



# ERI NEWS

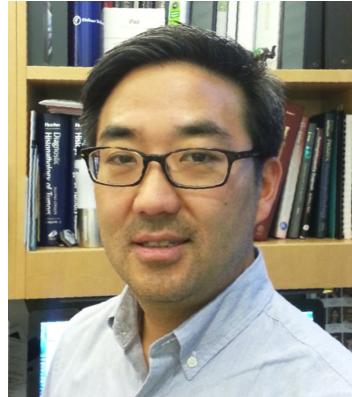
## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As I reflect upon what ERI has accomplished thus far in 2014, I am reminded of just how amazing our staff, Board, and extended family are (for more on all these wonderful people, please read on). I think it goes without saying that everyone at ERI, as well as our collaborators, work tirelessly to produce programs of substance that benefit the diverse communities we are a part of. Our passion to educate others and ourselves about Korea and Korean diaspora culture using ERI's unique approach to cultural education and cross-cultural competency training demands that we engage young and old, both ethnic Koreans and non-Koreans, here and abroad, using our collective knowledge and experience. While ERI continues to build bridges between cultures, generations, and ages we also continue to spread the "gospel" of ERI by exposing greater numbers of individuals to ERI's unique approaches to cultural programming and education.

In this newsletter you will read about ERI's recent and forthcoming programs in Korean culture, cultural competency, and education – programs which have touched many individuals' lives. And you will also have a chance to meet our

supporters – a truly dedicated and impressive group who are each making a difference either by planning or participating in ERI events or by contributing to their communities in their own unique ways, serving as examples of ERI's motto of "to search, to learn, to serve."

These individuals represent the richness of ERI, and having the opportunity to work with, and get to know, them is why I continue to volunteer nearly 25 years later. So, I encourage you to please read about ERI's news, meet the people who made it all possible, and prepare to be inspired and join us or send your gift! Have a wonderful



**Christopher Park, M.D., Ph.D.**

## Announcements

### 10th Annual Teacher's Conference on Korean Culture

The 10th Annual Teach Korea Corps (TKC) Teacher's conference, "Korean Culture and History Through the Arts," will be held for the second year in collaboration with the CT Association of Independent Schools. This event will take place Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at the Hopkins School, New Haven, CT.

### Lecture by Mr. Tai Soo Kim

Mr. Tai Soo Kim, internationally renown architect, will give a lecture entitled "Inspiration From Two Worlds, Korea and America" on Oct. 6, 2014 at 7:45 p.m. at the Cultural Art Center, Whitney Center, 200 Leeder Hill Drive, Hamden, CT. 06517.

### ERI's 2nd Dream Big Seminar

The 2nd Annual "Dream Big" Seminar will be held in February 2015 in Bergen County, NJ. This new program for middle- and high school students aims to bring students and successful Korean-American professionals for a day of inspiration and career counseling. Please stay tuned or contact ERI directly for more details.

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## First Yale Asian-American Alumni Reunion

By Mu Young Lee, Ph.D.

One important lesson I learned during my 26 year involvement with East Rock Institute (ERI) is how each of us forms a link between the past and the future. In the modern industrialized world our journeys through this technology-infused life have become ever more deeply personal rather than communal, individualistic more than societal. Every once in a while, however, we get an opportunity to participate in a historic moment. Sometimes we may experience a rare moment which offers an unusually clear vision of our collective history. If especially fortunate, we may find ourselves in a moment where history is being made and celebrated.

On the weekend of April 11, 2014 several ERI board members and supporters were a part of such a special moment, serving as participants and organizers, of the first ever Yale Asian Alumni Reunion. Over three hundred alumni from around the globe returned to New Haven to kick off three days of connection and commitment. Typically a reunion consists of members of a certain graduating class who although they may not have been the closest of friends, do share a familiarity forged in the shared era spent on campus. One might not expect that a reunion spanning more than half a century of graduates could engender such familiarity. However, everywhere I turned during those three days whether in a residential college common room speaking with current undergraduates, or late at night bar conversations, there was a tremendous sense of warmth and welcoming atmosphere that pervaded the reunion.

