the largest concentration of Korean specialists in Europe

Centre of Korean Studies

ANNUAL REVIEW

ISSUE 6: September 2012 - September 2013
SOAS, University of London is the only Higher Education institution in Europe specialising in the study of Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East.

SOAS is a remarkable institution. Uniquely combining language scholarship, disciplinary expertise and regional focus, it has the largest concentration in Europe of academic staff concerned with Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

On the one hand, this means that SOAS scholars grapple with pressing issues – democracy, development, human rights, identity, legal systems, poverty, religion, social change – confronting two-thirds of humankind while at the same time remaining guardians of specialised knowledge in languages and periods and regions not available anywhere else in the UK.

This makes SOAS synonymous with intellectual enquiry and achievement. It is a global academic base and a crucial resource for London. We live in a world of shrinking borders and of economic and technological simultaneity. Yet it is a world in which difference and regionalism present themselves acutely. It is a world that SOAS is distinctively positioned to analyse, understand and explain.

The School’s academic excellence has also been recognised in research assessment exercises (RAE). The 2001 RAE placed SOAS among the top research universities in the country, with 11 of its 18 departments rated 5 or 5*.

SOAS offers an unparalleled range of non-European languages, all of which may be studied without previous knowledge. The SOAS Library has more than 1.5 million items and extensive electronic resources. It is the national library the study of Africa, Asia and the Middle East and attracts scholars all over the world.

SOAS offers a friendly, vibrant environment right in the buzzing heart of London. The capital’s rich cultural and social life is literally on its doorstep. It offers students an unparalleled environment in which to live and study, being a centre for government and law, a style-setting centre of multi-cultural life and intellectual hub. The international environment and cosmopolitan character of the School make student life a challenging, rewarding and exciting experience. We welcome students from more than 160 countries, and 38% of them are from outside the UK.

The international environment and cosmopolitan character of the School make student life a challenging, rewarding and exciting experience. We welcome students from more than 160 countries, and 38% of them are from outside the UK.

The Centre warmly welcomes two new members: Jaeho Kang at the Centre for Media and Film Studies and Eunsuk Hong at the Department of Financial & Management Studies. Andrew Jackson, our research fellow for the last two years, is leaving us for a position at Copenhagen University. We wish him good luck with his new job and would like to thank him for all his hard work and the contributions he has made to the centre’s research activities.

The Centre has continued its ordinary lecture series as well as the special lecture series for European scholars enabled by the AKS grant. The lectures covered a wide range of topics from cannibalism in Korean history to modern Korean literature and Neo-liberalism in contemporary South Korea. The details of topics and speakers covered during the year are available elsewhere in this review.

During the year the Centre has housed three workshops at SOAS. On 29 September Charlotte Horlyck organized Korean Art: Narratives and Displays in Museum Contexts. During the year the Centre has housed three workshops at SOAS. On 29 September Charlotte Horlyck organized Korean Art: Narratives and Displays in Museum Contexts. On 6 November Owen Miller organised State Capitalism and Development in East Asia; and on 31 May Andrew Jackson organised Years of Radical Change: Korean Screen Culture. In term three we also had a film screening: The Korean War in Colour by BAFTA award-winning documentary film maker Stewart Brinns.

The Centre welcomed the following visiting scholars during the year: Donggin Nam (Seoul National University), Hyeongju Lee (PhD, Korean National University of Education), Jae-Yoon Yi (PhD, Seoul National University), David Hurndt (Deakin University), Nam-ik Son (Wons University), Heeduk Ra (Chosun University), Byung Woo Sohn (Chungnam National University), Hun Bong Park (Mok-Won University).

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs. Jane Savory and Miss Rahima Begum at Centres and Programmes Office at SOAS for their hard work in preparing and producing this annual review and for all their invaluable assistance throughout the year.

My term as Centre Chair comes to an end in August 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dr. Charlotte Horlyck as Chair of the Centre from September 2013.

We look forward to seeing you in the next year which promises to be as busy and exciting as this year has been. 

Anders Karlsson
Chair, Centre of Korean Studies
(Sept 2010 - Aug 2013)
Dr Eunsuk HONG
Lecturer in International Business & Management (China)
MSC (LONDON) PHD (LONDON)
Dr Eunsuk HONG
ECONOMICS
ch1@soas.ac.uk

Dr Charlotte HORLYCK
Lecturer in the History of Korean Art
Department of the History of Art and Archaeology
Dr Charlotte HORLYCK
Lecturer in the History of Korean Art
Department of the History of Art and Archaeology

Dr Andrew David JACKSON
Research Fellow
Centre of Korean Studies

TALKS
As workshop participant and primary teacher for week-long Korean Studies Workshop at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark entitled: ‘Understanding Late-Choson Rebellion: comparison and theory’, 15th -19th April 2013

As presenter: “The Korean War, To the Starry Island and Spring in my Hometown.” October 12th 2012, Centre of Korean Studies seminar series, SOAS, University of London.

