kim leads the opening procession*

was held in the auditorium of neighboring KAIST Graduate School of Management, due to space limitations at the KDI School.

Moderated by Prof. Yun, Hai-Young, assistant dean of academic and student affairs, the ceremony began with orations by salutatorian Hailian Li and valedictorian Ji-young Chung. This was followed by the conferring of degrees,

certificates of completion and special awards; commencement remarks by Choongsoo Kim, president of KDI and the KDI School; a congratulatory address by the Honorable Duong Chinh Thuc, Vietnamese ambassador to the Republic of Korea; congratulatory remarks by Dean Chin-Seung Chung; a special performance by whiz-kid violinist Eugene Park; and group photos. To top it all off, the KDI School hosted a tasteful reception in the Chunji Lounge of the KDI School.

Honoring the culmination of another successful year, students, graduates, alumni, family, friends and distinguished guests assembled on December 12, 2003, to celebrate the end of academic year 2003 of the KDI School of Public Policy & Management, and to honor the achievements of KDI School students. The ceremony



*President Kim confers degree upon Nana Adwoa Atta-Konadu, MPP '00*

*(front row, standing, left to right) Radim Vaculovic, Alexandra Bertokova, Peter Vilcak, Vo Thanh Hai & Sourisack Chanleusa*



### **THE GLOBE**

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Feature

**Workshop on Policy Negotiation for Alumni**

**O**n December 8-12, 2003, the Global Cooperation Division of the KDI School welcomed eighteen international alumni for its week-long Workshop on Policy Negotiation, which was specifically designed to provide alumni from the classes of 1998-2001 with a solid understanding of many of the key policy negotiation issues associated with the new global economic system. The program was also designed to strengthen the global alumni network and demonstrate the School's commitment to providing its alumni with continued learning opportunities.



*Workshop on Policy Negotiation*

In addition to listening to a variety of lectures on negotiation by well-known experts, each alumnus was required to make a presentation on one of the following: a negotiation case study, a controversial political or social issue, or the effects of economic development on stratification. Each presentation was to be made with a focus on the presenter's home country.

Of course, like any other KDI School workshop, the participants

*Reunited: (left to right) Chalee Khansiri, Fortunate Pilar Patriarca Panigbatan, Orlando Voica, Golam Shafi Uddin & Nataliya Mitkova*



*Country Presentations Seminar*

were treated to field study trips, this time to the Korea National Housing Corporation and SK Telecom; entertainment, including a traditional Korean musical and dance performance; and KDI School Friendship Night (Wine Party) and other festivities revolving around Commencement.

The following alumni participated in this year's Workshop:

**Golam Shafi Uddin**, '01, Bangladesh; **Nataliya Mitkova Lorinkova**, '01, Bulgaria; **Chhay Seum**, '01, Cambodia; **Xuan Li**, '01, People's Republic of China;

**Kiros Tikue Mebrahtu**, '01, Ethiopia; **Nana Adwoa Atta-Konadu**, '00, Ghana; **Regina Remenyi**, '01, Hungary; **Mohammad Mustajab**, '01 Indonesia; **Sumarto Mulyadi**, '01 Indonesia; **Emmanuel Oluseun Obisesan**, '01, Nigeria; **Aurea Caraan Javier**, '00, The Philippines; **Fortunate Pilar Patriarca**



*Friendship Night*

**Panigbatan**, '01, The Philippines; **Orlando Marian Voica**, '01, Romania; **Chalee Khansiri**, '01, Thailand; **Chris Frederick**, '99 U.S.A.; **Lien Thi Thu Nguyen**, '01, Vietnam; **Trang Thi Cam Tran**, '01, Vietnam; and **Ha Hai Quang**, '01, Vietnam.



*Student Voice***Testimony of a Departing Student****By Dorin Stanciu, MPP '03**

In the fall of 2002, my home country of Romania was undergoing many changes. In the wake of the fall of communism in 1989, there were so many things that had to be set straight. In addition to the challenges inherent to all transitioning economies, the public sector remained decrepit and overly bureaucratic, and many pressing social problems demanded immediate attention. There was general agreement that things would have to get worse before they would get better, but Romania was opening up to the world, exploring ways of improving its economic system and public sector. One thing the government did was make efforts to recruit young, forward-looking people to help in the modernization of the system. As an official working in the International Relations and European Integration Dept. of the County Council of my region, I was one of these young, bright-eyed recruits.

