

AKPS NEWSLETTER

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President: Seung-Ho Joo, University of Minnesota, Morris; **Editor:** Sunhyuk Kim, Korea University

AKPS Newsletter is sent by E-mail twice a year to its members and other interested parties. To view this publication online, go to the association's website at <<http://www.akps.org>>. For a plain-text version of this newsletter or inquiry, contact AKPS Executive Secretary Sunhyuk Kim viaemail sunhyukk@korea.ac.kr.

GREETING FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's a great honor to serve as the President of the Association of Korean Political Studies (AKPS). I would like to thank the AKPS governing board for putting their trust in me. Special thanks go to Professor HeeMin Kim of Florida State University, who had led our association as President in the past two years with selfless devotion and exceptional leadership. During my tenure, I will carry on the torch passed on to me by my predecessors who had distinguished themselves as scholars and educators while rendering invaluable service to our association.

I see two major challenges in front of our association. First, our association's membership has been dwindling steadily in recent years, and unless the trend is curbed or reversed our association may face a crisis in the not-too-distant future. Most of AKPS's original/senior members are already retired or will retire within the next few years, and their places are not being filled by new or younger generation members. Aside from senior members, only a handful of young scholars in their 30s and 40s are active in our association. We need the infusion of new members. I plead with you to proactively and consciously seek out inactive and potential members for recruitment and to encourage and support young scholars, especially graduate students, so that they can safely take roots in the American academia and contribute to the study of Korean political studies through AKPS.

Second, cooperation and exchanges at the association level between AKPS and Korean Political Science Association (and other Korean political science associations and institutes) have been tenuous and negligible since the early 1990s. Nowadays there exist neither regular channels of communication nor regularized venues for academic cooperation between the two. I feel strongly that through active and earnest joint academic endeavors, both associations will further grow. After all, we all share the same research subject, and Korean political studies in the U.S. cannot ripen separated from Korean society, and political scientists in Korea cannot achieve "globalization" in isolation and complacency. I will strive to strengthen bilateral ties in a meaningful and mutually beneficial manner.

New officers have been selected. Professor Uk Heo (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; heouk@uwm.edu) has been approved by the governing board as the new Vice President. I have appointed Professor Sunhyuk Kim (Korea University) as Executive Secretary and Professor Esook Yoon (Kent State University; eyoon@kent.edu) as Treasurer. Normally Executive-Secretary also serves as Treasurer, but I have asked Professor Yoon to share the burden given the fact that Professor Kim is now permanently anchored in Seoul. And Professor Yoon has also agreed to serve as program chair for the 2004 APSA annual meeting. I am most grateful to them for gladly assuming the chores. At the annual

General Meeting held during the 2003 Philadelphia APSA Annual Meeting, two new Governing Board members—Professor Young Whan Kihl of Iowa State University and Professor Michael Launius of Central Washington University—were elected replacing outgoing members.

We are now living in the wonderful age of electronic communications and the Internet. AKPS has its Website (www.akps.org) up and running, and Professor Sunhyuk Kim as its Web master will maintain, update and improve it. Among others, AKPS current membership directory, bylaws, and Newsletters are available on our Website. We seek your advice and suggestions for AKPS. We also solicit information and news to be disseminated among our members. Any advice and guidance especially from senior members would be greatly appreciated. If you have any concern or information, please feel free to contact Professor Sunhyuk Kim (sunhyukk@korea.ac.kr) or me (joos@mrs.umn.edu).

Respectfully yours,

Seung-Ho Joo

AKPS RECEPTION & BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT 2003 APSA MEETING

AKPS featured three panels at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), August 28-31, 2003 in Philadelphia. Mr. Peter Beck (The Korean Economic Institute, Washington, DC) served as our Association's program chair. (For detailed information, visit <http://www.akps.org/apsaprogram>). AKPS held a reception and annual general meeting at 7:00-8:30pm, August 28th, at the Philadelphia Marriot Hotel. About fifty people attended the event. Among the present were Professors Dalchoong Kim (Yonsei University), Chung-in Moon (Yonsei University) and Kwang Il Baek (Inha University) from Seoul.

2004 APSA: PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS DUE DECEMBER 31, 2003

The next annual convention of the APSA will be held in Chicago, September 2-5, 2004. AKPS is seeking paper proposals and volunteers to serve as panel chairs and paper discussants. Co-authored papers are also welcomed.

Papers on any aspect of Korea's domestic politics and foreign relations are welcome. Paper proposals should include paper title, abstract, name(s) of (co-) author(s), address, phone & fax number, e-mail address, and institutional affiliation. Please submit proposals by December 31, 2003. Email submission is encouraged.