As organiser and presenter two-day international conference on Korean Screen culture entitled: ‘Years of radical change?: Korean Popular Culture’, SOAS, University of London, May 31st- June 1st 2013.

As organiser of panel and presenter: ‘Sources and the Choson dynasty: Old wine in new bottles?’ A four person panel to be held at AKSE (Association of Korean Studies in Europe) conference, Vienna, July 2013


PUBLICATIONS
Jackson, Andrew David. ‘The 1728 Musin Rebellion (Musiln ᴺᵃⁿᵍᵉᵘⁿ ᵃⁿᵍ) Approaches, Sources and Questions,’ Studia Universitatis Babeş- Bolyai: Philologia 58, no. 1 (March 2013).

In Press:

Under review:

Jackson, Andrew David. ‘South Korean Films about the Korean War, To the Starry Island and Spring in my Hometown.’ Acta Koreana. Published by Keimyung University, Korea. Arts and Humanities Citation Index listed journal.

On-going:


‘The collecting of Koryo period artifacts in the early 20th century,’ for the Department of Korean studies, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen as part of the AKSE European Program for the Exchange of Lecturers.

PUBLICATIONS
TALKS

Keith Howard has continued to give presentations at conferences in the UK, America and Korea, as well as working on a number of reviews for academic institutions in Australia, Asia and America. He has given interviews for a number of broadcasters and print press media, and has written on subjects including the politics of Korean traditional music and K-Wave. Much of the academic session has been taken up producing a book-length report on the percussion genre of Samulnori for the Australia Research Council-sponsored project Sustainable Futures for Music Traditions. In addition to a number of book reviews, his reviews of audio recordings have appeared regularly in Songlines.

PUBLICATIONS


Tan Yan Kong gave a presentation entitled ‘The North Korean Political System in Comparative Perspective’ at the Engage Korea Conference at Oxford University on 4 May 2013.

PUBLICATIONS


Studies at SOAS.

and Twenty Years Hence”, which was hosted by the Centre of Korean BAKS Symposium on the subject of “Korea’s Place in the World: Now

Studies Council member Owen was also a key organiser of the 2012

of an edited volume in 2014. As a British Association for Korean

South Korea. This workshop was part of a book project on the topic

Development in East Asia” at SOAS with participants from the UK and

In November Owen organised the workshop “State Capitalism and

1880s Korea at the EHESS in Paris, Leiden and at biannual conference

the University of Leiden as well as giving talks on economic crisis in

Korea. He has also participated in a roundtable on northern Korea at

forthcoming monograph on merchants in late nineteenth century

TALKS

During this academic year Owen has continued to work on his

forthcoming monograph on merchants in late nineteenth century

Korea. He has also participated in a roundtable on northern Korea at

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCING TWO NEW MEMBERS

Eunsuk HONG

Lecturer in International Business & Management (China)

Department of Financial & Management Studies (DHUMS)

EDUCATION

Eunsuk completed bachelor’s degrees in Asian History and Business Administration at Korea University. He subsequently obtained an MBA in International Business (Korea University) and MSc in International Management for China, with distinction (SOAS). In 2008, he received his PhD degree in Financial and Management Studies from SOAS (title: “Location of Foreign Direct Investment in China: A Spatial Dynamic Panel Analysis by Country of Origin”).

RESEARCH INTEREST

Eunsuk’s research initially focused on Chinese economy/management, with a particular interest in how China’s distinctive national and sub-national institutional background shapes the business environment faced by foreign multinational enterprises. This research has been published in international peer-reviewed journals such as China Quarterly, Journal of Regional Science and Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics. Subsequently, Eunsuk has expanded the empirical focus of his research to include other East Asian countries, such as Korea and Japan. His research on foreign direct investment, innovation and entrepreneurship in Korea has been recognized by several major academic associations, including Academy of Management (Carolyn Dexter Best International Paper Award Nominee), Academy of International Business-Midwest (McGraw-Hill/Irwin Distinguished Paper Award), and Global Innovation and Knowledge Academy (Best Paper Award), and published in Regional Studies and Journal of Business Research.

