

THE GLOBE

PUBLISHED BY KDI SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & MANAGEMENT

WTO Workshop for Asian Countries

KDI School, in partnership with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), organized a three-week seminar in July to discuss core issues of the WTO Agreements for Asian countries, including dispute settlement cases and the basic rules and obligations underlying the current world trading system.

The seminar "The Workshop on International Trade and WTO Agreements for Asian Countries," was held at KDI School, and was attended by 19 government officials and professionals from various Asian countries.

During the Opening Ceremony on July 4, **Prof. Jin Park**, Associate Dean of Planning and Administration, highlighted the importance of the WTO system in "settling disputes in trade" in an era of increasing globalization and economic trade among nations. He noted the particular

importance the WTO holds for developing countries in Asia.

"Addressing trade related issues (has become) a task of national importance," Prof. Park said.

According to Prof. Park, organizers hoped to let participants know how to take proper measures in pending problems in trade, and strengthen their ability to adjust in a new international economic order.

Mr. Sung-joo Lee, Director General of Korea's Ministry of Finance and Trade, also addressed participants during the Opening Ceremony and noted the importance of the WTO.

"In international trade, the WTO is a crucial arm in a country's economic development," he said.

In addition, Vice-Minister Lee noted how Korea has been "a model example" and a role model in how a country can benefit immensely from the liberalization of trade during the past decade.

During the duration of the workshop, participants heard lectures given by professors from KDI School and other universities in Korea on a wide variety of topics regarding issues raised by the WTO, as well as speeches on Korea's own economic development.

Several prominent members of prestigious think tanks also gave speeches, including of-



Dean Chin-Seung Chung displays the thank you gift presented by participants of the seminar to KDI School.

ficials from the KDI and Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP).

The series of lectures were finally complemented with the presence of members of governmental organizations, including officials from the WTO, KOTRA and Korea's Ministry of Finance.

In addition to the academic discussions and lectures, participants also got a chance to visit several of the most successful companies in Korea, including Nongshim Foods Company & LG Electronics Company, Pohang Iron & Steel Company and Hyundai Motors.

However, not all the events in the workshop involved such serious and academic matters. The organizers of the event also included cultural trips to such touristic sights, such as the Yongin Korean Folk Village, the Seoul World Cup Stadium and the city of Kyungju.



Participants at the WTO seminar.

Feature

High Tech Learning at KDI School

Located on the third floor of KDI School's main building is a newly opened room that may at first sight look like just another regular lecture hall. It's not.

All the seats in this simple but elegantly decorated classroom face a discreetly installed computer and a small microphone. Looking up, in lieu of the traditional lectern in most lecture halls, stands two large cinema-style screens. And hidden away from plain view are all the wires and data and technology that make the room come to life in a way that no traditional lecture hall can match: this is a room that provides the capacity to connect both image and sound with another similarly-wired room anywhere in the world.

The room's potential was fully evidenced during a recent seminar on youth issues involving participants from five different countries (see School News). It was 8:30 PM in Seoul, 7:30 PM in Mongolia, 6:30 PM in Vietnam, 5:30 PM in Sri Lanka and 7:30 AM in Washington, D.C., U.S.

Yet all participants spread across all these time zones could see and hear each other. Granted the image quality was not the kind you see in Hollywood sci-fi films, but it was certainly two steps above the grainy, blurred and slow images that people associate with conventional videoconferences.

The newly built videoconference room is part of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Center at the School. The GDLN program was started by the World Bank in 1997 in order to help reduce the knowledge gaps between countries around the world by using the most advanced information communication technology available. Through centers located world-

wide, GDLN aims to have countries share knowledge between each other, even if they are at two different ends of the globe, through distance learning activi-



GDLN's videoconference room on the 3rd floor of KDI School's main building.

ties such as videoconferencing.

Most of the program has been designed to be of particular use to developing countries, where the knowledge gap is usually more prominent.

In January 2001, the World Bank designated KDI School not only as the only Korean GDLN Center, but also as the Asian Hub for the East-Asian and Pacific region. The KDI School-GDLN Center opened officially in August of the same year.

The videoconference room on the third floor was completed in June, along with a smaller videoconference room that was built in the 7th floor, according to **Ms. Soo-hyun Song**, the Associate Director at the GDLN Center at the School. The construction of both rooms cost a cool 680 million won (US\$6 million), and was financed by the Korean government.

