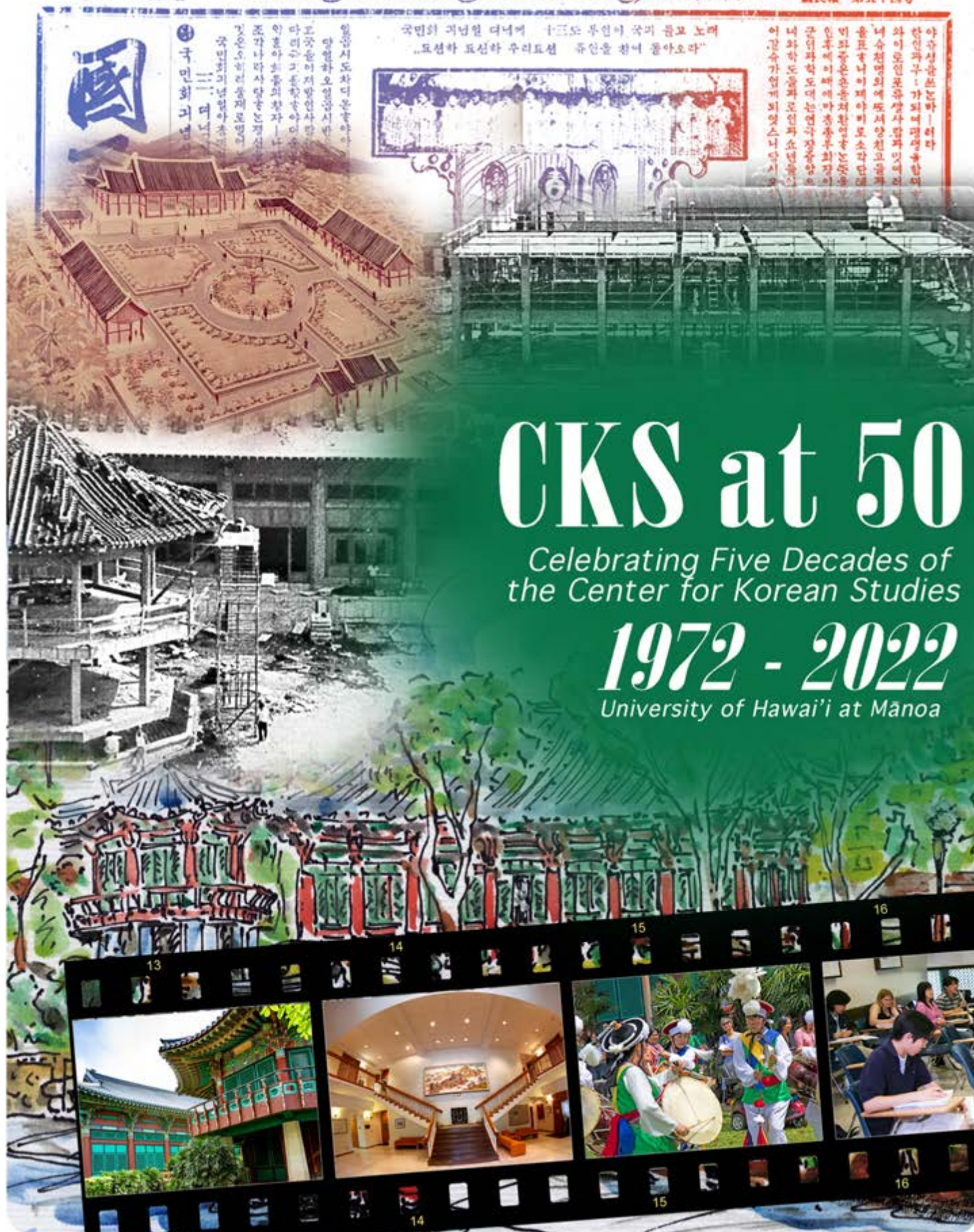
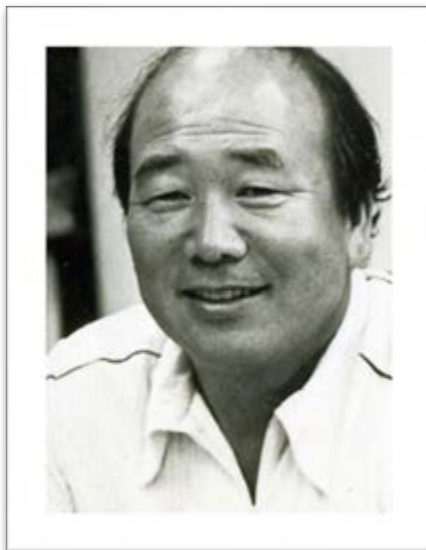


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In Memory Of



Dae-Sook Suh

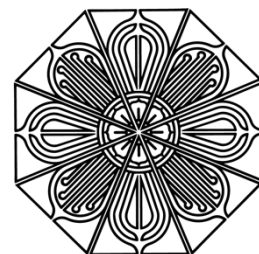
November 22, 1931 – September 13, 2022

Founding Member & Inaugural Director of the Center for Korean Studies

Professor Emeritus of Political Science at UH Mānoa

Author of *The Korean Communist Movement, 1918-1948*

Lifelong Advocate for Peace and Unification



Center for Korean Studies
School of Pacific and Asian Studies
College of Arts, Languages and Letters
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

1881 East-West Road
Honolulu, HI 96822, USA
Telephone: (808) 956-7041
Fax: (808) 956-2213
www.hawaii.edu/korea/

Tae-Ung Baik, Director
Booklet edited and designed by Hannah Granoff and Cheehyung Harrison Kim
September 2022



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A Lasting Symbol of the University

David Lassner

President, University of Hawai'i



Ho'omaika'i 'ana on the amazing fifty years of the Center for Korean Studies!

On this momentous and joyous occasion, on behalf of the university, I wish to congratulate my colleagues—faculty and staff—at the Center for Korean Studies for continuing to make the Center a lasting symbol of the university.

The CKS is the best representation of the university's commitment to excellence in research, teaching, and international cooperation. And of course, the resplendent architecture of the center building, which still looks majestic after all these years, has kept UH Mānoa as one of the most beautiful university campuses in the country. I am deeply thankful to the founders of the CKS and to my center colleagues who have carried on its mission for the past fifty years.

One of my favorite activities on the Mānoa campus is to walk the grounds, and it is always a great pleasure to see the shiny green tiles of the CKS as I approach the East-West Road. Korea's traditional five colors that decorate the grandiose building and the charming pagoda make the sight truly distinctive. It is no wonder that people from everywhere come to our campus to see the center, which stands together with the East-West Center as the embodiment of the

university's aim of bridging people, knowledge, and cultures across the Pacific. Furthermore, the high caliber publications of the Center through the University of Hawai'i Press are a reminder that the Center continues to be a leading institution of Korean studies in the world.

I have learned that the building's design was inspired by a palace hall from Korea's Joseon period, where dignitaries and scholars gathered. The CKS has surely lived up to its architectural heritage. I am always impressed by the academic and cultural events held at the CKS, which are a testament to the excellent research and teaching of the center's faculty members and to the outstanding management of the staff.

I will always cherish the occasion of welcoming South Korea's President Moon Jae-in to the CKS in September 2021. As he presented South Korea's Order of Merit to the families of two Korean Hawaiian pioneers Nodie Kim and Chung Song Ahn, I once again realized the interconnected significance of the CKS to Hawai'i and the world. The university community is truly honored and fortunate to have been the home of this remarkable institution for the past five decades. I celebrate with you on this extraordinary milestone. ■

Fifty Years of CKS and the Future of Korean Studies

Tae-Ung Baik

*Director, Center for Korean Studies
Professor, School of Law*



From January 13, 1903, when the steamship *Gaelic* carrying 102 Koreans first entered Honolulu, about 7,400 early Korean immigrants arrived in the Americas by 1905, marking the beginning of the history of Korean immigration to the Americas. According to the population census conducted in 2020, the number of Korean Americans in the United States now reaches approximately 1.8 million, and the number of Korean immigrants living in Hawai'i is counted at 52,410. Although Korean Americans are doing very well, they are at this time faced with a challenging question. What will be the identities of the Korean immigrants who are residing in the United States? The question is whether they should seek greater assimilation into mainstream culture, or whether they need to pursue multiculturalism maintaining their language, culture, and ethnic distinctiveness. How will they form new leadership in the immigrant society, and what will be their relationship with Korea?

Koreans in Hawai'i have created an exemplary identity for Korean Americans by overcoming the colonial rule from the time when the Korean Empire was occupied by Japan. Considering the experiences of early Korean immigrants and picture brides, as well as new immigrants after the 1960s, the Koreans in Hawai'i have brightly illuminated the posture of Korean Americans in the United States.

Korean studies in the United States coincided with

the beginning of contact between the United States and Korea. Percival Lowell's book *Chosön, The Land of the Morning Calm: A Sketch of Korea* (1886), William Griffis's *Corea, the Hermit Nation* (1889), and Homer Hulbert's *History of Korea* (1901), may be considered an early version of Korean studies. During World War II, Korean studies was more focused on Korean language and Korean history. In 1954, a Korean language course was officially opened at the University of Hawai'i. In the 1960s, research capacity grew centered on history, language, and literature, and, in 1967, the Korean Studies Committee was established at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) to officially secure the status of Korean studies.

Actually, the faculty members at the University of Hawai'i were deeply involved with the development, and, in 1972, Professors William E. Henthorn and Hugh H. W. Kang, Peter H. Lee, Glenn D. Paige, and Dae-Sook Suh, etc. successfully established the first Center for Korean Studies in North America at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Initially 14 professors of Korean Studies were active, and the size of the Center continued to expand. Now we have more than 40 affiliate members. As the first and largest Center for Korean Studies in North America, the CKS possesses a beautiful Korean Studies building, which was started in 1974 and completed in 1980.

As the building symbolizes, the Center for Korean Studies at the University of Hawai'i forms the

Fifty Years of CKS and the Future of Korean Studies

backbone of Korean studies in the United States and serves as a strategic education and research hub that geographically connects the East and the West, and the Americas and the Pacific.

The Center for Korean studies aspires to become a new icon that leads the changes in the modern world. Along with the global spread of Hallyu, the Korean Wave, and popular culture in the international community, the Center will continue its efforts to serve as a hub for the Korean studies networks fostering international cooperation, academic exchanges, and economic and social developments across the borders.

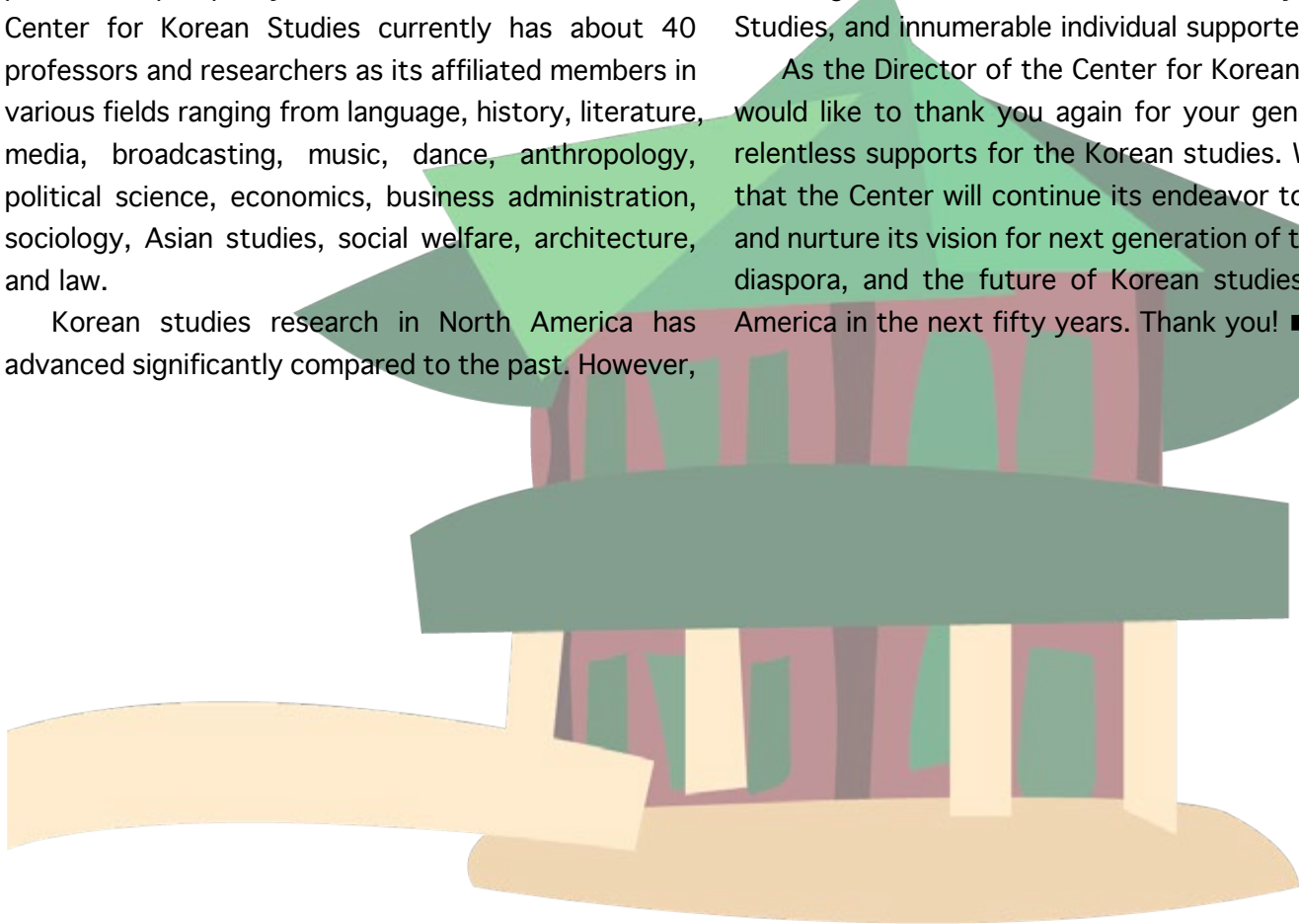
The Center for Korean Studies is engaged in various activities such as awarding scholarships, publication of the journal *Korean Studies* and the book series “Hawai’i Studies on Korea,” and holding conferences and workshops. The Center supports Korean studies throughout the Americas, and promotes studies of Korean society, diaspora research, and prospects for peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula. The Center for Korean Studies currently has about 40 professors and researchers as its affiliated members in various fields ranging from language, history, literature, media, broadcasting, music, dance, anthropology, political science, economics, business administration, sociology, Asian studies, social welfare, architecture, and law.

Korean studies research in North America has advanced significantly compared to the past. However,

there are still many challenges. The number of faculty members and researchers is still insufficient compared to the vastness of the topic of Korean studies. Administrative or financial support for the Korean studies is still very insufficient. Furthermore, as senior Korean studies professors retire one after another, the recruitment and expansion of new research personnel are often not done properly. In order for the Center to continue its excellent role to lead Korean studies in the future, the institutional foundation should be strengthened with more endowments.

The reason why Koreans in Hawai’i have grown so much is because Hawaiian Koreans have continued various activities such as scholarship donations, support for Korean studies research, volunteer work, and donation of immigration-related materials. The Center for Korean Studies owes a lot to the support from the University, the State of Hawai’i, the local Korean community in Hawai’i, overseas institutions including Korea Foundation and the Academy of Korean Studies, and innumerable individual supporters.

As the Director of the Center for Korean Studies, I would like to thank you again for your generous and relentless supports for the Korean studies. We pledge that the Center will continue its endeavor to cultivate and nurture its vision for next generation of the Korean diaspora, and the future of Korean studies in North America in the next fifty years. Thank you! ■



Remarkable Origin of the Center

Cheehyung Harrison Kim

Chair, Publications Committee
Associate Professor, Department of History



The path the Center for Korean Studies has taken in the past fifty years is one paved by unique historical situations, global academic circumstances, and most of all, the will and dedication of the people in Hawai'i who have believed in the mission of the center. From the initial vision of forming a research center on Korea-related issues, in the 1960s, to the creation of an endowment that allows continuous growth, in the 1990s, the CKS has had a distinctive role of laying the foundation for Korean studies to become the global academic phenomenon it is today. In turn, this effort has established the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as a leading institution of Korean studies and Asian studies in the world. The story of how the CKS was built and expanded is at times incredible and at other times reflective of the visionary planning of its members, but the interactions of local and global influences are always at its core.

