Korea at SOAS

CENTRE OF KOREAN STUDIES ANNUAL REVIEW
ISSUE 8: September 2014 - August 2015
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SOAS, University of London
Thomson's Street
Russell Square
London WC1H 0XG

It has been another busy year for the Centre as it has continued to take a leading role in promoting and furthering knowledge of Korea through involvement in a broad spectrum of activities and programs.

Generous financial support from the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) enabled the Centre to hold more than twenty lectures on a wide range of Korea-related topics from K-pop and K-drama to art, literature and politics. Several events were co-hosted with the Korean Cultural Centre, the British Association of Korean Studies and the British-Korean Society – organisations with which the Centre has strong and long-standing links. In particular, we were honoured to have His Excellency, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Sungnam Lim, speak on ‘Security challenges in Northeast Asia’. He was introduced by Professor Paul Webster, and the talk culminated in a lively Q&A session, chaired by CKS member Dr Tat Van Hong. Other Highlights of the CKS seminar series programme included a talk by

Director Yang Yun-ho who spoke about the hugely popular drama Iris and other projects he has directed. One of the most well-attended talks was by Professor Suk Kyung-il from Tokyo Kozai University on Art, National identity and the Korean Diaspora. Drawing on his own experiences as a zainichi (second-generation Korean) in Japan, Professor Suk presented a discussion of past and current diasporic artists from Korea and Europe. Next year’s events programme will commence with a much-anticipated workshop in September on “Writing North Korean Social History”, organised by CKS member Dr Owen Miller.

For the third year running the Centre contributed significantly to the EU-funded Executive Training Programme for Japan and Korea. This year more than thirty executives from EU countries participated in the three-week module which took place at SOAS. CKS academics offered lectures on the historical, cultural, political and economic background of Korea.

The Centre is proud to host an increasing number of visiting scholars from universities and other institutions in Korea and elsewhere, and this year we have welcomed more than eleven scholars and post-graduate students from more than twenty institutions. Their presence has greatly enriched our research environment, and we look forward to working closely with them in the future.

SOAS offers a steadily growing number of post-graduate programs on Korea and they attract students from all over the world. The Overseas Leading University Programmes grant provided by AKS enabled the Centre to give five scholarships to SOAS MA and PhD students working on Korea-related topics. In addition, one student received the Sochon Foundation Scholarship. These grants will also be offered to SOAS students next academic year.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs Jane Savory and Ms Nenna Chuku in the Centres and Programmes Office at SOAS for their assistance and hard work throughout this past year. The Centre would not be able to run without them! I would also like to thank our two AKS Research Fellows, Mr Sang Jin JH and Dr You-kyung Ju, for their support.

Charlotte Horlyck, Centre Chair

한국학 연구소장 장봄 경수 교수 인사말

한국학 연구소는 올해에 다양한 분야의 특화 과정과 프로그램을 전개하며 학생들에 대한 자질을 고취하고 발전시키는 데에 전두한 역할을 계속하여 매우 바쁜 한해를 보냈습니다.

한국학중앙연구원(AKS)의 재정지원에 감사드립니다. 학교의 모습과 학생들의 활동이 이 기관이 더해지지 않으나, 특히 올해에 AKS의 재정지원이 큰 도움이 되었습니다. 특히 소아스에서 한국학의 중요성과 학생들의 관심을 끌고 있는 AKS의 재정지원을 기쁘게 생각합니다.

소아스는 한국학의 다양한 분야에서 학생들에게 다섯 개의 장학금을 지급할 수 있었습니다. 이외에도 학생들이 각자 만족할 수 있는 환경을 제공하고 있으며, 전 세계로부터 학생들의 관심을 끌고 있습니다.

소아스는 점진적으로 한국에 대한 더 많은 대학원 과정 프로그램을 제공하고 있으며, 전 세계의 학생들이 한국을 본질적으로 알아가는 과정에서 적극적인 역할을 하고 있습니다.

한국학중앙연구원(AKS)의 재정지원 덕분에 케이팝과 한국 드라마에 대한 관심이 높아졌습니다. 또한 케이팝과 한국 드라마에 대한 관심이 높아지면서, 한국학의 중요성과 학생들의 관심도 더욱 높아졌습니다.

소아스는 한국과 그의 지역의 지배와 한국학로부터 다각의 방법론들을 조합하고 있습니다. 해외 소아스를 방문하는 학자들의 수가 점점 늘고 있습니다. 이는 학생들의 간접적 경험이라는 것을 보여주기 때문입니다. 특히 올해에는 11명이 넘는 학회기조 mời에 참여하였습니다. 이 중 케이팝의 역할을 현장에서 확대하는 것, 한국학의 중요성을 강조하는 것은 매우 중요한 과제였습니다.