One of his current projects is investigating industrial clustering in Korea and its impact on the development of the Korean economy (sponsored by Korea Industrial Complex Corp).

Jaehoon Kang

Lecturer in Critical Media and Cultural Studies

Centre of Media and Film Studies

Jaehoon Kang joined SOAS and the CKS in 2012. He has tried to bring theoretical contributions of critical theory to the development of East Asian media and cultural studies. His research has recently focused more on the social and political context of new media culture in Korea with particular reference to media spectacle, social media and democracy. He represented the CKS in the Ninth Worldwide Consortium of Korean Studies Centres Workshop at Beijing University in China (4th July to 6th July 2013).

PUBLICATIONS

“Digital Constellations: Social Media and the Crisis of (old) Democracy in South Korea,” Divination vol. 35 (Spring Summer, 2012): 139-149


“From Cine-Eye to Cine-Fist: Technological Innervation in Media Space,” Epistemie 8 (June 2013)

Jaeho KANG

Lecturer in Critical Media and Cultural Studies

Centre of Media and Film Studies

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PUBLICATIONS

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EDUCATION

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One of his current projects is investigating industrial clustering in Korea and its impact on the development of the Korean economy (sponsored by Korea Industrial Complex Corp).

Professor Jaehoon YEON

Professor of Korean Language and Linguistics

Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea

In addition to normal teaching and research activities, Jaehoon Yeon has been acting as project director for Overseas Leading Universities of Korean Studies funded by Academy of Korean Studies. In this role, he has overseen the administration and execution of the ARS grant and research projects.

TALKS

In December 2012, he was invited to the Sixth Kyemyung International Conference on Korean Studies and presented a paper on Korean Linguistics for teaching Korean as a Foreign Language. He was also invited as a keynote speaker at the International Conference on Methods of Teaching Oriental Languages, held in National Research University Higher School of Economics in Moscow, in April 2013. Prof. Yeon, together with Lucien Brown (Oregon), Jeun Kiaer (Oxford), and Heejae Lee (SOAS), has organized a panel on ‘Comparative Studies on Korean and Japanese Languages and Linguistics’ at the ASEE conference held in Vienna, and gave a paper in July 2013.

PUBLICATIONS


the development of up-to-date, authoritative language on several different projects including:

- research publications
- a workshop on Korean film on 31st May and 1st June 2013.

b) on the 6th November 2012.

- on the role of state capitalism in East Asian economic development

a) State Capitalism and Development in East Asia

The following workshops have been held during the last year:

- Belfast, University of Toronto, and Yonsei University.
- University, EHESS in Paris, Warsaw University, Queen’s University Canada, and Korea. The institutions include Oslo University, Leiden University, EHESS in Paris, Warsaw University, Queen’s University Belfast, University of Toronto, and Yonsei University.

3) Organisation of Conferences and Workshops

The following workshops have been held during the last year:

a) State Capitalism and Development in East Asia

Under the leadership of Dr. Owen Miller, the centre held a workshop on the role of state capitalism in East Asian economic development on the 6th November 2012. For more details, visit p17.

b) Years of radical change: Korean Screen Culture

Under the leadership of Andrew David Jackson, the centre held a workshop on Korean film on the 31st May and 1st June 2013. For more details, visit p18.

c) Development of curriculum materials and research publications

During the last academic year, centre teachers have been engaged on several different projects including:

- the development of up-to-date, authoritative language textbooks to meet the needs of teachers of Korean language and literature in Western universities;
- an edited collection of articles investigating the political economy of East Asia from the Meiji Restoration to the present day;
- an edited volume on key papers of Korean Studies to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the foundation of Centre of Korean Studies.

4) Support for Postgraduate Students

To facilitate potential Korean studies postgraduate students, over the past five years we have set up the SOAS- AKS Postgraduate Bursary. The bursary, valued up to £5,000, is used to cover the cost of tuition fees. Living costs are not available as part of the award and the bursary is not renewable. Candidates are assessed on academic merit. Programs eligible for the bursary include MA Korean Studies, MA Korean Literature, MA History of Art (Korean pathway) and other Korea-related postgraduate programmes.

5) Publication of Seminar and Conference/Workshop Papers

Over the past seven years, SOAS has held more than 80 seminars. In addition to this, over 300 papers were presented at various workshops and conferences. To provide a lasting record of the ground-breaking and thought-provoking research that has been presented, we have endeavoured to obtain copies of these papers from the speakers and publish them. To date, thirty nine papers have been published online in the SOAS- AKS Working Papers in Korean Studies and we plan to select the best papers from the online working papers to be published in a regular edited book.

