

KDI School of Public Policy and
Management

Spring 2010

THE GLOBE

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*I'm in Love
with the KDI
SCHOOL*

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Publisher Dean Sang-Moon Hahm **Faculty Supervisors** Jaeun Shin **Planning Coordinators** Hyun-Ju Kim **Editor** Yoo Jin Nam **Student Reporters** Adelaide Kamanthe(2010 MPP/ED, Kenya), Mikyung Byun(2010 MPP/ED, Korea), Mona Bargooti(2010 MPP, Palestine), Dong Hee Kim(2009 MBA, Korea)

Recapturing the Past

Reported by Mona Bargooti (2010 MPP, Palestine)

It was an experience unlike any other. It was like getting into a time machine which took us more than one hundred years back into the Korean life style of the past.

The buses took off early on the morning of Saturday April 17th, 2010. The roads were packed with traffic, but as each of us enjoyed a book or listened to music blasting from our high tech electronics, we found ourselves at our destination sooner than expected.

The guides graciously walked us through the heavenly scenery of the Korean Folk Village as they explained the architecture of that era, the prevalent culture at the time, the traditions, the hand-made crafts, and much more. We also got the chance to enjoy skillful and well-conducted performances. If one missed the comfort of modern life, crossing over to the other side of the bank easily allowed access to the modern

collection of sculptures and exhilarating roller coaster rides in the nearby amusement park.

After witnessing the sophistication of the traditional Korean wedding, we headed back home with memorabilia, photographs, and vivid memories of our experience. It was the perfect ending to a perfect day.



Concentration Gathering

Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)



On the 24th of March at the Yoo Sung Kwan restaurant near school, about 20 students and three professors gathered together under the name of a concentration meeting. Whereas previous gatherings were organized by individual course, the new gatherings are organized according to each program's concentration group. MPP Chair Professor Wook Son stated, "Concentration gatherings are designed to focus more on pragmatic relationship building between students and professors who have the same interest and correlating field work.

Hereafter, more school events will be formed based on each concentration." The Real Estate concentration gathering held that evening provided a platform for making a closer and more meaningful network amongst attendees.



President Lee Myung-bak at KDI

Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)

In the class of Quantitative Methods, Vietnamese friend Toan Duc Pham (2010 MPP, Vietnam) bat the breeze about his experience in the morning. The VIP invitation lecture held just hours before at the KDI, had welcomed the presence of none other than the President of South Korea, Lee Myung-bak.



President Lee Myung-bak held the emergency economic council meeting at the Korea Development Institute on February 25th, 2010. KDI researchers and Cabinet members discussed economic policy and Official Development Assistance (ODA) for developing nations in accordance with Korea's role as a newly elected donor country. Following the meeting, President Lee attended KDI School Professor Dong Young Kim's class on "Participatory Governance in Public Decision Making." The President sat alongside 29 other students, taking part in the diverse yet cohesive classroom dynamic as they shared discussions about their own country's development policies as well as about school life.

"The KDI School is well known for government officials internationally. I was surprised however, that there are not only outstanding officials but also brilliant students from the private sector. This kind of diversity is a powerful asset of the School, and I expect to learn more lessons about Korean economic development. I've found recent eco-friendly city development policies especially impressive," said Petra Prasilova (2010 MPP, Czech Republic).



Students shared their impressions of Korea and experiences at the KDI School thus far. Overall, students expressed their satisfaction of infrastructures in Korea and the exceptional educational environment at the KDI School.

Pramod Ahuja (2010 MPP, India) who also attended the event stated, "Performances of the Korean economy are incomparable to any other country in human history. My country India has one of the biggest markets in the world. A close relationship between our two countries will be helpful for bigger performances of both."

The special lecture is sure to have left a lasting impression on all who were present, eliciting international dialogue in a friendly and intimate classroom setting. This event once again affirmed the KDI School as a truly global hub for knowledge sharing and insightful exchange. The day's event was sealed in commemorative photographs taken with President Lee.



Join in on the KDI School Clubs!

Reported by Globe

THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

Despite the name, the club bears no similarity to the 2004 thriller. However, it does make reference to the butterfly effect in chaos theory, which theorizes that a change in something seemingly innocuous, such as a flap of a butterfly's wings, may have unexpectedly larger consequences in the future.

The Butterfly Effect club is dedicated to donating safe and clean water sources primarily across Africa through seeking funds and donations. To this effect, the club will hold several events such as selling cookies, food, collecting book donations and a fundraising party at the end of the semester. The proceeds will then be sent to a local nonprofit organization on the ground in a bid to improve the quality of lives through provision of safe and clean water. "We hope that these small contributions can make big changes, thus the name," club president Hyunji explained with a smile.

<Contact Information: Hyunji Park / hyunjipak@gmail.com>



CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

The Christian Community club was formed with the purpose of providing a positive influence on society and the KDI School community in particular, by developing friendly relations amongst members and a strengthened relationship with God. Every week, the club has a meeting where members share their lives, sing praises and study the Bible. During the summer, a retreat to revive spirituality and enjoy communication with one another is being planned, and in the autumn, a Soraksan trip to enjoy the beautiful fall foliage. Club members also hope to volunteer at an orphanage, as well as engage in other activities that can unite and strengthen fellowship. < Contact Information: Yevgeniy Khon / evgenyhong@gmail.com>

DEBATE

The Debate club is a venue where students can think critically about information that is thrown their way while at the KDI School and in their professional lives. Club meetings are held every Wednesday at 6:30 pm to debate current issues as well as topics of interest including politics, economy, environment and human rights. Members aim to objectively discuss and comprehend the pros and cons of various topics. The club also provides members the opportunity to improve their English skills and expand their networks.<Contact Information: Zahra Rasouli / zrasouli@gmail.com>

NO FREE LUNCH (NFL) SOCIETY

The NFL Society club's mission is to give all interested students (not just those taking finance courses) an opportunity to understand finance better in a more practical, fun way. The secondary mission is to bring together international and Korean students by interspersing finance events with a few social gatherings. How will that be achieved? Mainly by inviting speakers from both inside & outside KDI to present a topic of interest, show case studies on Korean companies, and more!