One also might not expect that the experiences of Yung Wing (Yale College 1854), the first Chinese person to graduate from an American university could resonate a sense of



Nancy Young (Yale '75), Dr. Hesung Chun Koh, and Reunion Co-Chair Julie Wong (Yale '86).

recognition 160 years later. But Mr. Yung had been sent to a missionary school four miles away starting at the age of seven by a Chinese farmer father who wanted to give him a chance at a better life. At Yale he was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He was the parent of bi-racial children, having married Mary Kellogg from Avon, CT. One of his sons graduated from Yale College and the other from the Sheffield Scientific School, which was the scientific college of Yale at the time. Yung Wing was a naturalized American citizen. He has a public elementary school (P.S. 124) named in his honor in New York City. He spent his life working to build connections between China and the United States. In many ways his story is extraordinary, but in sharing and hearing the stories of the other Asian alumni at the reunion, we realized that his story is not so unique. It is a story that is familiar to people of Asian heritage that have lived in America as foreign students, immigrants or multi-generationally established citizens.

*Continues on page 4.*



This is a photo of Korean American Students at Yale (KASY), formed in 1988, with support and mentorship from Dr. Hesung Chun Koh and Dean Joyce Baker.

## Korean Culture Studies and Exhibits in Japan

### Congratulations Prof. Asakura Toshio!

On October 19, 2013, the Order of Cultural Merit, the highest honor was bestowed to a civilian by the Korean Government. It was awarded to Professor Asakura Toshio, Director of Cultural Research at the National Museum of Ethnology (NME), Osaka, Japan, who has a long and unique tie to East Rock Institute.

We wish to celebrate his special accomplishments in promoting cultural exchange between Korea and Japan through his innovative anthropological field work, many collaborative museum exhibits, and publications.

Professor Asakura arrived in South Korea in 1979 to learn Korean language. He entered the graduate school of Chonnam National University and began to conduct anthropological field work throughout the island area of South Korea in 1980. Since then, Professor Asakura has been involved in anthropological field work in various areas, including studies on the transition of Korean rural families to cities, the lifestyle of overseas Koreans, as well as on the Korean Diaspora in China, the United States, Vietnam, and Sakhalin.

In 1988, Professor Asakura began his professional career at the NME, the center for advanced studies of culture in Japan. At the NME, he joined and implemented a wide variety of collaborative research projects and international symposia on Korean culture and society including redesigning the "Culture of the Korean Peninsula" exhibition of the NME in 2000 and 2014.

Among his many achievements, Professor Asakura's exhibitions embody his willingness to explore Korean culture in close cooperation with Korean museums to maximize the attention of both Koreans and Japanese. His exhibition "Seoul Style 2002: Life as It Is with the Lee Family" was co-hosted by the NME and the National Folk Museum of Korea. The exhibition's purpose was to celebrate Korea-Japan ties by hosting a joint exhibition during the 2002 World Cup co-hosted by Japan and Korea.

In 2011, he directed the thematic exhibition "Back to 1936 Dal-ri, Ulsan" in the Ulsan Museum of South Korea,



**Professor Asakura Toshio receives the Order of Cultural Merit.**

exhibiting artifacts from the 1936 "Ulsan Collection" of the NME. In 2013, he organized the traveling exhibition "Arirang: The Soul of Korea." In addition to facilitating a plethora of presentations in academic conferences and lectures, Professor Asakura has contributed many publications about Korean family, kinship, and food culture. He also served as a consultant for Korean TV dramas broadcasted by the NHK, the educational TV channel in Japan, which introduced Korean culture to Japanese society..

Professor Asakura's current project is "Food Culture of Japan and Korea – Food and Museum" with the National Folk Museum of Korea. The exhibition will take place in 2015, or at the 50th anniversary of the Treaty on Basic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea.

Professor Asakura is connected to East Rock Institute through Dr. Umesao Tadao, the first Director-General of the NME, who has been Dr. Hesung Chun Koh's colleague since her involvement with the NME since 1979, at which time she helped to develop the NME's information system. This collaboration was struck when Dr. Umesao attended the Human Relations Area Files, Yale University, conference "Japanese Cultural Information System", organized by Dr. Koh in 1979.