By Jaehoon Yoon (Project Director)
enable, direct, and hinder the many decisions that go into the act;
this project explores the ways the rhetorical strategies of historians
the historiographical literature on 19th century peasant uprisings,
the problems causality presents historians. Using case studies in
A second study investigates one of my longstanding interests in
mobilized toward different yet parallel political and economic
allow me to investigate how two populations could be variously
and from newspaper advertisements to family magazines – that
the demilitarized zone. This means reading a range of materials
postwar reconstruction efforts during the 1950s on both sides of
am currently working on a book dealing with the cultural history of
media, including socialist website
also regularly contributes to South Korea's liberal and progressive
edited, together with Torkel Brekke, a book on the connections
Korea: The Beginnings (1880s-1910s) (Brill, 2010). Recently, he
dealt with in English in his Social Darwinism and Nationalism in
 Urdu
nationalism and militarist violence. His book, Us
film, and theories of rebellion and revolution.

Andrew David Jackson
Andrew read Korean Studies at the Graduate School of
International Studies, Seoul National University, and the Oriental
Institute, Oxford. He obtained his Ph.D in Korean Studies from
SOAS, University of London in 2011, where he wrote a dissertation on
the Musan rebellion of 1728. Andrew is interested in pre-
modern and modern Korean history and society. South Korean
film, and theories of rebellion and revolution.

Vladimir Tikhonov
Born in Leningrad (St-Petersburg) in the former USSR (1973) and
educated at St-Petersburg State University (MA:1994) and Moscow
State University (Ph.D. in ancient Korean history, 1996). Vladimir
Tikhonov (Korean name – Pak Noja) has worked for Russian State
and for Oslo University as associate professor (2000-2006) and as a
full professor (from 2006). His main field is the history of ideas in
early modern Korea, particularly Social Darwinism influences in the
formative period of Korean nationalism in the 1880s-1910s.

Another major area of Tikhonov’s research is the history of Korean
Buddhism in modern times, particularly in connection with
nationalism and militarist violence. His book, Us
(Thes Mythe of the Survival of the Fittest, 2005) is one of the first
monographic studies of Social Darwinism in modern Korea and its
relations to Korean nationalism. The same topic has been dealt with in English in his Social Darwinism and Nationalism in
Korea: The Beginnings (1880s-1910s) (Brill, 2010). Recently, he
told, together with Torkel Brekke, a book on the connections between
Buddhism and militarism in Asia. Buddhism and Violence: Militarism and Buddhism in Modern Asia (Routledge, 2012). He also
regularly contributes to South Korea’s liberal and progressive
media, including socialist website www.reedan.org

André Schmid
My research and teaching focus on 19th and 20th century Korea, as
seen against the broader context of East Asian and world history. I
am currently working on a book dealing with the cultural history of
the Cold War. By focusing on dominant ideologies of domesticity in
north and south Korea, this project comparatively explores postwar
reconstruction efforts during the 1950s on both sides of the
demilitarized zone. This means reading a range of materials – from
child rearing manuals, to government housing reports and
from newspaper advertisements to family magazines – that
allow me to investigate how two populations could be variously
mobilized toward different yet parallel political and economic
enterprises: capitalism in the south and socialism in the north.
A second study investigates one of my longstanding interests in
the problems causally presenting historians. Using case studies in
the historiographical literature on 19th century peasant uprisings,
these projects explore the ways the rhetorical strategies of historians enable, direct, and hinder the many decisions that go into the act
of writing historical explanations.

Adam Cathcart
Adam Cathcart is Lecturer in Asian History at Queen’s University, Belfast, and editor of SinoNK.com. He regularly does fieldwork
in the Yalu and Tumen river valleys, and writes about North Korean
music.

Jerome De Wit
Jerome De Wit is a PhD student of the Korean Studies department
at Leiden University (Netherlands). His dissertation deals with the
way North and South Korean writers perceived and experienced
the Korean War and how these aspects are reflected in their
writings. His research interests are the Korean War, modern
Korean literature and modern intellectual history. He has lectured
at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Leiden University and
Roma University.