THE FOUNDERS

The origin story of the CKS is about extraordinary people coming together through a shared vision. When the CKS, the first Korean studies center outside of the Korean peninsula, was established on February 1, 1972, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa was already in its third decade of teaching about Korea. The Korean language had been in the course catalogue since 1954, not long after the Korean War ceasefire in July 1953. And there was already the Hamilton Library's Korea Collection, which began in 1943. The first Korean studies professor at the university with a doctorate was the pioneering literature scholar Peter Haksu Lee, who received his Ph.D. from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich in 1958 and taught at Columbia University before joining UH Mānoa in August 1962 to teach Korean literature as well as Korean language, in the Department of Asian and Pacific Languages. This department eventually split into the

Department of East Asian Languages and the Department of East Asian Literatures (the latter of which Lee chaired from 1972 to 1975), and some years later, they merged to form the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the largest department of its kind in the United States today (which Lee also chaired from 1984 to 1987). One of the language instructors Lee met during this time was Ho-min Sohn, who would join the faculty in 1971 and become an influential Korean linguist in the United States. Peter Lee may have been the first scholar outside Korea to regularly teach courses on traditional Korean literature, contemporary Korean literature, and Korean literature in translation.

The interest in Korea as an academic field grew at the university throughout the 1960s. The need to understand the Korean War (1950-1953), the disparate and fascinating postwar developments of

Remarkable Origin of the Center

North Korea and South Korea, and the military-security interests of the United States on the Korean peninsula were the global context for this growth. Another crucial impetus was the establishment of the East-West Center in 1960 on the UH Mānoa campus, with the I. M. Pei designed buildings completed in 1962. The East-West Center further elevated the role of Hawai'i as a meeting point between the United States and Asia, and the university actively promoted the cooperation between the scholars of the two regions. Many departments at the university energetically responded to this new academic mission, including the Department of History, which created the largest Asian history program in the country within the decade. The first historian of Korea at the university, Hugh H. W. Kang, joined the history faculty in 1965. Kang, who had come to the United States in 1954 to attend the progressive Berea College, in Kentucky, received a Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 1964. At UH Mānoa he taught and conducted research on ancient and medieval Korea, especially on Silla and Goryeo kingdoms. Hugh Kang is one of the seminal people in the formation of the CKS. In 1970, the History Department hired a second Korea historian, the modernist Yong-ho Ch'oe, who was completing his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. With Kang and Choe on the history faculty, UH Mānoa became the first university in the United States to grant a Ph.D. in Korean history. Two Korea historians working as faculty in the same history department at a major United States university has not been repeated elsewhere.

A key person who also arrived at the university in 1965 was the geographer Forrest Pitts. During the Second World War, he joined the Navy, in 1942, where he first began to study the Japanese language. All his degrees came from the University of Michigan, where, in 1956, he completed a Ph.D. dissertation on the farming communities in Japan's Kagawa plains. While as a geography professor at the University of Oregon, he became interested in Korea, initially because of the linguistic affinities between Korean and Japanese and

then because of the particular ways Korea was portrayed in Japan. In 1960, Pitts went to Korea as a member of an economics advising team of the University of Oregon. He returned to the United States a year later with a sense of commitment to study Korea. In 1965, Pitts arrived at UH Mānoa as an associate professor in the Department of Geography and soon met others who shared the vision of setting up a research center on Korea.

Among those who joined the university in the 1960s, few were as instrumental in the formation of the CKS as Glenn Paige. In 1959, at Northwestern University, he had completed a Ph.D. dissertation about the days that led to the United States making the commitment to send troops to Korea, the study titled *The Korean Decision*. Paige was deeply interested in Korea during graduate school, because he wanted to understand the Korean War in which he fought, from September 1950 to January 1952, as a lieutenant in an infantry division that was under the command of the famed South Korean general Baek Seonyeop. He experienced one of the most dramatic and violent periods of the war: the United Nations forces moving north to occupy Pyongyang for the first time and then being pushed down south by the joint forces of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteer Army. He returned to Korea—South Korea—for two years, from 1959 to 1961, as a faculty member of the University of Minnesota to work with scholars at Seoul National University, during which he witnessed both the April Revolution of 1960, led by ordinary people, and the May Sixteenth Coup of 1961, led by the military leader Park Chung-hee, who launched an almost two decades-long authoritarian rule in South Korea. Forced to leave South Korea in May 1961, Paige took a position at Princeton University's Department of Politics, where he taught from 1961 to 1967, obtaining tenure in 1966. But upon learning, through contacts he had made as a visiting scholar at the East-West Center in 1963, that the University of Hawai'i would be open to the

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proposal of forming a Korean studies center, he left Princeton for Mānoa in the fall of 1967.

The year 1967 was special for Korean studies in North America and Hawai'i. In February 1967, the Committee on Korean Studies was officially established within the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), with Hesung Chun Koh of Yale University as the first Chair. Glenn Paige was elected to the AAS Board of Directors. It is notable that, in a time when academic organizations exhibited serious gender imbalance, the person of high authority in the inaugural Committee on Korean Studies was a woman, a structure that rarely existed in other organizations. Another reason for 1967 being a milestone was the Ford Foundation grant of one hundred thousand dollars to develop Korean studies, a pivotal funding channel made possible by the efforts of Hugh Kang, Glenn Paige, Forrest Pitts, and Peter Lee. The Ford Foundation gave such a grant to four other universities—Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, and the University of Washington, and the funding included a provision of eventually establishing a research center devoted to Korean studies.

In this momentous situation, people at UH Mānoa began to meet with a clear intention to draft a detailed proposal for the establishment of a Korean studies center on campus. The monthly meetings, which began in late 1960s, were mainly attended by Forrest Pitts, Glenn Paige, Hugh Kang, Peter Lee, the anthropologist of Okinawa William Lebra, the sociologist of race Herbert Barringer, and the historian of Korea William Henthorn. Pitts was the main scribe of the group and penned the drafts of the proposal. The historian Henthorn's academic career did not last long, but he deserves much recognition for his

leadership role at these meetings and in the formation of the AAS Committee on Korean Studies, having had chaired its preparatory committee from 1965 until the official founding two year later.

The final piece in the initiative to set up a Korean studies center was the arrival of Dae-Sook Suh at the East-West Center in January 1971, as a visiting scholar to conduct research on North Korea's Workers Party. He had been a faculty member at the University of Houston since 1965, after receiving a Ph.D. from Columbia University, and since 1969, he had been the chair of the AAS Committee on Korean Studies. For Suh, coming to Hawai'i meant a chance to reconnect with Glenn Paige. They were old acquaintances and had had talked about starting a Korean studies center during their days in New York and New Jersey in mid 1960s. They had also bonded over Suh's extraordinary first book, *The Korean communist movement, 1918-1948*, which was published in 1967 by Princeton University Press. When Hawai'i became a possible place for this center, Suh and Paige's reunion in Mānoa, with their assertive personalities, created the momentum for bringing a group of decisive people into the conversation, including the University President Harlan Cleveland and Vice President of Academic Affairs Stuart Brown. Suh's visiting position was to last until August 1971, but at President Cleveland's request, he extended his stay, now in the Department of Political Science, until August 1972, during which he helped to establish the CKS. Suh would not return to his post at the University of Houston, for he joined UH Mānoa's Political Science Department as an associate professor in the fall of 1972.

PROGRAM AND GATHERING SUPPORT

The group's vision of the proposed Korean studies center entailed five guiding principles. The first is that the center will be built in Hawai'i to represent the history of Asian diasporic communities in the state and to reflect UH Mānoa's pursuit of developing Asian

studies. The second is that the center will be interdisciplinary and have a balance between the humanities and social sciences, so that any particular research could contribute to the research of all members. The third is that the center will serve the

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people of Hawai'i: the center's research findings and events would always be accessible to the local community and the local community would always be able to utilize the center. The fourth is that the center's research, moving away from intelligence or strategic analysis, will have a focus on, first, comparative examinations of North Korea and South Korea and, second, the study of the Korean diaspora, the two areas that are difficult to carry out in South Korea due to its limitations on using documents from or traveling to state socialist countries. And the fifth principle is that the center will engage with North Korea and South Korea in the spirit of peace and friendship. What is significant is that from the beginning, the center's mission involved studying the Korean diaspora, serving the local community, and conducting research on both North Korea and South Korea with a commitment to peaceful engagement. These aspects remain at the heart of the activities of the CKS today.

A vital support for the center came from the University of Hawai'i President Harlan Cleveland, who had been selected to the position in 1969 after serving in the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations as the chief of United States aid to East Asia and as ambassador to NATO. Cleveland was an institutional builder, and he saw the Korean studies center as a marker of excellence unique to UH Mānoa.

He even spoke about it in his inaugural speech. When he ended the position in 1974, he left behind a strong viewpoint that Korean studies is important to the university, which was espoused by succeeding presidents Fujio Matsuda (the nation's first Asian American university president) and Albert Simone. Along with Cleveland, Vice President for Academic Affairs and philosopher Stuart Brown and UH Mānoa Chancellor and economist Wytze Gorter also expressed strong support. Such advocacy from the university leadership was essential in convincing the Board of Regents. Another strong advocate was Dewey Hongwoo Kim, Sr., a Korean American community leader and a long-serving university administrator who would become the Chancellor of Community Colleges. Daniel Kwok, the director of Asian Studies at the time, who helped establish the Center for Chinese Studies in 1987, was also an important backer, as was the prominent Asia historian and administrator Shunzo Sakamaki. Support came from beyond the campus as well. George Chaplin, the editor-in-chief of Honolulu Advertiser, wrote in a 1970 editorial about the advantage of a Korean studies center for the future of Hawai'i. From the world of Hawai'i politics, the state senator Richard Wong and the state representative Tadao Beppu supported the establishment of the center.

THE 1971 CONFERENCE AND THE LAUNCH

The will of dedicated scholars, the support of influential people of the university as well as Hawai'i at large, the significance of the East-West Center, and the reputation of UH Mānoa as the national hub of Asian studies all converged in the summer of 1971 in the shape of an international conference on Korean studies, another first of its kind outside the Korean peninsula. Held at the East-West Center's iconic Jefferson Hall from June 6 to June 12, 1971, the week-long conference was the most ambitious and expansive Korean studies event the world had ever seen. With an astounding budget of seventy-thousand



「하와이」서 열린 韓國學국제학술회의.

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dollars (equivalent to five hundred thousand dollars today!), the organizing committee—made up of Glenn Paige, Richard Pearson, and the chair Hugh Kang—gave the conference the sweeping title of “Traditional Society and Culture of Korea” and invited over thirty scholars and artists, from South Korea, Japan, and China, the UK, and Australia, along with the US mainland. A parallel week-long program of performances and exhibitions was funded, too, with a dozen Korean American civic and faith-based organizations participating, the schedule highlighted by a culture showcase at the Kennedy Theater, a screening of the 1967 South Korean hit film *Paldogangsan (Six Daughters)*, and an exhibition of modern Korean architecture. The scholars who attended the conference were some of the most renowned at the time, people like the historian Yi Gibaek, the literary scholar Jeong Byeonguk, the historian William Theodore de Bary, and the archaeologist Kwang-chih Chang. The last day of the conference was a picnic at Kapiolani Park, which was attended by a thousand people from the community. The success of the conference was the final testament to the capacity of UH-Mānoa as a legitimate place of Korean studies in the United States.

On February 1, 1972, the university’s Board of Regents approved the proposal to establish the Center for Korean Studies. The news was certainly met with joy and relief, but it was expected, given the

years of planning and organizing; much preparation had been underway prior to the official date of approval. One such arrangement was the university president Harlan Cleveland’s visit to South Korea at the invitation of Culture and Education Minister Min Gwansik. Cleveland flew to Seoul to secure, on February 6, a funding support from the South Korean government for a center building. While in Seoul, for his work on advancing Korean studies in the United States, he received, on February 8, an honorary doctorate degree in law from Korea University. As for the first director of CKS, a clear choice by those involved was Dae-Sook Suh, who would also join the faculty of the Political Science Department in the fall semester. The establishment of the center was a milestone on several levels: the CKS was not only the first Korean studies center at an American university but also the first of its kind outside the Korean peninsula, and at UH-Mānoa, the CKS was the first area center, having formed earlier than, for instance, the Center for Chinese Studies and the Center for Japanese Studies. Initially, the CKS was housed at the Social Science Research Institute, and then Moore Hall became its home until 1980. The first center manager was Caroline Hiraki. The extensiveness of the center’s mission was reflected in the names of the five core committees—Academic Development, Publication and Research, Student Affairs, Community Affairs, and National and International Liaison.

CONSTRUCTING A LASTING HOME

While the CKS was coming into existence, what further occupied the minds of the founders was the construction of an independent building that would house the CKS permanently. A utilitarian reasoning was that, first, the university could not easily cut the Korean studies



program if a building existed and, second, a permanent house would be more conducive to fundraising. A more ambitious and principled reasoning was that the CKS, as the first of its kind in the world, deserved a lasting building. The idea of constructing a traditional Korean house came from both Hugh Kang and

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Glenn Paige at different times—Kang in 1970 as he was meeting with the visiting scholar and former Public Health Minister Jeong Huiseop and Paige in mid-1960s during his time at Princeton. Hugh Kang was inspired by the structures of Gyeongbokgung, the main royal palace of Joseon Korea's monarchy, a tremendous compound first completed in 1395. Hugh Kang recalls that, among the many palace buildings, Geunjeongjeon (Hall of Diligent Governance), where the monarch governed the country and greeted foreign dignitaries, was the model of CKS. From the way it was actually built, however, the CKS is closer in semblance with Sujeongjeon (Hall of Erudite Governance), an elegant single roofed building just west of Geunjeongjeon. Sujeongjeon has a particular significance, because it is the original location of another building—Jiphyeonjeon (Hall of Worthies), the royal research institute where King Sejong oversaw the development of science, engineering, and language, the Korean alphabet being created at the institute in 1443.

The decision to select a palace hall as a model for the CKS is also understandable given the political economic situation of the two Koreas at the time. Still reeling from the death and destruction of the Korean War, the Korean peninsula did not seem like as a field of serious scholarship. South Korea's Park Chung-hee government, which had come to power through a military coup in May 1961, was in its tenth year of authoritarian rule. And the relationship between the United States and North Korea, the more developed of the two Koreas, was severely strained in early 1970s: North Korea capturing the United States intelligence ship *Pueblo* in 1968 and shooting down a United States reconnaissance aircraft in 1969 were vivid recent

memories. North Korea and South Korea in the early 1970s were vastly different places from how appear today. Therefore, the CKS, both the main building and the octagonal pagoda in front, was to be constructed as a symbol of Korea's once splendid past, a kingdom that had maintained a stable government for five hundred years and that which had espoused order and learning as codes of its civilization.

The proposal to build a freestanding CKS structure was initially rejected by the Board of Regents. They questioned whether the time was right for CKS to have a building when Chinese studies, Japanese studies, and especially Hawaiian studies did not yet have centers of their own, much less freestanding structures. The will of CKS leadership, with the commitment of President Harlan, was not to be bent, however. Their strategy was to first gain the support of the South Korean government. With an introductory letter from Jeong Huiseop, the former Public Health Minister who had been a visiting scholar at the East-West Center 1970, Hugh Kang and Glenn Paige went to South Korea in 1971, before the center was officially approved, and met with the Culture and Education Minister Min Gwansik, who enthusiastically endorsed the project. Min Gwansik then convinced the Prime Minister Kim Jongpil, who immediately gave the final approval the project. Kim Jongpil then ordered



two architects to create a rendering of the center, which they did over a weekend. Kang and Paige returned to Hawai'i with the first drawing of the center. The involvement of Prime Minister Kim Jongpil, a powerful advocate of the center's founding, is an indication that South Korea's President Park Chung-hee endorsed the CKS as well.