<Contact Information: Dana Aleksic / dana.aleksic@yahoo.com, Yewon Jung / yewonjung85@gmail.com>

MARATHON

The Marathon club of the KDI School, organized by Professor Tae Hee Choi, is famous for its long history and the close relationships it fosters between club members. Besides running, they also take part in rock climbing and tracking activities. After such physical exertion, members enjoy quenching their thirst and bonding with one another over beer. The club's lengthy history has accumulated memorable anecdotes, such as instances where one alumnus ran 17 kilometers wearing dress shoes, and another member temporarily lost power in his leg after a running spree. Create your own unforgettable experience by joining in on the fun!

<Contact Information: Jae Hak Sim / 93358298@naver.com>

TABLE TENNIS

Many students know about the table tennis room in the Union building. However, not many students know that the KDI School has a Table Tennis club. Like the Taekwondo club and the Marathon club, the Table Tennis club attracts many sports enthusiasts to build friendships through collective physical exercise. The leader of the club, Korean Air Force pilot Sung Jun Park said, "You will be startled by our members' skills. If you want to experience it for yourself, come and play within our club. We are looking forward to welcoming more students as our members."

<Contact Information: Sung Jun Park / juni0451@naver.com>

TAEKWONDO AND SPORTS

This year, the club comprises of the fourth group of students receiving lessons at the International Taekwondo School. The club kicked off with 16 members who participated in the first training session. The Taekwondo lessons taught by Master Shin take place twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays. But that is not all. For those who want to go for the black belt, there is the possibility of attending class every weekday. Let's hope some avid members accomplish this challenging feat! Everyone who wants to join is welcome - and not only those who are interested in Taekwondo. As the name of the club implies, other sports activities such as basketball, tennis, hiking, etc., hope to be coordinated in warmer months.

<Contact Information: Pavla Kubinova / pajushk@gmail.com>



A Globalizing Chaebol : Doosan

Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)



► CEO and Chairman, of Doosan Corp. Yong-man Park



On March 25th, the KDI School held a special lecture by Doosan's CEO and Chairman, Yong-man Park, following an invitation from Operations Management Professor, Yu-Sang Chang. It is interesting to note that years earlier, Yong-man Park had been a teaching assistant for Professor Chang while pursuing his MBA at Boston University.

Started by Park's grandfather in 1986 with a single store in Seoul, Doosan is Korea's oldest business organization. To be honest, one of the main reasons I attended the lecture I will ashamedly admit, is because I wanted to see a CEO of a Korean chaebol in person. Given their immense power in Korea and increasing global status, chaebol CEOs conjure images of immortal demi- gods, and I half expected Doosan's

CEO Yong-man Park to fly into Lincoln Hall on a cherubic wing. To say that I was somewhat disappointed when he walked out of the elevator (on his feet) and breezily started chatting up some of the students, is an understatement.

Fast forward to the lecture room. After brief welcoming remarks, the Doosan CEO took his place at the podium, and he easily won over the eager audience with his infectious charisma and charm. As the CEO traced Doosan's history, everyone was hooked; his presentation was precise yet captivating, informative yet witty in the jokes he sporadically infused into his speech. From the onset of his presentation, the CEO made it clear that Doosan was proud of its long 114 year old history and its resilience despite a myriad of difficulties both internal and external. Interestingly, the CEO has a benign view of all these challenges saying that they



are what have made Korean corporations in general stronger than they were 20 years ago.

After almost a century of dominating the beer, soft drinks and whiskey market in Korea, things in the 1990s took a drastic turn for the worst, as Doosan found itself blindsided by increasing competition. By 1996, the company's annual negative cash flow was a crippling 940 billion won out of a mere 3 trillion won in revenues. The company urgently needed to get out of its deep troubles. It is these efforts to salvage the company his grandfather had founded, which set in motion a three pronged restructuring phase that saw Doosan jettison its consumer goods core market and become one of the world's leading industrial and construction equipment companies. The third phase of restructuring: globalization through M&A which began in 2006 and is still ongoing includes acquisition of the boiler engineering company Mitsui Babcock UK (renamed Doosan Babcock) and Kvaerner IMGB, the largest casting and forging company in Romania. In 2007, Doosan acquired a leading construction machinery company, Bobcat USA, the world's largest supplier of compact construction equipment.

Despite Doosan's success (it has after all been placed 471st in *Fortune* 2009 and ranked 4th among the *World's Best 40 Companies 2009* list, released in the latest issue of *BusinessWeek* in October 2009), CEO Park is nowhere near satisfied. To borrow from his vocabulary, he is "hungry" and

his plans for the future testify to his insatiable hunger. By 2020, Doosan plans to be a \$100 billion company with 90% of its revenues and operations coming from outside Korea. By then, Doosan also intends to be among the top 200 companies listed in Fortune 200.

CEO Park proudly walks the talk, as he shared with the audience Doosan's strategy to achieving all this. The strategy includes speeding up through M&A and the 2G strategy which is Growth of people, who CEO Park identifies as the most essential resources of a company, and the Growth of business. CEO Park is quick to highlight Doosan's focus on people as opposed to a focus merely on product as one of the attributes of the company's success, and one that definitely differentiates it from many other conglomerates. Doosan aspires to be a truly globally competent company in which the people are the source of global competitiveness. Indeed, looking at how fast and far the company has come in Yong-man Park's short tenure as CEO and chairman, it's hard not to believe the vivacious CEO.



► Prof. Yu-Sang Chang



Following in Siblings' Footsteps

GLOBE IS VERY KEEN ON SHEDDING THE LIGHT ON KDI SCHOOL STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HAD AN INDIRECT LINK TO THE SCHOOL THROUGH THEIR SIBLINGS' PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE. WE PICKED TWO STORIES FOR YOU ABOUT A COUPLE SUCH STUDENTS, SO LET US SEE TOGETHER IF THIS HAD ANY EFFECT ON THEIR LIVES AND GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR CAMPUS FELLOW MATES.