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Keith HOWARD
Professor in Music

During the year, Professor Howard spent two months as a Senior Fellow at the Academy of Korean Studies in Seongnam. This allowed him to complete the work on two book manuscripts, SamulNori: Korean Percussion for a Contemporary World (Ashgate) and Korean Musical Instruments: A Practical Guide (Minsokwon). Both books have been in preparation for a number of years, and the completion of the work on two book manuscripts, SamulNori: Korean Percussion for a Contemporary World (Ashgate) and Korean Musical Instruments: A Practical Guide (Minsokwon). Both books have

PUBLICATIONS


Sang PI JIN
Research Fellow, Centre of Korean Studies

Throughout research fellowship, I was privileged to organise seminars whose topics ranged from North Korean economy to South Korean popular culture. In doing so, I was able to broaden my intellectual horizon and deepen understanding of pre-modern and modern Korea. I will cherish this experience deeply as I embark on a new chapter of my life outside SOAS.

You-kyung JU
Research Fellow

Since May 2014, Dr Ju has been working on three research projects in collaboration with Professor Jaehoon Yeon: 1. processing and production of Korean relative clauses, 2. corpus-based multimedia study on the Sewol Ferry Disaster, and 3. SOAS-UCL Korean wiki project “Bridge to Korea” (www.bridgetokorea.wiki).

She has been investigating how Korean language learners from different first language backgrounds process and produce Korean relative clauses using computer-assisted language experiments. She is currently refining two research papers on this topic of Second Language Acquisition (SLA), which she wrote based on her PhD thesis. Along with her SLA study, she has been interested in linguistic representations of perspective-inducing strategies in newspapers and carried out a corpus-based linguistic study on the Sewol Ferry Disaster. The outcome of the preliminary data was presented at the workshop in April 2015 and her working paper on this topic will be assessed soon.

Her new project “Bridge to Korea” is a collaborative project between SOAS and UCL. The aim of the project is to develop a more widely accessible online resource, called a "Wiki", for promoting Korean language and culture.

JaeHo KANG
Senior Lecturer in Critical Media and Cultural Studies

Dr Kang represented the CKS at the 11th Worldwide Consortium of Korean Studies Centres Workshop: Integrating into the Future - The Spreading of Korean Studies in Developing Regions, held at Fudan University, Shanghai, China (23 – 25 May 2015); presented a paper (co-written), “Ink-Play: Walter Benjamin and Chinese Curios” at the 8th International Critical Theory Conference of Rome, John F. Kennedy Rome Centre of Loyola University of Chicago (7 – 9 May 2015); and gave a lecture, “The Politics of Mega-Events and National Identities in Korea: the 1988 Seoul Olympics and the 2002 Korea/Japan World Cup,” at Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (30 October, 2014).

Anders KARLSSON
Senior Lecturer in Korean

In addition to normal teaching and research activities Dr Karlsson has been involved in teaching on the Executive Training Programme (ETP) for Japan and Korea and given lectures at European universities under the Exchange Programme for European Lecturers (EPEL). He has given the following papers at conferences in Europe and South Korea on Korean history and literature:

“Lost in Translation: Chosŏn and the Notion of Empire”, at Searching for the 21st Century Paradigm in East Asia, Sungkyunkwan University, 22 August 2014

“Translating Korean Literature into Swedish: Challenges and Opportunities”, at The 6th International Translators’ Conference, Uppsala University, 5–6 December 2014

“Sajok and Law: Social Status and the Rule of Law in Comparative Historical Perspective” (in Korean), at Sajok: Local Elites of Chosŏn from the Perspective of World History, Aradong, 23–24 April 2015.


PUBLICATIONS


Dr Kong was awarded USD 9,707 under the Academy of Korean Reader in Comparative Politics and Development Studies in June. She has also continued to serve as an associate editor for the Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia and as a regional analyst for the Freedom on the Net project. For the latter, she evaluates the degree of Internet and digital media freedom in South Korea for the annual index and report published by the US NGO Freedom House.

In her latest enquiry, she looks into online misogyny in the Korean context. She presented part of her initial findings on 4 March 2015 at Royal Holloway, University of London, when its Department of Politics and International Relations (where she had completed her PhD study) celebrated its 10th anniversary. She has also continued to serve as an associate editor for the Journal of Comparative Histories of Asia seminar at the Institute of Historical Research, University of Sheffield. He also continues to be a co-convenor of the Comparative Histories of Asia seminar series entitled ‘The making of the North Korean working class: class formation and capitalist development at the Hungnam Chemical Complex, 1930-1960’. He also spoke at a special workshop on ‘Korean Studies after the Sewol Ferry Disaster’ on the topic of ‘Sewol and its aftermath in historical perspective’. He continued his role as a member of the BAIS Council and attended the annual BAIS symposium held in November 2014 at the University of Sheffield. He also continues to be a co-convenor of the Comparative Histories of Asia seminar at the Institute of Historical Research.

In addition to normal teaching and research activities, Professor Yeon has been acting as a Project Director for Core University Programme of Korean Studies funded by Academy of Korean Studies. In this role, he has overseen the administration and execution of the AKS grant and research projects of SOAS Centre for Korean Studies. He is also acting as a Director for King Sejong Institute at SOAS.

In February 2015, he was invited together with Dr. Charles Chang (SOAS Linguistics Dept.) to a Korean Studies Colloquium organised by International Institute of Korean Studies at the University of Central Lancashire to give a talk on the Korean language and the Korean script, Hangul. He also gave a lecture on Korean language at a K-Pop Academy organized by Korean Cultural Centre in London on the 2nd of March.