One day, in late September 2002, I got an e-mail from KDI School extending me an invitation to apply to the School. It had always been one of my dreams to come to

*Dorin Stanciu*

Asia, but I didn't know much about KDI School, or even Korea, for that matter. But as I perused the KDI school website, and studied Korean history on my own, I immediately realized that it was an opportunity that I could not afford to lose. What made Korea so special in my eyes were its amazing culture and history, and the fact that it could serve as a benchmark for developing countries all over the world, including Romania. Though globalization is bringing us closer and closer everyday, most Europeans still tend to see Asia as a "mysterious" place. I didn't know much about Asia myself, but I was definitely interested in learning about it. But I knew that it would take more than books and case-studies to under-

stand Asia; I knew that I would have to live in Asia in order to even begin understanding what it was all about.

Based on the impression I got from the faculty and student profiles on the website, I was doubtful that I could gain admission to such a prestigious school, but I bit the bullet and sent in my application. Fortunately, I gained admission to the MPP program in the winter of 2002, and arrived in Korea this past February. I was apprehensive at first, struggling to find myself a place in this new environment, amongst such a diverse and talented group of people. But I made a choice to open my heart and mind so that I could learn as much as possible from my professors and my fellow students.

The road was not always easy, but now, almost one year later, I can see that my initial hunches about the KDI School were right on the mark. In fact, my experiences here have far surpassed what I originally bargained for. The intensity of the curriculum scared me at first. But to my surprise, I became so engrossed in the program – so much, in fact, that I didn't even feel the passing of the first few months. In fact, it still feels like I just came here yesterday, and if it wasn't for the certificate of completion I received and all the farewell pictures I took this week, I would think I'm still in the program. My experiences here remain just that vivid.

**See STANCIU, p. 6***With friends in Pusan. So many great memories to last a lifetime*

## Feature

## KDI School Hosts the IMPM Program

### Korea Module of IMPM — A Resounding Success

The KDI School of Public Policy and Management successfully hosted the Korean part of the Japan-Korea module of the International Master's Program in Practicing Management (IMPM) on December 3 – 9, 2003.

### Background on IMPM

Launched in March 1996, IMPM was created by Henry Mintzberg, the influential strategy guru and McGill University (Canada) professor, and Jonathan Gosling, of the Lancaster University Management School (U.K.) Disenchanted with the state of MBA education in the world's top business schools, particularly at the most prestigious U.S. programs, the pair set out to create an "alternative MBA," or "next generation," MBA.

According to their diagnosis, the major problems with existing management education were: (1) An overemphasis on case studies and the perspective of U.S. companies; (2) The compartmentalization of business education into traditional business functions such as marketing, finance and operations, rather than holistically integrated learning; and (3) The relative youth and lack of real-world experience for most students at top MBA programs, combined with the short-sightedness of companies that hire inexperienced people just because of the degree on their wall.

To overcome these limits of the traditional MBA, Mintzberg and Gosling joined with like-minded



*Interaction among students and faculty is a key component of IMPM*

colleagues in France, India and Japan to develop the IMPM program, which attempted to remedy the diagnosed problems by incorporating the following: (1) Case studies and management perspectives from countries and corporations throughout the world; (2) Less of a focus on narrow traditional disciplines and greater effort to provide integrated management education through a focus on what they call "mind-sets," the mix of quantitative and qualitative thinking that truly skilled manag-

ers need (the program is broken up into the following "mindset" modules: reflective, analytic, worldly, collaborative and action); (3) Material directly relevant to the current issues facing the companies, industries and individual jobs of participants; (4) Highly interactive, experiential, in-country learning; (5) The selection of participants from the middle and upper ranks of corporations, so that they could contribute more to

*(continued on next page)*



*IMPM participants sing  
"The IMPM Song" with glee*

## Feature

## IMPM—Continued



*Kyungbok Palace*

fellow participants' learning experience and directly apply their newfound knowledge to their daily management problems in between IMPM modules.

