

THE GLOBE

A Newsletter of the KDI School of Public Policy & Management

The KDI School Opens Its Doors to Embassies

On June 17, the KDI School hosted its annual Open House, an event designed to introduce the local diplomatic community to the innovative educational programs of the KDI School.

Attending the event were around 15 ambassadors and embassy representatives from Argentina, Belarus, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Cote d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Paraguay, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan and the United States.

The evening started off with a

into an active and highly effective networking resource for all alumni.

Finally, he expressed his hopes that the KDI School and the embassies in Korea could work more closely together in the future to foster more frequent exchange, joint research and other forms of jointly-sponsored educational initiatives.

Following Dean Chung's welcoming address was a witty and entertaining presentation by Prof. Seung-Joo Lee, associate dean of academic & student affairs and chair of the MBA Program.

and staff to mingle with each other and their guests.

Overall, the event was considered a success. According to Haiyoung Yun, assistant dean for academic & student affairs, "I always enjoy doing the Open House because it's a wonderful opportunity for people to come and see the School for themselves, and for us to further inform the diplomatic community of what we are doing here at the KDI School."



Snapshots of the 2003 KDI School Open House

cocktail reception, as arriving guests relaxed over drinks, tasty hors d'oeuvres and casual conversation.

As the evening got under way, Dr. Chin-Seung Chung, dean of the School, in his opening remarks, thanked everyone for attending and appealed to the embassies for their continued assistance in helping the KDI School to locate and recruit talented students from their respective countries.

He also spoke of the School's commitment to recruiting top-notch faculty members and providing cutting-edge education in step with the challenges of globalization, as well as plans to build the KDI School Alumni Network

Prof. Lee provided the attendees with a thorough look at the School's mission, academic programs, world-class faculty and unique scholarship programs. He followed up his presentation with a brief Q&A session.

Next, the attendees were treated to a tour of the campus, including the library, students' chambers, and particularly the state-of-the-art main videoconferencing center, which is used for the School's distance learning program and its GDLN program.

To top off the evening, everyone was treated to a buffet-style dinner of western and Asian dishes, providing another chance for KDI School students, faculty

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Feature

The KDI School Hosts the Korea Global Forum

As part of its efforts to establish stronger ties with multinational corporations doing business in Korea, the KDI School hosted the 8th Korea Global Forum (KGF) on June 24, along with co-host the Office of the Investment Ombudsman, Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA).

The Korea Global Forum – co-chaired by Michael Campeanu, Korea country manager of Allianz Life, and Dr. Wan-soon Kim, investment ombudsman of KOTRA – is a membership-based group of foreign business leaders and key Korean government officials that meets once a month to network and discuss business, economic and legal issues that are most important to foreign companies in Korea.

On this particular evening, the guest speaker was Dr. Soogil Young, former KDI research fellow and OECD ambassador, and now chairman of the Subcommittee on FDI Inducement, which is part of the newly established Presidential Commission on Northeast Asian Business Hub.

In his presentation, “Policy Challenges of the Northeast Asian Business Hub Vision,” Dr. Young stressed that, given the fact that other regions in Asia have plans of their own to develop themselves into regional business hubs,



Korea Global Forum

Korea has no choice but to move in the same direction, lest it be left behind.

“Korea must move forward just to stand still. Our hub aspirations should not be viewed as a win-or-lose, all-or-nothing, situation, since any significant movement in the right direction would be a positive achievement,” he said.

Dr. Young also urged members to take on an active role in participating in soon-to-be-formed task forces that will work to resolve issues that must be addressed if Korea is to realize its “hub vision.”

“Foreign business executives can offer an invaluable perspective by providing specific suggestions that are highly practical and can be easily implemented,” Young said.

He also said it is imperative that the government make greater effort to mobilize public support

for its “hub vision.”

Among other topics discussed, the participants seemed most interested in the issue of education. Several members stressed the need to internationalize their employees and strengthen their global business skills.

Werner Pfeifer, president of Merck Korea, commented, “Our Korean staff possess excellent creativity and managerial ideas, but are sometimes at a loss when it comes to effectively conveying such ideas in a business setting.”

Meanwhile, others members expressed concern about some of the restrictions that make it difficult for certain Korean managers to send their children to international schools.