Reported by Mona Bargooti (2010 MPP, Palestine)



► Victoria (2010 MPP) & Yulia (2004 MPP)

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR :

When I first saw Ms. Victoria Son, I thought to myself: "What a gorgeous young lady, she looks Korean to me." Since I've been testing my ability to distinguish Koreans, I asked her if she was indeed Korean and received an unexpected response, "No, I am from Uzbekistan." Then very quickly and to my relief, she explained that she was born and raised in Uzbekistan but is originally Korean. Days later, I had the opportunity to conduct an interview of Ms. Son- an encounter that revealed itself as 'a breath of fresh air.'

Globe : What brought you to the KDI School?

Victoria : I first heard about the KDI School back in 2004,

when my sister went there. I decided to pursue a degree here after learning how good of a school the KDI School is, and because I was very interested in the programs offered. But since my educational background (Japanese Language & Literature) was far from what is offered at the School, I chose to expand my experience by entering the work force. So I worked for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Korean embassy for three years, after which I felt ready to apply and get my MPP/PM degree.

Globe : Have you faced any challenges that you would like to share with us?

Victoria : It has been a breeze, the whole process from A-Z, I mean from the application process all through getting into class. I am very grateful to the School for facilitating all this for me.

Globe : What do you look forward to doing while at the KDI School and in Korea?

Victoria :

At the KDI school:

- I want to take advantage of all the opportunities out there.
- I want to get as much exposure as possible to the different cultures, people, and get to know more about the different countries from which students come.
- I want to excel in all my school work.

In Korea:

- The Son branch that I am from has some type of a gathering or a family reunion once every year. I would love to join them, and get to know them.

Globe : How about your sister Yulia? What about her life after the KDI School era?

Victoria : She has been happily living in Seoul and working for Hyundai Engineering. She loves it here.



► Marcelo (2009 MPP) & Joel (2010 MPP)

HAPPY ENDINGS - LAWYER :

Right after a makeup class that I had along with Joel, I decided to take the chance to ask him if I can have a short chat with him about life at the KDI School, and if his twin brother's former life at the KDI School had any influence on Joel's. Mr. Joel Delgado is one of the nicest humans out there; quiet, calm, laid back, and easy to talk to. We breezed through the questions, and it turned out that my investigation was not too painful for him to handle.

Globe : How did you hear about the KDI School?

Joel : My brother attended this school last year, but it wasn't because of this that I applied to the KDI School. I heard about it through KOICA about five years ago, and applied for the KDI School along with another school, and eventually got accepted here.

Globe : Any challenges in the application process?

Joel : I was actually concerned that the KDI School wouldn't accept me due to the fact that my brother had gone there.

So I prepared myself to be asked relevant questions during the phone interview. To my surprise, KDI School's phone call ended up coming when I was camping out in the woods, so they totally caught me off guard. They did ask about my brother, and my heart raced, but I calmly gave them the well worked out answer I had prepared. I am here now, so I guess it worked! (For the secret of Joel's answer, you can go back to him and ask.)

Globe : Any advantages to following your brother's footsteps?

Joel : Absolutely! I have more leverage; life for me is much easier than that of how my brother's was, simply because he advised me in advance on what to do, where to go, what to see, how to tackle my school work and such, meaning he gave me the heads up I needed. Because of the insight Marcelo gave me, I am more focused.

Globe : Who was Joel before the KDI School?

Joel : (chuckles) Well, I was a lawyer, worked on a couple of cases before I quit the court scene and resorted to office work - a robbery case and a divorce case. I won both by clearing the innocent who was falsely accused in the first case, and by getting the couple to reconcile in the latter. I am not interested in going back to practicing law. This is why I picked the KDI School for a degree in public policy, so it will help me change my career path into something related to policy making and designing.

Globe : Wow, then I guess I am going to call you the "Happy-endings" lawyer.

How about your brother Marcelo, what has he been up to?

Joel : He is doing great. He graduated with honors, which facilitated getting him a good position with one of the esteemed political parties back home (Guatemala) where he is designing their governance plan.

Globe : Anything else you would like to add about life at the KDI School?

Joel : I am very thankful to the School, very impressed with the faculty. This master's program is definitely very useful, and I AM LOVING IT HERE.

The Posco Asia Fellowship Award Ceremony

Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)



The Posco Asia Fellowship Award Ceremony was held at the KDI School, Lincoln Hall, on March 5th, 2010. Named after Tae-Joon Park, the founder and honorary chairman of POSCO, the TJ Park Foundation Fellowships commonly referred to as the Posco Asia Fellowships are awarded to Asian students studying in Korea. Each year the program awards scholarships to 70 deserving students across Asia and supports them as they work towards their master's degrees at prominent Korean universities. This year



was no exception and four students were awarded the Posco Asia scholarships to pursue their master's studies at the KDI School. The four fellows are Marliana Yanti (MPP/PM) from Indonesia, Shadikhodjaev Uygun Shuhratovich (MPP/ED) from Uzbekistan, Zhumagulov Darkhan Beibituly (MPP) from Kazakhstan and Ponghan Charon (MPP) from Thailand. During the award ceremony, Dean Sang-Moon Hahm welcomed the fellows and highlighted KDI School's commitment to creating global leaders.

Vice President of the TJ Park Foundation Kwang Woo Choi, who presented the fellows their certificates, reiterated the foundations' commitment to enhancing mutual understanding and cooperation among Asian universities. Vice President Choi also challenged the fellows to use this opportunity to not only further their studies but also to learn more about Korean culture and language. In their speeches, the four Posco Asia Fellows expressed their deepest gratitude to the Posco TJ Park Foundation and the KDI School, which have not only enabled them to pursue higher education but to also experience and learn from and about the unique and rich Korean culture. Lessons, they unanimously agree, will remain with them for a lifetime.