The IMPM takes place over a period of 16 months, allowing participants to return to their workplace in between the five two-week modules (Korea and Japan sessions were one week each) and a two-week "managerial exchange" with a fellow participant. The theme for the Japan-Korea module was "collaboration."

Participating schools include INSEAD (France), McGill University (Canada), Lancaster University (UK), Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (India) and a consortium of Japanese schools, including JAIST, Hitotsubashi University and Kobe University.

### Korea Module

According to Prof. Quy Huy, IMPM program director and professor of management at INSEAD, the KDI School was selected this year to host part of a module because the School has experience in educating mid-level executives; it emphasizes practical learning and application over theory; and it has a faculty that excels at integrating

the economic, social and policy issues that affect large organizations.

"We were very excited about the opportunity to host the IMPM program in Korea. We felt that there was a need for an executive program that goes beyond the typical U.S. style of education to address the particular needs of high-level executives in Europe, East Asia and India as well," said Seung-Joo Lee, professor of corporate strategy at the KDI School and the man credited with bringing IMPM to the KDI School.



*Dancing to Korean rhythms*



*IMPM students*

Sessions were led by KDI School professors Seung-Joo Lee, Kyong-Dong Kim, Kwon Jung, Tony Michell and Stanley Sakai. The IMPM participants included executives from Motorola, Fujitsu, Matsushita, British Telecom, Lufthansa as well as LG, which hosted the group for one day of learning sessions and a tour at some of its manufacturing facilities. The Korea program was such a success that KDI School has been asked to host the next class of IMPM participants in May 2004. *(End)*

*Prof. Quy Huy, IMPM director, holds back tears as he thanks participants*



*Student Voice — Continued***STANCIU, from p. 3**

I've been asked many times which things I have been most impressed by not only here at the KDI School but Korea in general. This is always a difficult question to answer, since I have been impressed with the whole experience, but if I were forced to choose the most impressive factor, I would have to say that it has been the people. In Korea, and at the KDI School, the greatness comes from the people themselves. Many people praise the Korean economic "miracle," as if it were something so complicated or inexplicable, but when you see the Koreans at work, you realize that the true miracle is in the people themselves.



*Friendship Night, with friends*

The School itself is a marvelous place – more like a family than a school in any traditional sense. I can honestly say that the staff is there for us, no questions asked, truly giving of their time and energy. And the professors are friendly, open-minded and easy to talk to. The first time I saw the professors' resumes on the website, I was so impressed that they returned to Korea to teach here, since they could obviously have had so many other options, considering their impressive careers. But I soon realized that that is what KDI and the KDI School are all about: bringing back some of

the smartest Korean academics, consultant and policymakers to create sound policies for the benefit of Korea and Korea's friends around the world. I can't speak about each of them, but the ones I came to know are true scholars, always pushing forward, never settling for mediocrity. What I gained from them goes far beyond classroom learning, for they also taught me about commitment, passion, in short, how to be a full person.

Of course, what really distinguishes the KDI School is its students. They are very well selected to fit the school's desired profile of political leaders, capable and future-oriented, having at least one area of high expertise. I would say that I learned as much from them as I did my professors. The Korean students were also truly wonderful. Like many of the other international students, I made close friendships with some of them and, overall, I think they were the true goodwill ambassadors of Korea. Many people think of Englishmen when they think of the word "gentleman," but I think the word applies equally to so many Koreans.

I wish more people could have the chance to experience what I have experienced here. I used to joke that my government should organize a trip to Korea for my colleagues. But now, I don't think of it as a joke. Thanks to the KDI School, I am a better man now, and I'll continue to better myself in the future. Two years from now, I might be coming back for a short visit, and I hope that I will be able to bring some of my countrymen with me. I would gladly serve as their guide. *(End)*

**In the News****Economics Education for Korea's Youth**

*Dean Chin-Seung Chung*  
(Source: *Maeil Business Newspaper*)

**Chin-Seung Chung**, dean of the KDI School, was interviewed in the Nov. 18th issue of *Maeil Business Newspaper*, Korea's leading business economic daily, about the KDI School's new initiative to improve the quality of economics education for the nation's youth.