As a finale to the evening, Associate Dean Seung-Joo Lee and Assistant Dean Hai-Young Yun introduced the group to the KDI School’s academic programs and unique educational initiatives, urging members to collaborate with the School in exploring potential educational partnerships.

All in all, it was a very productive evening for everyone involved, as several KGF members agreed to work with the KDI School to explore potential educational partnerships to fulfill the needs of their employees.



Scenes from the Korea Global Forum at the KDI School

Student Profile

Global Teenager Makes the Grade

In December 1991, when the Soviet Union collapsed into fifteen separate countries, **Malika Nigmatulina**, MPP '03, was just an eighth-grader in her hometown of Astana, Kazakhstan, still too young to realize that her life had just taken a favorable turn.

In fact, Malika was so young at the time, she can hardly remember what life was like in the Soviet era at all.

"I think my life was probably like that of teenagers around the world," said Malika, sporting her typical bright-eyed look. "I do remember having to wear a red Lenin star as part of my first-grade school uniform, but that did not last for very long."

To be sure, Malika is not your typical Kazakhstani woman. Her father, who made a name for himself in real estate, is currently a Member of Parliament; her mother is a homemaker who now helps manage the family's business interests.

A precocious student, Malika graduated from high school at the age of 15, upon passing a qualifying exam. She then went to the United States with her mother, planning to enroll in an ESL program. But within a month, upon the advice of family friends, she found herself applying to the University of Kentucky, Louisville, and was accepted.

"I had wanted to study in the USA for a while. I guess I was fortunate," says the speaker of four languages, including Kazakh, Russian, English and some Turkish.

Ever the eager student, Malika graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science in just two-and-a-half years, despite having devoted extensive time to her volunteer work for Albert Gore's presidential campaign.

After graduation, Malika re-



turned to Astana, where she worked at the Ministry of Economic Budget and Planning for about one year.

It was there, while helping to organize an economic development conference, that she met the Korean ambassador to Kazakhstan, whom she says was "so wonderful, he really got me interested in the KDI School."

As for why she chose to study in Korea, she commented, "I wanted to study in a country that was culturally similar to Kazakhstan. I thought that would make for a better learning experience in terms of getting a better feel for Kazakhstan's future development direction."

"Also, there is a huge Korean ethnic population in my country, so I grew up with Korean friends, and I felt comfortable with their food and culture. I'm trying to learn Korean now and luckily it is structurally similar to Kazakh."

At just 18, the KDI School's youngest-ever student, Malika says she is very happy with her experience at the KDI School thus far, citing her generous KOICA scholarship, the quality of student life, and the quality of instruction.

She said her favorite classes have been "Understanding the World Trade System," with Prof. Duk-geun Ahn; "Economic Analysis of Public Policy," with Prof. Yoon-ha Yoo; and "Foreign Direct Investment," with Prof. Tony Michell.

Despite having been educated abroad, Malika says she plans to return to the Ministry of Economic Budget and Planning when she graduates from the KDI

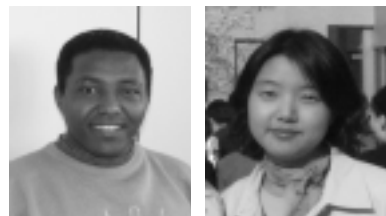
School. "I want to make use of my educational background and international experience to help my own country's development and to strengthen its ties with other countries such as Korea." (End)

Student News

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Month

Once again, the students, faculty and staff of the KDI School have selected the men and women who most exemplify the spirit of the KDI School. Congratulations to those selected!

May 2003



Abebe Haregot, MPP '03 (left) & **Kyungmin Kim**, MPP '03

June 2003



Seung Mee Kim, MPP '03 (left) & **Vladimir Lame**, MPP '03

Faculty Profile

Woochan Kim



Woochan Kim

"I enjoy teaching and research, and I love the democratic environment of the KDI School," says **Woochan Kim**, assistant professor of finance.

At first glance, Kim might look more like a well-groomed professional than a scholar or activist. But have a conversation with him, and you realize that he is a conscientious citizen and a passionate believer in fair corporate practices.

