President’s Greetings

Greetings.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the transnational community of scholars who are interested in Korean political studies for the past two years. My term as President of Association of Korean Political Studies (AKPS) will be over this coming September. Ever since I was elected as the leader of AKPS in 2016, I closely observe various types of leaders. And often asked myself 'why do some people try so hard to bear the heavy responsibility of leading a group?' Autocratic and dictatorial leaders were popping up in various corners of the world. And the list is getting longer. 'What drives the people to get the power sometimes at the cost of other people's welfare?', I wondered. The least I could do as the leader of AKPS was not to hurt the members if I could not help them, I thought to myself. The act of leading can be a very precarious enterprise.

Over the years of serving AKPS in various capacities, I realized that I had neither charisma nor intellectual brilliance to inspire and mobilize the members. I always knew that my colleagues were smarter and more capable than me. My link to the Korean academia was also weak because I am not a graduate of the so-called SKY (Seoul National, Korea and Yonsei) universities. Whilst the absolute majority of our members were trained in those prestigious institutions, I am a country bumpkin from the port city of Busan. About the only thing I could offer was strong sense of responsibility, thoughtfulness and occasional
diligence. Since I could not lead with my head and network, I wanted to manage with sincerity, diligence and communication. I started my term with the conviction that the primary service of AKPS is to provide career opportunities to the members.

In order to create a larger stage for the Koreanists, I tried to make the AKPS more visible within International Studies Association (ISA) and American Political Science Association (APSA). We needed to show the umbrella organizations of our vibrant existence and to make a stronger case for the increase of AKPS panels. Upon consultations with the governing board, I thus invited the executive and administrative staffs of ISA to our business meeting during the 2017 annual convention. I also sent ISA and APSA separate tallies of panel attendants after their own staffs recorded the number because some people were coming to our panels after the tallies were taken. The numbers of AKPS assigned panels at ISA and APSA remain at 3 and 1 respectively. We should try harder to increase the numbers in order to give more opportunities to the members. This year's ISA-AKPS panels were organized by Professor Yangmo Ku at Norwich College. We are very thankful for his selfless service as the Program Chair.

Given my weak connection with the elite circles in Korea who could point me to fund raising sources, I was basically clueless about where to start and who to talk to. Yet I wanted to keep the promise of starting Best Graduate Student Paper Award and Best Junior Faculty Paper Award before my term ended. In order to make it happen, we needed to build a sound financial base. AKPS had about USD 7,800 as a total expendable income two years ago. As of now, we have about USD 11,000 (see, the addendum). The governing board members voluntarily paid life time membership dues. And we stopped the customary financing of the two group meals drawing on the collective budget. The AKPS coffer is safe and sound at the diligent management of our Treasurer, Professor Taehyun Nam at Salisbury University. I plan to start the awards from the upcoming APSA meetings in September, and will soon form review committees. I hope my successors will continue this new tradition so that we can become a better help for the next generation's job search and tenure promotion in many more years to come.

The challenges of 2017, personal as well as professional, propelled me to give a very serious consideration to a voluntary resignation from all the AKPS duties. It started with the filing of criminal complaint against me by my former employer, Hiroshima City University of Japan. Their complaint led to my house raid, arrest and detention. The university moved to dismiss me on the day of my release from the tenured position. Their decision was despite the Prosecutor's dropping of the charges against me (see, www.justice-for-mikyoungkim.org). The university's press release and press conference on the day of the arrest framed me as a criminal in the public perception, and that was even before the police investigation started. I felt destroyed as a person and an academic. I also had to deal with the difficult logistics of deportation from Japan followed by relocations to Korea and the U.S. It felt like my entire life ended on the Japanese right wing's terms. The warm support and encouragement by the governing board members kept me aloft during the darkest moments. And I became determined to fulfill my duty for the AKPS. I am deeply indebted and grateful for the camaraderie of the governing board.

Early this year, the AKPS was alerted to the sexual assault involving one of our members as the perpetrator. According to the documents we received from the victim, the assault took place in San Diego during an academic conference and she filed police reports in the state of California and Canada. The victim also obtained the restraining order against the perpetrator. There are multiple
victims who were assaulted by the same person. The problem is that the restraining order is not
effective for the academic gatherings held at various locations, where the victim keeps on
encountering the perpetrator over the course of conference activities. The AKPS makes it clear and
loud that we cannot and will not condone and tolerate any acts of violence which severely undermine
academic integrity. We are responsible to provide a safe environment where all the members can
freely engage in professional dialogue. Should any of the members have any concerns on this issue,
do feel free to contact us. We promise to do whatever we can to address the concerns.

I would like to end my greetings by thanking each one of the members for the continuous support for
the AKPS. I also would like recognize the former and current board members during my term for their
invaluable services. They are Professors Jae-jung Suh of International Christian University, Andrew
Yeo of Catholic University of America, Miyoung Yoon of Hanover College, Taehyun Nam of
Salisbury University, Yoonkyung Lee of University of Toronto, Edward Kwon of Northern Kentucky
University and Eunyoung Ha of Claremont Graduate School.