In March 2015, he was invited to an inaugural conference organized by International Foundation for Korean Language and Culture Education, held in Seoul National University. He gave a plenary talk on the current states and problems of Korean language education in Europe. In May, he was invited to 2015 International Conference of the Society of Korean Language and Literature, commemorating the 70th anniversary of Liberation. He presented a paper on various issues related to Korean noun-modifying clauses. He is also invited to the 25th International Conference on Korean Language Education that will be held in August at Kyunghee University in Seoul.

In addition to teaching and research, he has also been involved in various projects and initiatives, including the establishment of the SOAS Centre for Korean Studies. He has also been involved in various projects and initiatives, including the establishment of the SOAS Centre for Korean Studies.

**Publications**


The Handbook of Korean Linguistics
Editors: Brown, Lucien / Yeon, Jaehoon
WILEY-Blackwell, 2015

The Handbook of Korean Linguistics presents state-of-the-art overviews of linguistic research into the Korean language. The editors have brought together contributions from a wide range of international authors, allowing for a variety of theoretical viewpoints as well as coverage of topics such as proto-Korean, present-day language policies in North and South Korea, social aspects of Korean as a heritage language, honorifics, and an in-depth study of syntactic phenomena of the language. The first authoritative reference work of its kind in the field, this Handbook is certain to become a key resource for researchers, graduate students, and advanced undergraduates studying Korean linguistics or linguistic typology.

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Author Information
Lucien Brown is Assistant Professor of Korean Linguistics at the University of Oregon. He is the author of Korean Honorifics and Politeness in Language Learning (2011) and the co-author of: A Comprehensive Grammar (with J. Yeon, 2011).


The Book of Madame Butterfly
Edited by: Hervé Lacombe
WILEY-Blackwell, 2015

The book comprises eleven interdisciplinary essays by scholars from eight countries, researching in music, theatre, literature, film and media studies, as well as a special contribution by opera director Sir Jonathan Miller. The book begins with an examination of operatic exoticism in various cultural contexts, such as French, Latin American and Arabic culture. The next sections focus on the most beloved figures in opera performance – Salome, Madame Butterfly and Asia – and performances of these operas throughout history. Further interpretations of the operas in film and new media are then considered. In the final section, Sir Jonathan Miller reflects on the ‘afterlife’ of opera.
SOAS Library is one of the world’s most important academic libraries for the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, which attracts scholars in the Library.

The Library subscribes to major research databases; the list is available at www.soas.ac.uk/library/resources/a-z/. In 2014/15, the Library renewed all subscriptions to Korean language databases with financial support (US$5,000) from the Korea Foundation for the Library renewed all subscriptions to Korean language databases. In 2014/15, the Library appointed Irene Tortorella as Korean Language Cataloguer. The post is fully supported by the grant from the Korea Foundation as reported last year. A large part of the Korean language materials in the Library had not been catalogued efficiently, and old catalogue entries were overwritten. Some 1,800 new records have been created and Korean scripts have been added to over 1,700 records by the end of June. The project has improved accessibility of Korean materials at SOAS greatly, but the Library will need more funding to complete the project.

As in previous years, the Library has received resources for Korean studies from various institutions in Korea including the Academy of Korean Studies, Institute for the Translation of Korean Classics, Korea Foundation, Korean Film Archive, Korean Publishers Association, Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies, Literature Translation Institute of Korea, National Assembly Library of Korea, National Institute of Korean History, National Library of Korea, National Museum of Korea, Northeast Asian History Foundation, and Suwon Museum.

The one-year project for Korean retro-conversion cataloguing began in October 2014. The Library appointed Irene Tortorella as Korean Language Cataloguer. The post is fully supported by the grant from the Korea Foundation as reported last year. A large part of the Korean language materials in the Library had not been catalogued on the SOAS online catalogue, and old catalogue entries were overwritten. Some 1,800 new records have been created and Korean scripts have been added to over 1,700 records by the end of June. The project has improved accessibility of Korean materials at SOAS greatly, but the Library will need more funding to complete the project.

In 2011, SOAS was selected as beneficiary of the Overseas Leading University of Korean Studies after having successfully completed the AKS Korean Studies Institution Grant Programme for five years from 2006 to 2011. The new project, subsequently renamed as Core University Program for Korean Studies, has been implemented for another five years from 2011 to 2016. The grant has allowed the Centre to significantly expand its manpower and infrastructure, its research programme, its worldwide profile and its event calendar. Specifically, the plan for the second grant period covers the following areas:

1. Development of research manpower
2. Expanding Centre of Korean Studies Seminars
3. Organization of Conferences and Workshops
4. Development of curriculum materials and publication of research outputs
5. Scholarships for Postgraduate Students
6. Publication of Seminar and Conference/Workshop Papers

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Rebecca LEWIS
MA Critical Media And Cultural Studies


Hyojin AN
MA Korean Studies

Locating a Queer Theory in the Context of Contemporary South Korean Literature (with a focus on the novels of 김혜나 [Kim Hyena]).

Allan C SIMPSON
MPhil/PhD Japan and Korea

Locating a Queer Theory in the Context of Contemporary South Korean Literature (with a focus on the novels of 김혜나 [Kim Hyena]).