MOU with International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University

Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)



On February 13th 2010, the KDI School of Public Policy and Management and the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) at Erasmus University, Rotterdam signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The purpose of this MOU is to set forth the terms and conditions under which both parties agreed to promote

certain activities in order to foster academic and educational cooperation. The MOU agreement outlined cooperation for the KDI School - ISS Global Master's Program, whose purpose is to offer selected students from the KDI School the chance to study Development Studies at ISS and obtain a dual degree and possibly participate in a summer internship. Additional activities detailed in the agreement include the exchange of students and exchange of faculty and/or research fellows for the purposes of providing instruction, engaging in research and sharing the results of the research; and lastly collaborative

research, lectures, symposia, and workshops. Associate Dean Hun Joo Park who was part of the delegation that went to the Netherlands, described the signing of the MOU between the two institutions as "strategic" since both institutions share the same dreams, vision and mission. "The MOU provides more options to the KDI School students and faculty and will increase KDI's distinctiveness and presence in the international arena," Associate Dean Park added.



Welcome to the KOICA Part of the "KDI School" World

Reported by Mona Bargooti (2010 MPP, Palestine)



The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) yet again has generously bestowed applicants from 21 countries with the chance to be a part of the MPP program at the KDI School. The incoming 2010 KOICA students are a diversified mix of thirty participants from: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, East Timor, Egypt, Fiji Islands, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Vietnam, & Yemen. 98% of the participants are government officials, with a variety of educational and professional backgrounds.



Under their motto of "making a better world together," KOICA tries to maximize the effectiveness of Korea's grant aid programs for developing countries by implementing the government's grant aid and technical cooperation programs. Due to the continuously changing trends in development assistance efforts and practices, KOICA is striving to adapt to these changes by using its limited financial resources effectively in areas where Korea has a comparative advantage. In particular, Korea has the unique experience of developing from one of the poorest countries in the world to one of the most economically advanced. The "know-how gained from this experience" is an invaluable asset that helps KOICA to efficiently support the sustainable socio-economic



development of its partner countries; this manifested in a program like the MPP program offered by the KDI School and supported by KOICA. Given this about KOICA, the KOICA students, each in their own country, were presented with the MPP scholarship offer through existing cooperation between their work institutes and KOICA. Supported and recommended by their employers, they are pursuing this master's degree in order to benefit from the Korean experience and knowledge. Consequently, upon return, this acquired knowledge can be implemented on ground in an optimistic try to help their countries follow track, and one day transform into developed countries as well.

On Writing an Outstanding Thesis

Interview with the 2009 outstanding thesis award recipient Michal Vodrazka (2008 MPP, Czech Republic)

Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)



Each year, the KDI School of Public Policy and Management awards several students who write outstanding theses. Last year, four students were awarded, and their theses will be cherished in the KDI School Library forever. Michal, who is one of the recipients, discloses his key to success on "how to write an outstanding thesis."

"Pick a topic that is interesting for you, as you will spend a lot of time reading and writing about it. It is helpful to use a paper you already wrote as a starting point, as it will give you some idea about the existing literature on the topic (or the absence of it), whether you will be comfortable writing a longer paper on the topic, or if it is necessary to broaden the focus to write a thesis. Be prepared to search wide and dig deep to uncover pieces of information missed or ignored by other scholars, and ask for help from people who already researched it. You might be surprised by the enthusiastic answers scholars sometimes provide if you show informed interest in their work!"

The main topic of his thesis was "yellow dust storms (Whang-Sa)" from the Chinese deserts, which is one of the most sensitive environmental issues in Far East Asian countries. In considering the methods for solving the problem, he used the environmental peacemaking perspective, which argues that countries are able to overcome distrust between one another and gain know-how for cooperation on environmental challenges. In his thesis, he shows examples of mistrust which are disrupting international cooperation, and details how the environmental peacemaking perspective can be applied in reaching a constructive conclusion.

"I actually changed my thesis subject after I did some reading on the first topic I chose, as I didn't feel like it was the right one in the end. I decided to explore the issue of international cooperation in East Asia on yellow dust storms after I wrote

a short paper on the topic for one of my classes. It was interesting, not many scholars had covered it before, and I felt that I'd enjoy researching it and learning more."

He discovered this issue when he was attending the University of California at San Diego as an exchange student. Though he initially declared his first topic for the dissertation subject announcement, coursework at UCSD inspired him to write about yellow dust issues in the East Asian area.

"I am grateful for my thesis supervisors Hun Joo Park and Miles Kahler. They were inspiring and gave me constructive comments. My classmates at the KDI School and UCSD were also great contributors toward my thesis."



He remembers KDI School life as his golden time for enjoying his youth in academic and social settings. Debating club activities, taekwondo club exercising and the other small and big events were helpful in enhancing his skills and capacity.

"Studying in Korea was a dream of mine for a long time, so it is hard to pick one thing to highlight. I enjoyed the school a lot, particularly classes with professors Hun Joo Park and Jong-Il You. I spent a lot of wonderful time in the mountains, particularly in Bukhansan, and also outside of Seoul. And I had lots of fun with classmates, both inside and outside the classroom."

He is settling back into his life in the Czech Republic. In accordance with his government work as a lawyer, he is connected to an NGO called Czech-Korean Society. He shares, "We are trying to promote more contacts between the two countries. You can learn more on our website at www.cks-korea.cz."

Passion creates good outcomes. His henceforth is worthy of notice.