**Dr. Nakamaki Hirochika (left), Dr. Koh (middle), Professor Asakura Toshio (right) at ERI's Fashion Diaspora, Yale Club of New York City, Nov. 2011.**

## First Yale Asian American Alumni Reunion (continued from P. 2)

Throughout its history, ERI has worked to share these stories with American society. And so having spent time with my fellow Yale Asian alums from all over the US and the far corners of the world, once again I was reminded how important it is to tell those stories and consciously work to write the stories of today as they unfold. The reunion also provided an opportunity to meet with current students. This was yet another important lesson from ERI that was reinforced in my mind during the weekend events. When I first walked through the doors of ERI as a college student, I was surprised to find that my opinions and thoughts were solicited and thoughtfully considered by Dr. Koh, then serving as ERI Executive Director. I found that there is so much to learn from young people even

though the majority of the time I found myself in the position of being asked for advice on life and career.

I felt fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve as moderator and co-organizer of Bulldogs and Bytes, the alumni panel discussion on the technology industry during the reunion. Dr. Koh was a speaker at the Global Citizenship panel on "Building Community Through Innovative Thought Leadership" during which she presented a history of ERI's work and its mission to a broad audience of attendees. It was a packed audience in a session that covered the commercialization of art, NGOs in the developing world, corporate social responsibility and how individuals who can negotiate culturally fluid landscapes play a role in connecting global communities.



Group Photo of Participants at the First Annual Asian-American Alumni Reunion

## Korean Culture Studies and Exhibits in Japan (continued from P. 3)

Three weeks after this conference on Korea, Dr. Koh was invited to the NME to give lectures for two weeks to the entire NME faculty and staff regarding the development of the NME information System, followed by a one week field trip to Okaya-kaen. When Dr. Umesao asked how the NME could repay Dr. Koh's contribution, she replied, "I do not believe diplomatic efforts can ease the historical tensions between Korea and Japan. Only high quality Korean studies performed in Japan can bring peace between Japan and Korea. For that reason, I recommend that the NME establish Korean Studies." Dr. Umesao commented "Furoshiki ga okii!", meaning "she thinks big." Among specific steps taken by the NME that had been suggested by Dr. Koh included hiring two research scholars at the rank of professor, including one anthropologist of Korean culture. Dr. Umesao also followed through on his commitment to expand the NME's library holdings on Korean studies, initiated bi-monthly inter-university seminars on Korea, and convening international conferences every four years.

Prof. Asakura joined the NME in 1988 as the first faculty researcher of Korean culture. Between 1997-99, Prof. Asakura participated in the 10 member international and interdisciplinary team that published "A Computer Ethnology of Eight-

eenth-Century Criminal Cases of East Asia: China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam", a study directed by Dr. Koh with support from a Japanese Ministry of Culture Science Research grant, which supported workshops , in Seoul, Peking, Saigon, Hanoi, Leiden, New Haven and various regions in Japan.

In 2010, Prof. Asakura served as a co-host for the "Cultural Fusion of Diaspora" Conference with Professor Hirochika Nakamaki, which took place at the NME and was jointly organized by ERI and Sungshin Women's University as a part of the 40th anniversary celebration of Japan's Expo and the NME's birth. This conference resulted in a one and a half hour NHK TV program on "Culture Wear: the Brain Child of Dr. Koh."

Subsequently, in 2011 Prof. Asakura attended the ERI conference "Culture Wear and the Diaspora Museum" held at Parsons The New School for Design in New York City. It is hoped that even after his retirement from the NME in two years, Prof. Asakura will continue his interest in our joint initiative of the Virtual Diaspora Museum movement and other Korean Culture exhibits promoting ties between US, and Korea with Japan.

## What Have We Learned from Cross-Cultural Aging Initiatives

Dr. Hesung Chun Koh delivered a lecture and presentation entitled "What Have We Learned from Cross-Cultural Aging Initiatives" at the Professional Women's Dinner Meeting (PWDM) of Greater New Haven on March 11, 2014.

