



Center for Korea Studies

University of Washington

Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

Spring 2017

The Challenges of North Korean Instability

The third annual [Korean Peninsula Forum](#) was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016 in the University of Washington's Law School. The invited speaker was Dr. Bruce W. Bennett, a senior defense analyst at the [RAND Corporation](#). Dr. Bennett is an expert in Northeast Asian military affairs, having traveled extensively throughout the region and written much about Korean security issues. His research and writing focuses on: North Korean WMD threats (nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons), deterrence and counter-measures against such threats, future Korean military force requirements, the North-South military balance, Chinese

involvement in North Korea, and the issues surrounding Korean Unification, including how to manage a North Korean government collapse. He received his PhD in policy analysis from the [Pardee RAND Graduate School](#) and BS in economics from the [California Institute of Technology](#). Dr. Bennett gave a keynote address titled, "The Challenges of North Korean Instability." The event was organized by the Center for Korea Studies and sponsored by the [Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle](#) and the [East Asia Center](#) at the University of Washington.

The third Korean Peninsula Forum successfully built upon the previous two. For the inaugural 2014 forum, Christopher Hill, former US Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, as well as head of the US delegation to the Six-Party Talks, presented, "Regional Dynamics in Northeast Asia and the Future of US-South Korea Relations," which focused on the US view of the North Korean issue. In 2015, former ROK diplomat, chief secretary of foreign affairs, and head of the South Korean delegation to the Six-Party Talks, Chun Yungwoo's, "China's Role in the North Korean Nuclear Crisis," offered a window into the South Korean perspective.

During the third annual event, Dr. Bennett provided his analysis of North Korea's nuclear program and potential instability or breakdown within North Korea. During his talk, Dr. Bennett highlighted what he saw as various



indications of North Korea's internal weakness and the potential for "sudden change," in the form of regime instability or collapse. In terms of North Korea's internal conditions, Dr. Bennett cited several well-known issues such as the lack of energy resources and provision, the lack of adequate food distribution, and the resultant malnutrition and starvation among large numbers of ordinary North Koreans.

According to Dr. Bennett, such conditions made North Korea a "4th world country." He noted that these problems played a distinct role in the emergence of the North's so-called *songun* or "military first" policy, wherein the regime channels what

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About

The Center for Korea Studies fosters teaching, research, and outreach related to Korea at the University of Washington and in North America.

Our Team

Clark W. Sorensen
Director

Young Sook Lim
Associate Director

Tracy L. Stober
Managing Editor

Clint Work
Research Assistant



From the Director

This year we have been winding down our activities associated with the ten years of funding we received from the [Academy of Korean Studies](#). Accordingly we are having fewer colloquia, and no major academic conferences this year. I also gave up [The Journal of Korean Studies](#) that I had edited here at the UW for seven years from 2009 to 2016. (It has moved to Columbia University under the capable leadership of Professor Theodore Hughes.) But that doesn't mean we are standing still. Professor Cho received tenure last spring, so we now have four tenured faculty members, and we will continue to publish our conference volumes based on previous conferences.

Our most recent volume, [Spaces of Possibility: In, Between, and Beyond Korea and Japan](#) has ten chapters based on comparative fieldwork in Korea and Japan coming from our 2012 conference held in conjunction with the Simpson Center at the University of Washington. We were pleased to be able to include 73 color illustrations in this volume. We plan to continue to be a program that, though small in number (four tenured faculty members), is big in impact in the Korea Studies field. All of our faculty are engaged in new teaching and research projects, and we hope to see the results in the coming years.

Clark W. Sorensen

Chair of Korea Studies Program and Director of the Center for Korea Studies

Center for Korea Studies

Henry M. Jackson
School of Int'l Studies
Campus Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195

Visit us on the web:

[JSIS-KOREA](#)

Email:

uwcks@uw.edu

Phone:

206-543-4873

Fax:

206-685-0668



2016–17 Korea Colloquia Speaker Series



[“The Paradigm Shift of Urban and Housing Policy in South Korea”](#)

Jeeyop Kim

Ajou University, South Korea
February 10, 2017



[“The Regenerative Ethics of a Scientific Melodrama”](#)

Marcie Middlebrooks

Post-doc, Cornell University
March 10, 2017



[“The Origins of Social Inequality and Political Hierarchy in Korea”](#)

Rachel Lee

Post-doc fellow, UW
December 10, 2017



[“Personal Narratives of Modernization from Rural South Korea”](#)

Youngmi Kim, Kookmin University
October 14, 2016

Dr. Soo Hee Kim Resigns

In August 2016, the University of Washington bid farewell to our beloved and respected professor of Korean language and literature, Dr. Soo Hee Kim.