Useful Tips for Writing Thesis Proposals

Source : Academic Writing by Seth Leighton
(English Lecturer of the KDI School)

KDI and KDI School requirements for the thesis proposal:

1. Topic
2. The Purpose of your Thesis
3. The Methods and Strategies of your Research
4. Tentative Chapter Headings
5. Bibliography

Seth's recommendations:

Introduction (1 page)

1. Statement of problem
2. Purpose
3. Research question/Hypothesis (or General/Specific objectives)
4. Scope of study

Preliminary Literature Review (1 page)

1. Background on problem
2. Basic theories

Proposed Methods and Strategies (1 page)

1. These need to be related to your research questions
2. As specific as possible on the logistics

Tentative Chapter Headings (1 page)

1. Give each heading for the chapters
2. Can be done by section, or broken down further

Bibliography

Use APA (American Psychological Association) Format

Life After the KDI School

Aim Higher and Work Harder at the KDI School

Reported by Mikyung Byun (2010 MPP/ED, Korea)



It was Friday. I was headed to Daejeon where my parents live. It was heaven to finish a busy week, be on an uncrowded train, and see the 63 building over the Han River and the beautiful scenery of Seoul in the sunlight. As the train advanced, I unwrapped a sandwich while listening to my favorite music. Suddenly, I felt a vibration from my cell phone. It was an international call.

"Hello."

"This is ADB!"

"Excuse me?"

"Hi, this is ADB!"

I finally realized that it was Mr. Won-jin Seol (2006 MBA).

I had tried to catch up with him by e-mail and phone, but could not. He called me; how sweet he was!

It was 12:40 P.M in Korea and 11:40 A.M in Manila, Philippines where he was working. He made me comfortable as he led our conversation with his cheerful voice. He boasted about the Asian Development Bank (ADB), saying that it has a garden in the workplace where people can rest. ADB employees can buy tax-exempt goods at the ADB commissary and their salaries are also tax-exempt. In addition, they can get wonderful housing support and enjoy better living standards compared to

Korea. I hung up with his promise to be interviewed by either e-mail or phone, thoroughly excited to communicate with him again.

Mr. Seol is very responsive and reliable. Shortly after I emailed him interview questions, he took the time to respond in earnest detail. In brief, he was a 2006 MBA student and worked for the Government Employees Pension Service (GEPS) after graduating from the KDI School. While studying during his undergraduate years, he was introduced to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) at a job fair, and made up his mind to join an international finance organization. After working as a fund manager at the GEPS, he wanted to broaden his range to Asia.

It was a long journey for him to get to the ADB. He registered his resume there in 2007. He met ADB people from time to time when they had recruitment missions in Korea. However, there were no positions available for him for two years. He finally received a message in 2009, saying a department was interested in him. He was asked about finance, his thesis, and work experience for eight hours of his interview. The result was a success.

I was more interested in his daily tasks, rather than his job description because it was an easier way to understand his work at the ADB. Here is his to-do list for the 5th of March:

- Read E-mails in the morning. Get our department's issues and schedules.
- Kazakhstan depository market research. (Continual in conjunction with checking bond issue consumption among capital market players.)
- Demand for SMEs credit check up. (Talk to Kaz government people.)
- Have a video conference with KAZ residence mission office with officials in KAZ.

- Availability check up for SWAP and Forward market in Central West Asia.
- VISA processing checkup for mission on 15th of March.

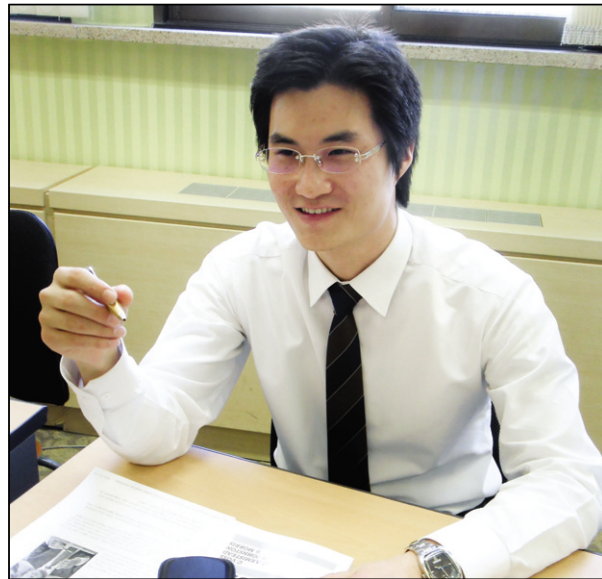
Mr. Seol wants to become a composer who harmonizes various instruments for the best performance at the ADB. He hopes to harmonize among different interest parties such as countries, governments, and banks and lead conflicts so they may be resolved smoothly.

The education at the KDI School deepened his knowledge in finance and developed his practical application skills. He made several presentations at the GEPS about what he had learned from the school. He has also been able to apply the knowledge acquired through his studies to the reforms of the pension's investment policy statements (IPS).

He is thoroughly enjoying his current location of the Philippines, unaffected by homesickness or boredom. He seems to be having the greatest time of his life, reading materials and supplements from the ADB and exploring new places with a GPS installed in his car. Mr. Seol was patient and sincere for his dream, and has been duly rewarded.



▶ ADB Garden in Manila



Seung Jin Baek

on identifying your strengths and passion
to become the best in your area

It was chilly, but sunny. Don Kim and I were waiting for Mr. Seung Jin Baek (2008 MBA) in the KDI school lobby, excited to interview him. There he was! He was coming up to us from the parking lot in the soft sunlight, putting his jacket on. We went to Supex at KAIST to have some tea and hear of his story.

He still seemed quite busy, even with his great accomplishment on the National Competitive Recruitment Exam (NCRE) behind him. The NCRE is administered yearly by the United Nations to recruit nationals of Member States that are not adequately represented in the Secretariat for positions at the Junior Professional (P2) level. He is the only one who passed the NCRE in the finance sector this year in Korea, and seemed ready to welcome a season of spring into his life.

He was friendly and responsive as we spoke. Mr. Baek was an MBA student who graduated in December of 2009. He majored in mathematics during his undergraduate years, but he became interested in finance the more he studied. Since working for the UN was one of his plans, studying public policy and management in English with skilled experts from different fields was his main motivation for pursuing higher studies at the KDI

School. In the same context, the School allowed him to understand the interrelation of management and public policy, while gaining exposure to a multicultural environment.