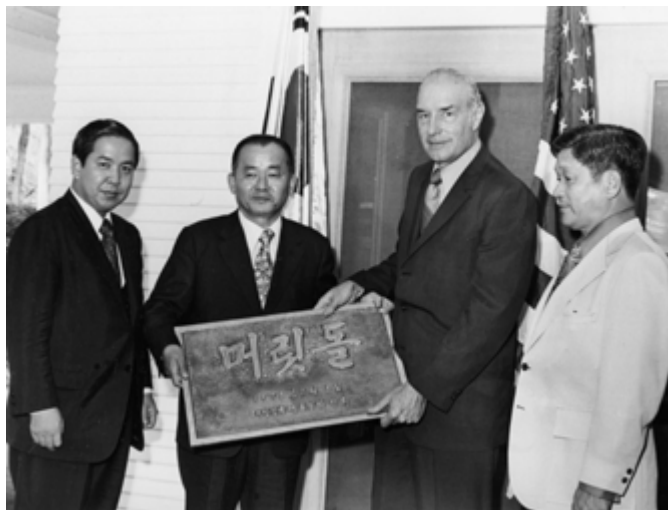
Remarkable Origin of the Center

KOREAN COMMUNITY AS PILLARS

The Board of Regents ultimately approved the construction of the center building when the South Korean government pledged, in February 1972 during Cleveland's visit, to provide two hundred thousand dollars out of the initial cost of four hundred fifty thousand dollars. Several years later, the South Korean government provided another three hundred thousand dollars to finish the building. It is important to recognize that the funds from South Korea came not from the president's budget but from the Ministry of Culture and Education only after the funds were passed by the National Assembly. The location of the building at the University of Hawai'i was at first uncertain: the Board of Regents wanted CKS to find a location off campus, while the CKS leadership wanted the space across from the East-West Center. A compromise was made when the Board accepted Dae-Sook Suh's suggestion of the lot north of Lincoln Hall. The rest of the initial cost—two hundred fifty thousand dollars—was to be raised in Hawai'i. The state and the university provided key funds, but the most remarkable source of funds was the Korean community. With the fundraising drive led by Dae-Sook Suh, Dewey Kim, and Chung Dho Ahn, the Korean American community in Hawai'i rose to the occasion. To be sure, there were big donors, and their names hang on the walls of the center. For instance, the auditorium is dedicated to Edwin C. S. Noh, while the seminar room is dedicated to the Young-ok Chung and Katherine K. Choy. The names Dewey Kim and Henry Koo Kim can be found in the director's office. On the second floor, the library is dedicated to Chung Dho Ahn. Most significantly, numerous Korean Americans of Hawai'i donated their hard-earned money to the construction project. The CKS's commitment to the Korean American community of Hawai'i stems from the fact that the center could not have been built without them.

The construction process lasted from 1974 to 1980, with a total cost of over 1.5 million dollars. It

entailed an intricate cooperation between the United States government, state of Hawai'i, and the South Korean government, a process that would be unfathomable today. The Department of Labor gave permission to contracted workers from Korea, the state approved the land on UH Mānoa campus, and the South Korean government supplied all the materials such as cement, wood, roof tiles, and granite blocks. South Korea also sent technicians, advisors, and artisans, including tilers, painters, and woodworkers. William Chung, the founder of the local company 20th Century Furniture, provided the contractor's license that allowed the workers from Korea to carry out their craft. There were about twenty workers from Korea at a time, and they lived at a house owned by William Chung; the workers were nourished with Korean food. Construction workers from Hawai'i, too, were indispensable in raising the building. The enormous cost of airfare of bringing many rounds of workers from Korea was financed by Sung-mo Choi (Choe Seongmo), the founder of South Korea's Dongah Flour Company. Choi was a friend of Han Musuk, one of the most famous writers in South Korea, and Han's daughter, the prominent linguistics and literature scholar Young-Key Kim-Renaud, was completing her Ph.D. at UH Mānoa at the time. Dae-Sook Suh had met Sung-mo Choi at a party in Seoul hosted by Han Musuk



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and convinced Choi to donate. The large classroom on the second floor is dedicated to Sung-mo Choi. A granite block on the building foundation has a bronze plaque bearing the word “cornerstone” in Korean (*meoritdol*). The plaque was based on a calligraphy written by President Park Chung-hee specifically for the center. The calligraphy itself hangs in the library.

The center’s opening ceremony was on March 1, 1980, an auspicious day in Korea—the March First Independence Day, the day when the Korean people declared autonomous self-rule from the Japanese Empire in 1919. Many dignitaries were present, including the longest-serving Hawai‘i Governor George Ariyoshi, who was very supportive of CKS during his tenure. South Korea’s Culture and Education Minister Kim Okgil was in attendance, too, as was the writer Han Musuk. Also at the ceremony was Min Gwansik,

the former Culture and Education Minister who had championed the CKS since 1971 and who ultimately convinced Kim Jongpil and Park Chunghee to actively endorse the CKS. Min Gwansi visited the CKS on many occasions, and after his passing in 2006, a memorial fund was established from a donation from his family. The artworks that adorn the interior of CKS deserve a mention. The octagonal pagoda in front of the main building has eight paintings representing the changing seasons, one for each wall. These were donated by Kim Seongjin, the spokesperson of the Park Chung-hee Administration. The stunning painting of mountain peaks on the staircase—*Seoraksando*—is by the preeminent South Korean painter Min Gyeonggap. On the second floor, near the visiting scholars’ offices, hangs a calligraphy piece by the historian Yi Byeongdo.

THE DIRECTORS

The first director Dae-sook Suh’s vision and programs secured the CKS as the preeminent area center at UH Mānoa, and under his two-decades-long leadership, the CKS became a leading institution of Korean studies in North America. Suh’s grand style is exemplified in his program



Dae-Sook Suh

on North Korea. In February 1989, Suh helped to bring three North Korean scholars to a conference at the East-West Center. Then in August, he led a University of Hawai‘i delegation to a trip to North Korea, a team that included President Albert Simone and Mark Juergensmeyer, the Dean of the School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies. The occasion was the first time a president of an American university visited North Korea. The invitation letter from North Korea was signed by none other than the well-known philosopher and political scientist Hwang Jangyeop, then the director of the Korean Association for Social

Sciences. (Hwang later gained a different kind of fame when he defected to South Korea in 1997.) A milestone in the development of Korean studies at UH Mānoa came toward the end of Dae-Sook Suh’s tenure as director. In 1994, Korea Foundation pledged two million dollars to the CKS, setting up an endowment for long-term growth. The center’s endowment has grown to six million dollars. Dae-Sook Suh remained as the CKS director for a long time, until 1995. A limit of two three-year terms was implemented with Suh’s departure.

The second director was the economist Chung Hoon Lee, who stayed in the position for three years,



Chung Hoon Lee

until 1998. The historian Edward J. Shultz was the third CKS director, his term lasting until 2004. The next director was the linguist Homin Sohn, who served two terms, from 2004 to 2010. The fifth director was the literature scholar Yung-Hee Kim, the first and only

Remarkable Origin of the Center

woman to be the director of CKS, serving from 2010 to 2013. Yung-Hee Kim's successor was the economist Sang-Hyop Lee, who was at the helm of CKS until 2018. Since then, the legal scholar Tae-Ung

Baik has been the director of CKS. All seven directors have strengthened both the CKS and its relationship with the community at large.



The CKS sits at the north end of East-West Road on UH Mānoa campus, perpendicular to Maile Way. The three-storied building looks majestic in the O'ahu sun, with its shimmering blue roof tiles and its large eaves curving upward at the four corners. It is constructed from of concrete, and yet it still possesses the details of Korean architectural columns and brackets. The wooden lattices cover the windows. The traditional colors give the building a striking appearance of a temple. From all angles, the structure has balance and grandeur, just like the palace halls of the past where scholars debated metaphysical properties of the world. The pagoda in the front, surrounded by the lush flora of Mānoa, is exquisite and inviting. The CKS compound is a testament to the masterful artisanship of the Korean builders answering the call of an unprecedented challenge. The origin of the CKS is remarkable, if not improbable. It is hard to imagine a Korean studies center being built today in the manner of the CKS. What is certain is that fifty years ago, in the state of Hawai'i, the extraordinary will of people came together to create an institution like no other in the world. The CKS looks ready for the next fifty years. ■





For the past five decades, the Center for Korean Studies has led the development of programs and resources for the study of Korea at the University of Hawai'i and worldwide. As part of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's School of Pacific and Asian Studies, the CKS is the oldest academic center for the study of Korea in the United States.

Established in 1972, the CKS operates from a home designed in the style of a traditional Korean palace hall and erected with support from local donors, the Hawai'i legislature, and the Republic of Korea government. Construction of the building was completed in 1980.

Center programs are supported by an endowment created in 1995 with a matching grant from the Korea Foundation, the international programs arm of the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Supporters in Hawai'i and Korea contributed some \$1.6 million to match the grant. In 2006, the Korea Foundation renewed its partnership with the CKS through a \$1 million gift, which, matched by \$1 million raised by the Center, was used to create an endowment to support creation of new positions in departments lacking Korean studies faculty.

In 2015, the Academy of Korean Studies, as part of its Core University Program for Korean Studies, awarded the CKS a five-year grant for a project titled "Diversity, Identity, and Universality in Global Korea." The grant provided approximately \$850,000 over the five-year period for research projects undertaken by CKS faculty members.

In July 2020, the Academy of Korean Studies announced that the CKS was selected as the recipient of the grant 2020 Strategic Research Institute Program for Korean Studies. The award amount total is one billion Korean Won (approximately \$820,000) for ten years. The grant was newly created by AKS in 2020, and the CKS was selected as the first awardee, with a project titled "Sustainable Values for Korean Studies in the Americas: Korean Diaspora and the Prospects for Peace, Prosperity, and Unity of the Korean Peninsula."

Programs and Publications

CRITICAL ISSUES FORUM

The Critical Issues Forum was launched in January 2010 to bring leading scholars to the University of Hawai'i campus to discuss issues vital to contemporary Korean studies. The forum is a two-day event during which these invited scholars present a lecture on a topic of their choice and then explore the subject further in a seminar setting with university faculty and students and members of the local community.

Since its inception, the Forum has included presentations by Jang Jip Choi of Korea University; Uchang Kim of Ewha Womans University and Korea University; Myung-Lim Park of Yonsei University; Haejoang Han Cho of Yonsei University; Nancy Abelman of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; Heonik Kwon of Cambridge University; Andre Schmid of the University of Toronto; Bruce Cumings of the University of Chicago; Janet Poole of the University of Toronto; and Park Myoung-Kyu of Seoul National University; Hyun Mee Kim of Yonsei University; Vladimir Tikhonov of Oslo University; and Suk-Young Kim of UCLA.

DRS. SUNG CHUL YANG AND DAISY LEE YANG LECTURE SERIES

In 2015, Dr. Sung Chul Yang and his wife, Dr. Daisy Lee Yang, created an endowment at the CKS to support a continuing series of lectures by eminent scholars and experts on Korean and Asian affairs. The Yangs, both graduates of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, envisioned the series as a contribution to the creation of the common ground needed for the resolution of conflict and creation of a more peaceful world. The series will be presented every two years. The inaugural lecture in the series, in September 2018, featured the eminent political scientist Chong-Sik Lee of the University of Pennsylvania. For the second lecture in 2021, the

CKS invited the economist Ha-Joon Chang of the University of Cambridge.

COMMUNITY LECTURE SERIES

The CKS Community Lecture Series, begun in February 2011, presents occasional talks of especial interest to the local community beyond the UH Mānoa campus. The initial lecture in the series, given by Yung-Hee Kim, professor of Korean literature at UH Mānoa, explored the life of writer Park Wan-suh (Bak Wanseo) (1931–2011). Subsequent lectures have ventured into such areas as communication technology and its effects on human life and relationships; the achievements represented by *han'gul*, the Korean alphabet; legal aspects of human rights violations in North Korea; and the food culture of Korea and Japan.

2021 Drs. Sung-Chul Yang and Daisy Lee Yang Lecture
THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF PARASITE

Dr. Ha-Joon Chang presents an analysis of the political economy of inequality in South Korea today using the first-ever non-English-language winner of the Academy Award for Best Picture, *Parasite*. Particular attention is paid to the interactions between the economic structure, the regulatory regime, the welfare state, and the education system that have generated the uniquely Korean dynamic of inequality and conflicts portrayed in *Parasite*.

Dr. Ha-Joon Chang teaches economics at the University of Cambridge. He earned his MPhil and Ph.D. degree at the University of Cambridge after graduating from Seoul National University in South Korea. He has published 16 authored books and 11 edited books, including *The Political Economy of Industrial Policy*, *Kicking Away the Ladder*, *Bad Samaritans*, *23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism*, and *Economics: The User's Guide*.

Moderator
TAE-UNG BAIK
Professor of Law
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Discussant
SANG-HYOP LEE
Professor of Economics
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

OCTOBER 6, 2021 @ 11:00 AM-12:30 PM HST

Register in advance for this Zoom Webinar event at:
https://hawaii.zoom.us/join/register/0N_Hr4E1E6mQJy_mCEffsQutA
You will receive a confirmation email about joining the event.
The event will also be streamed via the CKS Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ckshawaii>

Drs. Sung-Chul Yang and Daisy Lee Yang endowed this Lecture Series in order to facilitate the regular appearance of eminent scholars of Korean and Asian affairs at the University of Hawai'i Mānoa campus. The series was established to "contribute to the building of common ground that our world needs in order to resolve conflict and create a more peaceful world."

The Center for Korean Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
The University of Hawai'i is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

Programs and Publications

KOREAN FILM SERIES

The CKS periodically presents themed film series offering a variety of cinematic fare. Past series have featured golden-age comedies of the late 1950s and early 1960s; noteworthy works of some of Korea's best-known directors of the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s; films dramatizing changing family and gender relations in contemporary Korea; works dealing with the growing ethnic diversity in Korea; representations of the lives of apartment dwellers in contemporary South Korea; and the effects of economic uncertainty of life in current South Korean society. The most recent series dealt with images of women in Korean film. The films are exhibited free of charge in the Center's auditorium and attract viewers from the local community as well as the University campus. The Center also has sponsored occasional conferences and symposia on Korean cinema, the Korean film industry, and television dramas.

COLLOQUIA

The Center's colloquium series brings a wide array of both academic and non-academic lectures and discussions to the University and local communities. Since the inauguration of the series in 1973, the CKS has sponsored almost three hundred colloquia. Topics have ranged from linguistics to North/South Korea security issues; from contemporary Korean literature to traditional Korean history and culture; and from Korean dance to Korean legal education. Recent colloquia have dealt with the invention of *han'gul*, overseas adoptions, and North Korean relations with Czechoslovakia. The Center frequently takes advantage of visitors to Hawai'i to offer colloquium-goers the most recent scholarship by authorities from Asia and Europe as well as North America.

CONFERENCES

Scholarly conferences have been a staple of CKS activities from its earliest years, with emphasis on events that are both interdisciplinary and international in scope. The various conferences have addressed, for

instance, modernity in colonial Korea; Korean and Japanese linguistics; mutual perceptions of Koreans and Americans; developing textbooks; Korean drama; evolving understanding of Goryeo culture and society; and peace and unification on the Korean peninsula. Some recent conferences include: "Beyond Income Inequality: Exploring Dimensions of Inequality in Korea" in 2019, "Intersectionality of History, Socio-political Consciousness, and Gender: Modern and Contemporary Korean Women Writers and Their Works" in 2019, "Symposium on Zainichi Literature and Culture" in 2019, "Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the March First Movement" in 2019, "Plantation Children: Broadcasting Histories of Second-Generation Koreans in Hawai'i" in 2019, "North Korea as Transnational Space" in 2020, "Stories of Korean Immigrants in Hawai'i in 2020, "K-Pop Culture and Korean Diaspora: A Critical Studies on K-pop culture and Korean diaspora in Chile, Brazil, and the U.S." in 2020, "Comfort Women: History, Justice, Atonement" in 2021, "Empires in Motion: Colonial Diaspora and Cultural Production in the Shadow of the Japanese Empire" in 2022, "Korean Laws from Comparative Perspectives" in 2022, and "The 23rd World Korea Forum" in 2022. Moreover, the CKS is a



member of the Worldwide Consortium of Korean Studies Centers and hosted its annual workshop in 2009. In 2014, the Center, in concert with the

Programs and Publications

Academy of Korean Studies, hosted the Seventh World Congress of Korean Studies.