PWDM was first organized in 1977 by Dr. Catherine H. Skinner, the first female Master of Jonathan Edwards College at Yale University. Dr. Koh was teaching a seminar, *Women in Cross Cultural Perspective* at Yale College at that time and was invited to serve as one of the charter members of this new women's monthly meeting. The group originally met at Mory's once a month and was called "Committee of 13." This professional group of women is now called PWDM and usually meets at The Graduate Club.

Dr. Koh's lecture, held at the Whitney Center, was a report of the outcome of ERI's Cross-Cultural Aging initiatives over the past few years. Members of the PWDM welcomed this opportunity to visit Whitney Center, an accredited Continuing Care Retirement Community. The cross-cultural aging initiative was originally organized in cooperation with the Whitney Center and Yale School of Nursing, as well as Changwon and Seoul National Universities in Korea.

The presentation was followed by a lively discussion including all who attended that covered such topics as global trends in aging from a comparative demographic view, a comparison of US and Korean aging trends with respect to regional



2013 Professional Women's Dinner Meeting. Photo Courtesy of Kerala Snyder.

distribution, changing social and family structures, with concluding sessions on "What Can an Individual Do to Prepare for One's Aging?" to "What are Public Policy Needs and Our Social Responsibilities?"

The discussion also covered a range of models of elder care and senior living as reported by members who also serve as leaders in Connecticut and the Greater New Haven area, including representatives to Connecticut's Legislative Commission on Aging.

In an increasingly diverse society, it is essential to improve one's cultural competency in order to promote community harmony. However, this dimension has been largely ignored. Dr. Koh and the Whitney Center are excited about ERI's Cross-Cultural Aging Initiative as an opportunity to emphasize the importance of culturally appropriate and rich models of elder care. ERI has contributed to the vibrant cultural life at the Whitney Center since Dr. Koh moved there, with Center residents actively participating in many ERI programs including the *Korean Culture through Authentic Fashion* show in New Haven in 2009 and the mid-life birthday ritual during the 2012 TKC Teachers Conference.

### Dimensions of Wellness



1. Physical
  - A. Fitness/Exercise
  - B. Health Management
  - C. Medical
2. Nutritional
3. Emotional
4. Social
5. Cultural
6. Spiritual
7. Intellectual
8. Service/Volunteerism/Professional/Vocational
9. Homelikeness

ERI's Emphasizes the Importance of the Cultural Dimension of Wellness in Elder Care.

## 10th ERI and Ewha Womans University Summer Internship

By Jin Hur

This year we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Ewha-ERI Summer Internship as four Ewha Womans University students traveled from Seoul to New Haven this summer. The four interns were Hyung-won Kang (senior), Ga-won Kim (senior), Jin Hur (senior) and Yun-ji Na (junior), all from the department of International Office Administration. The partnership between ERI and Ewha has continued with the support from Professor Ae-kyung Choi and Dr. Hesung Chun Koh. With diverse interests and different backgrounds, the four interns applied for this rare opportunity to experience living in the United States and to contribute to the efforts of ERI.

Kang, who is the oldest of the group, recently finished her internship in the marketing agency BMM Korea, where she took part in organizing and assisting conferences hosted by the company. After receiving positive remarks from former ERI interns, Kang decided to apply, as she is interested in the festivals and events held by the Institute.

Kim minors in Business Administration and is fond of many fields of art. Previously, she had enjoyed performances as an observer, but now she is excited about becoming more engaged in the planning of events hosted by ERI. Kim was attracted to the internship by the fact that she would not only act as staff at the events but would also serve to promote cultural exchange in the role of a Korean host. Since ERI festivals help to promote the image of Korea and to spread Korean cultural values, Kim is enthusiastic to be a part of ERI's activities.

Hur, also a senior, applied to the internship anticipating that she would fully utilize her abilities and develop them further during the summer. From her previous experiences as an intern in the Ewha Womans University President's Office and MGM Resorts International, Las Vegas, she wanted her last



**Four interns from Ewha Womans University, participates in planning Illuminating Korean Culture through Dance as Art of Healing event.**

internship at ERI to be an opportunity to acquire a broader perspective of the world. Conversing with Dr. Koh and the staff members of ERI, she could understand better the importance of creative content rather than just conforming to established rules. Furthermore, she anticipates experiencing different cultures within the melting pot of the United States during the eight weeks she will be staying in New Haven.

