Greetings from the President

It is a pleasure to send you our warmest greetings and recent news. After returning from our wonderful trip to Korea in late November/early December, during which time we attended highly successful conferences on cross-cultural aspects of aging at Changwon and Seoul National Universities, we have continued to forge ahead with ERI’s Healthy Aging initiative with our partners in the U.S. and Korea. We will be holding a follow-up conference on Cross-Cultural Aspects of Aging at the Whitney Center in Hamden, CT, on November 1, with the cooperation of the Whitney Center, Seoul and Changwon National Universities, some specialists at Yale on Aging, and Leading Edge. Please save the date. We will send you the details in the near future.

In addition to our work with the Healthy Aging project, ERI continues to reach out actively to Korean-American professionals around the country as part of our Authentic Leadership Program. I recently gave a keynote speech at the 2013 Ygnite! Program in Los Angeles, CA, on Jan. 4, sponsored by the Korean-American Scientist and Engineer Association (KSEA) as well as the Korean-US Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO). There, I gave a speech entitled “Authentic Leadership for Korean-Americans”, which was well-received. In an effort to increase awareness of ERI’s Authentic Leadership Model, ERI will be hosting a networking/professional event in San Jose, CA, on April 26-27, with the theme “Authentic Leadership for Korean-American Professionals in a Globalized World”. We are extremely proud that ERI Board members Douglas Park and Mu Young Lee are spearheading this effort, which is partially supported by the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation, Silicon Valley (KOTRA). We encourage all who can to attend ERI’s inaugural West Coast event!

Speaking of ERI board members, I’m happy to announce that Dr. Sandy Wirth is one of the co-directors for the Ninth Annual Teach Korea Teachers Conference, which will be held on June 17-18 at the Whitney Center. Additional information regarding the conference will be forthcoming shortly.

In addition to our wonderful hardworking board members, we are fortunate to be working with Prof. Jungki Kim from the Department of Public Administration at Changwon National University, who is now a visiting scholar at the Yale Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, the Whitney Center, and ERI, who will be investigating cross-cultural aspects of aging as it relates to the development of retirement communities in Korea. We are also grateful to Jong An, Ph.D in history from Seoul National University and J.D from University of Hawaii, who joined us to research cultural/historical aspects of aging in Korea as well as revitalize various ERI research projects including our East Asian Law and Culture project.

On a personal note, I would like to announce that I was selected as a fellow for this year’s Network of Korean-American Leaders (NetKAL) leadership training class. As a participant in this important organization based out of the School of Social Work at USC and aimed at developing the next generation of KA leaders, I am proud to share the wisdom ERI has accumulated over the years with my fellow classmates, all while increasing ERI’s visibility nationally.

Finally, I am pleased to report that we are making significant progress with respect to ERI’s new website. We are extremely fortunate to be working with members of The Mighty Engine, a strategy, design and advertising firm based in Philadelphia headed by ERI board member Heseung Kim, Ed.D. We hope that this new tool will allow us to keep everyone in the ERI family better informed about our activities. We encourage you to check out the new site when it’s launched, currently scheduled for late spring.

In the meantime, we thank you for your continued support. Drop us a line if you like (or don’t like) what you see. We want to know how we’re doing!

Christopher Y. Park, M.D., Ph.D., March 2013

In this issue...

CHAIR’S REPORT: PRECIOUS TIES TO KOREA .... 2
PHOTO COMPILATION OF ERI’S TRIP TO KOREA .... 3
BU-ERI PROJECT UPDATE: STUDY OF THE KOREAN DIASPORA IN BOSTON .... 6
AUTHENTIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR KOREAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD .... 7
ERI FAMILY NEWS .... 8
ERI AND COMMUNITY .... 9
**Chair’s Report**

**East Rock Institute: Precious Ties to Korea, 2013**

**By Hesung Chun Koh, ERI Chair**

For nearly a decade, I have had the pleasure and joy of visiting Korea almost every year. The purposes of the trips were mostly to receive awards or to speak at international conferences. Most recently, my visit was to attend two Cross Cultural conferences on Aging and Senior Living at Changwon University and Seoul National University. Each of these trips gave me the opportunity to renew my friendship with many ERI longtime supporters and, invariably, to make new friends.