EXHIBITIONS, PERFORMANCES, AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Art and performance exhibitions and workshops supplement the Center's lectures, symposia, and colloquia. Center-sponsored programs over the years have featured a variety of dance programs, including performances of works from classical and folkdance traditions. Musical offerings have included both solo and ensemble performances of traditional music. Buddhist ritual performing arts have also been featured.

Exhibitions of art forms have also spanned a wide range encompassing traditional Korean costume, works constructed of pressed flowers, Korean masks, *hangeul* calligraphy, replicas of military signaling kites, the Korean wrapping cloths known as *bojagi*, contemporary textile and fashion design, modern graphic and ceramic arts, photography of the Korean War era, historic photographs of Seoul from the 1960s, and paintings by individual contemporary artists.

In the fall of 2014, the CKS presented a program of readings by South Korea's preeminent contemporary poet, Ko Ŭn, and his principal English-language translator Brother Anthony of Taizé. A symposium in 2016 featured readings by contemporary South Korean poets Lee Si-Young, Kim Seung-Hee, and Kim Soo-Bok. Also in 2016, the Center hosted a presentation by Gong Ji-Young, a best-selling novelist and one of the most popular "new wave" women writers in South Korea. Special programs in 2018 included a lecture and a workshop on Korean paper (*hanji*) led by Aimee Lee, the leading U.S. *hanji* researcher and practitioner. A symposium in March of 2019 presented research papers and

discussions on the lives of the so-called Zainichi Koreans of Japan and showcased works of the poet Kim Ri-bak. In April 2021, during the pandemic, the CKS held a virtual exhibition: "Korean Organizations in Hawai'i: Dongji Hoi, Korean Women's Relief Society, and Korean National Association."

On September 23, 2021, the CKS was honored to welcome South Korea's President Moon Jae-in and First Lady Kim Jung-sook. The University President David Lassner, Provost Michael Bruno, CALL Dean Peter Arnade, and CKS Director Tae-Ung Baik greeted President Moon in front of the Center building. Professor Hye-Ryeon Lee served as MC of the awarding ceremony. President Moon came to the CKS to confer South Korea's Order of Merit to two Korean Hawaiian families Nodie Kim and Chung Song Ahn, two patriots who campaigned for Korea's independence from Hawai'i during the Japanese colonial period.



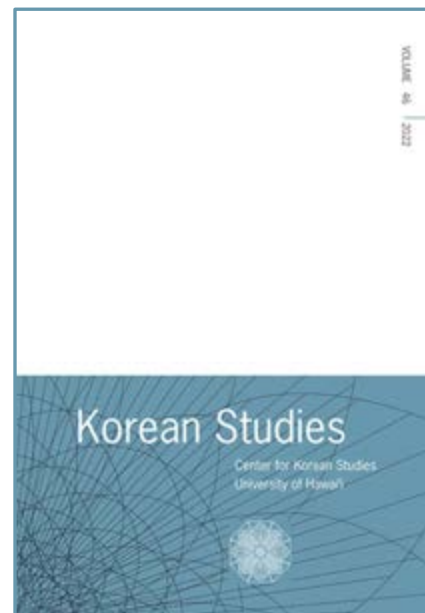
Programs and Publications

PUBLICATIONS

To advance international understanding of Korea and to stimulate original research on topics related to Korea, the CKS publishes a scholarly journal, a book series, and other items of interest to scholars and students of Korea.

Korean Studies

To provide a regular outlet for scholarly writing on Korea, the CKS, in cooperation with the University of Hawai'i Press, began publishing its journal, *Korean Studies*, in 1977. This annual peer-reviewed publication provides a forum for discourse on a variety of topics, especially through interdisciplinary and multicultural articles, book reviews, and essays in the humanities and social sciences. The Center welcomes scholarly articles on Korea and Koreans abroad, including those on topics of interest to the specialist and non-specialist alike. The journal is invaluable for Korea specialists as well as others whose interests touch on Korea, the Korean community abroad, or Asian, ethnic, and comparative studies. It is available both in printed form and as an electronic edition through Project Muse (muse.jhu.edu/journals/ks/). Guidelines for submission of can be found online at uhpress.hawaii.edu/title/ks/.



Hawai'i Studies on Korea Book Series

The CKS regularly publishes scholarly books in association with the University of Hawai'i Press. The *Hawai'i Studies on Korea* series presents the best available writing on Korea in the social sciences and humanities. Book-length manuscripts published in the series cover such topics as history and biography, international relations, language and linguistics, and literature. Titles in the series, all available through booksellers or directly from the University of Hawai'i Press, include:

Flower of Capitalism: South Korean Advertising at a Crossroads by Olga Fedorenko, 2022.

Between the Streets and the Assembly: Social Movements, Political Parties, and Democracy in Korea by Yoonkyung Lee, 2022.

Invented Traditions in North and South Korea by Andrew David Jackson, Codruța Sîntionean, Remco Breuker, and CedarBough Saeji, 2021.

Surviving Imperial Intrigues: Korea's Struggle for Neutrality amid Empires, 1882-1907 by Sangpil Jin, 2021.

Divorce in Korea: Doing Gender and the Dynamics of Relationship Breakdown by Yean-Ju Lee, 2020.

Imperatives of Care: Women and Medicine in Colonial Korea by Sonja M. Kim, 2019.

Catholics and Anti-Catholicism in Chosŏn Korea by Don Baker with Franklin Rausch, 2017.

Eastern Learning and the Heavenly Way: The Tonghak and Chondogyo Movements and the Twilight of Korean Independence by Carl F. Young, 2014.

Death, Mourning, and the Afterlife in Korea: Ancient to Contemporary Times by Charlotte Horlyck and Michael J. Pettid, 2014.

Non-Traditional Security Issues in North Korea by Kyung-Ae Park, 2013.

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Soldiers on the Cultural Front: Developments in the Early History of North Korean Literature and Literary Policy by Tatiana Gabrussenko, 2010.

Questioning Minds: Short Stories by Modern Korean Women Writers by Yung-Hee Kim, 2009.

Koreo-Japonica: A Re-evaluation of a Common Genetic Origin by Alexander Vovin, 2009.

Sitings: Critical Approaches to Korean Geography by Timothy R. Tangherlini and Sallie Yea, 2007.

Crisis in North Korea: The Failure of De-Stalinization, 1956 by Andrei N. Lankov, 2007.

And So Flows History (Yeoksa neun heureunda) by Hahn Moo-Sook, translation by Young-Key Kim-Renaud, 2005.

Voices from the Straw Mat: Toward an Ethnography of Korean Story Singing by Chan E. Park, 2003.

Education Fever: Society, Politics, and the Pursuit of Schooling in South Korea by Michael J. Seth, 2002.

Min Yŏng-hwan: A Political Biography by Michael Finch, 2002.

Laying Claim to the Memory of May: A Look Back at the 1980 Kwangju Uprising by Linda Lewis, 2002.

The Ilse: First-Generation Korean Immigrants in Hawai'i, 1903–1973 by Wayne Patterson, 2000. ■





The Center's mission is to support Korea-related programs within the instructional system of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The Center does not confer degrees directly. Those pursuing Korean studies do so within one of the University's regular departments or programs. Students interested in Korea take courses from the Asian Studies Department, which allows students to pursue a multidisciplinary approach. The Asian Studies Department offers a number of Korea-specific courses but also draws upon the offerings available from other departments. Competence in the Korean language is considered fundamental, and achievement of language proficiency is a required part of the degree program. The East Asian Languages and Literatures Department is another popular academic unit and offers students an opportunity to study Korean language and literature, emphasizing language competence with related courses in literature. Language courses in Korean levels 1–5 integrate the four basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening comprehension. B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees are available in Korean language. EALL's federally funded Korean Language Flagship Center is the first and only Korean language center in the United States dedicated to cultivating specialists with professional-level proficiency in Korean. Students may also pursue degrees in a traditional academic discipline with a focus on Korea. Korean studies students can choose to major in political science, history, sociology, or economics, for instance.

HAMILTON LIBRARY

Begun in 1943, the Korea Collection at Thomas H. Hamilton Library was the first Korea collection in the United States. With more than 67,000 holdings in Korean, it is the fourth largest such collection in the nation and emphasizes the arts, the humanities, business, and social sciences. The library participates with eleven other university libraries in the United States and Canada in the cooperative collection development program of the Korean Collections

Consortium of North America, funded by the Korea Foundation. The University of Hawai'i's responsibilities in this resource-sharing program are to build a comprehensive collection on Jeju Island, architecture, history to 1392, modern social conditions, nationalism, public health, traditional music, and urban planning and urban studies. Another responsibility as a part of this program is the acquisition of resources on Korea and Koreans published in Europe. Among the Korea Collection's notable resources are microfilms of the

Teaching, Resources, Scholarships

Kyujanggak collection (Joseon dynasty royal collections); microfilms of the Imanishi Collection of Korean historical sources owned by Tenri Central Library, Japan; colonial documents from the Government General of Korea; and many materials from in North Korea. In 2008, the Korean Film Council selected the University as a participant in its Support Program for Hub-Libraries for Korean Film Studies. This program provides published material related to Korean films as well as Korean film dvds to major libraries outside Korea in order to support Korean film studies scholars and students. The library also provides access to on-line data sources such as the E-Korean studies Database; the National Digital Library; archives of major newspapers; the DBPIA searchable database of full-text articles in scholarly journals published in Korea; and the Knowledge Information Service System (KISS) database. The current Korean studies librarian is Ellie Kim. The former Korean studies librarian was Jude Yang.

THE CKS COLLECTION

The Center maintains a collection of archival and manuscript that includes the McCune-Becker Collection, consisting of the papers of educational missionary George Shannon McCune, historian George McAfee McCune, geographer Shannon B. McCune, art historian Evelyn Becker McCune, and educational missionary Arthur L. Becker. The CKS holds a collection unmatched outside of Korea of materials related to Korean dance. This collection includes:

- The library of performer and teacher Kim Cheonheung (1909–2007), recognized during his lifetime as a National Living Treasure. The collection consists of approximately fourteen hundred items, including books, journals, audio and video recordings, and ephemeral items related to Kim's career.
- The Halla Huhm Dance Collection, which contains some eight thousand photographs, films, newspaper clippings, performance programs, items of correspondence, awards, and related ephemera documenting the career of Halla Pai Huhm (1922–

1994). Huhm was a key figure in preserving Korean dance in Hawai'i. This collection documents her contribution to the lives of Island Korean residents.

- The dance research collection of Judy Van Zile, professor emerita of the University of Hawai'i Department of Theatre and Dance. The collection includes research materials, field notes, photographs, audio and visual materials, and many published works.

Other major holdings include records of the Hawai'i Dongjihoe, an organization closely associated with Syngman Rhee; a collection of records related to the Korean Christian Church of Honolulu; the papers of Korean Y.W.C.A. leader Esther Park; papers of a number of individuals prominent in the Hawai'i Korean community, including Susan Chun Lee, Sun Il Lee, Agnes Rho Chun, and Donald C. W. Kim; interviews with a small number of Korean "picture brides"; videotaped interviews of descendants of the first Korean immigrants to Hawai'i conducted by Roberta W. S. Chang; audio recordings compiled in Korea in the early 1950s by Theodore R. Conant; and the papers of former U.S. government official Robert A. Kinney.

The CKS participates in the University of Hawai'i library's ScholarSpace Digital Repository. The Center's contribution to the repository includes transcribed ships' manifests recording Koreans arriving at Honolulu from 1903 to 1905; a transcribed list of World War II Korean prisoners of war held in Hawai'i's Honouliuli internment camp; rosters of early members and ministers of Korean Christian churches in the Islands; and other items related to the history of Koreans in Hawai'i.

Since 2014, the CKS has participated in the Korea Foundation library internship program. As part of its Global Challengers program, the Foundation supports one-year internships for certified young Korean librarians desiring to gain working experience in academic libraries abroad. At the University of Hawai'i, library interns typically divide their time between working in the University's Hamilton Library and working with the Center's collections.

Teaching, Resources, Scholarships

In the Center's collections, Korea Foundation interns have completed an inventory of the records of the Korean Christian Church of Honolulu; carried out a preliminary arrangement and description of the Judy Van Zile Korean Dance Collection; prepared an inventory of the papers of Donald C. W. Kim; and compiled an inventory and finding aid for the George M. McCune papers; and compiled an inventory of the Susan Chung Lee Collection.

The CKS also houses a small library built largely on personal collections donated to the Center. Among these are the libraries of former Smithsonian Institution anthropologist Eugene I. Knez; University of Washington literature professor Doo Soo Suh; author Inez Kong Pai; and University of Hawai'i faculty members Hugh H. W. Kang, Yong-ho Ch'oe, Edward J. Shultz, Judy Van Zile, and Alice Yun Chai. To find out more about the Center's special collections, please visit cksopac.manoa.hawaii.edu.

CKS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Center for Korean Studies prides itself on the support it extends to younger scholars as well as to those more established in their areas of expertise. In conjunction with the School of Pacific and Asian Studies, the CKS administers the following scholarships. Recipients of scholarships are chosen on a competitive basis by the Student Affairs Committee. Information about application deadlines and procedures can be found on the CKS website.

CKS Graduate Scholarships range up to \$2,500 and are available for full-time graduate students at UH Mānoa who demonstrate a commitment to Korea-related studies. Scholarships generally cover attendance at conferences, workshops, and some types of fieldwork, as well as support for special thesis and tuition needs.

CKS Undergraduate Scholarships. This \$5,000 scholarship provides assistance to undergraduate students with a commitment to Korea-related studies at UH Mānoa. It is open to both U.S. citizens and international students.

B. Y. Choy Endowment Fund. This scholarship established by the late political science professor Bong Youn Choy supports students at UH Mānoa who are pursuing interests related to the peaceful unification of Korea.

The Donald C. W. Kim Scholarship for Korean Studies was established by the Center for Korean Studies to honor of Donald C. W. Kim, a long-time supporter of Korean studies at the University of Hawai'i. It provides financial assistance to top graduate scholars currently doing research in Korea-related studies at UH Mānoa as well as incoming students. The scholarship is open to U.S. citizens and international students.

The Dong Jae and Hyung Ja Lee Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship supports full-time undergraduate students at UH Mānoa who have junior or senior class standing, who are pursuing Korea-related academic interests including, but not limited to, Korean language, literature, culture, politics, or economics.

The Herbert H. Lee Scholarship provides financial assistance of up to \$5,000 to a top graduate or undergraduate student in the field of Korean studies at UH Mānoa. Preference is given to U.S. citizens of Korean ancestry.

The Kim Ch'ŏn-hŭng Memorial Scholarship, honoring Kim Ch'ŏn-hŭng (1909–2007), an extraordinary Korean dancer and musician, seeks to aid students studying Korean dance and music and further understanding of the art forms among the scholarly and broader communities.

The Korean National association/Kook Min Hur Endowed Scholarship commemorates the sacrifices of the Korean patriots of the Korean National Association by assisting students to further their education and

Teaching, Resources, Scholarships

knowledge of Korea and Korean traditions and values. It is open to full-time undergraduate and graduate students pursuing a degree with a focus on Korea.

The N. H. Paul Chung Endowed Graduate Scholarship. This scholarship honoring N. H. Paul Chung was established to provide financial assistance to a top graduate student in Korean studies or a Korea-related field of study.

The Yǒng-Min Endowed Scholarship Fund was established to provide scholarships to assist graduate students in Korean studies or a Korea-related field of study at UH Mānoa. The number and amount of awards are determined by a selection committee each year based on the availability of funds.

The Duk Hee Lee Murabayashi Scholarship provides support for students enrolled in any discipline at UH Mānoa with a focus on or interest in researching Korean Americans in Hawai'i or elsewhere in the United States. The scholarship is available to full-time undergraduate and full-time or part-time graduate students pursuing a degree or certificate. ■





With nearly forty specialists affiliated as faculty members and associate members, the CKS has by far the greatest concentration of Korean studies scholars of any university in the United States.