The son of a career diplomat, Kim was born in Mexico, and spent the better part of his early childhood in the cities of Madrid, New York and Washington, D.C. But upon his father's insistence, Kim returned to Korea in elementary school and entered the Korean educational system.

"I don't regret being educated in Korea. I was able to maintain fluency in English, while maintaining my Korean heritage," says the Seoul National University graduate.

Although Kim now spends his days as an educator, scholar, and consultant, he in fact began his career as a senior official in the International Finance Bureau of Korea's Ministry of Finance and Economy (MOFE), Korea's economic policy machine.

He says he liked the job because it allowed him to gain

hands-on experience in the practical aspects of policy-making and legal issues, and because he was able to work with so many talented colleagues. However, he had other ambitions as well.

His desire for new challenges led him to apply for graduate school at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, where he later earned a Ph.D. in Public Policy, focusing on international finance.

After Harvard, Kim returned to MOFE, but just one year later, he was invited to join the KDI School faculty.

Besides research and teaching, Prof. Kim works as an executive committee member of the People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD), one of Korea's most influential NGOs, where he is an advocate for minority shareholder's rights, and for the legalization of class-action lawsuits in Korea.

He also serves as a non-resident executive director of the Center for Good Corporate Governance, where he and his colleagues conduct research on the corporate governance practices of Korea's largest firms and sell the research to institutional investors.

When asked about his interest in corporate governance, Kim responds, "The whole issue of corporate governance is very important to economic stability, especially in Korea. We need to ensure corporate transparency in order to prevent a future economic crisis."

As for whether he plans to remain in academia indefinitely, Kim pauses and, with a smile, says, "I'm happy with what I'm doing now, but if good opportunities come along in the future, a chance to make a positive difference for society, I am willing to be flexible."

KDI School Photos

Roaming Camera



Students atop Mt. Bukhan



Taking a break on Mt. Bukhan



Students get down at the June Wine Party

Faculty Spotlight

Ju-Ho Lee


Ju-Ho Lee

*Associate professor of public policy at the KDI School, and previously associate dean of academic and student affairs, **Ju-Ho Lee** recently returned from a year-long sabbatical as the A. Lindsay O'Connor Associate Professor of American Institutions at Colgate University, in Hamilton, New York. A graduate of Seoul National University with a Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University, Professor Lee graciously sat down to talk with us about his experience.*

Please tell us about how you spent your sabbatical.

I was a visiting professor at Colgate University, in rural New York. I taught the upper-level classes, "Asian Economies" and "Labor Economics," teaching each semester-long course twice. It was a great chance for me to "recharge my batteries," broaden my perspective, and spend quality time with my wife and daughter.

Did your teaching focus on the Korean economy?

Actually, my classes gave a broad-based overview of several Asian economies, including China and Japan. It was good for me because I was able to do a lot of extra

studying and broaden my base of knowledge. So now I hope to apply this type of broader-based, comparative perspective to my classes here at the KDI School.

What were some of the differences you observed between Colgate and the KDI School?

Colgate University is a small liberal arts college, so perhaps it is not entirely fair to compare it to a graduate/professional school like the KDI School. But to me the most striking difference between Colgate and Korean universities in general was the high level of interaction between students and their teachers. I think that the slow-paced, rural atmosphere, the university administration's policies, and the professors' passion for teaching all contributed to such an environment.

Could you give some examples?

When I hold office hours at the KDI School, not enough students take advantage of the opportunity. But at Colgate, students came to me with all sorts of questions and ideas, so it was easy to establish rapport with them. I also found the students to be extremely well-prepared for class discussions. That made teaching all the more stimulating for me.

Considering that the KDI School student body is far more diverse than Colgate's, if we could find a way of facilitating greater student-faculty interaction, both in the classroom and out, our learning environment could be that much better.

What valuable lessons did you learn that might be applied to your work at the KDI School?

I knew it before, but while teach-

ing at Colgate, I came to understand the quality and the level of depth of America's universities and its educational system in general. Probably the differences between the students in America and those in other countries like Korea have a lot to do with culture, but I also think they are intricately related to the overall education system as well – both at the school and university levels. It is one of my goals as a policy analyst to help create a more open and efficient educational system that can provide the best learning opportunities in Korea, and in this regard I think the KDI School is leading the way.