Along with other like-minded members of the KDI School faculty, Dean Chung believes that the treatment of economics in the nation's secondary schools has been cursory, at best, far from the level required to educate a generation of global-minded leaders. "There is a misguided belief among young people that economics is not relevant to their lives, but we disagree. So we are going to make an effort to present economic ideas in a way that is easy to understand and highly applicable to everyday problems," said Chung.

Their plans include contributing a special series of articles to *Maeil Business Newspaper*, working to improve the quality of middle and high school economics texts, and conducting online and offline educational seminars for secondary school teachers.

School News

Alumni News

New Alumni Association President



**Heung-Rae Kim, MPP '00**, president of the Korea Research Institute for Local Administration, and formerly vice-

minister of government administration and home affairs, was appointed as the president of the KDI School Alumni Association following a unanimous decision by the KDI School Alumni Board of Directors.

Alumni Breakfast

The KDI School Alumni Association sponsored a breakfast lecture for alumni on December 12, 2003, at the J.W. Marriott in Seoul. The guest lecturer was Jong-Chan Choi, Minister of Construction and Transportation of Korea. The title of his lecture was "Major Construction and Transportation Policies of the Roh Moo-hyun Administration." Over seventy alumni were in attendance.

KDI School Year-End Alumni Party

The Alumni Association hosted the annual Year-End Alumni Dinner on December 16, 2003, 7:30 pm, at the Tower Hotel, Seoul. Over seventy-five alumni gathered for an evening filled with good food, drink, fun and friends — a great way to close out the year and usher in the new.

Commencement Awards

*Our sincerest congratulations to the following students who were honored for their achievements at Commencement 2003:*

**Valedictorian**

- LI, Hailian, MPP '03

**Salutatorian**

- CHUNG, Ji-Young, MBA '01

**Award for Outstanding Thesis**

- CHENG, Hu., MPP '02

**Award for Academic Excellence**

- PREEDANOND, Nipha, MBA '03
- LEE, Kay Sam, MPP, '03
- KIM, Jang-Rae, REF '03
- CHOI, Seok Ho

**Award for Student Community Service**

- IM, Jong Moon, MPP '03
- MARTINEZ, Diego Alejandro, MPP '03

**Award for Student Popularity**

- Abebe Aynalem Haregot, MPP '03
- JU, Min-Gon, REF '03
- KIM, Seung-Mee, MPP '03
- SON, Byoung Moon, MBA '03

**Award for Active Participation**

- BUI, Truong Giang, MPP '03
- HAYDAROV, Kayumjon Imomalievich, MPP '03
- REUW, Deuk Won, MPP '03

KDI School Provides Setting for Another "Campus Couple"

You heard it here first. **Andrea Ramirez, MPP '03**, and **Waldo Tapia Troncoso, MPP '02**, have



announced to *The Globe* that they are going to tie the knot early next year. According to Andrea, it was love at first sight for the couple, but it

took some forwardness on her part to break the ice with female-shy Waldo. They will have a civil marriage in January in France, followed by a formal wedding in Colombia, Andrea's home country. In January 2004, Andrea will head to France where she will begin a master's degree in transportation law program at the University of Toulouse, where Waldo, a native of Chile, is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in economics.

Lady & Gentleman of the Month

November 2003



**Malika Nigmatulina, MPP '03 (left) & Chamroeun Sok, MPP '03**



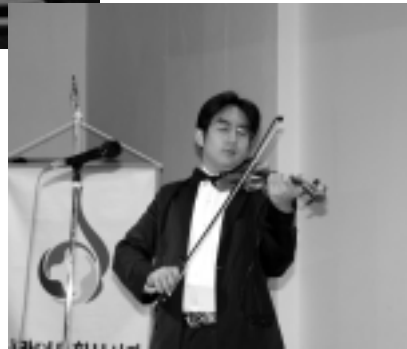
Feature

Memories of Commencement



President Choongsoo Kim delivers congratulatory remarks

Prof. Hai-Young Yun



Virtuoso Eugene Park



Valedictorian Ji-young Chung (left) & Salutatorian Hailian Li

(left to right) President Choongsoo Kim, Dean Chin-Seung Chung & Professor Bon Ho Koo

Reception in Chunji Lounge



Please send comments, suggestions and alumni announcements to the Editor: [wpark@kdischool.ac.kr](mailto:wpark@kdischool.ac.kr)  
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