Dear Members of AKPS,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family in high spirit and good health. The AKPS is always grateful for your support and contributions to our activities.

I am happy to share two news with you. The AKPS panel at the 2017 APSA annual conference went very well. We had a set of quality papers on the theme of corruption and ROK presidential impeachment. The AKPS is looking forward to publishing the compiled papers as a journal special edition and an edited book volume under the editorship of Professor HeeMin Kim, AKPS vice President and 2017 APSA-AKPS program chair.

The AKPS welcomes two newly elected board members. They are Professor Taehyun Nam at Salisbury University and Yangmo Ku at Norwich College. They were elected with unanimous decision during the business meeting on August 31, 2017. They will continue the legacies of Professor Miyoung Yoon at Hanover College and Professor Andrew Yeo at Catholic University of America. The AKPS will continue to rely on their guidance and wisdom as we continue to evolve and grow. We are deeply indebted to their services and devotion to the development of Korean political studies.
The colors of leaves are changing and we are to celebrate seasonal festivals with higher hopes for tolerance and peaceful coexistence.

Sincerely Yours,

Mikyoung Kim
President, AKPS

2018 ISA Conference (AKPS Panels): San Francisco, CA

Panel I: The Development-Security Nexus in North Korea
Chair: Linda Yarr (George Washington University)
Discussant: Jae-Jung Suh (International Christian University).

Financial Sanctions and the Rise of the Sino-North Korean Border Economy: Kevin Gray (University of Sussex)

The prospects for North Korea’s Dual Policy of Nuclear and Economic Development under Kim Jong-un: Inyeop Lee (Spring Arbor University)

Changing North Korea: China’s Market Influence: James Reilly (University of Sydney)

Interdependent Independence: An Examination of the DPRK’s Engagement Policies in Africa: Virginie Grzelczyk (Aston University)

North Korea’s Engagement in International Institutions: The ASEAN Regional Forum and the United Nations Development Program: Eric Ballbach (Free University Berlin)

Panel II: The Nexus of Formal and Informal Power in Korean Politics
Chair: Professor Hong Yung Lee (University of California, Berkeley)
Discussant: Professor Gene Park (Loyola Marymount University)

Geopolitics and the Rise of Strong Personalism in Korean Party Politics: Hong Yong Lee (UC Berkeley)

Revisiting the Problem of Developmental State in South Korea: The Political Sources of Structural Economic Realities: Hun Joo Park (KDI)

When the Powerless are Helpless: Self-Victimizing Resistance in South Korea: Ji-Whan Yun (Ewha Womens University)

The Rise of Welfare Chaebol: The Political Consequence of Privatized Welfare Provision in South Korea: Sunil Kim (Kyunghhee University)
Who Governs Korea? A Linkage Politics of Chaebols and Politicians: Myung-koo Kang (City University of New York)

Panel III: Civil-Military and Foreign Relations of the Two Koreas
Chair: Hun Joo Park (KDI)
Discussant: Kevin Gray (University of Sussex)

Is Military-First Politics Over in Pyongyang? Institutional Facelifts, Personnel Changes, and Policy Directions under Kim Jong-un: Jongseok Woo (University of South Florida)

Obtaining Civil Control of Military: How Transitional Justice Affected Civil-Military Relations in South Korea: Hae Won Lee (Boston University)

Face Off: A Rationale behind DPRK-PRC Worsening Relations: Maorong Jiang (Creighton University)

Do Diversionary Incentives Affect Korea-Japan Historical Disputes?: Wonjae Hwang (University of Tennessee) and Misa Nishikawa (Ball State University)

Mission Impossible? A Study of Perception Gaps on Comfort Women issues within/between Japan and South Korea: Kazuya Fukuoka (Saint Joseph’s University) and Yangmo Ku (Norwich University)

Publications and other scholarly activities

Arrington, Celeste (George Washington University)
2017-18. Fellow of Princeton University's Law and Public Affairs Program (LAPA)


Choi, Ji Young (Ohio Wesleyan University)
May 2017. Recipient of the Travel-Learning Course Grant ($17,000) to organize a visit to Seoul, Korea with students. The visit included the Blue House, the DMZ, the Samsung exhibition center, and Yonsei University.


Grzelczyk, Virginie (Senior lecturer, Aston University, UK)

Gurtiv, Mel (Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Portland State University; Senior Editor of Asian Perspective)
Kim, Mikyoung (Visiting scholar, Emory University)


July 2017. Filed a lawsuit against Hiroshima City University of Japan to recover her previous tenured position. The first court hearing was held at the Hiroshima Local Court on October 4, 2017, and the second hearing is scheduled on December 4, 2017.


Ku, Yangmo Ku (Assistant Professor of Political Science, Norwich University)
June 2017. Appointed as Associate Director of the Peace and War Center at Norwich University

September 2017. Elected as an AKPS board member

Ku, Yangmo, Inyeop Lee, and Jongseok Woo. Forthcoming in December 2017. Politics in North and South Korea: Political Development, Economy, and Foreign Relations (Routledge)

Lee, Yoonkyung (University of Toronto)


Nam, Taehyun (Salisbury University)
2017. 세계의 정치는 어떻게 움직이는가 [How does politics of the world work] (Seoul: Chang-bi)


Roehrig, Terry (US Naval War College)
2017. Japan, South Korea, and the United States Nuclear Umbrella: Deterrence After the Cold War (Columbia University Press)

2017. “Stuck between two allies: The United States and the Dokdo/Takeshima dispute” Korean Journal of International Law 5 (2)

You, Jong-Sung (Senior lecturer, Australian National University)
Fall 2017. Visiting professor at Yonsei University and a distinguished visiting professor at Geumgang University, Korea


2017. W Don S. Lee. “이원정부제의 이론적, 경험적 고찰과 한국적 적용을 위한 사례 예시 (Semi-Presidentialism: Typology, outcomes, and application to Korea)” 동향과 전망 (Trends and Prospects) 100, 116- 149


2017. “South Korea: The odyssey to corruption control” in Alina Mungiu-Pippidi and Michael Johnston eds., Transitions to Good Governance: Creating Virtuous Circles of Anticorruption (Edward Elgar), 128-158