Lastly, Na, who is the youngest, decided to participate in the ERI internship with hopes of learning from Dr. Koh and her broad achievements. She was inspired by Dr. Koh's view that the young generation of Koreans must have a strong identity, and she was also interested in ERI's cross-cultural aging project. Na hopes to contribute her skills so that she can further the work of Dr. Koh and ERI.

The four interns will take part in the many projects that are currently underway at ERI, including the ERI website revision, completing the inventory of over 5,000 books and archives, organizing the Korean Dance program held at the Whitney Center, and working on the ERI Newsletter.

At this point, the interns have participated in diverse programs organized by ERI, toured the Whitney Center and Yale University, and met diverse people in different fields. They also gained valuable experiences as they visited Philadelphia to meet two successful Korean-American women entrepreneurs in early August.



**Dr. Koh and this year's ERI summer interns, Hyungwon Kang, Jin Hur, Yunji Na, Gawon Kim pose in front of ERI at 251 Dwight St.**

## Illuminating Korean Culture

The highly successful “Illuminating Korean Culture through Dance as Art of Healing,” seminar, workshop, and performance was held at the Cultural Art Center at the Whitney Center on July 19. The event was organized by ERI, the Whitney Center, and the Korean Community Center, Englewood, NJ, with partial Grant from the Korean Cultural Service in New York. Dr. Christopher Park, ERI president, served as moderator, and Dr. Hesung Koh, ERI Chair, gave the opening remarks.

The dancers included Hyunju Lee, Ph.D. in Performing Art (Hyunju Lee Dance Company and Laban Movers), Cheryl Clark, and Minchae Lee, Ph.D., who were accompanied by *kayageum* (Korean traditional zither) players Ms. Young-eun Kim and Ms. Song-eun Shin. The afternoon was divided into three sessions: that consisted of the dance performance followed by lectures, Q&A, and a dance workshop. Cheryl Clark described Laban Movement Analysis as a method and language for describing, visualizing, interpreting and documenting all varieties of human movement. It is widely used as a tool by dancers, actors, and musicians, and is one of the most widely used systems of human movement analysis today, and it is currently being used by Dr. Lee and Ms. Clark to analyze Korean traditional dance. Dr. Koh concluded the event by highlighting how the major characteristics of Korean Dance reflect Korean cultural values.

This program represented an unprecedented dialogue between the East and West through dance and music that highlighting key aspects of Korean culture. Evaluations from those attending this special event included descriptors including “fantastic”, “absolutely gorgeous”, “inspiring”, “delicious”, “mesmerizing,” “highly educational”, and “magnificent!”.

(Additional photo on p. 13)



**Dr. Hyunju Lee performs Korean traditional dance at the Illuminating Korean Culture through Dance as Art of Healing event.**



**Young-eun Kim and Song-eun Shin play *kayageum*, the Korean traditional zither.**



**Over 100 people attended the Illuminating Korean Culture through Dance as Art of Healing event at Whitney Center.**

## ERI Family News

### Congratulations Catherin Kil and Dr. Bohun Choi!



Catherine Kil, former ERI summer intern, with Bohun Choi in their wedding photo.

Catherine Kil will start her medical education in August at the University of Buffalo, The State University of New York. Catherine completed her summer internship at ERI in 2013 and served as a managing editor of the ERI newsletters in 2013 and 2014. She enjoyed her participation in ERI's cross-cultural activities, and is thankful for the support and encouragement of the ERI family.

Catherine is now married to Bohun Choi, a recent graduate of the New York University College of Dentistry. Their wedding ceremony and reception were held in Daejeon, Korea on June 28. Catherine hopes to bring cultural understanding to her future practice and looks forward to delivering culturally competent care.



Choi and Kil married in Daejeon on June 28.