Se-Woong Koo
Se-Woong Koo is a Korea Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Korean Studies (CKS) of the Ecole des Hautes Études en
Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris, France. He received his PhD
from Stanford University in the Department of Religious Studies in
2011. Prior to his current position he spent 18 months as a lecturer
in Asian religion and philosophy at Asian University for Women
(AUW) in Chittagong, Bangladesh. Dr. Koo specializes in Korean
religions with an emphasis on the development of modern and
contemporary Korean national identity.

David Hündt
David Hündt is a senior lecturer in international relations at Deakin
University. His research interests are the politics, security and
economic policy of the Asia–Pacific. His articles have appeared in
Australian Journal of International Affairs, Australian Journal of
of Development Studies, Political Science and Asian Perspective.
His book, Korea’s Developmental Alliance: State, Capital and the
Politics of Rapid Development, was published with Routledge in
2009.

Justyna Najbier-Miller
Justyna Najbier-Miller holds a Ph.D in Korean literature from
the University of Warsaw. She also graduated from the Korean
Language Institute (KLI) at Yonsei University and completed a Ph.D
studies programme at Kyung Hee University in South Korea. In
2011 she began her post at the Oriental Faculty of the University of
Warsaw, teaching Korean languages, Korean language and Korean
mixed script but her research interests include mostly modern
Korean literature and literary translation. She translated Pak Jae-
woon’s ‘A Day in Life of Kubo, the Novelist’ from Korean into Polish
in 2008 and her Ph.D dissertation dealing with the ‘stories about Kubo’
is going to be published in Poland in September 2012.

Stewart Binns
Stewart Binns is an Author, award-winning Documentary Producer
and Consultant. His television credits include the ‘In Colour’
genre of programmes, notably the BAFTA and Grierson winner,
British at War in Colour and the Peabody winner, The Second
World War in Colour. He also launched Trans World Sport in 1987,
Futbol Mundial in 1993, the Olympic Games Camera of Record in
1994 and the Olympic Television Archive Bureau in 1996. Other
productions include Century 1998, Churchill 2003, Tiger, The
War 2010. His latest production, Seisei, the Rise and Fall of the
Japanese Empire, was completed in January 2012.

Steven C. Capener
Steven completed an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Seoul National University
in sport philosophy and a Ph.D. in modern Korean literature at
Yonsei University. He is currently an assistant professor at Seoul
Women’s University in the Department of English Language and
Literature teaching literary translation and comparative literature.
His research interests include the influence of foreign literatures
on the formation of early modern Korean literature and the literary
response to Park Chung Hee’s authoritarian re-making of the
Korean in the 1960s. Recent publications include ‘The Korean
Adam: Yi Hyoseok and Walt Whitman,’ in The Quarterly Walt
Whitman Review.

John M. Frankl
John M. Frankl is a Harvard-Yenching Visiting Scholar and Visiting
Associate Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages
and Civilizations, Harvard University. His permanent appointment is
at Yonsei University’s Underwood International College where he
serves as Associate Professor of Korean and Comparative Literature.
Professor Frankl completed a B.A. at the University of California,
Berkeley in East Asian Languages, after which he earned an M.A. at Yonsei University in the Department of Korean Language and
Literature. Following Yonsei, he attended Harvard University,
earning an A.M. in Regional Studies: East Asia and a Ph.D. in East
Asian Languages and Civilizations in 2003. He then returned to U.C. Berkeley to spend the following year as a postdoctoral fellow,
after which he returned to Korea and Yonsei.

He is the author of the book, Han’guk munhak e nat’anan oeguk
çi zi (Images of ‘The Foreign’ in Korean Literature and Culture) published in Seoul by SoMyong in 2008, as well as several articles
on Yi Sang, the most recent: ‘Distance as Anti-Nostalgia: Distorted
Memories of Rural Korea in Yi Sang’s ‘Ennui’’– appearing in The
Journal of Korean Studies. Spring 2012. During his year at Harvard,
he is completing a manuscript on Yi Sang, with particular focus on
his essays.
Museum Art: Narratives and Displays in Museum Contexts

29 September 2012

This one-day symposium was organised by Charlotte Horlyck and Sascha Priewe, curator of Chinese collections and co-ordinating curator of Korean collections in the Department of Asia at the British Museum. The aim of the symposium was to explore how Korean artefacts have been displayed and interpreted in museum contexts in Korea and beyond over the course of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Korean artefacts began to be collected and displayed in museums around the world by the turn of the 20th century. At this time several museums were formed in Seoul as a way to house and display the newly emerging collection of Korean cultural artefacts. In Europe and in America arts institutions were considerably slower to follow suit, but in the 1980s this changed significantly as museums began to establish galleries of Korean art, while others started to host large-scale special exhibitions of Korean artefacts. Over the course of the last two decades, as more and more Western museums have opened Korean galleries, hosted special exhibitions and facilitated Korean cultural events, arts from the Korean peninsula have increasingly come to be understood as an integral part of East Asian cultural and artistic traditions, not only in academic terms but also for the general museum goer.