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CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Pacific Focus invites submission of manuscripts dealing with all aspects of politics, economics, societies and cultures of the Asia Pacific region and its countries. Submitted manuscripts will be peer-reviewed before publication. *Pacific Focus* is published twice a year by the Center for International Studies, Inha University, Korea. Manuscripts may be submitted either in hard copy (3 copies) or electronically, along with a copy of author's note and the abstract. Footnotes, following the Chicago Manual style, should be numbered consecutively, typed double-spaced, and placed at the end of the manuscript. For further information, contact Professor Euikon Kim, Editor-in-Chief, *Pacific Focus*, Inha University, Incheon, Korea. Tel: 011-82-32-860-7966; E-mail: kimek@inha.ac.kr; or Professor Seung-Ho Joo, University of Minnesota-Morris, Associate Editor for North America, Tel: 320-589-6203, E-mail: joo@mrs.umn.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remembering Professor Kwang Il Baek

On November 17th, 2003, Professor Kwang Il Baek, Department of Political Science, Inha University, Incheon, Korea, unexpectedly passed away in Seoul. He was undergoing a medical test at a Korean hospital, and a tragic medical accident occurred causing his sudden death. He was 59 of age and he is survived by his wife and three children. Professor Baek was widely respected and loved among AKPS members (he was a regular and active member of AKPS) and in the Korean political science community. He distinguished himself as an educator and scholar: He served as President of the Korean Association of International Studies; Dean, the Graduate School of Public Administration; and Dean, the College of the Social Sciences, Inha University. I was most fortunate to have learned from him as an undergraduate at Yonsei, to have known him at close proximity over the years, and to share many fond memories together. He was extremely modest and generous as a person. Professor Baek didn't speak much but his actions always spoke loudly teaching me so many valuable lessons. Prof. Baek had my deepest affection and highest respect. Two days before he passed away, I briskly exchanged a few words with him over the phone. I was asking about his health. He said in an unusually calm and soft voice, "I am getting better!" "I hope test results will turn out fine!" I replied without knowing that he had just been diagnosed with a liver cancer. His last words are still echoing in my ears. May he rest in peace! -- Seung-Ho Joo

The Political Economy of Social Policy and Services in East Asia

Stephan Haggard is interested in establishing contact with Korean specialists working on the political economy of social policy and services: pensions, health care, education reform, poverty and employment programs. The purpose is to build a network of scholars interested in the welfare state in Asia and the revision of social contracts. Please contact him at shaggard@ucsd.edu.

PUBLICATIONS

Cha, Victor D. and David C. Kang. 2003. *Nuclear North Korea: A Debate on Engagement Strategies*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Heo, Uk and Alexander C. Tan. 2003. "Political Choices and Economic Outcomes: A Perspective on the Differential Impact of the Financial Crisis on South Korea and Taiwan." *Comparative Political Studies* 36(6): 679-698.

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DONATIONS & MEMBERSHIP DUES

DONATIONS

The following members provided generous donations to AKPS.

Stephan Haggard \$250
Hugo Wheegook Kim \$200
Michael Launius \$200
Seung-Ho Joo \$100
HeeMin Kim \$100

Young Whan Kihl \$50
Hong N. Kim \$50
Chung-in Moon \$50
Hang Yul Rhee \$50

MEMBERSHIP DUES

AKPS is run with your membership dues. Your timely remission of membership dues is essential for the Association's operation. If you have not paid 2003-04 membership due, please make a **\$20 CHECK** payable to AKPS and mail to

Professor Esook Yoon
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The Association welcomes donations. As 501 (3) non-profit organization, all dues and donations to AKPS are TAX DEDUCTIBLE. (*Receipt for your membership fee and donation available upon request.)

AKPS membership application form available online at www.akps.org

AKPS Officers and the Governing Board (terms in parenthesis)

President: Seung-Ho Joo (03-05), University of Minnesota-Morris
Vice President: Uk Heo (03-05), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Executive Secretary: Sunhyuk Kim (03-05), Korea University
Treasurer: Esook Yoon (03-05), Kent State University

Governing Board:

Seung-Ho Joo (01-04), University of Minnesota-Morris
Hee-Min Kim (01-04), Florida State University
Sunhyuk Kim (01-04), Korea University
Stephan Haggard (02-05), University of California-San Diego
Uk Heo (02-05), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Young Whan Kihl (03-06), Iowa State University
Michael Launius (03-06), Western Washington University