Ye Jin KIM
MPhil/PhD Japan and Korea

Translation, National Ideology and Cold War in South Korea (1949-1950)

Ye Jin’s research aims to examine how translations in two magazines published between 1949 and 1950 contributed to the formation of the national ideology of Korea.

As an interdisciplinary project which combines Korean history, Korean language and translation theories, this project deals with how translations in two magazines published by a nationalized press and United States Information Service respectively reflected the cultural policies of each country. First, it aims to show that the translators of Korean magazine, Shinchunji, manipulated source texts and framed ‘anti-communist’ discourse and to show this translation policy was closely related with Rhee Syngman’s cultural and press policy to consolidate his regime. The second goal is to examine how translators of the magazine by U.S. Wolja America framed pro-American discourse and how this policy reflected American foreign cultural policy toward Korea in the midst of Cold War. Finally, it is hoped to reveal how these translations ultimately contributed to the making of ‘communism-free’ South Korea.

Thanks to the AKS bursary, Ye Jin could focus more on her research. Since she is a wife, mum and student who has to work and to take care of her child at the same time, the bursary lessened the burden of working greatly and helped her to focus more onto the research. She believes it would contribute to understanding of political role of translations in the context of Cold War, which is less investigated area both in Korean Studies and Translation studies.
Zie-Eun YANG
Zie-Eun Yang (PhD Year 2, Politics & International Studies) was awarded a three month fellowship at the Japan Institute of International Affairs in Tokyo under the Japan-Korea Dialogue Fellowship Programme 2014

Russia in South Korea's Energy Security Strategy

The dissertation looks at the cooperation in the field of energy between the two neighboring countries of Northeast Asia, Russia and South Korea. In modern energy-intensive world energy security has become one of the most important aspects of energy policies, especially for the countries with insufficient domestic energy resources, like South Korea. The deepening of bilateral cooperation is beneficial both for Korea and Russia as it allows the countries to diversify their energy markets. However, despite the benefits, up until recently the progress has been relatively slow. Using Korean and Russian, as well as English sources, the dissertation assesses the progress in bilateral energy cooperation, the problems it faces, and its prospects, taking into consideration the recent changes in geopolitical situation.

Natalia’s undergraduate studies were focused on Korean economics, and at SOAS she studied East Asian politics and international relations. She developed a huge interest in the topic and the fact that her native country, Russia, is a part of this region, contributed to it. For her thesis Natalia wanted to link her home country with Korea, the country that her studies of six years have been focused on. So she and her supervisor Dr Tat Yan Kong came up with the topic of energy security as an important part not only of the Russian-Korean relations, but also of multilateral relations in East Asia.

The dissertation, which she started writing in December, has been completed and Natalia is currently working on the final version to submit in the coming weeks. She is extremely grateful to Sochon Foundation for its generous support and a chance to come to SOAS, as without this scholarship she could never have afforded it.

Hyun-Jung LIM
Hyun-Jung Lim (PhD Year 1, Politics & International Studies) was awarded a three month fellowship at the Japan Institute of International National (KIN) conference under the theme of ‘Improving Humanitarian Cooperation in the DPRK’ on October 22-23, 2014.

Patrick Nicholas KILKELLY
Thanks to a travel bursary from the AKS Patrick was able to attend a History conference at Sungyunkwan University in Seoul last December. He presented the paper “Orthodox Heresy: Chông Yakchong and the Chugyo Yogi, a discussion of a late-eighteenth-century work which was the first Catholic doctrine to be written by a Korean, in Korea’s indigenous ‘Hosiyan’ script. He benefitted hugely from conference attendees’ comment and feedback and is looking forward to extend his gratitude to the AKS.

The Sochon Foundation generously provided SOAS with scholarships for students undertaking a full-time post-graduate programmes in Korean Studies.

For more information visit the SOAS Scholarship Office. www.soas.ac.uk/registrar/scholarships/res/
Andrew KILLICK
Andrew Killek is Senior Lecturer in ethnomusicology at the University of Sheffield, past co-editor of the journal Ethnomusicology Forum and associate editor and substantial contributor to the East Asia volume of the Garland Encyclopedia of World Music. His book Hwang Byungki: Traditional Music and the Contemporary Composer in the Republic of Korea was published in the Ashgate SOAS Musicology Series in 2013. He is also the author of In Search of Korean Traditional Opera: Discourses of Ch’anggŭk (University of Hawai‘i Press, 2010), and his writings on Korean music have appeared in such journals as Ethnomusicology, Asian Music and Korean Studies. He has known and worked with Hwang Byungki since 1988, and wrote the notes to Hwang’s most recent CD at the composer’s request.

KIM Hyelim
Hyelim Kim is currently a post-doctoral associate at SOAS, University of London. She obtained her PhD in ethnomusicology from SOAS in 2014, where her thesis was on the performance and reception of traditional music. Hyelim Kim has been engaged to teach at various universities both in England and Korea, including SOAS, Hanyang University and Kyungbuk National University. As well as the traditional music of Korea, Hyelim is interested in the modernisation of Korean culture, South Korean music, and theories of cultural nationalism and transformation.