CURRENT DIRECTOR



Tae-Ung Baik, School of Law

FORMER DIRECTORS



Sang-Hyop Lee, Department of Economics
2013 – 2018

People of the CKS

Yung-Hee Kim, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures
2010 – 2013



Ho-Min Sohn, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures
2004 – 2010



Edward J. Shultz, School of Pacific and Asian Studies
1998 – 2004



Chung Hoon Lee, Department of Economics
1995 – 1998



Dae-Sook Suh, Department of Political Science
1972 – 1995



People of the CKS

CURRENT STAFF

Kortne Oshiro-Chin
Hae In Lee Holden

FORMER STAFF

Ashlee Esteban
Caroline Hiraki
Brandie Houghtailing
Merclyn Labuguen
Michael Macmillan
Linda Miyashiro
Paul Rausch
Jean Tanouye

FULL MEMBERS

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International Research and Fellowship Coordinator,
School of Pacific and Asian Studies
Christopher J. Bae
Professor, Department of Anthropology
Tae-Ung Baik
Professor, William S. Richardson School of Law.
Ph.D
Sang-Yee Cheon
Associate Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures
Han-Byul Chung
Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures
Cheehyung Harrison Kim
Associate Professor, Department of History
Karl E. Kim
Professor, Department of Urban and Regional
Planning
Mary Shin Kim
Associate Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures
Min-Sun Kim
Professor, Department of Communicology
David Krolikoski
Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures

Hye-Ryeon Lee
Professor, Department of Communicology
Sang-Hyop Lee
Professor, Department of Economics
William O'Grady
Professor, Department of Linguistics
Thomas A. Osborne
Professor, Department of Music
Hyoung-June Park
Associate Professor, School of Architecture
Mee-Jeong Park
Associate Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures
Young-a Park
Associate Professor, Department of Asian Studies
S. Ghon Rhee
K. J. Luke Chair of International Banking and
Finance, Shidler College of Business
R. Anderson Sutton
Assistant Vice-Chancellor for International and
Exchange Programs, CALL
Donald R. Womack
Professor, Department of Music
Myungji Yang
Associate Professor, Department of Political
Science

People of the CKS

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Sun-Ki Chai

Professor, Department of Sociology

Erica Soonyoung Chang

Librarian V, Thomas H. Hamilton Library

Sumi Chang

Instructor, Department of East Asian Languages
and Literatures

Andre Haag

Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures

Seunghye Hong

Associate Professor, School of Social Work

Ellie Kim

Korean Studies Librarian, Hamilton Library

Ji Young Kim

Associate Professor, School of Communications

Hye Seung Lee

Instructor, Department of East Asian Languages
and Literatures

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Karl D. Moskowitz

History and Social Economic Development

Duk Hee Lee Murabayashi

Sociology, Urban Planning, Diaspora Studies

RETIRED MEMBERS

Minja Kim Choe

Senior Fellow, East-West Center

Yong-ho Ch'oe

Professor Emeritus, Department of History

Hugh H. W. Kang

Professor Emeritus, Department of History

Joung Im Kim

Associate Professor, School of Communications

Yung-Hee Kim

Professor, Department of East Asian Languages
and Literatures.

Hagen Koo

Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology

Frederick Lau

Professor Emeritus, Department of Music

Byong Won Lee

Professor, Department of Music

Dong Jae Lee

Associate Professor, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures

Yean Ju Lee

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

Andrew Mason

Professor, Department of Economics

Gary Yong Gi Pak

Professor Emeritus, Department of English

Edward J. Shultz

Professor Emeritus, School of Pacific and Asian
Studies

Ho-min Sohn

Professor Emeritus, Department of East Asian
Languages and Literatures

Judy Van Zile

Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance

VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

A cornerstone of the Center's preeminent position as an academic institution is the presence of distinguished visiting scholars. Each year around ten scholars from institutions and universities throughout the world visit the CKS for periods ranging from a minimum of six months to a maximum of twelve months. These visitors are drawn to the CKS by its expert faculty and research facilities, and they, in turn, become valuable resources. ■



My Involvement in the Center's Founding

Hugh H. W. Kang

My story begins back in mid-January of 1965 when Prof. Peter Lee of UH Mānoa asked me about my interest in teaching Korean history in Hawaii. His inquiry soon led to my joint appointment in the Asian Studies Program and the Dept. of History at UH-Mānoa, effective for the Spring Semester of 1965. The rush for my appointment was primarily due to the use of a soft money (federal grant) for the position at the time. Even though my career as a Korea history professor in the United States was thus launched, the position I had occupied at UH-Mānoa at that time was the first and only full-time position for Korean history that had ever been established in this county up to that point. Although the two Ivy League schools of Harvard and Columbia offered courses in

the field of Korean studies at the time, each school had only a single full-time faculty position covering Korean language and culture. Despite holding such a unique position, I somehow could not help but feel at a loss what the future might hold in store for me. Frankly, upon hearing the job offer from Hawaii, what had flashed in my mind was the insular confinement in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and how this confinement might affect the future of my academic career in the U.S. Notwithstanding the flood of uncertainties that had ensued, I still could not and did not erase from my mind the lure of teaching Korean history in Hawai'i, as UH-Mānoa was in the process of building a viable East Asian Studies program then, in

conjunction with the establishment of the federally funded East-West Center on its campus in 1960.

In the initial days of my teaching in Hawai'i, what I had to deal with seemed to be nothing but an uphill battle. To begin with, the Korean history course I taught attracted only a handful of local students who were all seemingly to have enrolled in the course out of mere curiosity. The situation gradually changed when several Peace Corp returnees from Korea and a few novel Korean students from the US mainland had joined the ranks of students in the course. Thus, in less than five years, my teaching load had become too heavy to handle all by myself. The History Dept. in recognition of the situation I was in, added a second Korean history position, thus becoming the only institution of higher education outside of Korea that had two full-time positions for Korean history. When a search was launched for a candidate to fill the position, luckily Yong-ho Ch'oe, who had just completed a Ph.D. in East Asian history at the University of Chicago, was found available. So, he was hired at my recommendation. As it had turned out, modern Korea was the field of his specialty that suited my own interest in premodern Korea.

Since the hiring of Prof. Choe had somehow eased my teaching load in the History Dept., I began to ponder on the question of how best Korean studies be promoted abroad. After some soul-searching, what grabbed my mind was a novel idea of creating a center for Korean studies that would serve as a jumping stone to promote Korean studies. As a starting point, I thought of an international conference on traditional Korean society and culture. Since no such meeting had ever been held outside of Korea, holding such a conference itself would constitute a landmark event in the development of Korean studies abroad. So, I decided to organize a conference focusing on traditional Korean society and culture, participated by hand-picked first-rate scholars from Korea. Thus, selected for participation were Professors Lee Ki-baik and Lee Kwang-rin of Sogang University, Lee U-song of Sungkyunkwan University, Kang Chin-chol of Korea

University, Kim Yong-deok of the Chungang University, and Kim Wollyong of the Korean National Museum. In addition, I also decided to invite Prof. Murai Yasuhiko of the International Center for Japanese Studies and Prof. Yasuda Motohisa of the Gakushuin University in Japan, as well as two China specialists from the US mainland to participate in the conference. (No US visa was issued to Chinese citizens in the PRC at that time.)

When the international conference was finally held at UH-Mānoa in the fall of 1971, I had the Korean participants present a thematic presentation in their respective fields of expertise, which was followed by China and Japan specialists, each commenting on the Korean presentations. Although this array of presentations in no fewer than four different languages had caused a problem in translation, the meeting was nevertheless concluded with success, yielding unprecedented results of considerable value and paving the way for the subsequent establishment of a center for Korean studies at UH-Mānoa. The conference at its conclusion also witnessed the formation of an ad hoc committee, composed of Professors Herb Barringer, Peter Lee, Glenn Paige, Dae-sook Suh, and myself with the aim of creating a center for Korean studies at UH-Manoa. Prof. Dae-sook Suh's inclusion in the committee as its chairman was my idea even though he held no formal position in the UH at that time. Still holding his position at the University of Houston in Texas, he was in Hawai'i as a visiting fellow at the East-West Center. Why did I suggest his inclusion in the committee? To make a long story short, I first met him in 1967 when I wrote a review of his first book, *The Korean Communist Movement, 1918-1948*, for the American Historical Review of the American Historical Association. Hence my initial impression of him was largely shaped by his study of the Korean Communist movement at a time when no Korean scholar in one's sane mind would dare to touch the subject, much less study it. It was after I got to know him better, I became aware of his personal background as the son of a Christian pastor in Gando, a town just north of the northeastern border

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of the Korean peninsula. It might have been this religious background that provided him with a sense of enough security to pursue the study of the Communist movement in Korea. But, until I became aware of his background, his choice of the Communist movement for the subject of a Ph.D. dissertation and his subsequent study of the North Korean Communist leader Kim Il-Sung all appeared to manifest admirable courage for someone from South Korea. Thus, being impressed by his courageous scholarly pursuits, I was drawn to him as a friend and close colleague, eventually making a call for his unusual inclusion in the ad hoc committee as its chairman.

Since the ad hoc committee's immediate aim was to win the UH administration's support for our proposed establishment of a center for Korean studies at UH-Mānoa, the committee's first attempt was to approach Vice President for Academic Affairs Stuart Brown to seek his help. To our delight, a prompt response from his office was that he would submit our proposal for the CKS to the UH Board of Regents for

consideration. When the Board's deliberation became known to us, it had, to our surprise, not only the Board's approval of the proposed CKS establishment but also unsolicited advice stressing the importance of requesting as many position counts as possible for the center to be established. The upshot of this advice was the subsequent allocation of five position counts to the center, which were distributed to the positions of a CKS Director, an executive assistant, a secretary, and a Korean studies librarian, while a remaining position count was kept for future use. The position allocation was then followed by the appointment, at my recommendation, of Prof. Dae-Sook Suh of the University of Houston as the CKS Director. Prior to his appointment though, I had to request the History Dept. to transfer a quarter of my position count to the Dept. of Political Science so that he would have a position count in a UH department. Thus, the role I played in the creation of the first and only center for Korean studies in the United States does exhibit underlying work before the CKS became a reality in 1972. ■



The 1978 Committee for Korean Rights

Yong-ho Ch'oe

For three days from August 16 to 18, 1978, *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, one of the two major newspapers in Hawai'i, carried a series of articles on what it called "Korean Bars." When I first arrived in Hawaii in 1970, the term "Korean Bars" was openly used publicly without anyone challenging it. The ethnic identity of the term was strongly prejudicial to the Korean immigrants in Hawaii.

The exposé articles of the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* were also closely connected with the bitter political rivalry within the Democratic Party in the State of Hawaii. The year 1978 was an election year for the state governorship, in which the incumbent governor, George Ariyoshi, was being challenged in the primary election by Frank Fasi, who was then the Mayor of Honolulu. In this contest, the key supporters and advisors for Fasi included a number of the second-generation Korean-Americans. The *Star-Bulletin* articles were also an oblique criticism against the Fasi group.

These articles outraged many ethnic Koreans. On September 7, about 20 Korean community leaders met at the Christ United Methodist Church on Keeaumoku Street. All who attended this meeting were members of the recent immigrants from Korea, who were not familiar with American culture and customs. The overwhelming atmosphere at this meeting was to direct their anger toward the owners

and operators of the so-called "hostess bars." They believed that these hostess bars had besmirched the image of the entire Korean ethnic group in Hawai'i. What they wanted was to start a campaign to do away with the entire hostess bars, and toward this end, they wanted to organize a committee called "Purification Committee (정화위원회)" to work toward a total abolishment of "hostess bars" in Hawaii. The term "purification" was popular among the Koreans, as South Korea had just gone through the so-called "Revitalization (*yusin*) Period."

It was at this meeting that I got involved. I explained at first that our displeasure and protests should be directed to the *Star-Bulletin*, not to the "hostess bars" operators, who depended on the earnings of these business operations. At my suggestion, the meeting decided to organize the Committee for Korean Rights (한인권리투쟁위원회) to protest and demand an apology from the newspaper. The Committee then elected Mr. Ha-In Kim (김하인), a retired brigadier general of the Republic Korea Army, as the President. The Committee then organized four subcommittees, and I was appointed as the chief spokesman and the chief negotiator in dealing with the *Star-Bulletin*.

I then drafted a statement, which the Committee approved unanimously as its official position. It stated

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that the *Star-Bulletin* “has inflicted a grievous injury to the good name of the Korean immigrants in Hawai‘i by unfairly identifying the kind of hostess bars that exist in Honolulu simply as ‘Korean bars.’” The kind of the hostess bars in Hawai‘i was a unique product of the Hawaiian environment, and they were in fact as much American, Japanese, and Hawaiian as Korean in their origin and nature. To identify them with just one ethnic group would be prejudicial to the interest of that group.

At first, I met the Executive Editor of the *Star-Bulletin* alone, and explained our position, showing him the official statement. Then, in the name of the Committee, I demanded an apology from the newspaper. The editor was not very cooperative. In fact, when I met him for the second time on September 20, accompanied by several Committee members and journalists, he was downright hostile to us, shouting extremely abusive words. The Committee then decided to stage public demonstrations demanding an apology in front of the newspaper building on Sunday, October 1.

On September 27, I received a telephone call at my office at UH Mānoa from the office of Mr. Phillip T.

Gialanella, the Publisher of the *Star-Bulletin*, asking me to meet with representatives of the Committee. On the following day, Rev. T. Samuel Lee (이동진) and I visited the publisher’s office. Mr. Gialanella was accompanied by Mr. A.A. Smyer, the editorial writer of the newspaper. The meeting went very amiably and convivially. Mr. Gialanella stated that his newspaper had consistently maintained the policy of fairness without prejudice to all ethnic groups in Hawai‘i. But the use of the term of “Korean bars” was an unfortunate mistake, and the newspaper was willing to express its regret to the Korean community.

On September 30, the day before the scheduled demonstration, the *Star-Bulletin* carried the official statement of the Committee for Korean Rights, which I wrote in the name of Mr. Ha-In Kim, the President of the Committee. In response to it, the newspaper wrote an editorial, in which it formally apologized to the Korean community for the use of the term of “Korean bars.” The Committee then cancelled the demonstration.

Thereafter, no one publicly used any ethnic names to label the hostess bars. ■



The Center, Korean Dance, My Research

Judy Van Zile

It's impossible to reflect on my relationship to the Center for Korean Studies without acknowledging the tremendous role the Center has played in my professional life—a role for which I am eternally grateful.

I came to UH in 1971 to teach dance ethnology and help develop degree programs. Shortly after arrival, a UH course introduced me to Korean dance. The seed planted by this experience began to sprout when a Korean ethnomusicology faculty member suggested I pursue research on Korean dance. The sprout blossomed when I joined the Center's faculty, which brought support of many kinds that has continued beyond my 2010 retirement into the present.

It's easy to look at the Center's support from a monetary perspective—countless grants that facilitated research, teaching, and the creation of special projects. But that support could not have happened without the commitment of individuals and committees within the Center—commitment that encouraged me to expand my knowledge about Korea, to foster the knowledge of Korean dance in diverse academic communities as well as Hawai'i's community, and to constantly re-focus the lens through which I looked at Korean dance.

The 1997 invitation to join the Center was an honor that opened the door to friendships and

understandings. Specialized training in movement analysis and written movement documentation contributed to my early studies that focused on how the body is used in dances specifically identified as being “Korean.” But regularly interacting with the Center's faculty from diverse disciplines pushed me to venture into uncharted territory. To realizing how much can be learned about a culture from its language. Seeing the effects of colonization on individuals and entire cultures. The limitations of looking at movement and dances without digging into historical events of the times in which they emerged. Attempting to unravel the details of rich pictorial representations of court dances. Seeing the impact of gendered attitudes on how and why people move the way they do, and how people choose to represent themselves to others in diaspora and tourist settings.

These shifting research focuses took me to Korea many times, to archives and conferences in the US, Asia, and Europe, and to creating special projects for people to experience Korean dance through both viewing and participating in it. National and international guest teaching, lectures, and conference presentations enabled me to introduce individuals in various fields of study to the worlds of Korean dance; to publish extensively, including a book on Korean dance that garnered an Outstanding Publication award from a major scholarly organization; and to receive a

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special award from a dance critics' association in Korea. Very little of this could have been accomplished without the support and encouragement of the Center and its members.

Besides supporting my own work, the Center brought to UH and the Hawai'i community some of Korea's finest dancers to perform and teach, as well as dance critics to join seminars. They brought university students from Korea to Honolulu to interact in a workshop and performance with UH students and facilitated a course in which UH students studied masked dance-drama on campus and then attended a festival in Korea. Through relationships they established, the Center now houses what may be one of the most significant collections of Korean dance

materials outside Korea, collections that include not only my own research materials but documents representing Halla Pai Huhm's role in establishing Korean dance in Hawai'i, and materials owned and created by Korean National Living Treasure Kim Cheonheung, acknowledged for his work with court dance and music and in whose memory there is now an endowed scholarship at the Center.