Since 1999, Dr. Kim has spent her time encouraging students to enjoy the Korean language and learn all about Korea. We are very sorry to see her go and wish her well in her new endeavors. Hundreds of students have continued their studies because of her, and many are working around the globe in the Korea field.

In addition to being known for her outstanding teaching skills, Dr. Kim is well known for her *You Speak Korean!* Korean Language textbooks (co-authored with Emily Curtis), which are considered the best in the field. There are four volumes and another volume is on the way.



The Center for Korea Studies looks forward to sharing news of her new books in the future.

For details about these fantastic textbooks visit [Paradigm Busters](#). We miss you Soo Hee!

Student Spotlight: Study Abroad

Isaiah Peterson's Summer Reflections

In the summer of last year, I was fortunate enough to take a short—but meaningful—educational trip to South Korea to learn the Korean language. Unfortunately, no summer language programs offered by any major university fit with my schedule for the summer. Nonetheless, I was determined to visit Korea, as I'd been dreaming of the opportunity to visit since I was in high school. At last the opportunity presented itself at a private language academy located in the Seoul district of Gangnam, a district notable for its vibrant nightlife and bustling modernity. At this language academy, [Lexis Korea](#), students could select any timeframe for study they desired, making it the perfect fit for me. I paid the fees associated and prepared for my long-awaited trip. After the ten-hour flight (which I experienced in nervous anticipation), I finally arrived at my destination. I found my way to my studio apartment I reserved in Gangnam and prepared myself for my imminent weeks of study. I'd been studying the Korean language for about two years at the University of Washington prior to arriving, but I was



Isaiah Peterson, enjoying a Korean meal.

concerned as to whether it would truly be sufficient to effectively communicate with others in Korea.

The courses I enrolled in at Lexis Korea were rather intensive: three straight hours of grammar practice followed by two more hours of conversation practice, every weekday. At first, the classes were very difficult to follow, as they were taught exclusively in Korean (unlike at my university). While I spent the first week and a half struggling to keep up with my teachers and classmates, I soon noticed an interesting shift in my ability to understand and speak the language. Without my knowing, my thinking and speaking in Korean began to become more and more automatic. By the time four weeks of study had passed, I stopped thinking of myself as “speaking a second language” and began to simply consider myself as just “speaking.” I became more brave in my excursions and urban explorations of the city, confident in my newfound abilities to communicate.

Miscommunications still occurred frequently, for sure. Most importantly though, I had lost the fear of

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Korean Library News

East Asia Library: “Korea Corner”



Betsy Wilson and Consul General Moon Duk-Ho

The UW East Asia Library received a gift of \$38,500 from the [Consul Office of the Republic of Korea in Seattle](#) to create a “Korea Corner” in the East Asia Library. After months of preparation work for the space, a dedication ceremony for the Korea Corner was held on July 29, 2016, when the Korea Corner Memorandum of Understanding was officially signed by Vice Provost for Digital Initiatives and Dean of University Libraries Lizabeth (Betsy) Wilson and Consul General Moon Duk-ho. This space, newly decorated with a Korean cultural touch, is located on the mezzanine floor of the East Asia Library located in Gowen Hall and provides students with more comfortable group study and media areas. It features a widescreen monitor with a laptop connection cable and headphones, iPads, study tables with built-in electrical outlets, comfortable chairs, a media presentation package, and Korean e-books.

Friends of the UW Korean Collection Raises \$18,330!

Through the [UW Libraries 2016 Literary Voices](#) event in May 2016, Mr. Young Ho Kim, the Korean table author, and the invited guests agreed to form the Friends of the UW Korean Collection to support of the East Asia Library’s Korean Collection. Hyokyoung Yi (Korean Studies Librarian) and Heija Ryoo (Korean Cataloging Librarian) are members of this group, which raised \$3,300 for the UW Korean Cataloging (KORCAT) fund at the event. Over \$15,000 was raised at a follow-up party held at a lavender farm in July 2016.