What do you plan to do now that you are back? Any special plans?

I will teach classes in labor economics and a seminar on social policy in the fall, but during the summer I will do research and work on setting up a center called CEPRI (Center for Education Policy Research and Initiatives), which will focus on conducting systematic research on education policy reform in Korea.

I came up with the idea for this center because I felt that there has been a lack of serious discussion on educational reform that is based on sound research. I want to set up CEPRI because I believe that education reform will only happen if it is research-based.

I will also remain active in the Education Reform Forum, a group which I co-founded. Currently the group consists of around 100 scholars, teachers and government officials who meet monthly to discuss educational reform in Korea.

School News

The KDI School Attends 55th Annual NAFSA Conference



The KDI School's NAFSA booth

On May 25-30, a delegation from the KDI School was in Salt Lake City, Utah, attending the 55th Annual Conference of NAFSA (National Association of Foreign Student Advisers).

Dubbed by the conference's organizers as the "premier international education event," the conference provides a venue where over 5,500 representatives of universities, governments, and educational advisories gather from all over the world to promote international education, learn about each other's programs, share ideas, and expand their professional networks.

The KDI School's delegation, which included Dean Chin-Seung Chung and Assistant Dean for Academic and Student Affairs Hai-Young Yun, was thrilled to be able to participate in the event.

"As the Dean of a relatively new institution, I think it is important for me to travel abroad, promote the strengths of the KDI School to overseas colleagues, and meet potential applicants. The annual NAFSA event allows me to do all of these things," said Dean Chung.

Assistant Dean Yun, who also attended last year's event, commented, "NAFSA is a wonderful

opportunity to meet prospective new exchange partner schools from all over the world. It was exciting to note a growing interest among schools worldwide to further promote international education and exchange opportunities for their respective students."

The KDI School Hosts 7-Day Workshop for Foreign Government Officials

For one week, from June 22 - 28, the KDI School hosted, in collaboration with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), a special educational program for government officials from developing countries such as Bangladesh, Colombia, Georgia, Indonesia, Mongolia and the Philippines.

Called the "Workshop on WTO Investment Rules for Developing Countries," the program was specifically designed to provide participants with background knowledge and a sound analytical framework for working with, and developing policy with regard to, multilateral investment rules.

Several of Korea's most prominent practitioners and academics delivered the lectures, which focused on core issues regarding WTO investment rules and on providing extensive analysis of dispute settlement cases related to investment agreements.

In addition to the lectures and special sessions that allowed participants to talk about investment agreements in the context of their own countries, the group enjoyed field-study trips to places such as the Korea Trade and Promotion Agency (KOTRA), the Convention and Exhibition Center (COEX) and Kia Motors.



WTO Workshop participants with KDI School staff members

"KDI School Wedding"

KDI School students, faculty and staff gathered to celebrate the wedding of staff member **Hong-Joo Lim** (Admin. Division) and student/staff member **Eun-Young Hong** (MBA '03/Global Knowledge Cooperation Division). Congratulations!



The newlyweds cut the cake as their parents look on



International students enjoy the Korean-style wedding festivities

School News

New Faculty and Staff



The KDI School of Public Policy and Management welcomed a new member to its faculty this summer. **Jeong-Ho Kim**, visiting professor, previously spent twenty-plus years at the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements (KRIHS), where he served as vice president, a research fellow in several of its divisions, and most recently as director of the infrastructure and construction economics research division. He is also a much sought-after advisor and consultant to the Korean government, foreign governments, and other public and private sector organizations.

Dr. Kim earned his Ph.D. in urban/environmental/technological planning, with a minor in applied economics and public policy analysis, from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Before that, he earned a Masters in City and Regional Planning (MCP) from the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include housing economics, housing policy analysis, urban planning and analysis, and real estate economics. He is currently teaching "Local Administration and Finance," and will teach "Housing Economics" in the fall.



We are pleased to announce that **Eun-Hyung Lee** has recently joined the KDI School team as a public relations consultant and advisor. A graduate of Seoul University, with a bachelor's degree in history, Ms. Lee received her MBA from the KDI School, where she is currently working toward a Ph.D in management. Prior to the KDI School, Ms. Lee worked as a reporter at the *Kyunghyang Newspaper*; and as foreign spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (MOCIE). A seasoned journalist and public relations expert, Ms. Lee will work to help the School strengthen its overall PR strategy.