The East Rock Institute program began in the 1950s in Cambridge, MA. We have many friends whom we have known since their collegiate days at Wellesley, Harvard University, MIT and Boston University in 1950s. Our supporters also include many distinguished Yale alumni whose association with us dates from the early 1960s to this day.

From November 25 to December 16, 2012, I had another very exciting and rewarding trip to Korea. The first week was spent in Changwon City. As the initiator of our international Cross Cultural Aging Initiative, I had pre- and post-conference meetings with our sponsors, including the mayor of Changwon, and the President of Changwon University. One special event was the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between Changwon National University, Whitney Center, and East Rock Institute for future cooperation in aging research, conferences, and the planning of a university-related retirement center for baby boomers on the Changwon campus.

In addition, I delivered a lecture sponsored by the Jounday Foundation at the Changwon City Cultural Center. ERI hosted nearly 300 exceptional Changwon High School students each summer for the past three years and it was a pleasure to meet their parents after the lecture. The Q and A session was particularly friendly and active. In fact, some mothers insisted on giving me a jar of homemade preserves to make Korean health tea. When I mentioned how important having breakfast together was for the Koh family when our six children were growing up to share family news, concerns and affection, one mother asked, “What if some family members would not get up to cook breakfast for their family?” My answer was, “That never happened in our family.” There was a moment of amazement and disbelief. Then the moderator asked, “How many of you have breakfast with your family?” There was again an outburst of laughter! I was informed that many modern day Korean housewives will not get up to cook breakfast for their family. Overall, the event was friendly, crowded, very warm, and many told me that they had read my books on authentic leadership.

After a successful Changwon conference, the US speakers visited Seoul National University and participated in a half day conference on Aging, Care and Culture: The First SNU-ERI Conference on Cross Cultural Aging Initiative. We were touched by the warm welcome and hospitality of our sponsors and hosts both at Changwon and Seoul.

Unlike my previous visit to Korea, there was a sense of urgency toward baby boomers’ retirement issues. We were proud to be able to promote international collaboration toward research and action programs on this important issue. With the loyal supporters of ERI, Dr. and Mrs. Yonggu Kim, I had the special privilege to be invited to luncheons at two superior retirement centers in Korea: Noble Country and the Classic 500.

The next full week was devoted to press conferences and media exposures for my new book, Authentic Leadership: Fostering Foundation for Lifelong Fulfillment. This new book is a revision and update of my first two books on authentic leadership and women’s authentic leadership. The book went into the third printing within a week. It was amazing how many Koreans watch KBS TV Achim Madang (Morning Show) and YTN News. The TV and media exposure provided us with the opportunity to talk about the Aging conferences and recent ERI news.

The last week was devoted to meeting as many ERI supporters and advisors, old and new, as possible. Regretfully, we do not have photos of all my generous hosts; however, some of them are included here. I was reminded once again how fortunate we are at ERI. Our supporters and friends are so loyal and our ties go back almost 50 years. Many dear ERI board members and alumni were most generous and extended a warm welcome. It was heartwarming to renew friendships and exchange our recent news. I was indeed proud that many were the top leaders of South Korea.

I came home very much energized and renewed with a new determination to push our program forward. I write this with deep gratitude to all those who made our trip to Korea such a happy and rewarding one.
Signing MOU with Changwon, ERI and the Whitney Center at Changwon National University. 11.28.2012

Welcome dinner for the U.S. speakers at Changwon Aging Conference hosted by President Chan Kyu Lee, Changwon National University. Impressive array of fresh seafood available in this southern city near the sea. Changwon, Korea. 11.27.2012

Greeting of President Chan Kyu Lee of Changwon National University at the Aging Conference. 11.27.2012

Post Conference Tours:
Tour of Hae In Sa Temple where Tripatika, a world treasure as designated by UNESCO, has been preserved since 1251 A.D.

