

*Welcome to the  
Korean Studies Program*



*Commemorating  
its Tenth Year  
at Arizona State University*

*Friday, October 28, 2005  
5:00-7:00 PM*

*University Club  
Arizona State University*

### ***A Brief History (1995-2005)***

The Program was founded in 1995 by the late Professor John Koo, who had retired from his faculty position in Linguistics at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. His vision for the future and his time, energy and experience were the catalyst for the establishment and development of the program. Under Dr. Koo's leadership, the local Korean American community mobilized, raising seed funds for the Korean studies program as well as various cultural and scholarly events at ASU. Sadly, Dr. Koo passed away in China during a research trip, but his legacy has continued in the strong support from the local Korean community.

The ASU Korean Studies Program is the first and only program dedicated to research and teaching on Korea at the university level in the state of Arizona. Since 1998, ASU has added three more faculty positions with the support of the ASU administration, the Korea Research Foundation and the Freeman Foundation. The Program offers Korean language instruction up to the third year as well as various courses relating to Korean history, culture and society.

#### ***Korean Studies Faculty***

- Hyaewool Choi, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
(Korean cultural studies)
- Young Kyun Oh, Ph.D.  
Lecturer  
(Korean/Chinese linguistics)
- Pori Park, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
(Korean religions)

### ***Courses in Korean Studies***

- First-Year Korean
- Second-Year Korean
- Third-Year Korean
- Korean Culture and Society
- Korean Film and Literature
- Women of Korea
- Religious Traditions of Korea
- Folk Religions of Korea
- Buddhism and Gender
- Introduction to East Asian Culture

#### ***John and Sandra Koo Scholarship***

Thanks to a generous donation from the Koo family, the Korean Studies Program has established an annual award to commemorate the vision and contribution of the late Professor John Koo and his wife, Sandra Koo. We select two outstanding undergraduate students who are engaged in the study of Korea.

#### ***External Grants Supporting Korean Studies***

- Korea Research Foundation  
(supported the creation of a position for Korean language instructor, 1999-2002)
- Freeman Foundation (supported the creation of a position for the Korean religious tradition, 2002-2006)
- Korea Junior Book Foundation  
(donated \$20,000 worth of Korean books to ASU Hayden Library, 2000-2005)
- Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles (supported various lectures and cultural events, 1999-2002)

### ***Exchange Programs***

ASU has established exchange programs with the following universities:

- Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea
- Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea

### ***Community Support***

The ASU Korean Studies Program has been fortunate to receive strong support from the local Korean community. The Sponsoring Committee (*Huwŏnhoe*) has acted as a liaison between the community and the university. It has been a consistent source of support and encouragement. The Committee is currently composed of nine members:

- Sandra Koo
- Michael Kim (Past President)
- Kwang Hyun Baek (President)
- Stephen Choe
- Mojun Woo
- Heejoong Kim
- Miyoung Hyun
- Nam Chu Yang
- James Chun

The Korean Studies Program has also greatly benefited from the generous support of the following organizations in the local community:

- The Arizona Korean Chamber of Commerce
- The Korean Dry Cleaners' Association in Arizona
- The Korean American Women's Association
- Korean Heritage News
- Korean Arizona Times

### ***Annual Lecture Series in Korean Studies***

To promote interest in Korean Studies, we initiated an annual lecture series in 1999. Many distinguished scholars, artists, and dignitaries have visited ASU as part of the lecture series. These include:

- Dr. Robert Mowry (Harvard University Art Museums)
- Kim Döksu's *Samulnori*
- Ambassador Hongku Lee (South Korean Ambassador to USA)
- Dr. Chan Park (Ohio State University)
- Dr. John Duncan (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Dr. Wayne Patterson (St. Norbert College)
- Dr. Donald Clark (Trinity University)
- Dr. Bruce Fulton (University of British Columbia)
- The Honorable Donald Gregg (former ambassador to South Korea)
- Hwang Sok-Yong, prize-winning Korean novelist
- Dr. Mark Peterson (Brigham Young University)
- Dr. Seungsook Moon (Vassar College)
- Dr. Robert Buswell (University of California, Los Angeles)
- Dr. Bruce Cumings (University of Chicago)

### ***Support from ASU***

We would like to express our deepest appreciation for continuing support from the Center for Asian Studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Departments of Languages and Literatures, Religious Studies, History, Women and Gender Studies, Asian Pacific American Studies, Music, Art History and Architecture.

*Friends of the  
ASU Korean Studies Program*

People who are interested in supporting Korean Studies at ASU are invited to join the Friends of the ASU Korean Studies Program. Members receive the newsletter and notifications of upcoming events at ASU, are invited to the general meetings of Korean Studies and have the opportunity to meet guest speakers.

Donations to the Korean Studies Program are tax-deductible. Many companies have programs that will match donations to educational institutions. Checks should be made payable to **ASU Foundation-Korean Studies**.

If you are interested in joining the Friends of Korean Studies at ASU, please contact:

Hyaeweol Choi  
The Korean Studies Program  
Department of Languages and Literatures  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ 85287-0202  
Tel: (480) 965-4560  
E-Mail: [hchoi@asu.edu](mailto:hchoi@asu.edu)