Fundraisers at a lavender farm on Whidbey Island

Korean Collections Consortium of North America Update

Approaching the end of the current grant contract of the [Korean Collections Consortium of North America](#) (KCCNA), fourteen Korean Studies librarians in North America gathered together at the University of Michigan in May, 2016 to discuss the future of the KCCNA. The Consortium member librarians reviewed more than 20 years of KCCNA activities and proposed new initiatives to apply for collections grants for next five years from the [Korea Foundation](#) (KF). The KCCNA submitted the final grant proposal to the Korea Foundation last fall and it is pending a final decision. As an inaugural member of the KCCNA, the University of Washington has been a recipient of annual KF grants ranging from \$20,000–\$30,000 since 1994. This additional collection fund is crucial for Korean Studies as it allows the UW to continue to build important resources on Korea in various formats including e-books and e-journals.

**[East Asia
Library](#)
Celebrates
80th
Anniversary!
1937–2017**

Korean Library News

Korean-Language E-RESOURCES

In partnership with the [Korean American Historical Society](#) (KAHS) in Seattle and the [Overseas Korea Foundation](#), the East Asia Library recently completed in-house scanning of several Korean American publications. Hyokyung Yi, Korean Studies Librarian, lead the project with technical assistance from the Libraries Digital Initiative. All three publications can be viewed or downloaded from the UW Research Works Archive.

The [Hanin Hoebo](#) ([한인회보](#), [Washington State Korean Association News](#)) covering 1973–2012 was the first publication scanned.



The [Occasional Papers of the Korean American Historical Society](#) (five volumes published 1985–2001) were also digitized.

[Washington State Korean Students Association](#)

[newsletters, 1973–76](#), [Haksaeng Hoebo](#) ([학생회보](#)), [Mugunghwa](#) ([무궁화](#)), and [Haksaeng Hoeji](#) ([학생회지](#)) were the final resources to be scanned.



Bruce and Ju chan Fulton

북소리 — Booksori

[Booksori](#) is a free public Korean book talk program hosted monthly by the UW East Asia Library. Organized by Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyung Yi, Booksori has earned a reputation from UW community as well as with the local Korean community as a important and influential Korean cultural and educational program. This year's Booksori introduced more diverse and current topics on Korea through the invitation of several renowned speakers and a careful selection of books. Recent speakers include

[Bruce Fulton](#) and Ju chan Fulton (translators of Cho Chong-rae's the [Human Jungle](#)), Jin Young Kim (researcher at Microsoft on data sciences), Prof. Young-mi Kim (Kungmin University), Prof. Jin-Kyu Jung and Prof. Hwasook Nam (both at Univ. of Washington) and Korean Librarian Hyokyung Yi. Booksori is made possible by the support of the Korean Library Fund at the East Asia Library. If you would like to donate to this fund, click [here](#).

Recent Publications by Faculty

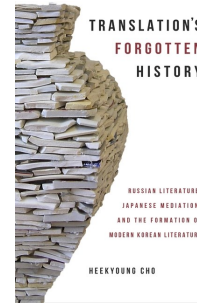


[Spaces of Possibility: In, Between, and Beyond Korea and Japan](#), co-edited by **Clark W. Sorensen** and **Andrea Gevurtz Arai**, University of Washington Press, 2016.

The Center for Korea Studies is pleased to announce the publication of the seventh volume in the UW Center for Korea Studies Publication Series. *Spaces of Possibility: In, Between, and Beyond Korea and Japan*, edited by [Clark W. Sorensen](#) and [Andrea Gevurtz Arai](#) is available through the University of Washington Press, in both paperback and hardcover. This fine publication has over 70 images and is printed in full cover.

The project began in the fall of 2011, with a working group of Korea and Japan anthropologists as well as literary scholars invited to the University of Washington from across the United States. Four of the six members of the working group traveled together to Korea and Japan in the summer prior to do fieldwork research on topics ranging from memorials, material remains, and popular representations of the colonial period in the present, to regional identity, performance and tourism, popular art, global imagery, and labor activism. The workshop solidified into a 2012 conference held at the UW's Simpson Center for the Humanities, which culminated in this edited volume.

Spaces of Possibility engages with spaces in, between, and beyond the national borders of Japan and Korea. Some of these spaces involve the ambiguous longings and aesthetic refigurings of the past in the present, the social possibilities that emerge out of the seemingly impossible new spaces of development, the opportunities of genre, and spaces of new ethical subjectivities. Museums, colonial remains, new architectural spaces, graffiti, street theater, popular song, recent movies, photographic topography, and translated literature all serve as keys for unlocking the ambiguous and contradictory—yet powerful—emotions of spaces, whether in Tokyo, Seoul, or New York.