Center: US participants of the conference gather at Hae In Sa Temple gate. Dr. Drickamer said, “I will never forget this trip even if I lose my memory in my old age.” 11.30.2012

L. to R.: US participants tour Seoul, Cheonggyecheon. L. to R: Ms. Katie Smith Sloan, Dr. Christine Tocchi. 11.30.2012; Change of guards at Seoul Kyongbok palace. L. to R: Dr. Margaret Ann Drickamer, the guard, Ms. Katie Smith Sloan, Dr. Christine Tocchi. 11.30.2012

L. to R.: Dr. Gyounghae Han, SNU Host of first ERI-SNU Cross Cultural Aging Initiative Conference receiving thank you plaque from East Rock Institute and Whitney Center presented by Hesung Koh and Christopher Park. 12.1.2012; Reunion of Dr. Koh with former ERI summer interns from Ewha and friends, YeonSu Kuk, Hyonju Lee and Hyonji Lee, at Seoul National University reception. 12.1.2012 Many other ERI alumni who also attended the SNU conference are not pictured, such as Ms. Min Hoe Chung pursuing her doctorate in social work and wife of SNU faculty, and Jingu Hee Kim, a social worker, and her faculty husband and others.
Standing L. to R: Ms. Mijin Song, President, Century One (Editor of all Koh books on authentic leadership including the new book, Authentic Leadership, launched on December 2, 2013), Ms. Hanbol Cho, editor of Meaningful Aging, JoongAng Books. Seated, Hesung Chun Koh, the author. Century One arranged a press conference and TV and media exposure for Koh’s new book release. Century One provided the opportunity for further publicity on ERI programs, including Aging project. 12.3.2012

L. to R: Dr. Younggu Kim, Dr. Woongkil Choo, Dr. Hesung Koh, Ms. Chaehee Kim and Dr. Carolyn Kyong Shin Koh Choo, all are longtime supporters of ERI and the main local hosts to Dr. Koh in Korea all these years. Dr. and Mrs. Kim arranged the tour of the retirement communities in Korea, such as the Noble County and The Classic 500. 12.3.2012

Breakfast meeting with Professor of Law, Chongko Choi (R), Seoul National University, and Ms. Youngaiie Kim (L), Yale and ERI. At SNU Faculty House. 12.3.2012 Discussion regarding ERI’s East Asian Law and Culture project.

Welcome dinner party for Dr. Hesung Chun Koh hosted by her friends who are old guards of Yale Club of Korea. Atty. Dae Yeon Cho, Senior partner, Kim & Chang Law Firm (President of the Club), Dr. Hong Koo Lee, Chairman of Seoul Forum (Former Prime Minister of ROK), Dr. Chong Wook Chung, Distinguished Professor of Dong-A University (former Ambassador to Republic of China), Dr. Jeong Kiil Kil, Member of the National Assembly, ROK, Dr. Ki Hwan Kim, Chairman, Seoul Financial Forum, Distinguished Visiting Scholar, KDI, Korea Development Institute, Dr. Hong Nam Kim, former director of National Folk Museum and current Professor of Ewha Women’s University, Director, Mr. Jeong Bon Kim, Director, Surim Cultural Foundation, Secretary to Yale Club of Korea. 12.12.2012

Dinner hosted by friends and supporters of ERI. Standing L. to R.: Professor Choon-mie Kim, Professor Emerita, Comparative Literature of Korea University and currently Director, Institute of Japanese Translation and former President of Japan Studies Association of Korea, Atty. Kil-sung Ryu, Attorney, LG group. Prof. Kim was a speaker at ERI’s Korean Diaspora conference.

Friends from the members of Yale Club of Korea gathered to welcome their old friend, Hesung Koh at Chosun Hotel. L. to R.: Mr. Jeong Bon Kim, Dr. Hong Nam Kim, Atty. Dae Yeon Cho, Dr. Hong Koo Lee, Dr. Hesung Chun Koh, Dr. Ki Hwan Kim, Dr. Chong Wook Chung, and Youngaiie Kim. (Dr. Jeong Woo Kil left early to be on a TV program that evening related to the ROK presidential election debate.)

L. to R.: US Ambassador Honorable Sung Yong Kim, Dr. Hesung Chun Koh and Madam Kim, art history major, were gracious hosts of special luncheon at their newly renovated US Ambassador’s residence adorned by the art exhibit entitled, “Context Revisited,” which symbolizes Korean-American friendship.