Our School's GDLN Center has taken quick advantage of its new state of the art facilities, organiz-

ing several seminars thus far, including a joint conference in July with Mongolian government officials keen on learning how to build a research institution similar to KDI.

Officials from the Ministry of Finance and Economy in Korea, along with national assemblymen, KDI researchers and KDI School professors talked via videoconference with Mongolian officials and provided them with suggestions and know-how. The event symbolized the importance as well as the efficiency in time and resources that only a GDLN Center can provide.

Although information and knowledge sharing remains the main purpose of the newly built videoconference rooms, KDI School's GDLN Center also plans to rent the rooms out for profit. "We will begin renting out our videoconference rooms to multinational companies that need to communicate with their global branches around the world," Ms. Song explained. "We can provide them with a cost-efficient and secure method of communication in case they need to discuss sensitive information."

GDLN staff members at our School are currently busily planning future seminars and programs that utilize the videoconference rooms, a prospect that excites Ms. Song. "The truth is that e-learning as such is not a very well developed or covered educational method right now," she said. "I think KDI School has the opportunity to really be one of the early developers in this field and one of its leaders."

For more information, check out GDLN's website at www.gdln.org.

Feature

The Ingredients Behind KDI School's Chocopie

Since April of this year, a fresh Chocopie has hit the mailboxes of students, staff and faculty members at KDI School every Monday. It's not the familiar round chocolate food familiar to all those who live in Korea, however.

This Chocopie is the name of the newsletter produced by three students in the first student-run newspaper specifically targeted to the School's community.

Waldo Tapia (MPP 2002), **Malcolm Leung** (MPP 2002) and **Min-jeong Jeon** (MBA 2002), the founders and staff members of Chocopie, sat with THE GLOBE to talk about their newspaper.

"One time we were all sitting around, and I said I wanted to write a newsletter where I got to say something about (my country) Chile every week," said Waldo with a laugh, explaining Chocopie's origins.

The idea was quickly dismissed, but the three friends knew they were onto something: a weekly newsletter produced by students. "Sometimes there's a lack of interaction between students at KDI School," said Malcolm, a point that all three agreed on.

"It's a first step towards trying to bring students at the School closer together," said Waldo.

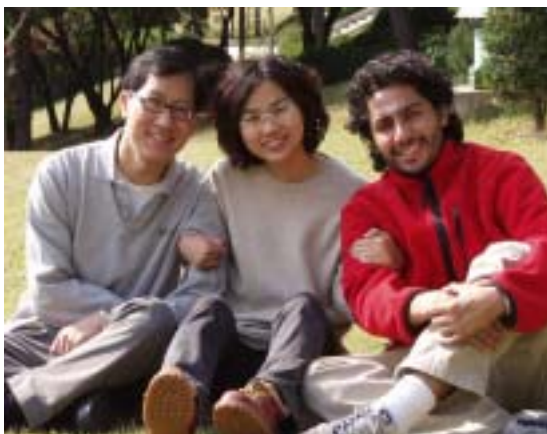
After establishing their purpose, the three founders set about to coming up with a name.

"We finally came up with Chocopie, because we eat them all the time," explained Waldo. "We wanted a name that was funny and that was familiar to both Korean and international students."

With an idea and a name in place, the three staff members divided up the work: Waldo and Min-jeong work on the articles, while Malcolm serves as the editor and page

designer. Four months and 16 issues later what has emerged is a one-page newsletter that is lively, humorous and fun to read.

The front page always features



(From left to right) Malcolm, Min-jeong and Waldo.

an entertaining and off the quilt interview with a KDI School member revealing the personal details that can make instantly familiar a person you previously did not know.

Through them, we learned for example that staff member **Bongwool Hahn** wants to write a book. Or that as a Ph. D. student, **Prof. Sang-moon Hahn** had to defend his thesis in Chicago, go to Dallas to teach a course the next day, and fly to Washington D.C. yet the following day in order to get married.

Meanwhile, the back page contains restaurant reviews and art/culture tidbits, along with brief notes about upcoming School events or student birthdays.

"Getting Chocopie done is demanding," said Min-jeong. "We spend Sunday afternoons talking about it and working on it, although we usually don't get it done until Monday morning."

Still Min-jeong calls it a very rewarding experience.

"We know that some people

don't really bother reading Chocopie," Waldo explains. "But every once in a while, a professor, or a student will come up to us and say 'thank you for doing Chocopie'.

And if one student likes what we are doing, then it is worth it."

Through the time spent working together on the newsletter, all three noted they have become close friends, despite what they claim are "three very different personalities."

In fact, the newspaper has even attracted the attention of Orion, the company that produces the real Chocopie, when a KDI School student told a

friend who works there about the unusually named student newspaper.

Far from being concerned about trademark infringement, the company sent a photographer and a writer to write a profile on the three students and posted the article on their website. The three also received two "huge boxes" full of Chocopies from the company – Waldo has already gone through half of its contents.

With a year left for the three students to graduate, KDI School members will continue receiving a Chocopie issue every Monday, although they hope that other students will continue the newspaper once they graduate.

"We don't think about it as our project," said Waldo. "We think of it as a KDI School project. We started very simple, but with every issue, we want to get better and bigger."

You can contact the staff of Chocopie at chocopie@yahoo.com. To see their profile on Orion's website, log on to www.orionworld.co.kr/webzine/200206content/fan2.htm

School News

KDI Welcomes New President

Korea Development Institute (KDI) welcomed its new president **Mr. Chong-soo Kim** in early August.

Mr. Kim is a familiar figure to the state-run think tank, where he has served in a variety of functions.

He first joined KDI as an Assistant Fellow in 1983 and was promoted several times until he departed the Institute as a Senior Fellow in 1988. He returned to KDI in 1991 and served as the Director for KDI's Center for Economics Education until 1993.

After his second departure, he served in the government as the Secretary for Economic Affairs in the Office of the President for two years.

Mr. Kim has also served as the President of the Korea Institute of Public Finance (1997-1998) and most recently was appointed as a professor and Dean of the Graduate School of Pan-Pacific International Studies at Kyung-Hee University, a position he held until his appointment as the new President of KDI.

Mr. Kim paid a visit to KDI School on Aug. 12 and was introduced to faculty and staff members.

"KDI was my first job after graduating from college 30 years ago, and this is my fourth appointment here at KDI."

Mr. Kim said in his inauguration speech to School members. "I feel as though this is a homecoming for me."

Mr. Kim also said he was excited about the future of the

School, linking its success with that of the Institute.

"Let us bring together our efforts to enable KDI School to become an internationally renowned school," he noted.

"To grow into an internationally competitive school, KDI School needs to have closer ties with the operations at KDI. I am confident that KDI School can become even more competitive in the international market, especially with its specialization of education and research on the Korean economic experience," he said.

Former KDI President **Mr. Bong-kyun Kang**, resigned from the state-run institution in early June to run for the National Assembly as a member of the Millennium Democratic Party in the Aug. 8 by-elections. After winning his race, he is now the representative of the Budang District in Seongnam City.

KDI School Introduces New ID Card

KDI School has introduced a new ID card for its members. Whereas the old one was used only for identification purposes and to enter the School's buildings, the new one is multi-functional.

Through a special agreement with Woori Bank, Korea's largest bank, the new KDI School ID combines the functions of a cash/debit card, a multi-transportation card, a security access card, and an ID card. In addition, students can use the card at the School's convenience store.

Woori Bank CEO Duk Hoon

Lee and **Dean Chin-Seung Chung** signed the formal agreement on July 23 at the



New KDI President Chong-soo Kim is introduced to KDI School's staff and faculty.

Ambassador Hall of KDI School. Staff members from both institutions were present to witness the occasion.

Workshop on Environment and Policy-making

KDI School co-organized the 'Workshop on Integrating Environmental Considerations into Economic Policy Making Processes' along with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

The event was held at the Ambassador Hall from July 25 to July 27, with the objective of increasing awareness and understanding of the challenges in integrating environment and economic policies.

In addition, participants discussed ways of achieving a better coordination among different sectors in government in order to better integrate a country's environmental and economic needs.

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School News

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The workshop consisted of lectures, presentations and discussions about individual countries' experiences and was attended by 20 participants from Korea and various South East Asian countries, including Indonesia and Thailand.

GDLN Holds Videoconference Seminar

On Sept. 10, GDLN held a program in its main videoconference room on the 3rd floor (see related story on p. 2). The three-hour seminar was called "Development OUTREACH - Youth Inclusion," and dealt with the critical importance of including young people's voices and ideas in protecting their rights and in fostering their involvement in the policymaking of their respective countries.

Five panelists based in Washington, D.C., U.S., gave presentations on youth-related topics and this was followed by a discussion among participants in GDLN centers in Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and of course,



GDLN Seminar on youth issues.

our own GDLN Center at KDI School.

School's Out for the Summer!

After a long term and a stressful exam period, KDI School students, along with faculty and staff, proved that they know how to have fun by welcoming the summer vacation in high fashion.

On August 9, KDI School's student-run Wine Club organized a party featuring traditional ethnic foods and plenty of wine and beer to celebrate the end of classes.

In between the celebrations (and the drinking) **Hyung-jun Kwak** (MBA 2002) and **Hyoung-bae Park** (MBA 2002) presented a short lecture on the Korean wine Bookboonja.

Students Take Field Trips to U.S., Korea

KDI School students and a number of staff members visited the United States during Aug. 13 to Aug. 22. The tour included visits to the cities of St. Louis, Las Vegas and San Diego. The group visited important U.S. companies such as Qualcomm and Boeing. In addition, students also attended special lectures at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Of course, as with all trips, there was also a fun component, with visits to



KDI School students during their field trip to the U.S.

the Grand Canyon in Arizona, the beaches of San Diego and the casinos in Las Vegas.

Besides the educational and cultural aspects, a highlight of the trip included a hair raising, white knuckled, seat grabbing experience aboard a small propeller plane in turbulent weather conditions.

The international trip was followed by a domestic field trip from Sept. 9 to Sept. 12, in which KDI School students visited the cities of Gyeongju, Ulsan and Busan. There were trips to various Korean conglomerates including Pohang, LG Electronics, Hyundai Motors and Hyundai Heavy Industries. The group also attended cultural events and shows while touring the cities they visited.

In addition, the students enjoyed a friendly soccer game in the field of a local community college in Ulsan that also served as the training grounds for several squads in the 2002 World Cup, including eventual champion Brazil.

School News

New Staff and Faculty at KDI School

KDI School has welcomed a handful of new staff members over the past several months.

Ms. Ran-hee Kim will be working as part of the Faculty Support Staff. An avid mountain climber, she hopes that "KDI School will continue to develop as an elite educational organization." She also hopes the international students at our School will help her improve her English.



Ms. Myun-Jin Baek will be working at the KC Center updating and managing their website and providing any other assistance. She likes playing computer games in her spare time and says that she's struck by how quiet staff members at KDI School are. "This School is quiet as a temple," she notes.



Ms. Eun-shil Seo will be working at our School's Center for National Leadership. She is trilingual (Korean, English and Chinese), and she may apply to KDI School as a student in the near future.



Ms. Hyun-li Lee is the new contents development coordinator at the GDLN Center. A jazz lover, she graduated from Ehwa Women's University with a Master's in Education, and she hopes "to become an invaluable and essential part of GDLN."



Ms. Bong-wool Hahn, is the other new contents development editor at GDLN. She majored in Arabic language at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, and she has traveled extensively through the Middle East including 18-months spent in Kuwait as an exchange student.



Ms. Soo-hyun Song is the new Associate Director at the GDLN Center. She got both her B.A. and Master's at Ehwa University in Business Management. She worked at Samsung Economic Research Institute before joining KDI School, and she hopes to do great work here as well. She has traveled to 16 countries, and prefers those with open seas. Though she couldn't come up with a favorite among the places she's been,



She spoke highly of the Philippines and the Maldives.

Ms. Bu-rim Choi joins our School as the Weekend Librarian. During weekdays, she works in the library at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, but during her free time she loves to inline skate.



Rafael Nam is the School's new editor. He has a twin brother living in New York

Joining the faculty during the fall term is **Stanley P. Sakai**, who has held a variety of high-level positions in financial corporations in the U.S., Singapore and Japan. He worked mainly in the telecom and media and technology sections as a financial adviser. Prof. Sakai graduated from Harvard University with an M.A. in Regional Studies under the East Asia Program.