Thanks & Regards,

Mikyoung Kim
Visiting Research Professor, Emory University

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

Panel I: The Development-Security Nexus in North Korea
Chair: Linda J. Yarr (George Washington University)
Discussant: Jongseok Woo (University of South Florida), Yangmo Ku (Norwich University)
(University of Sussex)
Changing North Korea: China’s Market Influence by James Reilly (University of Sydney)
The Prospects for North Korea’s Dual Policy of Nuclear and Economic Development Under Kim Jong-
un by Inyeop Lee (Spring Arbor University)
North Korea’s Engagement in International Institutions: The ASEAN Regional Forum and the United
Nations Development Program by Eric Ballbach (Freie Universität Berlin, Institute of Korean Studies)
Interdependent Independence: An Examination of the DPRK’s Engagement Policies in Africa by
Virginie Grzelczyk (Aston University)

Panel II: The Nexus of Formal and Informal Power in Korean Politics
Chair: Hun Joo Park (Korea Development Institute)
Discussant: Gene Park (Loyola Marymount University)
Papers: Revisiting the Problem of the Developmental State in South Korea: The Political Sources of
Structural Economic Realities by Hun Joo Park (Korea Development Institute)
The Rise of Welfare Chaebol: The Political Consequence of Privatized Welfare Provision in South
Korea by Sunil Kim (Kyung Hee University)
Who Governs Korea? A Linkage Politics of Chaebols and Politicians by Myung-koo Kang (Baruch
College, City University New York)
Who Trusts Their Supervisor and Coworkers? A Comparative Study of Trust Among Korea, Japan,
And China by Keunbok Lee (University of California, Berkeley)
Panel III: Civil-Military and Foreign Relations of the Two Koreas
Chair: Mikyoung Kim (Emory University)
Discussant: Kevin Gray (University of Sussex)
China and North Korea: At a Crossroad or Same Old, Same Old by Young Joon Kim (Institute for National Security Strategy)
Do Diversionary Incentives Affect Korea-Japan Historical Disputes? by Wonjae Hwang (University of Tennessee), Misa Nishikawa (Ball State University)
Mission Impossible? A Study of Perception Gaps on the Comfort Women Issue Within/Between Japan and South Korea by Kazuya Fukuoka (Saint Joseph's University) and Yangmo Ku (Norwich University)

Summer Program Opportunity
Summer Institute on Conflict Transformation Across Borders, July 1-21, 2018 in Quito, Ecuador
The University of Massachusetts-Boston, FLACSO-Ecuador, and the Center for Mediation, Peace, and Resolution of Conflict (CEMPROC) will hold the fourth annual Summer Institute on Conflict Transformation Across Borders on July 1-21, 2018 in Quito, Ecuador at FLACSO, with graduate-level credit issued by UMass Boston. The program will focus on conflict and peace in border regions, including immigration and refugee-related conflict. More info and application instructions are available at http://www.caps.umb.edu/conflict_transformation.
Core faculty leaders are Dr. Yves-Renee Jennings, UMass Boston and Dr. Cecile Mouly, FLACSO Ecuador. Questions can be directed to Cecile Mouly at camouly@flacso.edu.ec.

Institutional Announcement
Journal of the Korean Welfare State and Social Policy (By the Institute for Welfare State Research, Yonsei University: http://www.welfarestate.re.kr/paper_list) is an online academic journal re-publishing research originally written in Korean in an updated, English language version for a wider international public. In this way, the JKWS aims to provide an opportunity to non-Korean speakers to get access to the lively debate on welfare and labor studies written by Korean scholars. The JKWS is open to all academic articles addressing welfare and labor in Korea across the social sciences spectrum: social welfare, political science, public administration, economy, sociology, etc. The journal is published twice a year, in June and December; each issue will include three academic articles translated from Korean to English. Its first issue was published on June, 2017 and three articles in the second issue are as follows.
-Kim, Young-Mi (2017). "Diversity of Household Employment Patterns in East Asia: A Comparative Study of South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan."

Institute for Welfare State Research (IWSR) at Yonsei University (www.welfarestate.re.kr) was established in September 2016 with the support of the National Foundation for Research (NFR) under
the program ‘Social Science Korea’ (SSK). The institute aims to conduct research on under-developed welfare states, including South Korea and East Asian, liberal Anglo-Saxon, and Southern European welfare states, due to their shared traits of having relatively low social expenditure and underdeveloped social security systems, especially social services.

The IWSR adopts a multipurpose model for its research. It aims to: (1) become an East Asian hub for international networking regarding comparative welfare state studies; (2) create a database platform specializing in welfare states and social policy data; (3) analyze future societal patterns to investigate in the digital capitalism era; and (4) devise realistic social policy proposals for policy-makers.