L. to R.: Dr. Younggu Kim, Dr. Woongkil Choo, Dr. Hesung Koh, Ms. Chaehee Kim and Dr. Carolyn Kyong Shin Koh Choo, all are longtime supporters of ERI and the main local hosts to Dr. Koh in Korea all these years. Dr. and Mrs. Kim arranged the tour of the retirement communities in Korea, such as the Noble County and The Classic 500. 12.3.2012
L. to R: Prof. Sookja Lim, Dr. Wan Kyu Cho (Former President of SNU, Minister of Education), Chair of Friends and Supporters of ERI in Korea, Dr. Hesung Koh and Dr. In Ho Lee (Former Ambassador to Finland and Russia) - all loyal supporters of ERI, at a French Restaurant. 12.14.2012


Acknowledgement for Ms. Youngaie Kim and Professor Jung-Ki Kim for their Service to the Aging Conference

Dr. Koh Visits Two Korean Retirement Centers

Hesung Koh had the special pleasure and privilege of being invited to Korea’s two superior retirement centers by ERI supporters during her trip to Korea: The Noble Country, on December 8, 2012 and The Classic 500, on December 10, 2012 guided by Younggu Kim, MD, and his wife, Mrs. ChaeHee Kim, to their respective parents’ retirement homes.

Above: Dr. Chuwan Kim and Family at Noble County: L. to R. Eldest son, Younggu Kim, MD; wife, Chaeehe Kim; Father, Chuwan Kim, MD (Professor Emeritus SNU Medical School); grandson; Dr. Koh; Second son, Yoongu Kim (MD/Ph.D.); Mrs. Chuwan Kim (MD); Mrs. Misun Hong Kim

Right: Judge Youngjun Kim and Family at the Classic 500: L. to R. Judge Youngjun Kim; wife, Mrs. Kim; Dr. Koh; daughter, Mrs. Chaeehe Kim; Dr. Younggu Kim
Koh’s New Book on Authentic Leadership Launched in December 2012 in Korea

“Authentic Leadership: Fostering Foundation for Lifelong Fulfillment” is an update and revision of Dr. Hesung Chun Koh’s two previous books on Authentic Leadership and Women’s Authentic Leadership books for educators and parents. She begins this book by calling attention to the growing number of actual Korean and Korean American global leaders at the UN, International Criminal Court, World Bank, WHO, US Embassy and federal government to point out their common traits. This book was published by Century One on December 3. Dr. Koh’s previous two books in the Authentic Leadership series have been translated into Japanese and Chinese and were published in Tokyo, Taipei, and Peking. This volume, “Fostering Foundation in Lifelong Fulfillment” will be translated into Chinese and will be released from Peking. The book can be ordered from the following U.S. bookstores:

- NOBEL, LLC
  321 BROAD AVE #106, RIDGEFIELD, NJ 07657
  201-840-9200

- SEOUl BOOKS
  1082 E, EL CAMINO REAL 5, SUNNYVALE, CA 94087
  408-246-2300

- GOSPEL BOOK & CHURCH SUPPLIES
  11748 3/4 ARTESIA BLVD., ARTESIA, CA 90701
  562-865-4949

- AGAPE BOOK CENTER
  22618 HWY 99-112, EDMONDS, WA 98026
  425-744-1114

- KOREAN BOOKS
  810 CIVIC CENTER DR 9A, NILES, IL. 60714
  847-795-1414

- LA 8TH STREET BOOK MART
  3525 W.8TH ST.225 #A, LOS ANGELES, CA 90005
  213-365-2665

A “Study in Korean Diaspora in Boston: Kwang Lim and Hesung Chun Koh,” a joint project with the Center for Global Christianity and Mission at Boston University and East Rock Institute Study in Korean Diaspora project, is going smoothly. This project focuses on the Korean Diaspora in Boston from 1950 to 1964, a period when a number of Korean intellectuals made their home in the Boston area. The new website for this project is continuously updated with meaningful pieces of research. (http://www.bu.edu/cgcm/research/korean-diaspora-project)

Key themes that this site explores includes unearthing historical background and the birth of the Korean Diaspora community in Boston, tracing the predicaments and the challenges that the first Koreans had to face, introducing important events and episodes, identifying key people and the influence of political issues in the Korean Diaspora community, and tracing the establishment and development of the Korean community in the Boston area, including formation of the first Korean church and the Korean American Society. This site also pays extra attention to the life and roles of the Koh family as leading representatives of the Korean Diaspora during the period.