[Translation's Forgotten History: Russian Literature, Japanese Mediation, and the Formation of Modern Korean Literature](#) by **Heekyoung Cho**, Harvard University Asia Center, 2016.

[Heekyoung Cho](#) in her work *Translation's Forgotten History* investigates the meanings and functions that translation generated for modern national literatures during their formative period and reconsiders literature as part of a dynamic translational process of negotiating foreign values. By examining the triadic literary and cultural relations among Russia, Japan, and colonial Korea and revealing a shared sensibility and literary experience in East Asia (which referred to Russia as a significant other in the formation of its own modern literatures), this book highlights translation as a radical and ineradicable part—not merely a catalyst or complement—of the formation of modern national literature. *Translation's Forgotten History* thus rethinks the way modern literature developed in Korea and East Asia. While national canons are founded on amnesia regarding their process of formation, framing literature from the beginning as a process rather than an entity allows a more complex and accurate understanding of national literature formation in East Asia and may also provide a model for world literature today.

“Innovative and concise, *Translation's Forgotten History* exemplifies the strengths of comparative literary studies since the coming of postcolonial scholarship.”

—[Lydia H. Liu](#), Columbia University

“*Translation's Forgotten History* powerfully unpacks the overlooked translation and retranslation regimes central to the formation of modern Korean literature in the early 20th century.”

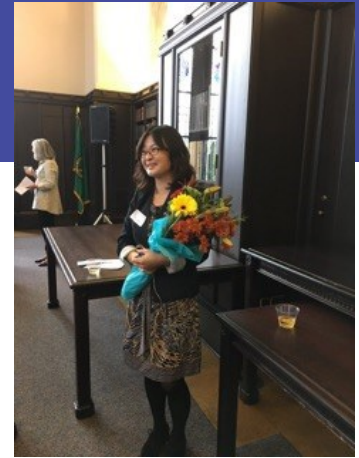
—[Theodore Hughes](#), Columbia University

“*Translation's Forgotten History* provides a particularly welcome new perspective on literary dynamics in 20th century East Asia by examining Korean intellectuals' translations and appropriations of Russian prose through Japanese-language translations.”

—[Karen Thornber](#), Harvard University

Librarian Hyokyoung Yi Promotion

In recognition of her excellent work and contributions to UW Libraries, [Hyokyoung Yi](#), Head of Public Services and Korean Studies Librarian, was promoted to Full Librarian (the highest rank for librarians at UW) in 2016.



Hyokyoung Yi at Promotion Ceremony

Korea Studies of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies 14th Publication

Palais
2017
Book
Prize

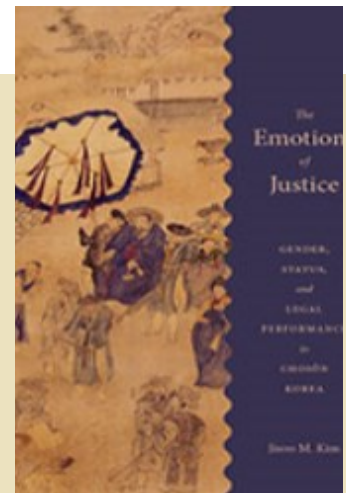
[The Emotions of Justice](#)

[Gender, Status, and Legal Performance in Chosŏn Korea](#)

University of Washington Press, 2016

JISOO M. KIM

The Chosŏn state (1392–1910) is typically portrayed as a rigid society because of its hereditary status system, slavery, and Confucian gender norms. However, *The Emotions of Justice* reveals a surprisingly complex picture of a judicial system that operated in a contradictory fashion by discriminating against subjects while simultaneously minimizing such discrimination. Jisoo M. Kim contends that the state's recognition of *won*, or the sense of being wronged, permitted subjects of different genders or statuses to interact in the legal realm and in doing so illuminates the intersection of law, emotions, and gender in premodern Korea.



[JISOO M. KIM](#) is Korea Foundation Assistant Professor of History, International Affairs, and East Asian Languages and Literatures at George Washington University.

"*The Emotions of Justice* is well written . . . [and] provides an illuminating analysis of the relationship between the state and its subjects before the modern era. This is a sophisticated addition to our understanding of gender roles in Chosŏn."

—[Donald Baker](#), University of British Columbia

Jisoo M. Kim, for her work *The Emotions of Justice*, was the recipient of the 2017 James B. Palais Book Prize awarded by the [Association of Asian Studies](#).