As a composer and taegŭm soloist, Hyelim has been performing professionally since 2000 specialising in traditional repertoire and crossover genres. Her debut recording entitled ‘Nim: Hyelim Kim Taegŭm Collection’ released by Universal was released in 2013 along with a second album, internationally titled ‘Hyelim Kim: First Impressions’, also released in 2013. Her work has appeared in such publications as Asian Music, Ethnomusicology Forum, and Ethnomusicology: A Journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology. She has also published numerous articles, book chapters and conference papers. Hyelim has been awarded the Hallyu-23 Scholarship and the SOAS Ethnomusicology Fellowship. She is a member of the National Assembly and is currently an active member of the Security Council, he served at the Korean Mission to the UN.

Owen MILLER
Owen Miller initially studied East Asian History at SOAS as an undergraduate and subsequently lived in South Korea, where he studied Korean language at Yonsei University. He returned to SOAS in 2001 to study for an MA and then a PhD in Korean History, focusing on merchant guilds in late nineteenth century Seoul. Prior to coming to SOAS as a lecturer in Korean Studies, Owen worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at Robinson College, University of Cambridge.

James F. PERSON
James F. Person is the Deputy Director for the History and Public Policy Program and co-founder of the North Korea International Documentation Project. Person is editor of the NKIDP Working Paper Series and co-editor of the Cold War International History Project Bulletin and History and Public Policy Program Critical Oral History Conference Series. Person has worked as a consultant on historical documentaries.

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LIM Sungnam
Sungnam Lim was appointed as the Republic of Korea’s Ambassador to the Court of St James’s in June 2013, and started work at the Embassy on 1 July.

Born and raised in Seoul, Ambassador Lim graduated with an MA from Harvard University’s Department of Government. Ambassador Lim is a career diplomat with experience spanning three decades. Most recently, he served as Seoul’s point man for the North Korean nuclear issue as Special Representative for Korean Peninsula Peace and Security Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to this position, Ambassador Lim served at the Korean Embassy in Beijing as DCM and Political Minister.

On the other side of the Pacific, Ambassador Lim held two posts at the Korean Embassy in Washington. In addition, during Korea’s 1996–97 term as a non-permanent member of the Security Council, he served at the Korean Mission to the UN.

ROH Hoechan
Roh Hoechan is a South Korean politician. He has a bachelor’s degree in politics from Korea University. He was a member of the National Assembly and is currently an active member of Justice Party in Korea.

Andrea ROSE
Andrea Rose is Chairman of the External Assessment Board and previously Director of Visual Arts at the British Council for over 20 years.

SUH Kyung-sik
Suh Kyung-sik is an ethnic Korean born in Japan, and a second-generation zainichi Korean. Professor Suh has published numerous essays and political critiques that address a wide variety of subjects, including democracy and human rights in Japan and South Korea, social anxiety in post-Fukushima Japan, Korean diaspora art, language and identity in zainichi Korean literary creations, and memories of the Holocaust. In 1995 Professor Suh won the Japan Essayist Club Prize. In 2000, his My Journey to Primo Levi (1999), a collection of his essays on the Italian Jewish Holocaust survivor, was awarded the Marco Polo Prize by the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Japan. Many of his works have also been translated and published in South Korea, and his essays frequently appear in the Hankyoreh Newspaper, one of the major liberal newspapers in South Korea.

In 2012 Professor Suh received the Kim Dae Jung Academic Award for Outstanding Achievements and Scholarly Contributions to Democracy, Human Rights and Peace. He is the third recipient of this award outside South Korea, following American scholar Bruce Cumings and Japanese historian Wada Haruki. Professor Suh is currently working on a new project that scrutinizes Japan’s ‘lost 25 years’ and the looming specter of new fascism in contemporary Japan.

Robert WINSTANLEY-CHESTERS
Robert Winstanley-Chesters is a post-doctoral fellow on the University of Cambridge’s Beyond the Korean War project and visiting research fellow in the University of Leeds’s School of Geography. He obtained his doctorate from Leeds with the thesis, ‘Ideology and the Production of Landscape in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.’ Rowan and Littlefield’s Lexington Press publishing a monograph form as ‘Environment, Politics and Ideology in North Korea: Landscape as Political Project’ in November 2014. His interests include historical forest geographies, colonial mineralogical landscapes/inheritances and animal/creaturely geographies of the Korean Peninsula. He is also the director of research for Sino-NK.

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Sherri L. TER MOLEN
Ms Sherri L. Ter Molen is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Communication at Wayne State University in Detroit and an adjunct instructor in the College of Communication at DePaul University in Chicago. Her work has appeared in publications such as Korea 2013: Politics, Economy and Society, and her dissertation project is an ethnographic study of the identity negotiations of non-Korean members of Korean Maple groups in the United States. She was named the 2014 Korean American Communication Association Outstanding Graduate Student, and she serves as the outreach coordinator for Sino-NK and the public relations manager for Engage Korea.

Robert Winstanley-Chesters is a post-doctoral fellow on the University of Cambridge’s Beyond the Korean War project and visiting research fellow in the University of Leeds’s School of Geography. He obtained his doctorate from Leeds with the thesis, ‘Ideology and the Production of Landscape in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.’ Rowan and Littlefield’s Lexington Press publishing a monograph form as ‘Environment, Politics and Ideology in North Korea: Landscape as Political Project’ in November 2014. His interests include historical forest geographies, colonial mineralogical landscapes/inheritances and animal/creaturely geographies of the Korean Peninsula. He is also the director of research for Sino-NK.