Most of my work on Korean dance could easily bear a statement of co-authorship or co-leadership by Center members. It is to all of them that I express my heartfelt 감사합니다, and my hopes that the Center will continue to support, well into the future, activities that embrace Korean dance performance, research, and teaching. ■



My Experience with the CKS

Ho-min Sohn

My CKS membership began with its inception in 1972. I recall that the CKS was housed in a few rooms in Moore Hall where a dozen or so of us regularly held meetings. I witnessed the lengthy, rough progression of the CKS building to its completion towards the end of 1979.

My academic growth owed tremendously to the CKS. Above all, I was employed to a tenure-track position in Korean language and linguistics in 1972, a position that obviously the university created to help the CKS, as the Korean language is a foundation for Korean studies, and Korean linguistics is an essential sub-area of Korean studies.

During the 43 years in this position, I strived to upgrade our feeble Korean language-training program to the foremost academic degree program in the nation in terms of enrollments, degree programs, faculty strength, and the number of Ph.D. graduates. The CKS rendered support to our endeavors, directly or indirectly. For instance, all our national or international conferences on Korean language/linguistics were held with a CKS support. When we proposed our programs for a B.A. in Korean, M.A. and Ph.D. in Korean language/linguistics, and M.A. and Ph.D. in Korean literature, one of our strongest arguments was that all such programs were indispensable to achieving the goals of CKS.

In 1994, we received a one-million-dollar grant from the Korea Foundation through CKS to conduct an international project for college-level Korean language textbook development (under my directorship). So far, twenty-three textbooks have been developed and published by the University of Hawai'i Press as bestsellers.

I served as the fourth CKS director (2004-2010), following Professors Dae-Sook Suh, Chung Lee, and Edward Shultz. The job was both challenging and fulfilling. One initiative of mine as CKS director was the creation of a rotating faculty endowment in the UH Foundation. The lack of Korea specialists in several core departments led me to think that an efficient way to recruit multiple Korea-related faculty was to establish a \$2 million endowment (\$1 million Korea Foundation grant plus \$1 million matching fund) and, with the interest proceeds, recruit tenure-track faculty, one in every four years. This idea was approved by the CKS faculty in general and the Chancellor. Following the Korea Foundation's approval of the \$1 million grant, we launched a strenuous but rewarding campaign to raise the matching fund through the Hawai'i community and Korea. Before my term ended, we raised 93% of the matching fund. Professor Yung-Hee Kim, my successor, reached the 100% goal in 2011.

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Another initiative of mine as CKS director was the establishment of the Korean Language Flagship Center (KLFC) on campus in 2008, the only such center in the nation, with multi-million-dollar continual grants (\$500,000 - \$1 million per year) from the National Security Education Program of the US Department of Defense. We created the B.A. and M.A. programs in Korean Language Flagship, whose unique purpose is to train students to become Korea specialists with the native-like ability in Korean language. I served as the inaugural KLFC director for

seven years until I retired in 2015 and was succeeded by Professor Sang-Yee Chun.

We are indeed blessed to have the CKS, thanks to the foresights of the founding members. My academic life was enriched synergically as both a department faculty and a CKS member. CKS is an invaluable hub where we can creatively do a wide variety of Korea-related activities that we cannot readily do in a department. All members are encouraged to make the best use of CKS, as I did. CKS will continue to thrive with the collective wisdoms and academic activities of the members and Korea studies-related students. ■



Advancing and Transforming with the Center

Hagen Koo

I joined the faculty of UH sociology in 1981. Previously, I taught at the University of Memphis for six years after finishing my degree at Northwestern University. One thing that struck me the most when I came to UH was the enthusiasm shown by several senior scholars here toward building a Korean studies center. Honestly, I was not convinced why we needed such a center in the United States. Korean studies? What for? For Whom? Until that time, I had tried to stay away from being identified as someone who is working primarily on Korea. My academic training at Northwestern University and the sociological community that I aspired to showed little respect to academicians who are classified as area specialists. Besides, until the early 1980s, Korea had been regarded as a relatively poor, or at best, a newly developing country, and writing about Korea could generate hardly any serious interest among sociologists in the States. So, my desire was just to make myself a first-rate mainstream sociologist. I did not join the membership of the Association of Asian Studies and had not attended any Korea or Asia focused meetings until much later. And I tried to publish only in recognized sociology journals. In retrospect, I was a little too sensitive to this issue (a sort of minority complex?), but in the long run I believe such an orientation helped me to establish my position in the sociological community.

But the UH atmosphere and my frequent contacts with Korea scholars here slowly changed my perspective, that is, to realize that it would be worthwhile trying to become both an area specialist and a scholar respected in a given disciplinary field. Then, in the 1980s, I was invited to join the Joint Committee on Korean Studies at the Social Science Research Council and later to assume its chairship. At that time, this committee played the most influential role in promoting Korean studies in America and distributing scarce research funds to Korea-related research. But within the SSRC, the Korea committee was the tiniest and least recognized committee, especially compared to the richly-funded and influential Japanese studies committee at that time. That motivated me to produce something to justify the Korea committee. With the funding from the SSRC, I was able to bring together some of the most respected scholars in Korean studies and produced an edited volume, *State and Society in Contemporary Korea* (Cornell University Press, 1993), which was well received and is still well cited. These activities encouraged me to get more actively involved in Korean studies both at the UH and internationally.

Looking back at my earlier years at UH Mānoa, I remember how hard my senior colleagues worked to develop the Center for Korean Studies here. They were indeed the first-generation pioneers in Korean

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studies in America, including Dae-Sook Suh, Glenn Page, Peter Lee, Yong-ho Ch'oe, Hugh Kang, and Ho-Min Sohn, all distinguished scholars in their own fields and deeply committed to establishing the best Korean studies center at UH Mānoa. Professor Dae-Sook Suh played a pivotal role in raising funds for constructing the CKS building and dealing with the UH administration skillfully to carve out the Center's own space within the university. After they laid the groundwork for the Center, a few others arrived at the

UH to assist them, including Ned Shultz, Byong Won Lee, Chung H. Lee, Yung-Hee Kim, Willian O'Grady, and myself. We had many exciting times during the growth period of the Center and played our due roles in expanding and consolidating the CKS. Now, we are happy to see this Center's activities taken over by a much larger and diversified group of younger, competent, and energetic colleagues. Bravo! Congratulations to the Center for Korean Studies at its 50th anniversary! ■



Representing the University of Hawai'i at its Finest

Edward Shultz

While working at a Peace Corps training facility in 1967, I started thinking about attending graduate school in Korean studies. Glenn Paige had been at our Peace Corp training center in Hilo a year earlier and had just transferred from Princeton to the University of Hawai'i. Paige's enthusiasm for Korean studies at UH was contagious. I had the option to wait to enter grad school at one of the elite East Coast schools in the fall or start in Hawai'i in January 1968. It was an obvious choice as Hawai'i had at that time five faculty members focusing on Korea while most programs on the mainland had one or two with a Korea interest. Furthermore, Glenn Paige extolled the work of his colleagues, who in 1968 included Peter Lee in literature, Hugh Kang in history, Woody Pitts in geography, and Herb Barringer in sociology. These five men, with support from other faculty, became the foundation that set the Center for Korean Studies in motion. It would take another four or five years to become fully established but CKS was a vision that started then.

Although these five professors were at the heart of CKS, Hawai'i in the late 60s was an exciting place with several institutions and people promoting the study of Asia and Korea. The East-West Center attracted a number of skilled graduate students as there were limited opportunities for overseas study in the United States. The Social Science Research Center

lent its weight to see a Korea center at UH. Outside funding arrived as the Ford Foundation selected Hawaii as one of its five universities to focus on Korea. Strength also came from Hawaii's active Korean community that was proud of Korea's heritage and eager to counter an occasional negative taste from the horrors of the Korean War.

As the faculty began to build the campaign to establish the CKS, the first of its kind in the US, and actually predating the other area centers at UH Mānoa as well, they invited students into the process. Korean studies graduate students comprised local kids (like Wilma Sur), mainland students (like myself), and students from Korea, who would return to their home country and contribute to higher education there. Many of us were active and enthusiastic about seeing a Center established. When the proposal was sent to the Board of Regents, we as graduate students met with several on the Board of Regents who might have been reluctant to embrace the idea of a center. I recall meeting one such regent with several other students and discussing why we should have a Center for Korean Studies, and I guess one of the strongest arguments that the regent embraced was "Why shouldn't UH be the best in something other than basketball in the Western Athletic Conference?" Listening to the faculty and the community as well as students, the Board of Regents agreed that UH was

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better situated than any other campus in the US to have a Center for Korean Studies, and in flowed support.

Having an actual building was still several years off, but the Center soon had a fledgling office, first in the Social Science Research Center then on University Avenue. CKS moved to an office in Moore Hall in the

mid-70s and finally occupying our current location in the early 80s. From its conception the Center for Korean Studies has prospered and today boasts diverse faculty striving and succeeding to meet the goals of the initial dreamers from more than fifty years ago. ■



Where Faculty, Staff, and Community Come Together

Yung-Hee Kim

The Center for Korean Studies at UH Mānoa is the brainchild of a group of far-sighted, first-generation scholars in Korean studies, who were committed to making Korea an essential component in East Asian studies. Their pioneering visions, courage, and teamwork enabled the historic establishment of the Center in 1972, the first of its kind in the United States. This momentous deed was a powerful public statement, proclaiming the absolute necessity of promoting and fostering knowledge about Korea not only at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa but also in American academia at large. Thanks to the trailblazing endeavors of these founding members and the ventures of their successors in the ever-expanding, diversified Korean field over half a century, the Center has now taken its place as the hub of Korean studies worldwide. It is, therefore, befitting that we commemorate and celebrate the Center's past accomplishments as an academic community on its fiftieth anniversary.

One of the most memorable parts of my experience with the Center as its Director (2010-2013) was working with the off-campus supporters—both in the local Korean community and those in Korea. From its founding up to the present, the Center has been blessed with a great number of generous, steadfast benefactors from outside the campus. The numerous CKS scholarships, the Endowed Chair/faculty positions, the named endowments for

faculty research and publication, and the long list of events, conferences, and symposiums sponsored by these donors speak volumes about their invaluable contributions to the Center. Their warm, personal concern for and genial interest in the steady development and growth of the Center indeed remain as the most cherished memory of my service at the Center. No less credit is due to the Center's staff—its mainstay and unsung heroes. They have eminently functioned as seasoned, behind-the-scenes managers of the Center's wide-ranging programs, activities, and external networking. Their experience and expertise, with which they have served the community as well as the CKS members as informational reservoirs, problem-solvers, and ready guides, have been exemplary. I would like to underscore that the staff's practical know-how, efficiency, and partnership have been at the core of the Center's ability to tide over the fluctuating challenges and demands it has faced.

This celebratory occasion, I believe, is also a time for us to collectively deliberate and chart out the Center's future trajectories, with an eye toward its centennial and even beyond. To continue and further advance the Center's missions and legacy, we should spare no effort to nurture and enrich an academic ethos and culture that will encourage among ourselves new, fresh, and innovative ideas, blueprints, and projects. We will also benefit from our cooperative spirit, genuine appreciation of one another's work—be

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it scholarly, administrative, or instructional—and shared aspirations to serve a higher purpose, transcending our professional specialties and different individual goals. Furthermore, we should also extend our effort to strengthen the Center’s outreach initiatives for the local Korean community, especially considering the present absence of a Korean cultural center in Hawaii. Such engagement with the life and needs of the community will truly qualify us an institution of openness and inclusion—all-

encompassing, communal-minded, and multi-dimensional. Inspired and recharged thus, the CKS community will duly serve as a beacon and invigorating scholarly site, where the next generations of Koreanists are educated and trained to maximize the transformative power of their knowledge, imagination, and creativity, and ultimately make a difference wherever they find themselves in the global age of the 21st century. ■



Serving the Community, With a Good Dose of Camaraderie!

Gary Pak

My fond memories of being at the Center for Korean Studies are focused on CKS-sponsored activities that have served the university and community-at-large. I remember the conference we had on Korean TV drama back in 2003 when we brought in a director and writer, and the turnout from the community was *wild!* The CKS auditorium was filled and spilled over into the lobby with a diversity of people from the community, of all ethnic groups and ages — including my own mother! — and it really made me think about the positive impact that Korean culture, *hallyu*, was having on the world. And I remember the impact of the symposium we developed on contemporary Korean cinema and how that initiated a popular film series that ran for several years at the Center.

The CKS has always been a big supporter of my research and was directly responsible for a documentary film series I wrote and produced on the Korean diaspora in Hawai'i; the publication of a novel about the Korean War; and several other unpublished

manuscripts that I hope to publish soon, including a collection of essays about my experiences as a third generation Korean visiting the Motherland for the *very first time* at the ripe age of 50.

But the times that have the most lasting impressions on me are the informal gatherings with fellow CKS colleagues at a member's house or at a restaurant where there were liberal outpourings of amicable words in an intellectual ambiance — even if we disagreed on politics or whatevers — with of course generous servings of food and ample pourings of...well...refreshments. Though I am now recently retired, I look forward to having more of these gatherings!

Looking at a larger picture and into the challenging years ahead, there are three main thoughts I have that have always found support from CKS. First, I wish for the official end of the Korean War. Secondly, I support the just reunification of the Korean peninsula and the Korean people. And finally, I stand passionately for world peace. ■



The CKS Support, From Student to Faculty

Chizuko T. Allen

The CKS has served as a forum for exchange of knowledge regarding Korea and Korean studies for a half century, and I am a beneficiary of its activities. Back in 1987, I was a graduate student in the History Department, trying to make headway in writing my Ph.D. dissertation. The focus of my dissertation was on the historical works of Ch'oe Nam-sŏn (1890-1957), a prominent intellectual and prolific writer in twentieth-century Korea, and I had purchased volumes of his works and collected many secondary source materials during my research in Korea earlier. But I was yet to reconstruct his world view, a key to understanding his strand of nationalism. I searched for his philosophical underpinning that had prompted him to engage in the Patriotic Enlightenment Movement as a teenager and assert Korea's global significance in his historical studies later in his life.

One day, I encountered an article written by Prof. Yi Kwang-nin (Lee Kwang-rin), a distinguished professor of history at Sogang University, Seoul, and read about the impact of Social Darwinism on Korean intellectuals at the turn of the twentieth century. To my amazement, the CKS soon invited Prof. Yi and

hosted a forum featuring his presentation. At the forum in the CKS auditorium, I raised my hand and asked Prof. Yi. Did Social Darwinist ideas provide a framework for early Korean intellectuals and nationalists, such as Ch'oe Nam-sŏn? Prof. Yi's answer was an overwhelming affirmative. His analysis of the intellectual climate in modern Korea's formative years helped me shape my theoretical framework for my dissertation.

In 1995, when I returned to the Mānoa campus as a specialist faculty member at the School of Pacific and Asian Studies, I was welcomed back to the CKS community, first as an associate member and then as a full member. I could not be more pleased that I was now able to work at the CKS together with Profs. Yong-ho Ch'oe and Hugh H.W. Kang, my former academic advisors in the History department. I was also thrilled to see Profs. Ho-min Sohn and Dong Jae Lee, my former Korean language teachers, leading the center. It has been my pleasure to head the CKS Student Affairs Committee and ensure financial assistance is provided to promising students of Korean studies. ■



Korean Studies & The Hawaii Studies on Korea Book Series

Christopher J. Bae

I am delighted and honored to have been invited to contribute this short piece to our Center for Korean Studies 50th Anniversary booklet. I have been an active member of the CKS since my arrival here in 2008 and have served in various positions in the Center. However, perhaps the most demanding position I have served in for our CKS was Editor of our peer-reviewed journal, *Korean Studies*, and the Hawaii Studies on Korea (HSOK) book series from 2016 to 2020.