As we conversed, I naturally developed curiosity about the steps he took in reaching his current destination. He said he did not build up his career path for the UN intentionally. Rather, since his interest lay in politics, he worked as a secretary to a member of the National Assembly in 2006. Then in 2008, he established his private company BR International, which dealt with international trade. Again, he was motivated because he wanted to try and run his own business.

As of now he is not hired yet, but expecting to be allocated soon because the finance sector has a high turnover. He plans to visit the United States this July to meet directors of departments at the UN headquarter in NYC.

Although he was very thankful for passing the NCRE, he emphasized the following message for KDI School students. "Getting into the UN should not be your only purpose or destination because it is a long procedure and

may have risks like unemployment and expensive opportunity costs. So, it is important for you to realize what you can do well and be an expert in what you do. Once you become an expert, there must be different ways

to work at the UN. Again, the most important thing is that you know what you want to do and work very hard to be the best person in your area."

Mr. William Andrey Rodriguez (2008 MBA) is sincere in keeping his promise. He willingly accepted my interview proposal and shared his experiences at the KDI School and Korea in the midst of his busy schedule.

He became interested in the management field while taking economics, finance, and marketing classes at the University of the Ozarks at Clarksville, Arkansas with the Wal-Mart scholarship. Although he finished his undergraduate degree in the United States, his desire to experience education on the other side of the world prompted him to come to the KDI School, which he believes is a symbol of the Korean transformation.

It has always been his goal to have an international career and he would like to pursue work which allows him to give back to society. He believes the UN is a great place

to help people around the world by promoting peace, decreasing poverty or by engaging in other humanitarian work.

Mr. Rodriguez applied for the NCRE in 2007, and took the test in Feb. of 2008 after his arrival in Korea. One year later, he heard that he passed the exam and went to an interview which was held in New York. Finally in July 2008, he was informed that he passed the interview. He is looking forward to hearing from the UN while currently working for a private company.

Last but not least, he shared, "Study hard. Learn as much as you can. Enjoy every day as if it is the last of your school experience because you are going to miss it! Make as many friends as you can and go out and enjoy Seoul, especially, international students!"



William Rodriguez

on taking advantage of your KDI School
experience

Alumni News Update

Reported by Mikyung Byun (2010 MPP/ED, Korea)



Bo, Wen (1999 IR, Japan) married in Tokyo on Feb. 20th, 2010. He also received a certificate from the United Nations University in Tokyo in January 2010 for a three-month training course on climate, energy and food security.



Kim, Jung Hie (1999 MPP, Korea) was elected as both Chairperson of TRF district grants subcommittee in the Rotary International District 3650 Inc. Association and President of Hanseong Rotary Club for the year 2010 and 2011. She is the first female president in the history of the club and will serve her term from July 2010.



Ko, Kyu Chang (2001 MPP, Korea) was promoted to Head of Public Official Education in the Ministry of Knowledge Economy.



CHOI, Dong-Seok (2002 MBA, Korea) is currently working in Mumbai, India as Director of the Korea Business Center, KOTRA.



Bondarenko, Mikhail (2004 MPP, Russia) has been working as Deputy Chairman of the government of the Penza region- governor's special representative on international and foreign economic activity since 2009. He will start working in Korea as Head of the Trade Mission of the Russian Federation from May 2010.



Hur, Kyoung jae (2004 MPP, Korea) was promoted to Director of Trade & Foreign Affairs, Chungbuk Provincial Government.



Kim, Jung-yeon (2004 MPP, Korea) is Deputy Director of the Vocational Education Policy Division at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.



Lim, Hyung gun (2004 MPP, Korea) is Senior Deputy Director of the Korean Intellectual Property Office.



Park, Woo-sik (2004 MBA, Korea) was promoted to Major in the Army.



Saw, Wooyoung (2004 MPP, Korea) was promoted to Head of the Business Development Department in LIG Nexone.



Hyun, Eunhee (2005 MPP, Korea) was promoted to Director of the Foreign Resources Division in the National Assembly Library.



Jung, Juhwa (2005 MBA, Korea) was promoted to Manager in January 2010 and moved to the Securitization Planning Department in the Korea Housing Finance Corporation.



Choi, Hyeng bae (2005 MBA, Korea) released his second record. His articles can be accessed through the following website: <http://news.mk.co.kr>.



Kim, Jaemin (2005 MFDI, Korea) received admissions into the Ph.D program in Management at the University of Mississippi.



Laurent, Pawlowski (2006 MBA, France) is working as marketing staff for Samsung Electronics, Media Solution Center since February 2010.



Raihan, Zahir (2006 MPP, Bangladesh) is currently posted at the subdistrict level - Upazilla Parishad, Sonagazi.



Mashafi, Geoffrey A. (2006 MPP, Tanzania) is working as Head of the M&E Section of the Policy and Planning Division at the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Youth Development. He wrote a book called *SIRI SI SIRI TENA*, which details the socioeconomic life of Tanzania vs. experience of Korea. The book was sponsored by KOICA, and a hard copy is available at the KDI School Library.



An, Se Jin (2007 MPP, Korea) was promoted to Director for the Europe & Americas Division in the Ministry of Knowledge Economy.



Duhoki, Muhammad A. Ahmad (2007 GLP, Iraq) launched the "Iraq Debate Academy and Mesopotamia Debating Tournament" (www.iraqdebate.org) from December 13th-17th, 2009. He is also completing a master's program in Peace and Conflict Studies at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.



Ahmadzai, Noorullah Jan (2008 MPP, Afghanistan) is working as Director of the Capacity Building Program in the Independent Directorate of Local Governance - Office of the President.



Bono, Andrea (2008 MPP, Guatemala) got married in March 2009 and has been working for KOICA Guatemala since August 2009 with a scholarship program as a project coordinator and cooperation advisor. She gave birth to a baby boy in December 2009.



Dufay, Samuel (2008 MBA, France) received his master's degree in France last December. He is currently working with his parents, managing a flower shop. The project is being developed through an online retail shop that specializes in French floral art. You can visit the website at <http://www.lafleurnouvelle.com>.