As Korean art enters the sphere of the global arts world, questions arise as to whom Korean art galleries cater for, which cultural narratives they portray, which political messages they signify, and how we can ensure that interpretations of Korean cultural artefacts are understood by an increasingly international audience. These were the kinds of issues the organisers wished to explore in this symposium.

The organisers aim to publish selected papers presented at the symposium in a forthcoming issue of the journal Museum & Society. For abstracts of the papers, see the CKS website.

The organisers would like to thank the sponsors (CKS/AKS and the British Museum) as well as Jan Stuart and Jaehoon Yoon for their support and input. Thanks also go to the discussants, Youngsook Kim (British Museum) and Beth McIlveen, for their insightful comments.

Charlotte Horlyck

LIST OF PRESENTERS AND TOPICS:

Koen De Ceuster (Leiden University)
Where is that North Korean Art Collection? An outsider’s thoughts on the importance of North Korean art in museum collections.

Hyonjeong Kim Han (Asian Art Museum of San Francisco)
Beyond Time and Space – Korean Art in Encyclopedic and Specialized Museums in the United States.

Jihye Hong and Paul Wadey (Korean Cultural Centre)
Introduction to the Korean Cultural Centre UK.

Charlotte Horlyck (SOAS, University of London) and Sascha Priewe (British Museum)
Quo vadis? Displaying Korean Art in the UK.

Sang-hoon Jang (National Museum of Korea/Leicester University)
Overseas special exhibition projects of the National Museum of Korea, 1957 to 1984: From the discovery to the display of cultural identity through Korean material culture.

Soomi Lee (National Museum of Korea)

State Capitalism and Development in East Asia

6 November 2012

A very successful afternoon workshop was held in early November as part of a book project on state capitalism in East Asian development that is being funded by the Centre’s institutional grant from the Academy of Korean Studies. The workshop sought to investigate the role of state capitalism in East Asian economic development, looking at commonalities across the conventional boundaries of ‘capitalist’ and ‘communist’ countries.

Some 40 attendees heard presentations from South Korean and UK scholars, including Professors Jeong Seongjin and Lee Jeong-koo of Gyeongsang National University, Dr Jamie Allinson of the University of Westminster and Dr Gareth Dale from Brunel University. The workshop featured some lively discussion sessions, moderated by Jamie Doucette of the University of Manchester and Michael Haynes of the University of Wolverhampton. The resulting edited volume will be published in 2014.

The British Association for Korean Studies symposium was held at SOAS in 2012, continuing the longstanding close association between the Centre of Korean Studies and BAKS. This year’s symposium was themed around the future of Korea in 2032 and attracted a wide range of interesting presenters on subjects including futurology, multiculturalism, the environment and mobile telephony in North Korea. There were around 40 attendees, including the ambassador of the Republic of Korea and other guests from the Korean embassy. The event also hosted the annual general meeting of BAKS.

Symposium

British Association for Korean Studies Annual Symposium: Korea’s Place in the World: Now and Twenty Years Hence

17 November 2012

The British Association for Korean Studies symposium was held at SOAS in 2012, continuing the longstanding close association between the Centre of Korean Studies and BAKS. This year’s symposium was themed around the future of Korea in 2032 and attracted a wide range of interesting presenters on subjects including futurology, multiculturalism, the environment and mobile telephony in North Korea. Some 40 attendees heard presentations from South Korean and UK scholars, including Professors Jeong Seongjin and Lee Jeong-koo of Gyeongsang National University, Dr Jamie Allinson of the University of Westminster and Dr Gareth Dale from Brunel University. The workshop featured some lively discussion sessions, moderated by Jamie Doucette of the University of Manchester and Michael Haynes of the University of Wolverhampton. The resulting edited volume will be published in 2014.
EVENT REPORTS

Years of Radical Change: Korean Screen Culture
31 May 2012 & 1 June 2013

From the 1990s: New Wave of South Korean directors to the big budget spectaculars of the 2000s, South Korean cinema is attracting worldwide attention like never before.