The research team of the Korean Diaspora project consists of Hye Jin Lee, Ph.D. student in History of Christianity at Boston University, Daewon Moon, Th.D. student in Mission at the School of Theology at Boston University, and Douglas D. Tzan, who received his Ph.D. in History of Christianity recently from Boston University. Professor Dana Robert, the Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Mission at Boston University, is directing the entire project. The research team has the honor of presenting their unfolding research at the “Works in Progress Workshop Series” for the Social Science and Religion network at Boston University on Monday, April 8th.
Conference Announcement

Authentic Leadership for Korean American Professionals in a Globalized World

Continuing its 60-year history of cultivating culturally competent leaders, East Rock Institute is pleased to announce its April 26-27, 2013 Silicon Valley conference exploring practical models of authentic leadership for Korean American professionals in a globalized world. This is a continuation of a series of ERI young professional conferences that have previously been held in the New Haven, Philadelphia and Boston metro areas.

This will be an interactive workshop focused on enhancing the leadership quotient of Korean American professionals for the purpose of becoming more effective leaders in the public and private sectors. Together with the invited speakers and session moderators, the conference participants will explore the following specific aspects of leadership development:

- ERI’s model of authentic leadership and relevance of Korean cultural values
- Networking and the importance of developing a personal brand identity
- Impact on Korean Americans of the rise of Korea’s global power
- Entrepreneurship as a pathway to leadership development

The event will begin on the evening of Friday, April 26, with a reception and introductory networking session. The Saturday program will take place at the Silicon Valley campus of KOTRA, the Korea Trade Investment and Promotion Agency, in San Jose.

For more information contact Douglas Park (dypark68@yahoo.com) or MuYoung Lee (mu_lithium8@yahoo.com).

Conference Announcement

26th Korean American Students Conference (KASCON) to be held at Brown University/RISD

The annual Korean American Students Conference (KASCON), sponsored by the Mirae Foundation, will be returning after a year-long hiatus and will be hosted by the students of Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design. This year’s conference will be held on March 22-24, 2013 and is open to all undergraduates.

The history of KASCON is inextricable from that of East Rock Institute and the many collaborators who have joined the ERI community throughout its 60 year history. The first KASCON, held at Princeton in 1987, was founded and chaired by Thomas Baek, then a Princeton University student had served on ERI’s Annual Korean and Korean American Conference Committee for two years. The Annual Korean and Korean American Conference was started in 1970 and has a history of nearly 30 years, providing the precedent for KASCON, as well as cultivating the future leaders of the Korean-American community. Not only are the founding members of KASCON affiliated with ERI, many ERI members have been invited to speak at KASCON over the years, including Dr. Koh who spoke in 1987 at the inaugural conference, in 1991, and in 2011, the most recent KASCON held at Yale University.

This year’s KASCON is themed “Break!” to signify breaking boundaries to “move beyond the status quo and into action.” The keynote speakers are Katherine Chon, President Emerita and co-founder of Polaris Project, and Adrian Hong, Managing Director of Pegasus Strategies LLC, a strategic advisory firm.

Save the Date!

March, 22-24, 2013:
Korean American Students Conference XXVI (KASCON)
at Brown University, Providence, RI

April 26-27, 2013:
Authentic Leadership Conference at Silicon Valley offices of KOTRA, San Jose, CA

April 29, 2013:
Mayor of Changwon Dr. Wan Soo Park’s Visit to ERI/WC/Yale

June 17-18, 2013:
Annual Teacher’s Conference on Korean Culture, TKC
at Whitney Center, Hamden, CT

October 27-30, 2013: The Leading Age Annual Meeting and Expo
at Dallas Convention, Dallas, TX

November 1, 2013: Cross Cultural Competency in Senior Living at Third International Conference of Cross Cultural Aging Initiative
at Whitney Center, Hamden, CT
ERI Welcomes Dr. Jong Chol An!

ERI Research Fellow

Dr. Jong Chol An came to New Haven from Hawai‘i after a sincere talk with Dr. Hesung Chun Koh in September 2012. He brought his wife, Eunsil (Esther) Koo, M.D., and three children: Jiyoun (11), Douglas (6), and Taejoon (4) to Connecticut in spite of the heavy blizzard that affected Connecticut in February of 2013. Dr. An originally came from Korea where he completed his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degree at Seoul National University. He first visited the U.S. for his Master’s Degree at Harvard University. He then received his Juris Doctor at University of Hawai‘i in Manoa. He had received the chance to study in America after he gratuitously helped several American students and professors, who in turn introduced him to very fortunate opportunities in the programs in which he enrolled.