Graduate Student Updates

(continued on page 11)



Emily Hall is a PhD candidate in the UW History Department with a specialization in Modern Korean History. She is currently in her final stages of the dissertation writing process with plans to defend in winter 2017. Her dissertation focuses on the life and work of the editorial cartoonist, Kim Sŏnghwan (1932–present), the author and illustrator of South Korea’s longest running editorial cartoon, *Mr. Kobau* (*Kobau yŏnggam*) and more than 50 published works including societal and art criticism.

Over the last year, Emily Hall presented three papers related to her dissertation at the [Association for Asian Studies](#) Conference, [International Conference for NextGen Korean Studies Scholars](#) (2016), and the [History in the Making Conference](#). She will also be presenting a paper at the [2017 International Comics Arts Form](#) in November. In addition, Emily Hall currently has over 25 oral history interviews on display in the [Boeing Flight Path exhibit](#) at the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) in Seattle.



Donghui Park is a PhD candidate (JSIS), primarily focusing on cyber warfare and the Northeast Asia region. He hopes to participate in developing South Korean national conventional military and cybersecurity strategies in the future. To achieve both his short—and long—term goals, Mr. Park is currently studying with several

Northeast Asian area and security studies specialists at the University of Washington.

Mr. Park is an active duty army officer of the Republic of Korea. After graduating from the South Korean Military Academy with a BA in Military History in 2005, Donghui was assigned to a post in the demilitarized zone for three years. After receiving a Master’s degree in History from Yonsei University in Seoul in 2010, he taught cadets in the Department of Military History as a military professor at the Korea Army Academy for four and half years. He joined the PhD program in 2014. Donghui Park received the Sochon Foundation Scholarship (2017–18 tuition and stipend).



Patrick Thomsen, a PhD Candidate (JSIS) will be spending 15 months in South Korea conducting field research related to his dissertation project. Patrick will be traveling around South Korea

conducting interviews and ethnographic work pertaining to his dissertation. Patrick’s dissertation is a comparative project between Seattle and South Korea, this field research in South Korea represents the second phase of his research timeline. Patrick is researching the role of human rights discourse, globalization and its effects on the narratives and visibility of sexual minorities in Korea. The Center for Korea Studies awarded Patrick a partial grant to help fund his research activities. In addition, he has been given a research and teaching post at [Yonsei University’s Institute for Poverty Alleviation and Development](#) in Wonju, and will begin teaching in their School for Public Administration from the fall. Patrick Thomson received the travel funds from the Sochon Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund, in 2017 for study abroad.

PhD candidate (JSIS) **John Clinton Work** (Clint) presented some of his ongoing work at the “[Ronald Reagan and the Transformation of Global Politics in the 1980s](#),”

conference held at the University of Texas at Austin. The conference brought together a group of scholars and former policymakers to undertake a wide-ranging reassessment of U.S. foreign policy and international relations during the Reagan Administration in light of emerging archival resources and declassified documents. Work, whose research focuses on South Korean political culture and national security, as well as the US-Korean relationship, participated as the only graduate student among professors and other experts on the “South and East Asia” panel. His paper was titled: “Shifting Hierarchy and Subordinate Sovereignty: The Carter-Reagan Transition and the US-South Korean Alliance.” He received the Sochon Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund summer stipend for 2017.



11th Annual K-12 Teacher's Conference

On Saturday, May 20, 2017, the Center for Korea Studies hosted its 11th Annual [K-12 Teachers' Conference](#). For the first time the conference was sponsored by the [Korea Foundation through its Korean Studies Workshop for Non-Korean Educators Program](#) and focused on providing informative Korea-related presentations as well as accessible resources and lesson plans for teachers to use in their classrooms. In addition to four presentations, the conference participants enjoyed a catered Korean lunch, a live Taekwondo performance, and a hands-on Korean Minhwa ink painting activity. The conference centered on building continuity with Washington State teachers, and with that in mind offered two \$500 dollar grants as part of a post-conference lesson plan contest.