### Dr. Bruce Y. Cha shares exciting professional and personal milestones



**Dr. Bruce Y. Cha**

Dr. Cha recently expanded his endodontic practice to newly renovated facilities at 406 Orange Street in New Haven, CT. Trained at Yonsei University College of Dentistry and University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Cha is entering his 26th year in practice in the Greater New Haven area. He also maintains teaching positions at the Uni-



**Dr. and Mrs. Cha's daughter, Christine Cha, and her fiancé, Dustin Saldarriaga.**

**Dr. Cha renovates his office at 406 Orange Street in New Haven.**



versity of Connecticut and Yale-New Haven Hospital.

To add to this good news, Dr. and Mrs. Cha's daughter, Christine Cha, was recently engaged to Dustin Saldarriaga. Christine is a doctoral student of clinical psychology, and Dustin, her fiancé, is an attorney at the U.S. Department of Labor. The two met during their shared time at Harvard University and look forward to celebrating the union of Korean and Colombian/Texan cultures.

## ERI Family News

### Howard Kyongju Koh, MD, returns to teach at Harvard University School of Public Health after five years at HHS



**Dr. Howard Kyongju Koh**

Dr. Howard Kyongju Koh will leave his position at the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) to assume a new position as Professor of the Practice of Public Health Leadership at Harvard University's School of Public Health. Dr. Koh, who has served in his current position for five years and has contributed over 10 years of public service, including as the Commissioner of Public Health of Massachusetts for six years, has spent portions of his career as a primary care physician striving to improve individual health, as a researcher at premiere academic institutions, and has also played a prominent role in developing and implementing strategies that have improved public health systems and the health status of populations across the country. See additional quotes below about Dr. Howard K. Koh.

### Katherine A. Koh, M.D. receives MD degree and begins residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston

*"Howard Koh's distinguished tenure at HHS was marked by an unparalleled commitment to public health and unprecedented efforts to improve access among low-income and medically underserved populations to disease prevention and early detection measures that are proven to save lives. Dr. Koh turned what was already the highest-level federal position focusing on public health into a public platform for urging Americans in every corner of the country to adopt healthy behaviors that can prevent chronic diseases such as cancer and reduce health care costs."*

Quoted from, John R. Seffrin, chief executive officer of the American Cancer Society and its advocacy affiliate, the

*"Dr. Howard Koh has been relentlessly committed to improving the health of all communities of color, especially Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders (AA&NHOPIs). We are fortunate to have had such a friend and staunch ally in our corner. We thank him for the notable contributions he made in the areas of tobacco control, cancer screening, suicide prevention, and viral hepatitis. Through his efforts, we have made great strides in reducing the gaps of health disparities that exist for AA&NHOPIs."*

Quoted from the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations.

Congratulations to Katherine (Katie) Arrigg Koh, daughter of former ERI Board members Dr. Claudia Arrigg and Dr. Howard Kyongju Koh. Katie received her MD degree in May 2014 from Harvard Medical School and began her residency in psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital in June. Prior to medical school, Katie received her B.A. from Harvard College, *magna cum laude* with Highest Honors in Psychology, and received a Master of Science degree in Social Policy, with Distinction, from the University of Oxford.



**Dr. Howard Kyongju Koh (left), Dr. Katherine A. Koh (center) and her mother, Dr. Claudia Arrigg (right), at the Harvard Medical School commencement in May 2014.**

## ERI and Community

### Dr. Koh visits Penn Asian Senior Services (PASSi)

Dr. Hesung Chun Koh visited Penn Asian Senior Services (PASSi) during her trip to Philadelphia to attend the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting. Established in April 2004 as Korean American Senior Services of Pennsylvania, PASSi is now the largest home care agency in Pennsylvania specializing in the care of English limited Asian seniors.



**Im Ja Choi is the executive director of Penn Asian Senior Services. (PASSi)**

Im Ja Choi, executive director, founded PASSi following her personal experiences caring for her 87-year-old mother who was diagnosed with stomach cancer. At that time, the state of Pennsylvania lacked a home health agency capable of providing home health aide training in Korean. To make such services available to seniors with difficulties in English, Choi created an agency to cater to the specific needs of Korean seniors. PASSi now offers services in eight different languages with over 300 clients.



