



Center for Korea Studies
University of Washington

Science Fiction in South and North Korea



Dong-Won Kim

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Why have science fiction novels and movies been so unpopular in South Korea? Why have North Korean leaders so enthusiastically supported science fiction? How and in what way have their political, cultural and historical backgrounds influenced making different attitudes toward science fiction? By analyzing science fiction in South and North Korea, Dr. Dong-Won Kim will present very different popular images of science and technology in two Koreas and examine the causes of these strange phenomena.

Dr. Dong-Won Kim is a historian of science. He received a PhD from Harvard University in 1991. He had taught at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (1994-2005), Johns Hopkins University (1998-99, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2012) and Harvard University (2013 -). He was the Dean of the College of Cultural Science at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (2009-2012). Since the fall of 2008, he has been the president of the D. Kim Foundation for the History of Science and Technology in East Asia, which provides young scholars with fellowships and grants.

Dr. Kim's major research fields are history of physics in the 19th and 20th centuries, and history of science and technology in Korea and Japan. He published several papers on these subjects, and two books, *Leadership and Creativity: A History of the Cavendish Laboratory, 1871-1919* (Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002) and *Yoshio Nishina: Father of Modern Physics in Japan* (London: Taylor and Francis, 2007). He is currently working on two book projects: cosmic ray research in the 20th century and a textbook on the history of science and technology in modern East Asia.

3:30-5:00 PM, Thomson Hall 317

Friday, Dec 5, 2014



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