Dr. An has researched mostly two themes in his study of history: Korean transitional features from late nineteenth century to early twentieth century and US-Korean relations through missionaries, politicians, and Korean counterparts in the mid-twentieth century. He is currently interested in how US lawyers and Korean lawyers produced a unique Korean constitution and legal systems. He also has a broad interest in cultural transformation in East Asia. Professionally, before coming to Hawaii to complete his J.D., Dr. An was a research professor at Inha University in Korea while teaching many international students English at Yonsei University and other schools. He is enthusiastic about working at ERI and looks forwards to teaching Korean and East Asian history in Connecticut.

Non-professionally, he is addicted to listening to music and singing in a church choir. He lives in Hamden, CT with his family.

ERI Welcomes Professor Jung-Ki Kim!

ERI Visiting Scholar 2013-2014

Jung-Ki Kim, Ph.D. & Professor, Department of Public Administration, Changwon National University, South Korea, and his wife, Ji Woen Kim, have joined the ERI family for a year during his sabbatical and is settled at the Whitney Center, Hamden, CT. His research, teaching and publications have been on Social Science Research Methodology, Quantitative Research Methods on Public Administration, Public Policy Analysis & Evaluation, Electoral Behavior and various current social issues. One of his planned projects includes cross cultural testing of a web-based wellness measuring method used by Whitney Center.

He is a Visiting Scholar at Yale Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics, the Whitney Center, and East Rock Institute. He will be collaborating with scholars, administrators, staff and residents of sponsors and other US institutions, in order to develop a report for a university-related retirement community for baby boomers in Korea by benchmarking Whitney Center. This is a continuation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by ERI, the Whitney Center and Changwon National University last November, 2012, and the 2nd Cross-Cultural Aging Conference supported by Changwon City and South Kyongsang Province of Korea. His visit is a tangible outcome resulting from three successful international meetings held at Whitney Center (May 10, 2012), Changwon National University (November 27- 30, 2012) and Seoul National University (December 1, 2012). Dr. Margaret Drickamer (Yale Medical School), Christopher Park, MD, Ph.D (East Rock Institute President), Hesung Chun Koh (ERI Chair/WC resident), Christine Tocchi (Yale School of Nursing), YoungAie Kim (Yale Library/ERI), and Ms. Katie Smith Sloan, Executive Director, International Association of Homes and Services for the Aging were among the US participants at the conferences in Korea.
Greetings from Dr. Mu Young Lee and Family!

Vice President and Treasurer of ERI

ERI board member Mu Young Lee lives in San Jose, California with his wife Julie Yoo, a photographer, and their two children, Hugo and Vivienne. He first became involved with East Rock Institute in the fall of 1988 as an undergraduate student volunteer at the Dynamics of US-Korea Trade Relations conference held at Yale Law School. During his time in New Haven, many computer systems of that era were incapable of handling two-word first names and that is around the time when he became known as Mu instead of Mu Young. Mu is originally from New York and Julie is from Los Angeles, but they met in the middle of the country at the University of Michigan while they were doctoral students in nuclear physics and French literature, respectively. After establishing his career in the homeland security industry, he transitioned to medical devices, leading an R&D team developing robotic therapy systems in radiation oncology. Coincidentally, in the field of radiation oncology, the standard unit of measurement of treatment delivered to a patient is called a “monitor unit” which is abbreviated as “MU”, so perhaps it was inevitable that he landed in the business of cancer care. Today he is the manager of a product management and marketing group at Varian Medical Systems, the world’s leading radiation therapy company, at its headquarters in Palo Alto, California. In addition to ERI, he is also currently serving as the president of the Yale Club of Silicon Valley.