Over the years, I have served on various editorial boards (e.g., *Journal of Human Evolution*, *Quaternary Science Reviews*, *PLoS ONE*), so figured I was well positioned to accept the position as Editor when then CKS Director, Sanghyop Lee, asked me to take on the responsibility. After taking a close look at the journal and book series and seeing where it currently was at the time and where I could possibly take them, I accepted the position; and as I usually do when deciding to go for it, I jumped in wholeheartedly both feet first. The first step was to bring the journal up to speed and get it into an online submission platform. Fortunately, the University of Hawai'i Press journals division was already working with some of the UH Press journals on such an endeavor, so bringing *Korean Studies* into the fold was fairly easy to do. Admittedly, it did take a lot of hours and contributions by members of our Publications Committee and the

UH Press journals to set up, troubleshoot and make sure everything ran smoothly.

If there is one major contribution that occurred during my time as Editor, it would be this major change to the way we handle our journal submissions. Other changes that occurred during my editorship included changing the Editorial Board to make it more diverse and bring in people who were active in their various fields, publish regularly and see us get into SCOPUS and the Emerging Science Index at least, and to target certain fields for invited publications. In this latter regard, during my tenure, we were able to invite, in addition to our usual array of research articles, book reviews and special issue sections, papers that normally are published in more specialized journals to appear in our journal. Invited papers focusing on Korean politics, economics, and even population genetics appeared over the years and should contribute to increasing citations of *Korean Studies* as specialists in those fields will read and cite these papers.

The book series Hawai'i Studies on Korea was in pretty good shape when I took it over, but under my watch we increased the number of submissions and began to publish about one book monograph a year. Moving forward, we should expect to continue to publish cutting edge monographs in HSOK regularly.

Given the strong foundation that was laid by previous editors of *Korean Studies* and HSOK, I, with a

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lot of help, was able to continue to build up these publications. This is particularly important given that publications are one of the strongest ways we can present what are contributions to Korean Studies generally to a broader audience and help position the CKS as one of the foremost centers internationally. I am eternally grateful and honored for the opportunity

to contribute to these developments, not only for our own Center, but for Korean Studies more generally. As a result of this hard work by past and future editors, I can say, with some degree of confidence, that the future is bright not just for these publications but for the Center as well. ■



Planning Connections, Memories and Future Hopes for CKS

Karl Kim

I am happy to add to the memories of the Center for Korean Studies for the 50th Anniversary monograph. I have been a member since the mid-1980's when I was nominated by Forrest "Woody" Pitts, Professor of Geography at the University of Hawai'i. I had just completed my doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was starting my career as a planning professor, conducting research in Korea on transportation, tourism, and international development. With support from the CKS I did projects in Jeju and in the Korean Autonomous Zone (Yanbian) in China and later throughout the Russian Far East. I also led an ambitious traffic safety research project in Seoul at the peak of its motorization.

I coordinated early Korean film festivals in Honolulu, first with the East-West Center and then later with the startup of the Hawai'i International Film Festival. One of the highlights was getting to meet and introduce Im Kwon-taek way before the current interests in Korean film. I also did a stint as the Editor of *Korean Studies*. My connections with the CKS and the extended community have been rewarding and enlightening. I've been fortunate to have interacted with many of the founding members and long-time supporters including Donald Kim, Duk Hee Murabayashi, Jim Shon, and others who have such aloha for our university.

Duk Hee Murabayashi created a fellowship program to bring planners and faculty members from Jeju to UH which led to several practica, studios and study abroad projects where I took many students to Korea. We did a village preservation plan for a rural community. We hosted many governors and government officials interested in tourism and development and environmental management in Hawai'i. A former student finished his Ph.D. and got a position teaching in Jeju. We continue to interact with our "sister state" and find connections between businesses and civic organizations and interest groups.

I was fortunate to meet and interact with Dae-Sook Suh, the first director of the CKS. He was always very supportive of my research and interests. Other old-timers like Woody Pitts, Herb Barringer, George Won, Glenn Paige, and others connected me with scholars and researchers in Korea and on the continent especially during my early and formative years as a junior faculty member. Once when I left the lights on in my MGB car on in the parking lot of what was then Porteus (now Saunders) Hall, Herb Barringer took the time to find and tell me to turn the lights off. We walked out to the car and had a long talk about Korea and the CKS and sociology and urban planning. Another time, when I was attending a wedding near Santa Rosa, Woody Pitts, who had recently retired and moved to California, and I had breakfast where he told

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me about his work in rural Korea. His work, like others, was pragmatic, earnest, and based on relationships.

When I served as the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the CKS had emerged as one of the truly strong, if not the strongest, area studies centers at UH. Over the years I've met and have continued to interact with many scholars and researchers from other universities throughout the world who we've hosted at the center. The CKS has become a model for other centers to emulate. We have held many high visibility events and the CKS demonstrates what engaged, partnership between town and gown should look like. I have been proud to be a member and of the many accomplishments of our faculty. Part of this was due to the excellent leaders and scholars who built a foundation, shaped the center and negotiated the challenges and transformations occurring in Korea,

between Korea and the United States, and in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. I tell visitors that the *CKS building is the jewel box of the UH campus*. The physical presence of the buildings and grounds reminds us not just of the importance of Korean Studies but also the hard-work, dedication, and perseverance of those who came before us. Hawai'i is a special place because of its location and natural assets but also because of the deep connections and relationships across disciplines, politics, cultures and personalities. We owe a debt of gratitude to the unsung heroes, those behind the scenes, helping to run, administer, maintain, and operate the CKS and ensure its vitality for many more years. May these connections, relationships and commitments to excellence persist long into the future. ■



A Hub for Korean Studies for 50 Years and Counting

Mary Kim

My first encounter with the Center for Korean Studies started at my virtual interview with the search committee looking for a new Korean linguistics professor at UH Mānoa. The committee was sitting in the CKS conference room while I was thousands of miles away in California. The interview must have gone well since I was soon on my way to Hawai'i, and once I arrived it became clear why the interview originated at the CKS. The CKS is a hub for students and faculty members for learning, researching, and serving the Korean community in Hawaii.

The East Asian Languages and Literatures Department, where I am now on the faculty, not only physically faces the CKS building. Many of our Korean language and linguistic courses meet in the CKS classroom, and we hold annual Korean Culture Day events and Korea related conferences and workshop at the center. The CKS may be housed in an iconic and eye-catching traditional building, but it is not simply a building for Korean studies. The CKS is much more.

We coordinate all Korean related UH activities through the CKS and secure financial support from the CKS. This includes the annual Korean Culture Day event, which is organized by the EALL department and held and sponsored by the CKS. This important day provides our undergraduates with important co-curricular experiences and builds ties between UH

Mānoa and the community. Every year, we call upon the expertise of local community artists and organizations to hold this important event. It provides an important venue for UH and the local community to appreciate and promote our multicultural society. Hundreds of attendees from UH, local community organizations, and local high schools take part in experiencing Korean culture through a variety of hands-on activities. The event provides a wonderful chance to promote the Korean program as well as the EALL Department and to develop closer relationships with the local community members.

In 2018, I had the privilege of co-organizing with other UH faculty and CKS members the 25th Japanese Korean Linguistics Conference which was sponsored by and held at the CKS. This conference is one of the top international conferences for Asian Linguistics and working closely with colleagues and faculty from other national and international institutions was especially rewarding as the host for this international academic community. I also had the pleasure to serve on the Task Force Committee for the Center for Korean Studies 40th Anniversary ten years ago. This commemorative program attracted more than 150 individuals nationally and internationally and provided a venue for a dynamic discussion on the future of Korean studies.

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The CKS continues to be more relevant than ever, as it remains a hub for Korean scholars and students to engage and discuss critical issues across the globe related to Korea. Recent skyrocketing interest in Korean culture and language is a global phenomenon

that few could have predicted fifty years ago. For 50 years, the CKS has provided a foundation for Korean studies that has led to this growth, and it will continue to serve as a community hub in the future. ■



A Journey of 50 Years...and Counting

Min-Sun Kim

As we prepare for the auspicious occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of our Center for Korean Studies, the year 2021 also marks the 30th year of my academic career at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. As long back as I remember, the CKS has been building a reputation as the most vibrant and active academic institution outside Korea for the study of all things Korean. The Center for Korean Studies was established at the University of Hawai'i in 1972. The CKS building was built by artisans who were invited from Korea as they were skilled at building traditional Buddhist temples.

When I first arrived at the Manoa campus back in 1991 as an assistant professor, I was housed in Lincoln Hall, right next to the CKS. When I first saw our CKS building, I fell in love with the ambiance of the traditional Korean structure surrounded by beautiful Hawaiian greenery. I had left Korea in 1985 to pursue graduate studies in the U.S. after receiving a B.A. from Ewha University. After years of being away from Korea, seeing a building that resembled a Korean Buddhist temple left a deep impression in my heart in the form of Jeong (정, 情), the root of Korean ethos. Indeed, it reminded me of the unbreakable spiritual cord anchoring me with my ancestral roots.

The CKS is the result of the collective effort of dedicated individuals who devoted their lives to building the most vibrant Center for researching

Korean culture and promoting the understanding of it. The publication is the most prominent area of the Center's activities. It has published innumerable series of manuscripts and research projects, through which the CKS has helped to lay the foundation of Korean Studies as a scholarly discipline.

I am tremendously grateful for the opportunity to have served in the role of Editor from 2010 to 2016 for our journal *Korean Studies* and the book series *Hawaii Studies on Korea*. In this role, I was able to assist many scholars in publishing their work. Along the way, I have met numerous colleagues all around the world. I remember feeling an immediate connection with many of those colleagues as they mentioned our CKS faculty members whom they knew and admired. I basked in the halo of the wonderful reputation of our CKS faculty members as I got to meet a stellar array of scholars from all over the world and from diverse disciplines. I cherished the experience of rediscovering the amazing scholarly work that our CKS faculty members are doing, which has garnered a worldwide reputation for the Center.

I also cherish my experience serving as the Chair of the Outreach Committee from 2018 to 2021, which made me realize the widespread love for Korean culture among the local and global communities. Our dedicated CKS members and partners in our local community have hosted various seminars, and cultural

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events that have raised the awareness and appreciation of Korean culture across the University campus, as well as in the community, both in Hawai'i and abroad.

Being a part of this CKS community has been and will continue to be a cherished part of my thirty-year academic career at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. The legacy of the CKS builds on our rich past but will also be part of the evolving future with successive new generations of the vibrant community of scholars. Currently, many more accomplishments and projects,

which involve close collaboration with universities and scholars in Korea and the rest of the world, are forthcoming at the CKS.

Ah, CKS, dear CKS...

May our Center for Korean Studies in Hawai'i be the academic home for many future generations who share the love of Korea and Korean culture, promoting the understanding of Korea and infusing the global community with the spirit of a new era for a better world! ■



CKS and the Blooming of Korean Culture

David Krolikoski

The Center for Korean Studies feels strangely both in and out-of-place on the University of Hawai'i campus: the verdant greens and browns of its facade matches the natural hues of the Mānoa valley, but the design of its buildings, said to have been inspired by Kyōngbok Palace in center of Seoul, is unlike other structure at the school. One cannot help but stop and admire the center's distinctive architecture on East-West Road, wondering about its history, the work that goes on inside.

Growing up Korean American, I was always looking for a way to reconnect to my roots. As an adoptee who relocated to the United States when I was only four months old, I retained no memories of the country where I was born, only stories that I had been told second-hand. When I was coming of age in the 2000s, Korean popular culture had yet to make it mark overseas. There was no BTS, no *Squid Game*... only imported DVDs, the occasional pop song ("Candy" by H.O.T. comes to mind) my friends shared as MP3s on our iPods.

As someone who is easily drawn by the allure of a good book, I was always on the lookout for Korean literature, but that the time, hardly anything existed in translation, something I couldn't understand as a teenager who could easily find the latest Haruki Murakami novel on the bestsellers shelf at Borders. This would all change with the English-language release of *The Vegetarian* in 2016. The controversial translation was warmly received in the United States

and United Kingdom and awarded the prestigious Man Booker International Prize in the year of its release. In the years since, thanks in no small part to the efforts of industrious translators, more and more Korean literature is finding its way overseas into the hands of curious readers.

I sometimes wonder what it would be like to grow up Korean American now in an age when international Korean culture seems to be in perpetual full bloom. During moments like this I think about my role as a teacher and researcher of Korea, whose very occupation—which is shared by everyone who works at the center—involves bridging worlds, cultures, and languages. It is hard not see my younger self in the faces of my students, many of whom read their first work of Korean fiction in my classes. But I also encounter students who are wholly unlike my past self, whose connection or attachment to Korea takes a form that I could not have possibly imagined.

For the past fifty years, the Center for Korean Studies, fittingly located between Korea and the United States, has played a vital role in building connections across communities and disciplines. In that span of time, the world and Korea's place within it have changed so much. Who knows what the next fifty years will bring? The legacy of the institution, which is cataloged in this booklet, will live on the work that we do, the lives of our students that we continue to shape in small but significant ways. ■



The Center, My Korean Home Away from Korea

Hye-Ryeon Lee

The Center for Korean Studies holds a very special place in my heart. It is the place where I was able to reclaim my Korean heritage and build a network of Korean colleagues and friends. I am truly excited to partake in the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the CKS.

While touring the UH Mānoa campus during my first visit to Hawai'i in the early 90s, I first encountered this beautiful and unmistakably Korean architectural structure. It was jarring and comforting at the same time to see the CKS building standing right on an American university campus. Little did I know then that I would come to work at the UH Mānoa years later, and the CKS will become an academic home for me.

I left Korea in 1986 for my graduate education in America. Life in America in the 80s was not the world of instant access to all things Korean regardless of your geographic location as we know now. I used to subscribe to Korea Times, and the not-so-new newspapers would get to me two to three days after the paper was published in Los Angeles via "snail mail." That and occasional word-of-mouth accounts from my family during expensive international calls were basically all the connections I had to Korea.

My first faculty job was at the University of Arizona, located in Tucson with Korean population size of around a thousand. During the six-year-long stay in Tucson, I would rarely see Koreans. In fact, it took me nearly three years to find a Korean couple who were a

similar age as me. I did not know of any other Korean faculty at the University, and it was out of the question to connect my work to Korean population. Indeed, from 1986 through 2000, I lived my life being mostly cut off from Korean culture. I have entirely missed all of the famous dramas, movies, and music from that period!

Moving to Hawai'i in 2001, I was amazed to see so many Koreans, all these Korean restaurants, and a Korean TV and two radio stations. In addition to reconnecting to Korean heritage socially and culturally, the CKS became the place where I would build my connection back to Korea academically. The CKS was a hub of talented scholars with a wide variety of academic backgrounds, and I was able to find terrific colleagues to work with on projects related to Korea for the first time since I came to America. The first project was to develop and implement a tobacco prevention and cessation program for Korean immigrant populations, and I worked with colleagues Drs. Minja Kim Choe and Min Sun Kim. Since then, the CKS has been an important academic home for me to develop several collaborative research projects, to connect and build friendships with many talented, good-hearted, and fun colleagues. So, my deepest gratitude goes to all those who came before me, whose work built this beautiful institution for all of us to enjoy. May the CKS continue on its legacy for many more decades! ■



My Life's Golden Age: A Personal Perspective

Sang-Hyop Lee

I had served as Director of the Center for Korean Studies for five years, between August 1, 2013, and July 31, 2018. I stood for election then because the future of the CKS was my greatest motivation. The CKS was already a great place that time, but I wanted to make the CKS a much more vibrant and vital institution. I wanted to lay a firm foundation for a new trajectory of the CKS. No doubt there were skeptics, but I wanted to prove them wrong.

To achieve that goal, I did my best to bring more resources to foster active programs of the CKS. I believe it was successful, as substantial funding and donations were made during that time. For the first time at the CKS, we were successful bringing the five year Core University grant, funded by the Academy of Korean Studies. The 7th World Congress of Korean Studies is also a good example of a fully funded event at the CKS, which is the first time the event was held outside of Asia. The CKS occupies a special position at UH Mānoa in part because of the impressive architecture that enhances our campus. Some areas of the building, especially the exterior green trellis part was deteriorating very rapidly at that time. Thus, I brought funding for building renovation. The Korea Foundation's library internship had not only provided these interns with a chance to advance their professional careers, but they also helped our library and Korean collections greatly.