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By His Excellency, Ambassador Sungnam Lim
31 October 2014

One of the highlights of the CKS seminar program of 2014/2015 was a talk by His Excellency, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Sungnam Lim. He was introduced by SOAS Director Paul Webley. SOAS was the first academic institution to officially welcome Ambassador Lim when he first arrived to the UK in the summer of 2013. In October of that year Director Webley invited the Ambassador to SOAS where he met with CKS members and discussed Korean Studies in the UK and ways to cooperate in the future.

It was a pleasure to welcome the Ambassador back to SOAS. The Ambassador spoke on ‘Security Challenges in Northeast Asia’. In the talk he drew on his involvement in the North Korean nuclear issue, having previously been in the position of Special Representative for Korean Peninsula Peace and Security Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As Head of the Korean delegation to the Six-Party Talks, he was tasked with finding a peaceful resolution to the security concerns related to North Korea’s nuclear programme. The Ambassador also referenced his experiences in China where he served as DCM and Political Minister.

The talk was very well attended by academics and students from SOAS, UCL, King’s and other institutions, and they contributed to the lively Q&A session, which was chaired by Dr Tat Yan Kong (Department of Politics and International Studies). The evening ended with an informal dinner at the much frequented China City, where Ambassador Lim showed keen interest in learning about CKS members personal involvement in Korea.

The workshop comprised two panels. In panel one: History, State, and Development, three papers were presented by Dr Dae-oung Chang (Development Studies, SOAS), Dr Iain Firie (Politics and International Relations, the University of Warwick) and Dr Owen Miller (History, Korean Studies, SOAS) respectively. In the second panel, Language, Communication and Media, two papers were presented: ‘Linguistic Representation of the Sewol Ferry Disaster: a Corpus-based Analysis of Headlines from Two Korean Newspapers’ (Dr Yookyung Ju (Linguistics, Korean Studies, SOAS) and Prof. Jaehoon Yeon (Linguistics, Korean Studies, SOAS)) and ‘Organising Irresponsibility: Korean newspapers on the Sewol Ferry Disaster’ (Dr Jaeho Kang (Centre for Media Studies, SOAS) and Dr Eunsook Hong (Financial and Management Studies, SOAS)).

The workshop was one of the most valuable opportunities for the students. Above all, the students could broaden their understanding of Korea-related issues through presentations and discussion on diverse topics such as comics in North Korea, ancient religion and Pansori. Not only that, the academic staff with a variety of academic interests provided students with constructive feedback. Since more than half of the students are in the early stages of their MA or MPhil courses, the supportive advice will be really helpful to put their research on firmer basis.

Some of the topics presented during the workshop included communications and media, comics, religion, Pansori, and pansori (epic storytelling through song)

The workshop was held at the Korean Embassy in Beijing as DCM and Political Minister.

Korean Traditional Ensemble SANI
7 October 2015

On 7 August 2015 Kim Hyesun (World Music Foundation, Seoul) and Professor Keith Howard (SOAS) introduced the Korean traditional ensemble San I to SOAS. SANI is one of Korea’s leading ensembles, blending traditional instruments and traditional aesthetics, and made up of some of the foremost classical musicians active in Korea today.

The recital featured the following artists:
- Heo Yo-on – geumjong (12-stringed zither)
- Yi Ji-young – gageums (12-stringed zither)
- Lim Hyeon-bin – pansori (epic storytelling through song)

His Excellency Sungnam Lim with Dr Tat Yan Kong.
Dr Hyelim KIM
SOAS, University of London
Research: Korean classical novels, Taedot culture in Korea
1 March 2015 - 28 February 2015

Ms Sangmi BAE
Research: Colloquial and Colcized Person in Literature
15 April 2015 - 29 February 2016

Professor Dong Joo CHOI
University of Jeonju
Research: Korean food culture and restaurant management
1 April 2014 - 31 March 2015

Ms Hye Ran KANG
WorldNews Team
Research: Art and cultural diplomacy; journalism and media
1 August 2014 - 31 July 2015

Mr Byungkeuk CHUN
Research: Korean Wave’s spread to Europe, culture and art policies in the United Kingdom and Korea
1 March 2015 - 29 February 2016

PUBLICATIONS

James Hoare gave presentations on North Korea at the University of Leicester, UCL, Chelsea College of Arts. Regular radio appearances on Monocle Radio, occasionally on BBC (radio and TV), Sky News, ITV. He has been an Associate Fellow of the Asia Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) since autumn 2014.

Professor Martina DEUCHLER
Professorial Research Associate

Martina Deuchler was engaged in the final editorial work of her forthcoming book.