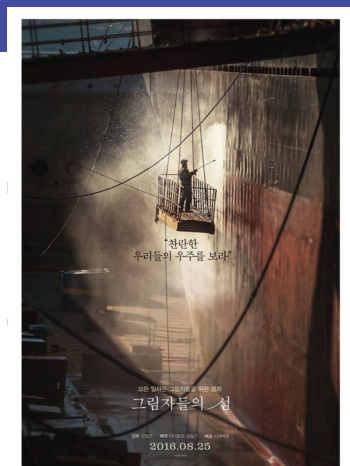
The conference aims to disseminate information on Korean history, politics and culture, to encourage the incorporation of Korea-related topics into classroom curriculum, and to build a collaborative effort among Washington-area teachers in the process. Conference presentations included: "Religious History of Korea: Shamanism, Buddhism, and Confucianism" by [Mark Peterson](#), Associate Professor, Department of Asian & Near Eastern Language, Brigham Young University; "North Korea: Past and Present" by Clint Work, International Studies Ph.D. Candidate, University of Washington; "Connecting Concepts: Korea as a Bright Thread in the Social Studies Fabric" by Kevin Richins, Lynden High School teacher, former president of Social Studies Association of Washington State; "Show Me the Money: Cultural Appropriation and Authenticity in Korean "Idol" Hip-Hop" by Youngdae Kim, Ethnomusicology Ph.D, University of Washington; and "Korean Traditional Art: Korean Minhwa Painting" by Haesung Yoon, Korean Artist. The [K-12 Teacher's Conference](#) is an annual event held in the spring quarter of each year. Teachers at all levels between K-12 are welcome to participate. They receive free teaching materials, lesson plans for social studies, history, language, and art, as well as free reference books, and six clock hours.



Presentation by Mark Petersen.

"Sky Protest" and "Hope Buses" Workshop *Island of Shadows* Documentary

On April 17, the UW Center for Korea Studies, the [Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies](#), the [East Asia Center](#), and the [UW Department of History](#) co-sponsored a workshop titled "Sky Protest and Hope Buses: The South Korean Labor Movement Confronts Neoliberal Restructuring," the workshop focused on major new developments in industrial relations and the labor struggle in South Korea. The workshop, facilitated by [Dr. Hwasook Nam](#), accompanied the showing of a documentary film, [Island of Shadows](#) (2016) which revolves around the voices of unionists at the Hanjin shipyard in Pusan, South Korea and highlights the historic 309-day, high-altitude sit-in by Jinsook Kim. Kim, a female welder who spearheaded the struggle to democratize the shipyard union in the mid-1980s, emerged as a key figure in the "democratic" labor movement over the 1990s and became a champion of contingent workers. The documentary's director Jeong Keun Kim as well as Jinsook Kim and Yira Hwang ([Korean Confederation of Trade Unions](#)) activist spoke at the event. The "Sky Protest" and "Hope Bus" workshop provided historical contexts for the *Island of Shadows*, by situating the Hanjin case in the ongoing process of neoliberal restricting and the popular resistance in South Korea since the 1990s. As the post-developmental state and transnational capital retool their governing technologies to tame empowered labor, labor activists search for new possibilities of solidarity, community and hope.



Whither South Korean Democracy?

Panel Discussion on the Post-Presidential Election



Following the historic impeachment of President Park Geun-hye, a snap presidential election was called in the Republic of Korea (ROK/South Korea). At a time of ongoing domestic and international uncertainty, the South Korean presidential election had potentially far-reaching implications. On Thursday, May 11, 2017, the University of Washington Center for Korea Studies hosted a panel of experts to discuss these larger implications following the results of the May 9, 2017 election.

Dr. Seung-Jin Jang (Kookmin University) provided analysis on the South Korean presidential election and its impact on South Korean society. Dr. Jang's analysis was followed by a panel discussion which focused on the potential changes in the foreign policy of the new South Korean

administration as well as the comparative perspectives of several key countries including Japan, China, the United States, and the Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (DPRK/North Korea). Dr. [Clark W. Sorensen](#) (UW), Dr. Donald Hellman (UW), Dr. [Dongkook Kang](#) ([Nagoya University](#)) and Donald Clark (Trinity University, Texas) joined the panel. Dr. Yong-Chool Ha moderated the event.

U.S.-ROK 123 Nuclear Cooperation Agreement

Exploring the Road Ahead

On Tuesday, April 4, 2017, the Center for Korea Studies co-hosted an event with the East Asia Center and National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR), focused on the U.S.-ROK 123 Nuclear Cooperation Agreement. Following the opening remarks, given by NBR President, Richard J. Ellings, Thomas M. Countryman, former Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation 2011-2017, gave the Keynote Address. Mr. Countryman spoke about his extensive diplomatic experience in the field of nuclear energy, and experience as the lead U.S. negotiator for the U.S.-ROK 123 Nuclear Agreement. John S. Park, Director of the Korean Working Group at Harvard University and Senior Advisor to NBR, moderated the Q&A session after Mr. Countryman's remarks.