**PASSi was established in Pennsylvania in April 2004 .**

This represents more than 1000 percent growth of PASSi since its founding in 2005.

PASSi provides services for the elderly such as home healthcare services to low-income seniors and disabled adult Asian-Americans, vocational training programs in the Penn Asian Vocational Institute, community outreach, and the annual gala. The annual gala is the most exciting event of the year and is attended by leaders in the local community as well as people affiliated with the aging and healthcare fields.

Hesung Koh's two-day visit also included interviews with PASSi social workers caring for Chinese, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Indian and Korean elders. Moreover, she witnessed a highly successful one day care program attended by

over 100 seniors and met some of the participants personally. It was exciting to witness this pioneering program, which is now housed and impeccably maintained in a newly renovated building.

Dr. Koh was deeply impressed by the extraordinary leadership of Ms. Choi, and was proud to witness PASSi's accomplishments. This visit was the result of Ms. Choi's attendance at the 2013 ERI and Whitney Center conference on the Cross-Cultural Aging Initiative held at the Whitney Center. This trip deepened Dr. Koh's and Ms. Choi's mutual understanding of each other's strengths as well as identify the common interests of ERI and PASSi, and there was great mutual excitement in finding a new partner to promote the cultural dimension of high quality care and wellness in senior living.

### ERI co-sponsors KASY program with Donna E. Chung

Donna E. Chung, the International Relations Officer in the Trade Policy & Negotiations Division of US Department of Labor spoke on the topic, "Life Beyond Yale: In the Negotiating Rooms of International Policy" on April 14, 2014. This event was presented by the Korean American Students of Yale (KASY) and was co-sponsored by Yale Asian-American Cultural Center (AACC) and East Rock Institute (ERI). Dr. Koh attended the event and brought personal greetings from Dr. Mu Young Lee, vice president of ERI, and herself, who provided special support to this program.

Dr. Chung shared reflections on her time at Yale as well as her experiences working in the fields of international policy and business as a government official, an advisor to businesses on corporate social responsibility, an adjunct professor of international policy and social enterprise, and director of an NGO fighting against human trafficking.

**Donna E. Chung is adjunct faculty member at American University in the School of International Service, where she has taught since 2007.**



## KCC leaders visit Dr. Koh at Whitney Center

Dr. Kye Un Ma and Mrs. Hye-bong Park, leaders of the Korean Community Center (KCC) in Englewood, NJ, visited Dr. Koh at the Whitney Center and

Although it has the appearance of a typical condominium, the Whitney Center also provides many amenities and health care services for the residents in its own Health Center.

The KCC in Englewood, NJ is a not-for-profit, charitable organization committed to promoting healthy and independent living for all community members and to integrate the Korean population into the greater community by providing broad programs and services that range from cul-

ture and education, to health and social services, to civic advocacy. Its vision is to provide practical tools and assistance to Korean immigrants to overcome their language and cultural barriers and to preserve and promote Korean cultural heritage and social identity through self-empowerment and spirit of giving while building bridges to American society.

Dr. Ma hopes to continue her visits to different senior living institutions in collaboration with ERI with the long-term goal of assisting members of the KCC to find the right continuing care retirement community when appropriate. Dr. Ma anticipates that someday in the future, the KCC might build such a facility for its own members.



Mrs. Hye-bong Park (left), Dr. Koh (center), Dr. Kye Un Ma, President of KCC, Englewood, NJ. (right)

toured its facilities. Having a shared interest in the quality of services offered by elder care facilities, Dr. Ma and Dr. Koh met to discuss possible collaborations between ERI and the KCC to improve the welfare of seniors.

The Whitney Center is a not-for-profit senior living community located just north of New Haven in Hamden, CT. Residents are predominantly elderly adults who have retired from diverse professions and actively take part in planning and carrying out various cultural and education programs for center residents and the wider community.



The new KCC building in Tenafly, NJ, is expected to be completed by April 2015.

## Visitors to ERI and the Whitney Center



Dr. Woojin Kim and Mrs. Hongju Sim with Dr. Koh at the Whitney Center Residents Art Gallery (left).