HONORARY APPOINTMENTS NEWS

Dr James HOARE
Research Associate

James Hoare

Dr Hyelim KIM
Bureau of North Korean Analysis, Ministry of National Defense
Research: Issues of two Koreas. The condition for the ‘South Korea - leading reunification’ of the Korean Peninsula, converying the stance and interests of the neighbouring countries in North East Asia
8 December 2014 - 6 June 2015

Dr Jung Soo KIM
Jeju University
Research: Playwriting (especially opera and musical); performance planning and research festival; and history of Korean theatre
1 February 2015 - 31 January 2016

Dr Youn-Gyeong KIM
Sungkyunkwan University
Research: Korean Taoism
1 September 2014 - 31 August 2015

Professor Aekyung PARK
Yonsei University
Research: Korean language history; Korean classical literature and popular culture
1 February 2015 - 31 July 2015

Associate Professor Seung Hae YI
Sungkyunkwan University
Research: Korean language history; Korean language education
1 March 2015 - 26 February 2016

Professor Martina DEUCHLER
Professorial Research Associate

Martina Deuchler was engaged in the final editorial work of her forthcoming book.

PUBLICATIONS
European Executives visit for Executive Training Programme for Japan and Korea

SOAS welcomed the latest cohort of participants on the EU-funded Executive Training Programmes for Japan and Korea in November 2014. Thirty-six participants attended the 3-week programmes which were delivered by over thirty Japan and Korea experts, drawn mostly from the Japan Research Centre and Centre of Korean Studies but also involving practitioners from business and academics from other institutions. The programme aims to equip executives from all over the EU with the skills and knowledge needed to help them develop their business activities in Japan or Korea.

As in previous cycles, participants attended sessions providing historical, political, economic and cultural background as well as an introduction to the East Asian business environment. They also benefitted from practical skills training such as developing effective business plans and an introduction to the Japanese and Korean writing systems.

SOAS is part of a consortium with Waseda University in Tokyo and Yonsei University in Seoul to deliver the one-year programme, following the European module participants move to Japan or Korea for nine months where they undergo intensive training in Japanese or Korean language, business and management and attend a three month internship in a relevant sector.

SOAS PhD student Deborah Smith, Department of Japan and Korea, has translated into English the latest novel by South Korean author Han Kang. The Vegetarian, published by Portobello Books, is a novel about modern day South Korea, but also a novel about shame, desire and our faltering attempts to understand others, from one imprisoned body to another.

Deborah said: “Korean literature is still chronically under-represented in English, so it’s fantastic to see my first published translation making a splash among UK readers. The book would never have come about without the language training I received at SOAS, and the contacts I’ve made as a student here; now it’s kicked started a career that will enable me to go on using the skills I’ve gained here to make a cultural impact beyond academia.”

Han Kang is a celebrated author with a string of accolades including the Yi Sang Literary Prize, the Today’s Young Artist Award, and the Korean Literature Novel Award.

On 22 January 2015, Deborah took part in an event in London with the author Han Lang and Booker-shortlisted author Deborah Levy (Black Vodka, Swimming Home).

The book has received rave reviews from critics, fellow authors, bookdealers, and bloggers:

“Brutal and beautiful – the translation alone is work of art – this is a book for anyone who believes that the novel’s job is to turn its reader inside out.” Eimear McBride, Baileys Women’s Prize-winning author of A Girl is a Half-formed Thing.

“Fascinating and powerful” (Guardian), “enthralling” (Independent), “mind-blowing” (i=News)

The book went on to be nominated for its first award at the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Dr Helen Macnaughtan, Acting Chair of the Japan Research Centre for the academic year 2015-16, said: “The successful delivery of the Executive Training Programmes for Japan and Korea reflected the diversity and strength of academic research at SOAS by colleagues affiliated with the JRC and CKS. I am grateful to all my academic and business colleagues who contributed to the programmes this year and I look forward to working with you again in the future.”

The European Commission are currently reviewing the objectives and structure of the Executive Training Programme and will announce their programme this year whether they will have funding for future cycles.
and explore the thousands of bookshops underground and hidden yourself some good group of friends and escape your ethnic bubble. Get over the fact that eating out is expensive and not so great and get exchange in the UK? Why did you choose SOAS? It's in London, it's hippy, it's leftist, though all these things I found friendly the professors are. Politics of World Economy and how small the setting is and how lived when I arrived; it's the biggest database in Europe for East Asian cultures and languages unlike other universities. What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS? Quality lectures and meeting multinational students around the globe. Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK? Don't be afraid to start a new adventure!

Chae Un ROH
Korea University
What courses did you take at SOAS?
I took linguistic and management courses.
Why did you choose SOAS?
Because it was located in the center of London and provided academic programs on diverse cultures and languages unlike other universities.
What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS?
I enjoyed learning and discussing about academic topics with students from different countries with various nationalities.
Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK?
I strongly recommend studying abroad in the UK and especially London. It will give you unforgettable memories both academically and culturally.

Haeyoung NA
Korea University
What courses did you take at SOAS?
Politics of Development; International Economics; International Relations of East Asia; and Special Course in Chinese 4
Why did you choose SOAS?
SOAS is located in Central London, and I was interested in development studies, which SOAS is famous for.
What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS?
Abundant reading resources. After reading tons of readings and writing quite a lot of essays, I could feel that I really got to know the topic thoroughly.
Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK?
Don't be afraid to start a new adventure!