Sagynov, Esen (2009 MBA, Kyrgyzstan) is working in global marketing at the Globalization Department in CUBRID. He is responsible for promoting and increasing the awareness of English speaking countries, particularly in U.S. and European markets, regarding the open source DBMS (Database Management Systems) CUBRID.



Vodrazka, Michal (2008 MPP, Czech Republic) is currently working as a lawyer at the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic in the International Law Department. In 2009, two of his articles were published in academic journals: "Backwards and Forwards: North Korean Nuclear Weapons" in *Papers, Essays and Reviews - Yonsei Journal of International Studies* and "Social Capital in the Czech Republic and Public Policy Implications" in *Central European Journal of Public Policy*. He also became a board member and secretary of an NGO called the Czech-Korean Society.



David, Sokkhon (2009 MPP, Cambodia) got married on March 6th, 2010.



Lhaden, Tenzin (2009 MBA, Bhutan) is working with the National Pension & Provident Fund in Bhutan as the secretary of the organization.



Trinh, Thai Trung (2009 MBA, Vietnam) is working as Business Development Assistant Manager in the overseas Civil Engineering Business Development Team of Samsung Construction and Trading Corporation.



Vasquez, Rodrigo Omar (2007 MPP Guatemala) & Vasquez, Yara Tatyana (2007 MPP, Honduras) got married in March 2010.

Business and Art? Two Alumni Bring a Global Art Exhibit to Seoul



Jinhan Choi (2006 MBA, Korea), President and CEO of Amherst & Company, Ltd., an art exhibition planning company, and Todd Sample (2007 MFDI, USA), Senior Consultant at Invest KOREA and Outside Director at Amherst & Co., have been working to bring "the Keith Haring Show," showcasing the American pop art icon Keith Haring, to Seoul for the past six months. The exhibition will be held from June 17th-September 5th, at SOMA Art Museum in Olympic Park.

Faculty News Updates



Professor Yu-Sang Chang will be publishing a paper on “Limit to Improvement: Myth or Reality? Empirical Analysis of Historical Improvement on Three Technologies Influential in the Evolution of Civilization” with Seung Jin Baek in the journal, *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*. Another paper titled “Making Strategic Short-Term Cost Estimation by Annualized Experience Curve” will be published in *International Journal of Applied Management Science*.



Professor Wook Sohn's paper on banking reform was accepted for publication in *Journal of Banking and Finance*. Another paper on financial crisis is scheduled to be published in another SSCI journal, *Global Economic Review*.



KDI School Alumni Association Gathering



The KDI School Alumni Association gathered on March 17th to celebrate the Lunar New Year and plan the year's Alumni Association activities. The president of the KDI School Alumni Association Dong-Sik Jeong, Dean Sang-Moon Hahm, Associate Dean Hun Joo Park, and many more professors, alumni and staff joined the dinner.

How much do you know about the School?

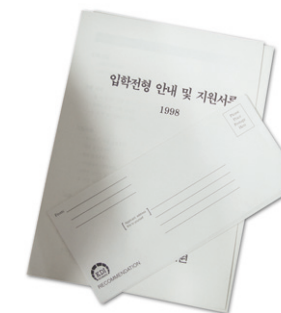
A Blast from the Past

Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)

If any of us know anything about the history of the KDI School, it is that it was founded in 1997. Allow me to exaggerate a little bit and say that this sums up about most of our knowledge of the KDI School's history. So this is the first of a series of articles meant to shed light into the dark that is the KDI School history.

The first classes were held in the spring of 1998. Yes! That's right, 12 years ago, the first batch of KDI School students sat for their first classes at the KDI School (then known as the KDI School of International Policy and Management). The student population was 50 with 15 international students and 35 Korean students.

Let me not bore you with the rhetoric. Napoleon Bonaparte once said that a picture is worth a thousand words. So here is a story of thousands of words. Join me as we take a walk down memory lane into that first spring semester at the KDI School.



▲ Application Form from 1998



1. Can you recognize some of the faces?
2. The 1st Batch of KDI School Students
3. The 1st Dean of the KDI School, Dr. Gil-Jin Lim
4. The 1st Sports Day

Up Close and Candid

Reported by Adelide Kamanthe (2010 MPP/ED, Kenya)

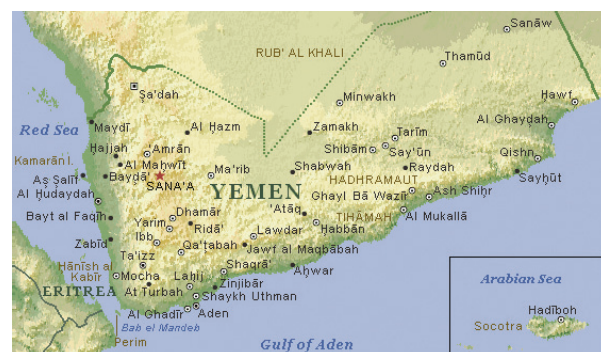


► Yasser Ali Ezadeen (2010 MPP, Yemen)

One of the key features of the KDI School is its internationally diverse student mix. The KDI School indeed delivers on its promise of creating a truly diverse international student body to enhance cross cultural communication and this year is no different. The KDI School admitted its first student from Yemen, Yasser Ali, and the Globe got a chance to get up close and candid with him. Yasser, who works for Yemen's Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a diplomatic attache is currently enrolled in the MPP program. Naturally, the first question I had for Yasser was what drove him to come to Korea. Though he is KDI's first student from Yemen, there are several Yemeni students studying at other institutions in Korea. Interactions with such students and the stories they shared of their Korean experience sparked his initial interest in the country. It is this curiosity that led him to the internet where he obtained even more information about Korea. The more he learned about Korea the more interested he became, and naturally he started looking at various institutions and the courses they offered. It was during one of those "browsing sessions" that he chanced upon the KDI School of Public Policy and Management and was immediately attracted by its innovative academic curriculum and the diversity and dynamism of its student body.