Dr. Koh is interviewed by Paul Yoo of Philadelphia on Korean American Identity (right).



**Dr. Woojin Kim**, post-doctoral fellow at Yale Medical School, Mrs. Hongju Sim, and their three sons, Corey, Jake, and Lex, visited Dr. Koh on May 18.

**Ms. In-sook Seol**, Mr. Han-ki Yoo, and their teenage son Paul Yoo, from Philadelphia, PA, visited Dr. Koh on June 13-14, 2014, to discuss issues of Korean-American Identity and seek guidance. Paul Yoo interviewed Dr. Koh at her residence.

## Visitors to ERI and Whitney Center



**Dr. and Mrs. Yong-gu Kim, their two sons, Byung-gil and Byung-woo, and Un-sam Koh, visited Dr. Koh at ERI.**

**Dr. and Mrs. Young-gu Kim**, from Korea and their two sons, Drs. Byung-gil Kim and Byung-woo Kim, visited Dr. Koh on July 12, 2014 and toured the ERI office before returning to New Jersey. Byung-woo was accompanied by his bride, Un-sam Koh (Smith College BA in Art History). The Kim family has been a strong supporter of ERI for many years. Congratulations to the family on the birth of their first granddaughter Olivia Kim, daughter of Dr. Byung-gil Kim.



**Happy 100th Day, Olivia Kim!**

**Forty Busan International High School (BIHS)** students led by five teachers, Jongweon Choi, vice principal, Sunhee Cho, Myoungchul Kim, Sungtak Kim and Suknam Choi, visited Dr. Koh at the Whitney Center on July 17, 2014. Dr. Koh lectured on the requirements for global leadership and engaged the students during a lively Q&A session. Four interns from Ewha Womans University also participated in the presentation, providing information about ERI and its collaborative project on Korean Culture and Dance with the Whitney Center, the KCC of Englewood, NJ, Korean Cultural Service in NY, as well as Ewha-ERI Summer Internship (see page 7). The students and teachers from BIHS deeply appreciated time spent with Dr. Koh. (See an additional photo on p. 13)



**Busan International High School students with Dr. Koh and ERI's four summer interns.**

## In Memory of Professor Joon Yoo

By Doug K. Choi, Ph.D.

Professor JoonYoo (俞東濬), age 75, passed away on Thursday morning, May 1, 2014, following a brief illness. He was a respected member of the Korean-American community in Connecticut as well as a highly accomplished member of various insurance financial organizations.

Mr. Yoo was raised in an academically rigorous family. Early in his academic career, he was awarded a Fulbright grant, with a full academic scholarship to Davidson College. Later, he attended MIT's Graduate School of Economics. Upon his graduation with an MS degree in Economics, he continued his storied 30-year business career, including positions as Managing Director of Money Management and Chief Investment Officer at various insurance companies. Later in life, he became an adjunct professor at University of Connecticut School of Business.

Despite his very traditional academic and career path, he was very introspective about his upbringing, and aware of the pressures and hypocrisies relating to his own academic and career successes. He had written many short memoirs about his family and childhood, and how they colored his own perspectives as he became older, switching roles from son to father and provider. He had mentioned in his memoirs that his role as father was the ultimate highlight of his life and included, "adventures with many hilarious, exhilarating and humbling moments."

He was an integral member of Korean-American Senior Organization, for which he promoted an adventurous, fun, and active senior living lifestyle. He also had contributed ideas towards the goal of creating a significant experience for aging, for vital, meaningful life after retirement, such as with East Rock Institute's Meaningful Aging Project.

His death was a sad surprise to many of his friends, who remember him with fondness and admiration. His loyalty, sense of humor, and keen intellect will be missed by all of us who knew him well. Though he is no longer with us, he has left a long legacy through his friends and fellowship. He approached his life and friends with unwavering enjoyment and pleasure. We all pray for Joon, and commit him fondly in our memories.



**Professor Joon Yoo**



**Dr. Koh and BIHS students in active dialogue on Global Leadership.**



**Modern adaptation of Korean dance, July 19.**

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