The past few years have also seen an exponential growth in the popularity of South Korean screen culture in Asia and beyond. The recent ‘Korean Wave’ (hallyu) of television dramas (soap operas), cinema and popular music has generated a remarkable amount of interest in Korea and its ‘culture’. North Korea also has a long-established cinematic tradition and is a rare example of a country that has been ruled by a filmmaker.

In the wake of the previous year’s successful workshop on South Korean film, on May 31, and June 1, 2013, the Centre of Korean Studies in collaboration with the Centre for Film and Screen Studies held a conference entitled ‘Years of Radical Change (2)’. This conference was probably the largest conference ever held on Korean screen culture outside of Korea.

Over the period, twenty-seven speakers from seven countries gave papers on ten different panels. Panels ranged from representations of modernity in film, film from and about the colonial period, explorations of the city space, the treatment of gender, North Korean cinema, and South Korean gaming culture. Providing plenary sessions were Dr David Scott Diffent from the Colorado State University who spoke on humour in the films of Hong Sang Soo and Johannes Schörntrund, a freelance writer resident in Japan who spoke on North Korea’s international movie collaborations.

Three of the five scholars who presented in this year’s event also gave papers: Dr Mark Morris of the University of Cambridge gave a paper on the Franco-North Korean film Moranbong (1958), Dr Chi-Yun Shin from Sheffield Hallam University presented on the films Mother (2009) and Poetry (2010), and Dr Colette Balmain from Kingston University presented on whiteness in a recent Korean horror film. Other scholars who presented papers included: Dr Hyun Bang Shin, London School of Economics, Dr Hye Seung Chung, Colorado State University, Dr Baek Moonrim and Dr Hana Lee of Yonsei University. In addition to senior scholars, there were many emerging scholars who gave papers at the conference; amongst them was Allan Christopher Simpson who presented on LGBT cinema in South Korea. Currently, selected papers are being edited into a specially commissioned edition of Acta Koreana to be published in December 2013. A publication that will provide a permanent record of the event. Thanks go to the AKE, Rahima, Jane and Domino in the Centre’s office, Yeon Jaehoon, and members of Centre of Film and Screen Studies for making this event possible.

Workshop
New Songdo City and South Korea’s Green Economy: An Uncertain Future
5 June 2013

This short workshop brought together two speakers who are looking at South Korea’s ‘green growth’ policy and the self-proclaimed sustainable urban development of New Songdo City. Dr Gareth Dale of Brunel University presented a paper entitled ‘Green Growth, New Songdo style: South Korea’s gigantomaniac leadership bid’ which critically examined South Korea’s attempt to lead the world in the newly-invented field of ‘green growth’. Meanwhile, Dr Glen Kueckler of DePauw University presented a paper entitled ‘Building the Bridge to the Future: New Songdo City from a Critical Urbanism Perspective’. looking at Songdo’s claims to provide a sustainable model for other new cities in the light of critical urbanism theory and the global environmental crisis.

The speakers involved were Christine Oughton, a Professor of Urban Economics at SOAS, Dr Richard Alexander, Lecturer in Financial Law at SOAS, Helen Macnaughtan, Lecturer in International Management from DeFIMS, Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal, Professor in Banking and Finance Law at Queen Mary, University of London, Englebert Stockhammer, Professor of Economics at Kingston University, Jinny Yan, an Economist at Standard Chartered Bank and Iain Begg, Professorial Research Fellow at the European Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Each year, MBA students from Yonsei University have the opportunity to visit an overseas university for their Global Experience Trip (GET). The opportunity for SOAS to deliver a programme this year came about through the existing partnership with Yonsei, a joint partner on the Executive Training Programme for Korea which is an EU-funded programme aimed at business people developing their activities in Korea.

Professor Donghoon Kim, Professor of Marketing from the Yonsei University School of Business, said: ‘The study trip at SOAS provided students with the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the Eurozone crisis and experience the challenges a complex global business environment presents. I am grateful to SOAS for developing a wonderful programme.’

RESEARCH & ENTERPRISE

European Executives arrive at SOAS, for Prestigious Executive Training Programme for Japan and Korea

45 executives from all over Europe came to SOAS in November to attend the Executive Training Programme (ETP) for Japan and Korea. This one-year executive development programme is funded by the European Commission and has been running for more than 30 years. There are now over 1,000 ETP alumni, many now working in senior posts in the Japanese and Korean offices of European companies. SOAS is part of a consortium with Waseda University in Tokyo and Yonsei University in Seoul delivering the programme which aims to equip executives with the knowledge and skills they need to develop business in Japan or Korea. The three-week module at SOAS provides participants with historical, political, economic and cultural background as well as an introduction to the East Asian business environment. It also provides practical skills training such as developing effective business plans. 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.