**The George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies (GWIKS) held its Signature Conference, entitled "The Evolution of Rights in Korea," on April 20-21. Papers were presented by Jisoo Kim (GWU), Sungyun Lim (University of Colorado, Boulder), Hun Joon Kim (Korea University), Hannes Mosler (Freie Universität Berlin), Soo-young Hwang (UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), Celeste Arrington (GWU), Patricia Goedde (Sungkyunkwan University), JaeWun Kim (Sungkyunkwan University), Judy Han (UCLA), Jihe Kim (Gangneung-Wonju National University) and Sung Soo Hong (Sookmyung Women’s University), Yoonkyung Lee (University of Toronto), Erin Chung (Johns Hopkins University), and Sheena Chestnut Greitens (University of Missouri). Our discussants included Andrew Yeo (Catholic University of America), Hae Yeon Choo (University of Toronto), Eric Feldman (University of Pennsylvania), Sida Liu (University of California), and Stephan Haggard (UCSD).**

**Members’ publications and scholarly activities**

**Clemens, Walter (Boston University)**
“Can an Olympic Freeze Lead to a Thaw?” *Global Asia Forum*, Feb. 7, 2018


“Is Regime Change Possible in North Korea?” *Asian Perspective* 42, 1 (2018):


“Origins and Consequences of South Korea’s Social Development,” *Asian Perspective* 41, 2 (April-June 2017): 341-345.

**Kim, Mikyoung (Emory University)**

Mikyoung Kim's second court hearing to recover her previous tenured position at Hiroshima City University of Japan was held on March 6, 2018 in Hiroshima, Japan.

Served as the Best Paper Award Review Committee Chair of ISA Human Rights Section (2017-18) and as the Best Dissertation Award Review Committee of APSA Human Rights Section (2017-18).

**Lee, Jooyoun (St. Edward's University)**


November 2017. Elected as a board member of the Southwest Conference on Asian Studies, regional conference of the Association for Asian Studies.

**Lee, Yoonkyung (University of Toronto)**

Spring 2018: Visiting faculty at the Department of Public Administration, Yonsei University

Fall 2018: Andrews Chair Research Fellow, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Yang, Jae-jin (Yonsei University, Director of the IWSR)  
*The Political Economy of the Small Welfare State in South Korea* (Cambridge University Press, 2017): This book explains why the Korean welfare state is underdeveloped despite successful industrialization, democratization, a militant labor movement, and a centralized meritocracy. Unlike most social science books on Korea, which tend to focus on its developmental state and rapid economic development, this book deals with social welfare issues and politics during the critical junctures in Korea's history: industrialization in the 1960-70s, the democratization and labor movement in the mid-1980s, globalization and the financial crisis in the 1990s, and the wind of free welfare in the 2010s. It highlights the self-interested activities of Korea's enterprise unionism at variance with those of a more solidaristic industrial unionism in the European welfare states. Korean big business, the chaebol, accommodated the unions' call for higher wages and more corporate welfare, which removed practical incentives for unions to demand social welfare. Korea's single-member-district electoral rules also induce politicians to sell geographically targeted, narrow benefits rather than public welfare for all while presidents are significantly constrained by unpopular tax increase issues. Strong economic bureaucrats acting as veto player also lead Korea to a small welfare state.  
*The Book is the Winner of the 2017 Inje Best Book Award of the Korean Political Science Association*  

Yeo, Andrew Yeo (Catholic University of America) and Danielle Chubb (Deakin University)  
*North Korean Human Rights: Activists and Networks* (Cambridge University Press, 2018)  
Table of contents:  
1. Adaptive activism: transnational advocacy networks and the case of North Korea by Danielle Chubb and Andrew Yeo  
Part I. Domestic Discourse and Activism  
3. North Korean human rights discourse and advocacy in the United States by Andrew I. Yeo  
4. Linking abductions activism to North Korean human rights advocacy in Japan and abroad by Celeste L. Arrington  
Part II. Transnational Networks  
6. NGOs as discursive catalysts at the United Nations and beyond: an activist's perspective by Joanna Hosaniak  
7. Human rights diffusion in North Korea: the impact of transnational legal mobilization by Patricia Goedde  
8. The politics of networking: behind the public face of the transnational North Korean human rights movement by Danielle Chubb  
Part III. North Korean Voices  
9. The emergence of five North Korean defector-activists in transnational activism by Jiyoung Song  
10. North Korea responds to transnational human rights advocacy: state discourse and ersatz civil society by Sandra Fahy  
11. Breaking through: North Korea's information underground and transnational advocacy networks by Jieun Baek  
12. Conclusion: the contentious terrain of North Korean human rights activism by Andrew Yeo and Danielle Chubb.
You, Jong-Sung (Australian National University)

Accepted a full professor position at the Graduate School of Social Policy, Gachon University, starting in July 2018


(with Lee, Don S.) “의회제적 이원정부제의 적응 (Application of Premier-Presidential Type of Semi-Presidentialism).” In 한국의 헌법개정 (Constitutional Amendment in South Korea), edited by Jai-Chang Park (Seoul: Hankuk University of Foreign Studies Knowledge Press, April 2018), 243-274.