Hye Won CHOI
Sogang University
What courses did you take at SOAS?
H205 Approaches to History; History and Culture to the Late 19th century Korea; Introduction to Global Forced Migration; Critical Survey; 1990’s South Korean Cinema
Why did you choose SOAS?
A good quality lecture especially in social/humanities department and East Asian studies.
What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS?
Quality lectures and meeting multinational students around the globe.
Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK?
Be aware of the prices of things in UK but as long as one is careful, loads of fun would come.

SOAS SCHOOL WIDE EVENTS

STUDY ABROAD AND EXCHANGE STUDENTS 2014/15

Danbi KIM
Sogang University
What courses did you take at SOAS?
Politics of World Economy, Politics of Development, Islam and Democracy, 1990s South Korean Cinema
Why did you choose SOAS?
It's in London, it's hippy, it's leftest, though all these things I found out when I arrived, it's the biggest database in Europe for East Asian African and Middle Eastern academia, hosts legit special lectures, hosts music nights all week, people are serious and smart and happy.
What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS?
Politics of World Economy and how small the setting is and how friendly the professors are.
Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK?
Get over the fact that eating out is expensive and not so great and get yourself some good group of friends and escape your ethnic bubble and explore the thousands of bookshops underground and hidden and walk around a lot and think a lot and read a lot.

Hye Won CHOI
Sogang University
What courses did you take at SOAS?
H205 Approaches to History; History and Culture to the Late 19th; century Korea; Introduction to Global Forced Migration; Critical Survey; 1990’s South Korean Cinema
Why did you choose SOAS?
A good quality lecture especially in social/humanities department and East Asian studies.
What did you enjoy most about your academic studies at SOAS?
Quality lectures and meeting multinational students around the globe.
Any advice for students thinking about studying abroad/on exchange in the UK?
Be aware of the prices of things in UK but as long as one is careful, loads of fun would come.

SOAS LANGUAGE CENTRE

New Korean Diploma programme starts Autumn 2015
The full-time Diploma in Communicative Korean programme at SOAS Language Centre in London is designed to prepare students with no previous knowledge of Korean to live and work in a Korean-speaking environment.

Term Dates for 2015-2016
• Term 1: Monday 5th October 2015 - Friday 18 December 2015
• Term 2: Monday 4 January 2016 - Friday 25 March 2016
• Term 3: Monday 11 April 2016 - Friday 8th July 2016

Progression to Degree
The Diploma qualification can exempt Diploma holders from the first year of some SOAS language degrees. Students taking the Diploma may apply, through the UCAS process, for entry to year 2 of the appropriate language BA. All aspects of the application will be considered on an individual basis, with a Merit (60%) grade on the Diploma being the expected level for admission.

Scholarships
Introduction Year Scholarships
Thanks to the support of the Academy of Korean Studies, we can offer, this year 2015-16 only, scholarships of:
£2,500 to the first 6 students who register for the Diploma programme or £2,000 to the first 6 students who register for the Certificate programme
The scholarship will be deducted from your full fee payment.
Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to study for a Certificate/Diploma at a great price. Students who enroll on this programme may also apply for a Professional and Career Development Loan (PCDL) to cover the fees.

How to Apply
To apply for a Language Centre Certificate/Diploma programme you can download our application and payment forms from our website
www.soas.ac.uk/languagcentre/languages/korean
or contact us for the forms. Completed application forms, accompanied by the course fee, made payable to SOAS, should be returned to SOAS Language Centre.

Closing date for applications for UK/EU Students: 18th September, 2015.
The Language Centre contact for this programme is Ms Colleen Woods.
Tel: +44 (0)20 7898 4828 Email: cw5@soas.ac.uk
Office Hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm
Or Ms Sinae Lew Email: sl4@soas.ac.uk
A YEAR AT THE CKS

A 한해

Charlotte Horlyck - field trip to Younggungsa temple near Pusan in South Korea - April 2015

Owen Miller visits an exhibition at the Sewol Disaster Public Archive (‘Memory Store’) in Danwon, Ansan City.

Owen Miller at the entrance to the Vietnam War Museum in Hwachon, Kangwon Province. This museum is on the site of a training camp for Korean soldiers who were sent to fight in the Vietnam War alongside the US. Its exhibits deal with the complicated and controversial topic of South Korea’s involvement in the Vietnam War and its legacy today.

Jaehoon Yeon with at the SOAS graduation ceremony with MA students.

Grace Koh with novelist Ben Okri and Daesan Literary Award recipients

The Centre of Korean Studies (CKS) is the forum for Korean related activities at SOAS, University of London. The principal role of the CKS is to promote, coordinate and disseminate information relating to the academic study of Korea across the disciplines and to act as a resource for academic, governmental, non-governmental and business constituencies with an interest in Korea.

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KEEP UPDATED

If you would like to receive information about the Centre’s activities and research news, please put CKS bulletin in the subject header

www.soas.ac.uk/koreanstudies/events/

Grace Koh at dinner with SOAS alumni in Seoul this summer, 2015

Grace Koh with novelist Ben Okri and Daesan Literary Award recipients

Jaehoon Yeon and the SOAS Korean teaching fellows take tea in Russell Square, London. Youkyung Ju takes the photo.

Charlotte Horlyck - lecture at the Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art in Seoul - 2015