I am very grateful for the generous support and donations from many people. Dr. Sung-Chul Yang and

Daisy Lee Yang endowed a lecture series to facilitate the regular appearance of eminent scholars. I also thank Dr. Myung-seok Park for his generous support for many events. The alumni dinner at Seoul was the highlight of our visit to Korea with UH administration including the President of UH, a wonderful gathering and donation event to our Center. I learned from them and others about what UH has meant to so many people over so many years. I also remember many events with the Korean community. We had continued to have support for the film series, having hosted exhibits and shows such as Pumba. There are just too many unforgettable events to list and too many names to thank. Staying in the Director's room without air-conditioning for six months reminded me somewhat of military boot camp, but as the time passed, even that became an unforgettable, pleasant memory.

The CKS occupies a very special position at UH Mānoa and has for many years—not only the impressive physical building, but also the extraordinary range of teaching, research, and community outreach activities relating to Korean society and culture, from traditional performing arts to contemporary economy. This is possible due to all of our previous and current members as well as our friends. It was a pleasure working with all of them.

After five years, I stepped down. I provided a vital academic environment by supporting the CKS and its members for five years. To achieve my vision, I engaged myself deeply with the CKS members and

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addressed relevant issues. I found a way to offer a richer opportunity for all those interested in research and teaching. If someone asks what my golden age at UH Mānoa was, I would not hesitate at all to say it was those five years. It is not only because I believe I

accomplished everything I intended, but I also enjoyed it. I learned that joy is a key for leadership that might have yielded benefits for the CKS and that may last for years to come. ■



A Place for Scholarship

William O'Grady

In the fall of 1985, I arrived at the University of Hawai'i as a visiting scholar in the Department of Linguistics to pursue a newly developed interest in Korean. During my first week on campus, I introduced myself to Dae-Sook Suh, the founding director of the Center for Korean Studies, who welcomed me warmly and offered me desk space in the Center. A week later, I began my study of Korean in Dong Jae Lee's Korean 101 class. When I return to UH a few years later as a faculty member, I joined the Center in time to get acquainted with many of its early members, including Yong-ho Ch'oe, Hugh Kang, Hagen Koo, Byong Won Lee, Glenn Paige, Marshall Pihl, Ho-min Sohn, and Ned Shultz, all of whom were very welcoming and supportive. That spirit of collegiality has been maintained over the years, as new members have joined the Center and made their own contributions to our intellectual community.

Initially, my research on Korean focused on traditional issues related to the language's syntax, vocabulary, phonology and writing system, as well as to its acquisition by children and by adult second language learners. That work was quite successful, leading to books and articles that were well received by other scholars in the field. My interests took a sudden turn after a visit in 2012 to Jeju Island in the company of my wife and fellow linguist, Miho Choo. After hearing the speech of some of the local

residents, we began to suspect that the so-called "Jeju dialect" was actually a distinct language. I made contact with some linguists at Jeju National University and, since then, we have worked together on what is now called "Jejueo" (Jeju language).

Jejueo has been classified as a critically endangered language by UNESCO and by the Catalog of Endangered Languages, with an ever-diminishing number of fluent speakers, all of whom are now elderly. Korea is about to lose half of its linguistic heritage, a major blow to a nation that values its history and culture. Our team has been assisting in attempts to preserve Jejueo, to the extent that this is possible. Our contributions include the first reference grammar of Jejueo written in English (published by UH Press, but also available in Korean), a one-semester introductory textbook for second language learners, and various other educational materials.

Throughout this research, and the work that preceded it, I have been fortunate to receive support, in the form of funding and other resources, from the CKS, for which I am very grateful. Faithful to its mission, the CKS has been a true place for scholarship through the first half-century of its existence. It is a vital part of our university and a leading global institution in the field of Korean studies. We can all look forward to what lies ahead. ■



A Vibrant Place, Inside and Out

Thomas Osborne

I remember, soon after my arrival as a faculty member at the University of Hawai'i in 2006, strolling past the Center for Korean Studies building and finding myself fascinated by its vivid colors and ornate patterns. It is, without a doubt, the most unique structure on campus. At that time, though, I saw only a beautiful building and not the diverse community that it represents, and I could not yet imagine the importance that community would have on me as an artist and educator in the years to come.

Not long after this I met noted ethnomusicologist and University of Hawai'i Professor of Ethnomusicology Byong Won Lee, who has been an active member of the CKS for many years. He generously introduced my colleagues and me to a number of visiting Korean musicians, and in so doing changed the trajectory of our music composition program. Today, our students and faculty regularly compose new pieces for traditional Korean instruments, we frequently host visiting musical artists from Korea for performances and workshops, and we have become a leading institution in the emerging field of intercultural music composition.

The CKS has played a substantial role in making the University of Hawai'i a hub for collaborations between Western and Korean composers and performers. In 2017, the CKS support enabled our university to host a weeklong music conference titled "New Traditions," in which composers and traditional performers were invited from Korea to collaborate

with local musicians. The concerts featured a wide array of new and traditional pieces, including those by my colleague (and fellow CKS member) Donald Reid Womack. One of the most lasting memories was the final piece of the last concert, a performance of *sinawi*, an improvised and energized genre of Korean music. The performers, including our own Byong Won Lee, performed exuberantly, and the audience responded in kind by shouting out words of encouragement to those on stage. It was such a treat for all who attended to hear that music in Honolulu—as if we'd been transported across thousands of miles to Korea—and it was all possible because of the vision of the CKS.

Universities are places in which faculty and students focus intensively on their fields of study, often walled off from those around them active in other departments and schools. The Center for Korean Studies has carved doorways into those walls, connecting faculty and students who share a common interest in Korean studies. I've enjoyed engaging in discussions with CKS colleagues on a wide variety of topics, from history to poetry to anthropology, and by sharing our knowledge and experience with each other we have all become better scholars and humans for it. Sixteen years after I first glimpsed it, I recognize that the Center for Korean Studies is indeed more than just a beautiful building, and I've come to see those vibrant colors on its exterior as reflections of its many brilliant and dynamic members. ■



My Professional Memory that Grew with CKS

Mee-Jeong Park

I have been a full member of the Center for Korean Studies for the past fifteen years, and the Center has been serving as a liaison between my home department and the university by reminding me of my identity as a Korea specialist in the field of language and linguistics. I visited Hawai'i for the first time in 2006, for my job interview at the Mānoa campus. At that time, I gave a teaching demo and job talk in the classroom on the second floor of the Center building. The scale and the colorful visual of the building's exterior caught my eyes as I entered the building. In the lobby, I saw a huge painting hanging in the center and above the stairways connected to the second floor. I didn't know the title of the painting at that time, but I saw stunning mountains, beautiful and vivid, covered by clouds. Later I learned it was a painting of *Seoraksan Cheonhwadae* by Yusan Min Gyeonggap.

On the second day of the interview, I had a long meeting with the five search committee members, and they took me to the detached octagonal pavilion outside the main building. The pavilion only had one room upstairs, with a high ceiling and several paintings hanging in each of the walls. The room smelled as if it had been empty for a long time, but the tension in the interview, the smell of the room, and the beautiful paintings confirmed to me I was standing inside a small Korea at Mānoa campus. To me, the CKS building was more than just a building, but a symbol strongly attached to a memory that continues to remind me of

my identity as a Korea specialist in my professional field. Before that, I never thought I was one of them.

Since I was hired as faculty in East Asian Languages and Literatures, I have been in the building countless times for meetings, classes, and events. The two most memorable events, in addition to my job interview, are the annual Korean Culture Day and the hosting of the Japanese Korean Linguistics Conference. After joining my home department, I launched the first Korean Culture Day for students taking Korean classes in the department in 2010. Since then, until the Covid pandemic, we organized the annual Culture Day event at the CKS building, where everyone felt they were playing games, eating Korean food, and watching Korean traditional performance somewhere in Korea. Each year, hundreds of UHM and local high school students gathered in the building and spread throughout different parts of the building. Every year, we were able to see a crowd gathered in the auditorium to see students performing Korean dance and songs, long lines of students waiting to try out *hanbok*, play Korean traditional games in the classroom, the conference room, lobby, and even the patio outside the building. The objective of the Culture Day was fully accomplished in the building where the Korean spirit became alive through the colors, the shapes, and the architecture of Korea inside and outside the building. I was able to witness the excitement of the event participants around the building.

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In addition, a renowned Japanese and Korean Linguistics Conference was held at the CKS building twice, in 2009 and 2017. In 2017, when I served as one of the conference co-organizers, we had our keynote speech, plenary, and regular talks in the auditorium, conference room, and classroom, and highlighted by the last day banquet in the lobby and patio outside the main entrance. Participants from

different countries truly enjoyed the beautiful conference venue.

As such, my long memory of my career at UH Mānoa, professional as well as cultural, are all connected to the CKS building and the people who gathered in the building throughout these years. I am sure I will continue adding more chapters to this journey as long as I remain on this campus. ■



Building Deep Connections Through CKS

Young-a Park

When I reflect on my nine years as an active member of the Center for Korean Studies, there are many moments that stand out to me. One of them is my encounter with a local auntie, who was a frequent visitor to the CKS Korean film series that I organized from 2012 to 2014. One day she presented me with a fragrant lei that looked extraordinary even to my novice eyes. She said she used the flowers from her back yard and made the lei herself. She was not of Korean heritage but a big K-pop fan, which initially pulled her into various events organized by CKS. She said she deeply appreciated the film series that were thematically organized around the themes of “Ethnic Others in Korean Cinema,” “Korean Family and Gender in Flux,” and “The Korean Diaspora.” By attending the film screenings, she must have witnessed the struggles of young working class women in the 1970s, the harsh social environment that migrant workers and migrant brides faced, and “alternative” families that did not fit into the mold of traditional family structure in South Korea. I remember hoping that the screenings of those films exposed her to the complex realities of Korea, which were not as shiny as the images presented in the world of K-pop. I also remember hoping that a deeper understanding of Korea would lead to an even more profound love for Korean pop culture and beyond.

Another memory is the constellation of moments that my CKS colleagues and I created under the theme

of “The Two Koreas: Investigating Culture Diversity and Underlying Unity,” which was supported by a grant CKS received from the Academy of Korean Studies. In 2016, Prof. Tae-Ung Baik and I co-organized the conference on human rights and North Korean defectors and invited multiple practitioners who work in areas of human rights and North Korean aid regimes in South Korea. It was a wonderful forum for academics in North Korea and NGO practitioners in South Korea. Prof. Harrison Kim and I also organized various events under the above-mentioned theme and fostered collaborative ties with scholars and practitioners in Korea as well as those in North America and Europe. Although engaging experts in Korea might seem like an obvious thing to do when it comes to fostering scholarly dialogues about Korea, it is sometimes overlooked in conferences and talks in some of the mainland academic and policy institutions. In contrast, scholars and experts from Korea always have a strong presence in our CKS events, which have been excellent in showcasing cutting-edge scholarship coming out of Korea and engaging them.

As I reflect on my time at CKS, its strength is clearly reflected in the moments I discussed above: We are great at building deep connections—locally and across the Pacific and beyond. I look forward to building on this important legacy in the coming years.

■



Reflections on My Journey with the CKS

R. Anderson Sutton

Accepting an invitation to contribute to this booklet started me to reflect on how I've known the Center — its stunningly beautiful buildings, the many intellectual and artistic activities it has organized and supported, its sustained success as provider of student scholarship support and program-building, with major grants from the Korea Foundation and the Academy for Korean Studies as well as generous private donations.

Taking language classes at Moore Hall as a grad student in the 1970s (with focus on Indonesia), I witnessed the early stages of a building going up across the street, learning that it was *Korean*, was to be a “Center,” and a *part of UH*, not East-West Center. Years later, as Dean of the School of Pacific and Asian Studies (2013-2020), hosting visitors from other parts of Asia, again and again I heard words of admiration and envy that Korean Studies had such marvelous facilities — where was such a Center for *their* country?

It is in these facilities that I hosted the SPAS alumni gathering in 2016, the Manoa International Education Week “hot topics” panel on US-North Korean relations in 2018 and attended countless other events. However fine the facilities, though, the CKS is fundamentally its people—the many Korea specialists on the faculty, the devoted CKS staff, the dedicated supporters in the community. When I left Hawaii in 1976, I only knew two CKS members:

ethnomusicologist Dr. Byong Won Lee and dance ethnologist Prof. Judy Van Zile. While on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the 1980s, I often spent summers in Hawai'i, researched and published an article on “Korean Music in Hawaii,” with assistance from both of them. Later I came to know Dr. Ned Shultz, whom we invited to Wisconsin in 2001 to advise on developing a Korean Studies program there, knowing that UH Mānoa had an exemplary one. With the arrival of the Korean Wave, demand for courses in Korean language and culture was exploding. Ned's sage advice steered us to a focus on language first, from which more would follow. He was right, and the program there took off — CKS's legacy beyond Hawai'i?

When I moved back to Hawai'i in 2013, I was pleased to become a member of the CKS, as well as the dean who oversaw it. I got to know many of the members and participated in numerous CKS activities, meeting visiting delegations here, making visits to KF and AKS when in Korea, assisting CKS directors on clearing some of the hurdles in major grant submission and administration — though I must stress that the credit for success goes to the leadership of the two directors who served during my time as dean — Dr. Sang-Hyop Lee and Dr. Tae-Ung Baek — the able staff (Mercllyn Labuguen and Kortne Oshiro-Chin), and the collaborative zeal of the members who helped with grant writing and execution. I could go on about this

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amazing team — Dr. Chris Bae's and now Dr. Harrison Kim's tireless devotion as editors of Korean Studies publications. And the members who volunteer for important work on scholarships, outreach, and more. My word limit here prevents me from naming them all, but it has been a joy working with such a great team.

Now with SPAS merged into a larger college, I am still pleased to be engaged with CKS, both as a continuing member, and as Assistant Vice Provost for Global Engagement—and, happily, our engagement with Korea is key, and as strong as ever! ■



Ripples into the World

Donald Womack

As I sit down to write of my experiences as a member of the Center for Korean Studies, I can't help but note that the place where I'm sitting down is Korea. It is my great fortune to be spending the current year on sabbatical here, furthering my work with Korean instruments and collaborating with world-class gugak musicians, while teaching in the gugak department at Seoul National University as a Fulbright Scholar. For a composer who loves writing for gugak instruments, it's a dream year.

Of course, dreams aren't realized by chance, rather through preparation and hard work—and with the support of good people and organizations like the CKS.

As a place for Korea-focused inquiry, the CKS provides its scholar-members with unique resources. Especially at this time when South Korea is emerging globally with outsized soft power, the significance of the CKS goes without saying. There is much fertile ground, and CKS members are busy tilling it.

At its core though, the CKS is about more than just providing resources. The CKS is about creating conditions that allow its members to do good work, which emanates well beyond our own humble shores.

Sometimes this work is relatively apparent. Conferences, seminars, lectures, and publications are among the more public undertakings of CKS. Drawing on my own experience, a 2017 festival, made possible through the center's support and spearheaded by my colleague, CKS member Thomas Osborne, is one such example. For this festival, we invited several top gugak performers and composers to a residency, which included numerous concerts of new and traditional music, lectures, masterclasses, workshops, and other professional and educational events. The impact was significant, and connections made at this time continue to resonate. Just last month, for example, I attended a performance, at the Seoul National Gugak Center, of a piece that was composed for that 2017 festival by a University of Hawaii student from Indonesia. Hawaii, Korea, Indonesia—underlying all the international and intercultural connections is support from the CKS.

Much more often though, the good work of the CKS happens quietly in the background, away from the spotlight, and its impact frequently goes unseen. In my case, I've been able to travel to many performances in Korea with CKS support. The benefit of these trips almost always comes as sort of a ripple effect, in that it goes well beyond the immediate purpose of the trip itself, and turns

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into some unexpected opportunity for connection, growth, a richer understanding—developing a new relationship with an influential performer for example, which leads to a new commission, which leads to a performance, which leads to...

I suspect I'm far from alone in this regard. No doubt many CKS members would say the same of their experiences, in fields as diverse as human rights law, history, arts, dance, architecture, economics, anthropology, and on and on. The CKS provides conditions that enable its members to

thrive—the freedom to explore ideas and to take those ideas into the world.

At its most fundamental level, the CKS is about creating opportunities for its members to make real-world impact. For this I am grateful, not only for the support of my own work, but for its unwavering support of all members' work, which ripples out into the world in so many unseen, yet positive ways.

Here's to the next half century of ripples! ■

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Center for Korean Studies
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa