



**KAUPA**  
**KOREAN-AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS ASSOCIATION**  
**북미 한인 대학 교수 협회**  
**WWW.KAUPA.ORG**

Newsletter 15-2

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### **I. President's welcoming message**

Through the strong leadership of past presidents and officers, and more importantly, the passion of its dedicated members, the Korean-American University Professors Association (KAUPA) has become one of the most versatile professional organizations. By encouraging and facilitating academic research and scholarly cooperation among its members, especially in the area of Korean-Americans (KAS) studies and Korea-U.S. (KORUS) relations, we have promoted and facilitated academic exchanges of scholars and scholarly works between North America and Korea with such sponsored programs benefitting both its members and Korean-Americans alike. However, due to the demands brought on by our ever changing society which inevitably impacts various organizations in which we are a part, we have now come to squarely face some formidable challenges in order to keep pace with the changing times. Accordingly, we would like to focus on the following tasks in 2015.

- (1) To make KAUPA more encompassing and at the same time, discipline specific to our respective members and colleagues (while remaining relevant to the Korean communities in North America), we propose that our venues be expanded to cover both topical and inter-disciplinary conferences, symposia, and workshops. In this way, we will promote participation of myriad of Korean American (KA) professors in various fields of accomplishment
- (2) In order to strengthen our connections with existing KA professional societies, we will first begin by promoting an open environment that reflects a professional association exuding quality reputation. This can be accomplished by the type of events and conferences we sponsor, distinguished guests, speakers, performers and artists that we invite and written materials that we distribute. Such quality will also be reflected in new relationships that we forge with professional societies elsewhere and recognition that we will garner from our accomplishments. Eventually, this effort should translate into more outstanding professors joining as members. Further these changes would also create more incentive for existing members to actively participate in KAUPA activities.

- (3) In order to expand our membership, we need to be more proactive in reaching out to KAS whose primary or sole mode of communication is English, i.e., 1.5 and 2<sup>nd</sup> generations. We will expand our current programs for such inclusion which should ensure healthy continuum of KAUPA.
- (4) We will also find avenues to continue strengthening our financial stability. One of initiatives will be a named KAUPA Scholarship. We will look for an individual (or member) and/or agency who will donate \$30,000 for this wonderful cause.
- (5) The 12<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee will aggressively work to increase our KAUPA membership. We are fortunate that our second Vice President for IT, Professor Wooseob Jeong has offered to work as a web master. His participation will undoubtedly disseminate and expose our existence exponentially beyond our current circles.

I am optimistic about the future of KAUPA we are fortunate to have talented members who have both knowledge and skills to pull off our newly established goals. Our common interest to promote the betterment of our society through our association would build a formidable coalition consisting of both the Korean American and Korean Canadian Professors.

Wishing you a great summer with much thanks.

## **II. International Conference on Dokdo**

On June 6, 2015, KAUPA successfully held an international conference on Dokdo at Omni hotel in Providence, Rhode Island. Titled “Sovereignty over Dokdo from the Historical, Political and Cultural Prospective,” this conference covered myriad of issues on Territorial and Maritime concerns.

The conference was jointly organized by KAUPA and Northeast Asian History Foundation (NAHF) and supported by The University of Rhode Island (URI)’s College of Engineering. More than 60 scholars attended the conference to share their ideas in two sessions and a roundtable discussion. We were particularly pleased to have significant number of representatives from U.S. Naval War College and Roger Williams University Law School.

The keynote speaker was Prof. James Kraska from the Stockton Center for the Study of International Law, U.S. Naval War College. His speech was titled “The International Law of Territorial and Maritime Disputes in East Asia.” The event also included special music program by our four distinguished KAUPA members: Profs. In Dal Choi, Youngsuk Kim, Woonjung Kim and Ryu-Kyung Kim. Following the event, Honorable Consul General of Republic of Korea in Boston Song Jun Ohm hosted the banquet. (For details, you may want refer to the attached program.)



Co-Host Adj. Professor Harlan M. Doliner, Roger Williams University Law School



KAUPA President Prof. Kang-Won Wayne Lee, The Univ. of Rhode Island





NAHF Ambassador for Geographic Naming Euy-Sang Yoo



Keynote Speaker, Prof. James Kraska (U.S. Naval War College), Presenters and Discussants at the International Conference on Dokdo

### **III. Member News and Activities**

#### **1. KAUPA Grant to the KAGES**

KAUPA has granted a financial support of \$1,000 to Korean-American Association for Geospatial and Environmental Sciences (KAGES) for Year 2015. Professor Woonsup Choi, President of KAGES sent the following message:

KAGES is a not-for-profit society of academics and professionals in the field of geospatial and environmental sciences based in North America and Korea. KAGES was incorporated in 2008 to foster collaboration between Korea and North America for academic research and provide financial and mental support for graduate students. KAGES holds a general meeting every year in March or April to report its activities, elect new officials, and award scholarships.

KAUPA has been financially supporting KAGES for its general meetings over the last few years, and 2015 was not an exception. With the support from KAUPA, KAGES has been able to provide additional student award and host a dinner after the meeting.

The general meeting in 2015 took place in Hyatt Regency Chicago on Thursday, 23 April 2015 from 7:00 pm. In the 2015 meeting, with the vote of 53 members, four board members were elected, a revision of the bylaws was approved, and four student awards were granted. The elected board members included Dr. Ban Hyowon (California State University, Long Beach) for Vice-President and President-Elect, Dr. Lee Wook (Edinboro University of Pennsylvania) for Secretary, and Drs. Sim Sun-hui (University of North Alabama) and Kim Daehyun (University of Kentucky) for regular board members.

The student scholarship awardees are Koh Keumseok (Michigan State University), Choi Sungho (Boston University), Choi Young Rae (Ohio State University), and Edward Park (University of Texas at Austin), and it is Edward Park who received the award with the KAUPA grant. Mr. Park wrote an article entitled “Surface water and sediment distribution patterns at the confluence of mega rivers: the Solimões-Amazon and Negro rivers junction,” which has been accepted with moderate revision for publication in *Water Resources Research*. *Water Resources Research*, published by American Geophysical Union, is one of the top journals in water resources.

The general meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm, and the members moved to Dao Thai restaurant for a group dinner subsidized by the KAUPA grant.



A recent issue of KAGES newsletter is available in the following link.

[http://www.kages.org/season2/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/KAGES-Newsletter\\_2014\\_fall.pdf](http://www.kages.org/season2/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/KAGES-Newsletter_2014_fall.pdf)

## **2. Joint Database Project with KSEA**

Korean-American Scientists and Engineers (KSEA) and KAUPA jointly carried out a database project for KOFST. Profs. Sunwoong Kim and Wooseob Jeong worked on this project in May, 2015 and generated some fund for KAUPA activities.

## **3. Conference Attendance**

The 7<sup>th</sup> KAUPA Former President attended an international conference held in Mexico in June, 2015.

#### **4. Summer Research and Teaching**

KAUPA Vice President 1, Prof. Uk Heo visited Korea to coordinate the research grant, entitled “South Korea’s Rise in the Era of Globalization: Power, Economic Development, and Foreign Relations” sponsored by Academy of Korean Studies, Korean Studies Promotion Service (\$1,169,482 Principal Investigator, 2012-2017).

KAUPA Secretary General Prof. Jongsung Kim of Bryant University conducted a research with Prof. Edinaldo Tebaldi on the Economic Impact of School-age population loss on Rhode Island’s economy. The authors presented the findings of the report to Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo in July 7, 2015.

#### **5. US-Korea Conference (UKC) 2015**

The UKC2015 will be held in Atlanta, GA from July 29 to August 1, 2015, and several KAUPA members will attend the conference including the 5<sup>th</sup> Former President Prof. Ki-Hyun “Kinney” Kim, the 8<sup>th</sup> Former President Prof. Hongtaek “Tom” Hahn, the 10<sup>th</sup> Former President Prof. Nakho Sung and the 12<sup>th</sup> President Prof. K. Wayne Lee.

#### **6. Winter J-term course at KAIST**

In accordance with the MOU between KAUPA and KAIST, our President, Prof. K. Wayne Lee plans to teach a Winter J term course, i.e., **Innovative Civil Engineering Infrastructure and System to Stimulate Creative Economy** at KAIST from 12/26/15 to 1/9/16. This course will focus on innovative civil and environmental engineering infrastructure and system to stimulate creative economy, particularly related to transportation engineering and energy issues. Such interest in these studies maybe partly attributable to an increased transportation and environmental agencies’ enforcement resulting in a number of costly consent agreements with large cities,. Another attributing factor also may be the green infrastructure for roadway management and public works which can provide long-term economic benefits when properly designed, applied, and maintained.

## **VI. Announcements**

### **1. New Executive Committee (EC)**

Since Prof. Byung H. Kim, resigned VP position in June, we have new EC from July 1, 2015 as follows:

President	Kang-Won Wayne Lee
Vice President 1	Uk Heo
Vice President 2	Wooseob Jeong
Secretary General	Jongsung Kim
Treasurer	Woonsup Choi

### **2. Membership Solicitation**

We encourage you to become a member of KAUPA. To become a member, you need to register and pay the annual membership fee of \$25. Please send the attached application along with the fee to the Treasurer of KAUPA: Woonsup Choi, Professor of Geography, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, P.O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201-0413.

### **3. News Contribution**

To help us share your news on your recent academic, professional activities, achievements and other news of interest, email Jongsung Kim, the KAUPA Secretary General and Professor of Economics, Bryant University at [jkim@bryant.edu](mailto:jkim@bryant.edu). Your contributions (not necessarily financial) will be greatly appreciated.