

OASIS Newsletter for International Alumni

Spring 2013

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Winter in Korea is not so hospitable, but it was amazing to see athletes struggling to excel on the snowy field in the Special Olympics.

OASIS is pleased to launch our first newsletter for KAIST international alumni. Here we have compiled information on new president, new international students along with commencement, and news about KAIST in general. Please read for fun, and give us some feedback from the alumnus' perspective. We will then be able to provide you with an upgrade version next time.

New KAIST President Elected!



As you probably read from the newspaper article, we're going to have a new president, Dr. Sung-Mo Steve Kang, and he will be succeeding Dr. Suh Nam Pyo from this March 2013. Dr. Kang is an electrical engineering professor, scientist, entrepreneur, and former president of University of California at Merced. Before he took the presidential position at UC Merced, he taught and researched at different universities and research center, such as UC Santa Cruz, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and AT&T Bell Laboratories. Let's appreciate many efforts that Dr. Suh has done to our college, and now it's time to welcome our new president.

Welcoming Message from KISA President

Hello everyone! My name is Rana. Right now I am in my sophomore year, majoring in Biological Science. Starting from this Spring 2013 I will be the new president of KISA. I can hardly believe it is that time of year again! I want to first take time to congratulate all of you for successfully pass one of the big

phase in your life. Visiting OASIS booth at commencement ceremony in spring 2012, I learned that there is always a good bye after a hello. And within the period between, that is our choice how we are going to spend it. After that day, I think quite sometimes and feel that I should not just study in KAIST, I need to experience something else. At that time, I learned that KISA is one of the accessible organization for International Students in KAIST. After learned about KISA and all the considerations, I decided to join KISA to maximize my experiences in KAIST. I strongly believe that through KISA I can experience and learn many things.



Currently KISA is trying to implement its mission to help International Students integrate with KAIST life and improve its performance, like a future monthly meeting with representatives and also monthly update for KISA Website. We co-organize with OASIS for the commencement ceremony and also orientation this Spring 2013. Also, currently we are working on Movie Night Improvement Project, expanding the cooperation to other overseas universities for BizAsia KAIST 2014, and also starting our cooperation with ICISTS KAIST. I am thrilled to lead this fabulous organization. I am also excited to learn new things, experience amazing stuff, and do cool works like the previous presidents, their members, and YOU did! You dreamt, you believed, you strived, and you achieved. All of you is our inspiration to use each

second of our life to the fullest. I wish luck and success always finds its way towards you wherever you may go. Before, I end this, I would like to share one of my favorite quote from Tom Brokaw.

"You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world."

Let's change the world!

Warmest greeting,
Rana

New Students Admitted to KAIST and Commencement

1. This time, we have 7 undergrads and 54 grads coming to KAIST in the Spring 2013. They're all from different parts of the world, and our campus is becoming more culturally diverse. If you come across some of them on campus, warmly welcome them as part of our community.
2. On Feb 22, 157 international students tie an education knot at KAIST and initiate a new career at other places. Please come for the commencement and congratulate on your friends' accomplishment. OASIS is preparing to set a booth (from 3-5 p.m.) in front of School of Humanities & Social Science Building (N4); if you're graduates this time (or alumni or alumna who graduated in the Summer 2012), drop by the booth, get a warm hug, and take a "humble" souvenir.

Meeting with Our Alumni

We sometimes wonder what we can do with our degree after we graduate from KAIST. Here are two alumni, Panu Uengsakul and Gohar Feroz Khan, and see the wonderful careers they're mapping as proud KAIST alumni.

Message from Panu Uengsakul

1. Briefly introduce yourself.

My name is Panu, student from Thailand. I was entering to KAIST during fall semester 2008. I can speak Korean and I was a president of Shop of Sharing Club in KAIST, Happy Prince. I used to study in Material Science, and then during my fourth semester, I completely changed my track and came to Electrical Engineering and completed my degree in the end. I did my internship in Switzerland, EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Federal de Lausanne) during my third year summer vacation, which become the turning point of my life, since after graduation I got Swiss government scholarship and came back to EPFL again to pursue a master degree in Communication Engineering.

2. Through whom or what process, did you first know of KAIST and what made you to apply for KAIST at first?

There was an introduction session from KAIST at my high school in Thailand. Through that one, I decided to apply for KAIST with interview session from Prof. Lee Kwang Hyung who was the dean of academic affair at that time. I would say that one of the reasons that I came to KAIST is that the process of admission is not so complicated and the professor was so nice to Thai students.

3. What did you learn at KAIST in general? You can give us specific course you took, professor names you liked to take with, communities you participated in, and any cultural, ethical awakening while you stayed at KAIST.

KAIST was the first place for me to learn the way to perform a research in a real academic fashion. Moreover, in Electrical Engineering courses, I was really impressed by how professors convey knowledge to students. It is really concrete and well organized. I would say that most of the faculties in my department are all awesome. But to pick a single name of professor, I would say Professor Moon Jaykyun is the one I liked most. After taking his lecture, I decided to join his lab immediately, which I constantly worked with him for a year until my graduation. Also, community in my lab (Communication and Storage Laboratory) was so nice. All the Colleagues welcomed me so warmly.