The Korean Peninsula Forum 2016

“The Challenges of NORTH KOREAN Instability”
(continued from page 1)

resources it has to those organs of state power deemed most essential to regime survival, namely, the military and security apparatus. This policy not only exacerbates deprivation among other sectors within North Korea but is also perceived by neighboring states as aggressive thus sparking external uncertainties.

In addition to economic and food difficulties, Dr. Bennett claimed that Kim Jong Un's own weakness and insecurity opened the door to “sudden change” in the form of an internal coup or possible external aggression in order to avoid or sidestep internal unrest. Citing Kim's internal purges and several recent high-profile defections from North Korea as evidence of regime instability, Dr. Bennett asserted that fellow North Korean elites may be prone to topple Kim in a coup. From his remarks, he indicated that such domestic unrest could arise from some combination of disgruntled regime elites (who Dr. Bennett claimed to be “capitalists”) and the North Korean military. In the face of such pressures, he said, Kim Jong Un might instigate external aggression toward South Korea, even in the form of full-scale war. Such an action could include use of North Korea's extensive chemical, biological, or even nuclear weapons.

Graduate Student Updates (continued from page 8)

Casey Lindberg graduated in the Spring of 2015 from the University of Minnesota, majoring in History and Asian Languages and Literatures with a focus on Korea. Shortly after she entered the Jackson school in Fall of 2015, pursuing a Masters in Korean Studies. Since she began her study of East Asia her interests have been mostly transnational, tracking the impact of Japan's empire and the colonial period in Korea and greater East Asia. Her research focus lies mostly on the history of sex work and prostitution in Korea, in particular along the thread of military, race, and nationalism. Her current thesis topic is centered on the emergence post-IMF of the practice of Wonjo Gyoje, or "compensated dating" (from Japan's Enjo Kosai) among teenage women in South Korea in the early 2000s.



On May 12, 2017, **Matthew VanVolkenburg** (MA Student- KoreaStudies) presented the paper "[The 1970 and 1975 Crackdowns on Marijuana in Korea: Drug Suppression, Social Purification and the ROK-US Alliance](#)" at the 5th International Conference of Nextgen Korean Studies Scholars at the University of Michigan. The paper was well-received and he received a great deal of helpful feedback from faculty and students. PhD and MA students from four continents gave presentations at the conference from disciplines ranging from Korean history and literature to sociology and art history. He wishes to thank the Center For Korean Studies for funding his travel to this worthwhile and memorable event.

Student Spotlight: Study Abroad (continued from page 3)

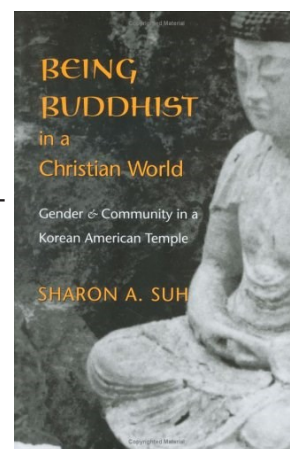
entering into conversations, an issue I had long faced before my trip. Though I only was able to stay for six weeks, the skills I learned while in the immersive environment of Korea have remained with me even as I continue my studies in the United States. Until the day I am able to return, I'll be eagerly awaiting the chance to reconnect with the friends and connections I made during my time studying in Korea.

Founders Annual Lecture Comparative Religion & Contemporary Life

"Occupy This Body: Buddhism, Race, Gender, and Self"
Dr. Sharon Suh, Seattle University

Drawing on her work on Korean American Buddhism and film, Dr. Suh explored Buddhist practice as a political and recuperative strategy. She also discussed her work-in-progress, a memoir *Occupy This Body*.

Dr. Suh recently received the Theiline Pigott McCone Chair in Humanities through Seattle University for her outstanding scholarly record and her topic of mindfulness as a component of social justice. This lecture was sponsored by the UW Center for Korea Studies and the Department of Comparative Religion.