The SOAS programme was run by the Enterprise Office and sessions were delivered by academics from across the School including Helen Macnaughtan, Angus Lockyer, Anders Karlsson and Jaehoon Yeon who also acted as programme coordinators. Business practitioners were brought from companies operating in Japan and Korea and from the trade organisations JETRO and KOTRA to provide practical insights and advice. This was the first cycle of a 3-year contract and SOAS will continue to host the programme in 2013 and 2014.

For further information about the programme including how to apply please email Louise@soas.etp.co.uk or visit the ETP website www.etp.eu
The Library subscribes to major research databases; the list is available at http://lib.soas.ac.uk/

The Library holds some 80,000 monographs for Korean studies including publications from North Korea and official reports produced by the Government-General of Korea. In addition, there are some 400 Korean language periodicals, some 300 western language periodicals, and over 400 audio-visual materials for teaching and research in Korean studies; the online catalogue is available at http://lib.soas.ac.uk/

In 2012/13, the Library renewed all subscriptions to Korean full-text journal databases (such as DBPiA and KISS), reference Foundation. SOAS academics and students have access to 400 audio-visual materials for teaching and research in Korean studies; the online catalogue is available at http://lib.soas.ac.uk/

Post Doctoral Associate

Dr JUNG Rock Seo

Seo is a researcher of History of East Asian Dances, Dance Anthropology and Philosophy of East Asian Performing Arts. His research projects arise from exploring intersections into aspects of East Asia's dance, their histories, interrelations with the other Asian countries and the perspective in the field of East Asian performing arts and mythology. He is writing a book on Korean Dance History with Professor Keith Howard at the School of Oriental and African Studies. University of London. Currently, he is a visiting Chair Professor in National Taiwan University.

Research Associate

J E HOARE

Jim Hoare has continued to teach 'The Other Korea: North Korea since 1945'. This year there were nine students, from a variety of backgrounds. He has given presentations or taken part in seminars in London, Oxford, Cambridge, Prague, and Seoul. He helped with the Seoul Museum of History's exhibition on Chungjo in 2010. He was also asked to give the first Yun Po-sun Lecture at the University of Edinburgh, in honour of the second president of the Republic of Korea. Commenting on North Korean affairs has taken up much time, with around 40 radio and TV appearances and newspaper interviews from late March to late April. In addition, he has begun to make regular appearances on the internet-based and Japanese-owned Monocle Radio, which broadcasts from London, commenting on the Asian press. He is, of course, technically retired.

PUBLICATIONS


Hoare, James "Long Live the Dear Respected Marshal Kim Jong Un!" North Korea since the death of Kim Jong Il, in Asian Affairs, May 2012

Jaeyoon Yi

As a visiting scholar Jaeyoon had the fantastic opportunity to get involved in classes at SOAS and Birkbeck, University of London. In term 1, auditing the class 'Arts of Koryo and Choson Korea Lecture' (MA, Convenor: Charlotte Horlyck) gave a chance to share the ideas on terminology in Korean art. With the generosity of Dr. Horlyck, she has given lectures for her classes on "Costume of Joseon" and "East Asian Dress & Textiles". Another lecture on "Korean art" was given for Introduction to World Arts and Artifacts: East Asia at Birkbeck (Convenor, Elaine Buck).

During the summer 2013, I presented two papers at conferences. The first one was on the "Modern girl image and fashion in Korea" for the symposium "Translating and Writing Modern Design Histories in East Asia for the Global World" at the National Yulin University of Science, Taiwan, 27 June as a part of an AHRC Research project. The other was "The Dress of the Mongol Empire: The Genealogy and Diaspora of Terlig" for a Hungaro-Korean-Mongolian joint conference "Mongolian Studies Towards the 21st Century" at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary, 3-4 July. This is due to be published in ACTA Orientalia in 2014. For another research project with Dr Horlyck on Goryeo Metal Ornaments at British Museum, viewings of artefacts have been carried out since May, 2012. In 2013 viewings at the National Museum of China, National Museum of Korea, Ewha Woman's University Museum in Korea, and National Palace Museum, Taiwan have also taken place and one more viewing at Musée Guimet in Paris is scheduled in August.

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Hyanggeun Lee has continued her research about poetry and poetry education. She has written and presented some articles on academic journals.

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HONORARY APPOINTMENTS

Visting Scholars

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