4. How did you get your current position? Introduce your everyday life in these days.

Now, I am working in EPFL's Lab, LINX (Laboratory for Information in Networked Systems). It is a part of graduate requirement. My semester is pretty busy comparing to what I had at KAIST. Here, I have to take courses summing up to 30 credits every semester. So typically, I have classes starting from morning until evening almost every day. I would say it is 10 times tougher than what I faced at KAIST (where I took 12-18 credits only). However, this semester, I have a research project to do, so it is counted for pretty big credits. So I have only 3 full days of classes only. Then the rest of the week I dedicate it to the research that I am doing.

5. How does your learning at KAIST apply to your current position at large?

As I mentioned, KAIST gave very concrete research-oriented knowledge, which can be directly used for my position in the research.

6. Finally, what do you want to give some advice to current KAIST international students?

Be proud and enjoy to learn from every part of KAIST like squeezing orange for the juice to the last drop :) Life at KAIST is a great present for everyone. It is not as tough as one thought. There are lots of bright sides to be enjoyed~

Message from Gohar Feroz Khan (graduated from KAIST in 2011)

1. Briefly introduce yourself.

Hello guys, I am Khan, one of the KAIST international alumni. Nice to meet you virtually.

2. Through whom or what process, did you first know of KAIST and what made you to apply for KAIST at first?

Prior to my doctoral studies at KAIST, I held a senior management position with the Afghan Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT). While working at MCIT, I was awarded a three year PhD scholarship by the Korean Government under ITTP program, thus leaving my position to continue my education at KAIST.

3. What did you learn at KAIST in general? You can give us specific course you took, professor names you liked to take with, communities you participated in, and any cultural, ethical awakening while you stayed at KAIST.

KAIST shaped my intellectual and personal life. At KAIST, I met great Professors (e.g. Professor Moon, Professor Rho, Professor Zo, Professor Park, Professor Duk Hee, Professor Sujin, and many others) and friends. For me, KAIST was not only a place of educational attainment, but also a place where I experience diverse cultures and communities.

4. How did you get your current position? Introduce your everyday life in these days.

Here is a brief introduction to my life after graduating from KAIST. After graduating from KAIST, I was appointed as a Research Professor at Yeungnam University (YU) in Korea. After successfully completing my contract at YU, I moved to Korea University of Technology & Education (KoreaTECH) where I am working as an Assistant Professor in the Industrial Management Department. Also,

my research life is also going well, for example, my research has been published (or accepted for publication) in several international journals (for your interest details can be found here: <http://laton.wikispaces.com/Brief+Vita>). A part from my regular job, I am active on several other fronts. For example, I am a senior consultant at the Society for the Knowledge-based Innovation and Education (SKIE) Seoul National University, an Associate Editor of Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia, and Founding Director of Social Media Insight Research Center.

5. How does your learning at KAIST apply to your current position at large?

What I have learnt at KAIST is helping me a lot in my career (though my career has just started). All the great lectures I took, all the great Professors and friends I met, and all the communities and programs I participated, guides my career every day.

6. Finally, what do you want to give some advice to current KAIST international students?

KAIST is a privilege place to be. Guys! Take full advantage of the Professors, friends, and communities around you. Build your social network. Use social media (e.g. LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter) to strengthen and extend your network. The social networks you build know will be very beneficial to you after graduation. Getting a good job is all about visibility i.e. how visible your work and you are to the outside world. And don't forget to take Professor Lee Sujin's leadership course offered at the School of Innovation. What a great course!

Voices from KAIST

1. An On-Line Electric Vehicle (OLEV) that can charge during travel will be put into service for the first time in the world on normal roads. From July of this year 2 OLEV buses will undergo trial operations in the city of Gumi. The trial route spans 24km from Gumi station and the region of In-Dong and the establishment of the route is expected to be of a 4.8billion Won scale. The start of the infrastructure construction will start on February and operation will start in July. The OLEV developed by KAIST is an environmentally friendly vehicle that allows the transfer of electrical power using magnetic fields imbedded in the roads. The KAIST OLEV was named top 50 inventions in 2010 by Time Magazine (article from KAIST English website: http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=4039&req_PC=0&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=).

2. The research team led by Professor Shin In Shik (Department of Computer Science) received the Excellent Dissertation Award in the IEEE RTSS out of 157 dissertations. It is the first time a Professor under an institute in the Asia region received the Award in the RTSS field during its 33 year history. Professor Shin had already received an Excellent Dissertation Award as a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pennsylvania. Thus Professor Shin became the first and only scientist to receive the Award twice. Professor Shin has successfully defined the scheduling method of the multicore processor which was regarded as the problem in the field of RTSS for the past decade (article from [KAIST English website](http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=4038&req_PC=0&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=): http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=4038&req_PC=0&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=).

3. Thomson Reuters, the world's leading media and financial-data firm, has announced a report entitled '2012 Thomson Reuters Top 100 Global Innovative Organizations', which includes KAIST and 6 other South Korean institutes, corporates, and universities. In particular, universities were part of the list for the first time in 2012, with two South Korean universities, KAIST and POSTECH, being the only entities representing their category. Reports from Thomson Reuters are also accounted in the assessment of Times Higher Education (THE), the British organization for world university rankings. (article from [KAIST English website](http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=3995&req_PC=10&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=): http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=3995&req_PC=10&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=).