Faculty News

Dr. [Clark W. Sorensen](#)

Director, Center for Korea Studies, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology, Adjunct Professor of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies

On September 9, 2016, Professor Sorensen attended the Conference, “[Peace Corps Volunteers: The Making of Korean Studies in the US](#)” that inaugurated the [Institute for Korean Studies in the School of Global and International Studies](#) at Indiana University. His paper, which is being revised for publication, is called “Cultural Immersion, Imperialism and the Academy: An Outsider’s Look at Peace Corp Veteran’s Contribution to Korean Studies.” In November 2016, [Spaces of Possibility: In, Between, and Beyond Korea and Japan](#), edited by Clark W. Sorensen and Andrea Arai became available through the [University of Washington Press](#). Over 70 photographs were printed in full-color. This is the sixth publication in the Center for Korea Studies Publication Series distributed by University of Washington Press. In December (2016) Professor Sorensen traveled to San Francisco to help

[select Korea and Japan Fulbright Scholars](#). Also in December 2016 Professor Sorensen edited Volume 21, Number 2 of [The Journal of Korean Studies](#). Professor Sorensen contributed an article to the issue titled, “[Imagining a Field Site: Preparing for Fieldwork in South Korea in the Mid-1970s.](#)” This thematic issue titled “The Multi-Sited History of The Anthropology of Korea” was guest edited by [Robert Oppenheim](#) of University of Texas at Austin. *The Journal of Korea Studies* was edited by Professor Sorensen at the UW from 2009 until this final issue in 2016. Under Professor Sorensen’s leadership the journal went from one issue a year of 140 pages, to two issues a year of more than 250 pages each. In August (2017) Professor Sorensen will visit Seoul for a [Global Korean Studies Conference](#) held by the Anthropology Department of [Seoul National University](#).



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Faculty News

Dr. [Yong-Chool Ha](#), Korea Foundation Professor of Korean Social Science, Jackson School of International Studies

In the summer of 2016, Professor Ha was the International Visiting Research Fellow at [Kyushu University](#) in Japan. Later in August 2016 Professor Ha co-organized “Korea at 2030” in collaboration with the Institute for Better Democracy in Seoul. His edited conference volume, *International Impact of the Colonial Rule in Korea*, supported by a grant from the Northeast Asia History Foundation is near to publication and should appear later this year, or early in 2018 as volume 8 of the Center for Korea Studies Publications Series. He is looking forward this coming August when he will give the keynote speech at the conference “IR Theory Building in East Asia,” in Kitakyushu, Japan. His topic will be, “There Goes the Neighborhood: Increasing Tensions in Cooperative Northeast Asia.”

Dr. [Hwasook Nam](#), Associate Professor, Joint Appointment: Jackson School of International Studies James B. Palais Endowed Assistant Professor in Korea Studies

On April 17, 2017 Professor Nam organized a workshop “Sky Protest and Hope Buses: The South Korean Labor Movement Confronts Neoliberal Restructuring.” She presented the paper, “A History of the Hanjin Shipyard Union Movement.” Professor Nam’s chapter, “Reading Chung Tae-il: Making Sense of Worker Suicide,” is currently being reviewed as part of the a conference volume *The Politics of Martyrdom in Korea*, edited by [Charles Kim](#) of University of Wisconsin, Madison. She’s currently working on a book rethinking twentieth-century nation-building through the lives of factory women in Korea.

Dr. [Heekyoung Cho](#), Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Languages and Literature

Heekyoung Cho’s article about web comics, titled “[The Webtoon: A New Form for Graphic Narrative](#)” was published in *The Comics Journal* in July 2016. A book chapter titled “Translation and Censorship: Colonial Writing and Anti-imperial Imagination of Asia in 1910s Korea” was published in 2016 as well, included in *Spaces of Possibility: In, Between and Beyond Korea and Japan*, edited by Clark W. Sorenson and Andrea G. Arai. She wrote a review of the book, *Tong-asia kŭndae chisik kwa pŏnyŏk ŭi chihyŏng* (East Asian modern knowledge and the topography of translation), published in *Trans-Humanities*, 9, no. 3 in October 2016. She has given invited book talks at several venues both in the United States and Korea following the publication of her book titled [Translation’s Forgotten History: Russian Literature, Japanese Mediation, and the Formation of Modern Korean Literature](#) (Harvard University Asia Center, 2016). She also presented papers at a number of conferences including the [Association for Asian Studies](#) and the [Modern Language Association](#). She received an [AAS Northeast Asia Council \(NEAC\) Korean Studies Grant](#) this year to support archival research in Korea that will serve as the basis for an article about seriality and graphic narrative, which she drafted for the conference “[Serialization in Asia](#)” which she organized at the University of Washington in 2015.

On May 19, 2017 Dr. Cho gave a talk titled “Literature as a Translational Process: Translation and the Formation of Modern Literatures” which was hosted by the UW Slavic Graduate Student Colloquium. Her talk discussed the meanings and functions that translation generated for modern national literatures during their formative period to reconsider literature as part of a dynamic translational process of negotiating foreign values.

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