Welcome also to other new staff members **Seung-Ho Jung** (MPP '02), inter-Korean knowledge coordinator, Global Knowledge Cooperation Division; **Young-Dae You**, student service coordinator, Office of Academic and Student Affairs; **Jin-Young Heo**, executive assistant, Center for Knowledge Cooperation; and **Warren Park**, editor and marketing coordinator, Office of External Relations and Development.

Videoconferencing Facilities for Rent

As the demand for real-time interaction between countries grows, many organizations around the world are beginning to realize the benefits to be gained from the use of videoconferencing as an alternative to costly and time-consuming travel.

In response to this growing demand, the KDI School has made available its state-of-the-art videoconferencing facilities for rent to the public.

The cost of rental is based on two separate fees: the basic room rental fee, which ranges from 200,000 won to 300,000 won per hour, depending on the time of day and day of the week; and an additional fee for network access, which is based on the counterpart country and the level of bandwidth desired.

For detailed rates and information, visit www.learningworld.net, and select "Videoconferencing Activity" at the top of the page. For reservations or further inquiries, contact: (Tel) 82-3299-1104 or (e-mail) doors@kdischool.ac.kr.



The KDI School's Main Videoconferencing Room

*Student Life***Students Visit Korea's Other Metropolis**

As KDI School's international students embarked on their May 14-15 field trip to Busan, it was hard to believe that the forecast called for rain. The skies were sunny and clear, and as their bus made its way southward along the Kyongbu Expressway, the students reveled in the lush, green scenery and the much-needed respite from their fast-paced lives. It was only as they reached Busan that it started to rain. Luckily, it would not dampen their enthusiasm.

many of them took pictures and frolicked in the sand.

From there, the group went to Millak-dong, where they were treated to a delicious Korean feast and some good 'ole Korean hospitality by a representative of the Busan Newport Co, Ltd. By the time dinner ended, it was time for a good night's sleep.

On the second day, after a quick breakfast, the group visited the site of the Busan Newport Project. Just one look, and it was clear why the project had been budgeted at close to one billion

a representative of the Busan Regional Maritime Affairs & Fisheries Office. Judging from the students' constant picture taking and their upbeat moods, it seemed that this was their favorite part of the trip.

All in all, the trip was a great success, enjoyed by students and staff alike. "What can I say?" said Dorin Stanciu, MPP '03, a student from Romania. "It was great. The people were friendly, our hosts were so gracious, and I loved the beach and the coast."



Public Information Center, Busan City Hall

The first stop on the tour was the Public Information Center of Busan's City Hall, where the group experienced a one-hour virtual tour of Busan in the Center's elaborately designed multimedia showrooms.

Next, the group headed over to the recently completed Gwangan Bridge, an impressive sight indeed. "I have never seen such a beautiful bridge with my own eyes. It was breathtaking," said Abebe Haregot, MPP '03, a student from Ethiopia. He also explained how the students asked the driver to stop at nearby Gwangri Beach, where



Gwangan Beach, with Gwangan Bridge in the background

US dollars. According to Anh Huu Nguyen, MBA '03, a student from Vietnam, "I loved everything about the trip, but I was most impressed by the Busan Newport. I think it has the potential to become the major hub port of Asia."

Next, Ik-Doo Choi, vice-administrator of the Dongnaegu district of Busan, treated the group to a lunch of *bibimbap* and seafood pancakes at a famous local restaurant. The group then moved on to the final destination of the day, the Port of Busan, where they took a forty-minute cruise along the northern coast of the port with



On a boat, cruising around Busan Port

Note: We would like to thank everyone who made this trip possible, especially KDI School students Sang-Yul Ahn, deputy director at the Ministry of Planning & Budget, and Ki-Gon Kim, of Busan City Hall.

Thanks also to everyone who accompanied the students, including staff members Jae-Soon Lee, Gil-Sang Won and Hye-Jung Park; student Seung-Mi Kim; and alumnus Jong-Bum Lim.

Please send comments, suggestions and alumni announcements to the Editor: wpark@kdischool.ac.kr

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