Unlike many foreigners on their first visit to Korea, Yasser

says that he has not experienced any major culture shocks. One of the reasons for this might be a result of his previous travels to various parts of the world as a diplomat, which sharpened his cross-cultural skills. The other reason might be because of the similarities that exist between Korean and Yemen culture. Yasser is quick to point out that respect for elders and each other, one of the characteristics of the Korean culture, is also part of the Yemen culture. To add, in both cultures, family ties are very strong and it is impolite to wear shoes inside the house. Also in Yemen, everyone sits on the floor when eating, and similarly even in most Korean homes and restaurants this is a common practice. All the same, Yasser admits that he has not fully adapted to Korean food and describes the taste as "different" from what he is used to. The truth is, given his demanding academic schedule at the KDI School, he has had little time to experience many different kinds of Korean food. Something he intends to change as soon as the semester is over.



One of the biggest 'hurdles' that the average foreigner has to overcome is that of the language barrier. Many foreigners have a hard time learning the Korean language and find it difficult, but not Yasser. When I asked him about the Korean language, his face immediately lit up as he told me how much he is enjoying the learning process. The reason Yasser appreciates learning Korean is because he believes that language is the key to understanding people and their culture. Given the centrality of the Korean language to the Korean

people, Yasser says that "Korean language is the key to communicating with the Korean people." Also, Yasser loves the frenzy of city life in Seoul, and to put it in his own words, "Seoul is the city that never sleeps" and compares it to other major cities in the world like London or New York.

When asked whether this experience would change or at least impact his life in any way, Yasser's answer was brief and precise. "Absolutely!" Yasser hopes to not only successfully complete his studies here, but to also create lasting friendships with the people he will meet at the KDI School. Someone once said, "gems may be precious, but friends are priceless" and no doubt Yasser believes this statement to be true as he hopes the friendships he will create while at the KDI School will last forever.

As the interview draws to a close, Yasser confides that he wishes he would have more time to enjoy the beautiful sights and sounds of Seoul, but for now he is more focused on his studies. However, he assures me that as soon as this semester is over, he has every intention of experiencing some of the pleasures that Seoul has to offer. As he heads back to the library, Yasser's message to the other students is to find the right balance between academics and extracurricular activities, something he admits he is yet to master.

Country Profile

Yemen is located on the Arabian Peninsula in Southwest Asia. Yemen has a diverse landscape of mountains, plains, and deserts. It covers 203,849 square miles (527,970 square kilometers), an area approximately the size of California and

Kentucky combined. Situated on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, Yemen's territory includes 112 islands. Its capital is called Sana'a. Ta'izz is the largest city, followed by Sana'a. The port city of Aden is third largest.

Yemen has a population of 20.7 million, growing at an annual rate of 3.5 percent. Ninety percent of Yemen's citizens are Arab. The remaining 10 percent are of African, Indian, or Pakistani descent. A few small Jewish communities are active in the northern highlands. All native Yemenis belong to a tribe. Tribes are based on regions, but it is said that there are as many tribes in Yemen as there are villages.

Arabic is Yemen's official language. Modern standard Arabic is used in writing, business, and formal speaking. Islam is Yemen's official religion.

Ancient Romans called Yemen Feliz Arabia ("Happy Arabia") because of the people's hospitality and strong society. Personal relations are also very important and Yemenis prefer to establish trust and confidence before proceeding with business. The Yemen currency is called Rial.

Oil and natural gas are the country's most valuable natural resources. Traditional industries include textiles, leather, jewelry, and glass. This industrial base has expanded to include soft drinks, cigarettes, aluminum, and food products. Yemen's mines and quarries produce salt, limestone, and marble. Agriculture and livestock farming have always been important to Yemen. Orchards produce oranges, apples, peaches, papaya, and other fruits.

COOL YEMEN FACTS



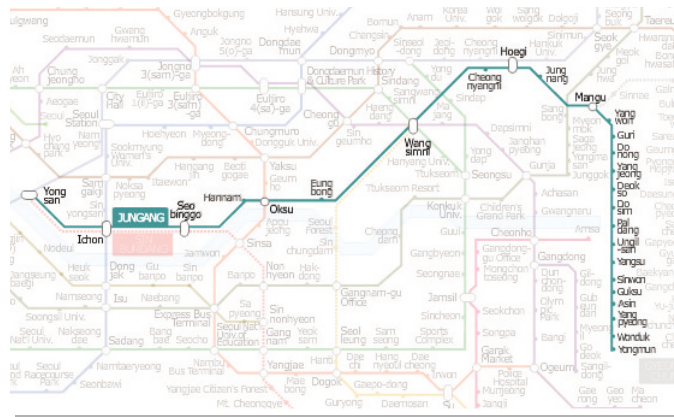
- Yemen has no permanent body of water.
- Sana'a is one of the world's oldest cities.
- About 47 percent of the population is younger than age 15.
- Yemenis do not often use hand gestures during conversation. They keep hands at their side or touch the other person with the right hand.

- The National pastime of Yemen is chewing great wads of qat and discussing random events. Qat is basically a tropical evergreen plant whose leaves are used as a stimulant. If women chew qat, they do so in a separate room or household from the men.
- In some parts of Yemen, the average wedding feast lasts 21 days.

Useful information for International Students

Wangsimni Bitplex

Reported by Dong Hee Kim (2009 MBA, Korea)



Are you having difficulty in finding an all-inclusive and convenient shopping mall nearby? Why don't you go to Wangsimni Bitplex? Besides the main shopping areas 'Enter 6' and 'E-mart,' there are many accessible facilities for students. There is a CGV IMAX movie theater with a 3D screen, indoor golf zone, well-being zone, sauna, and food court for all to enjoy. You can easily get there by taking the subway on the Jungang Line, headed in the Yongsan direction. A myriad of leisurely fun awaits you merely two subway stops away!