THE GLOBE

Published Quarterly
Since 1998

Publisher

Chin-Seung Chung, Dean

Editor-in-Chief

Hai-young Yun, Assistant Dean

Editor

Rafael Nam

Student Column

A Good (and a Bad Experience) at the 2002 World Cup

Ahmad Muktar (MPP 2002) worked as one of 100 foreign volunteers during the recent World Cup, mainly around the Seoul World Cup stadium. At the conclusion of the event, he was chosen as 'The Best Foreign Volunteer' by World Cup organizers. – Ed.



Ahmad Muktar
MPP 2002

'The Best Foreign Volunteer' by

I enjoyed immensely working for the World Cup. I felt proud to assist Korea in its marvelous hosting of this historical event. All the foreign volunteers (around 40 nationalities were represented) found that this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of history.

During the World Cup, there were many interesting incidents, and I would like to share a couple with you.

The first happened during a match between Saudi Arabia and some other country.

During the intermission between halves, there were usually dances involving the use of flags in a stage outside the Seoul World Cup Stadium.

However, the distinctive feature of the Saudi flag is that there is a verse written on it that is very sacred and important to Muslims, and no Muslim can see that verse touch the ground.

The dancers, obviously not knowing this, were using the flag in their routine. So I

rushed towards the stage in between the dance programs and tried to get the flag out of that place.

All the security and related

A large group of young Korean guys surrounded me. They started shouting and a few of them even jumped toward me to beat me.

staff surrounded me. It was chaos and people got a little bit scared too, because I look somewhat like the Taliban.

I was shouting they should take the flag away but no one there could understand what I was saying, first due to language and second because it all seemed so strange to them.

Ultimately, I managed to push the staff away and grasp the flag from the stage. In the meantime, one guy who knew English approached us, and I explained everything to him. He translated it to the other guys, who were at this point furious at me.

I then decided to apologize to the audience, which numbered in the hundreds. I got to the stage and apologized and a Korean guy translated it. To my surprise, I got a big applause from the audience and subsequently from all the staff. I was impressed by the Korean peoples' understanding and patience: it really exceeded my expectations.

My second experience was a bad one, but was still interesting.

Right after the Korea-

Germany semifinal match (Korea lost 1-0), I was walking around the Seoul World Cup stadium when a large group of young Korean guys surrounded me.

They started shouting and a few of them even jumped towards me to beat me. Thanks to my heavy build, some of them didn't dare touch me, while three of four were deterred by my kicks and punches. I tried to shout at them why they were doing this, and I wanted to avoid a fight, but it was becoming inevitable, since I had to save myself in some way.

I guess the martial arts training many Korean youngsters learn can be harmful in some cases, especially if they are used against South Asians.

Luckily, many people rushed to our melee, and the scuffle was over instantly. Some elderly people took control of the situation, and a few of them who spoke English were apologizing to me. I later learned that the group of guys thought I was German.

All in all, looking back at my experience, I can say that volunteering throughout the World Cup was one of the best moments in my life. I will never be able to forget this time, and having helped make it one of the most successful in the history of the World Cup.

We encourage students to submit columns for publication! Please contact Rafael Nam at 3299—1039 or rnam@kdischool.ac.kr

School News

KDI School Snapshots



Dancers performing near the Seoul World Cup Stadium try hard not to notice Waldo Tapia (MPP 2002) and his hat.



Prof. Hai-young Yun (Assistant Dean) and Ms. Keum-joo Choi (Staff) in San Diego, U.S., in the middle of KDI School's field trip.



Zhengrong Zhang (MPP 2002) shows off her dance moves at a Chuseok celebration.



Humayun Kabir (MBA 2002), far right, and Navbeel Javed (MPP 2002), second from left, decide to start a staring contest with each other while they pose for a picture with Ahmad Mukhtar (MPP 2002), far left, and Juliet Peeva (MPP 2002), second from right.



KDI School students pose for a group picture in the middle of their Korean field trip.

KDI School members are encouraged to submit articles, journals, letters, e-mails or pictures for future issues of THE GLOBE. The articles do not have to be academic and can be submitted at any time to THE GLOBE editor. Please contact Rafael Nam at (82-2) 3299-1039 or rnam@kdischool.ac.kr for further information.

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THE GLOBE**

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