For the past several years, Peter has been helping to facilitate a Middle College project in the New Haven Public high schools which allows high school students to take credit-bearing courses at the local community college at no cost to the students. As part of this effort, Peter works directly with high school English teachers to improve students’ writing skills and with college professionals to align high school curriculum to college course standards. For the past several years, Peter has been helping to facilitate a Middle College project in the New Haven Public high schools which allows high school students to take credit-bearing courses at the local community college at no cost to the students. As part of this effort, Peter works directly with high school English teachers to improve students’ writing skills and with college professionals to align high school curriculum to college course standards. He also has many church and family obligations which take up a considerable amount of his time, necessitating his retirement from the East Rock Board. Peter expresses his gratitude especially to Dr. Koh for encouraging him in his work with teachers through the TKC summer project. Through his membership on the ERI board, God has given him lifelong friendships, having been associated with such a wonderful group of warm and committed individuals whom he will miss greatly.

Sandy Wirth became involved with East Rock Institute in 2007 after a serendipitous introduction to Dr. Hesung Chun Koh. After attending a Koh family event with her longtime friend, Kyoungho Koh, who is the niece of Dr. Koh, they all shared a ride to the Back Bay Amtrak Station in Boston. The backseat conversation quickly jumped to Korean culture, as Sandy sought to better support the Korean students who attend American boarding schools. In less than one year, Sandy joined the ERI Board. Her interest is in supporting Korean students who study in the US, and expanding faculty knowledge of Korean culture and cultural competencies.

Professionally, Sandy was an administrator in several different independent schools in PA, MD and CT over a 26-year career, including a 2-year appointment as Head of School at Cheshire Academy in CT. In 2011, she accepted a position as Dean of Students at Goodwin College in East Hartford, CT. Last month, she was promoted to Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students. In addition to her work with East Rock Institute, she is on the CAIS Commission on Professional Development and on the Executive Board on the Connecticut American Council on Education Women’s Network. Sandy lives in East Hampton, CT with her family.

ERI Extends Gratitude to Peter Herndon!

Peter Herndon, a long-time ERI Board Member, retires from ERI Board

On December 4, 2013, Mrs. Jean Marish Cobb LaCamera, life partner of Dr. Robert LaCamera for 61 years, passed away after a long battle with illness. ERI family sends our heartfelt condolence to Dr. LaCamera and his family.

Greetings from Dr. Sandy Wirth!

ERI Board Member and TKC Co-Chair

ERI extends gratitude to Peter Herndon!

Peter Herndon, a long-time ERI Board Member, retires from ERI Board

For the past several years, Peter has been helping to facilitate a Middle College project in the New Haven Public high schools which allows high school students to take credit-bearing courses at the local community college at no cost to the students. As part of this effort, Peter works directly with high school English teachers to improve students’ writing skills and with college professionals to align high school curriculum to college course standards. He also has many church and family obligations which take up a considerable amount of his time, necessitating his retirement from the East Rock Board. Peter expresses his gratitude especially to Dr. Koh for encouraging him in his work with teachers through the TKC summer project. Through his membership on the ERI board, God has given him lifelong friendships, having been associated with such a wonderful group of warm and committed individuals whom he will miss greatly.
ERI Welcomes Professor Harold Hongju Koh to New Haven!

Former Board Member and Secretary of ERI

Former Board member and Secretary of ERI, Professor Harold Hongju Koh, returned to Yale Law School as a Sterling Professor of International Law after serving the first term of the Obama administration at the US State Department as the Legal Adviser. He served for 5 years prior to that as the Dean of Yale Law School before he went to Washington D.C. to work with Secretary Hillary Clinton and President Obama.

The year Professor Koh joined the Yale Law School faculty in 1985, he also served ERI as board member and its secretary. As the lawyer for ERI, he helped to bring ERI to Connecticut from Massachusetts, newly incorporating ERI under Connecticut law and changing its name from the Korea Institute to East Rock Institute.

Professor Harold Hongju Koh and his siblings actively helped to plan many Korean and Korean American conferences of ERI in the early years of the 1970-80s. He was particularly helpful in planning the Dynamics of US South Korean Trade conference in 1988 and joined ERI US-Korea Forum in 1995. We are very proud and pleased to have him back in New Haven.

Greetings from Wooseok Jo!

ERI Summer Intern of 2008

Wooseok is the CEO of Eduberry and writer. He first became involved with East Rock Institute in the summer of 2008. He applied for the ERI summer internship because he wanted to explore his Korean identity and Korean spirit. He supported Teach Korea Corps as a summer intern. After he graduated Harvard Kennedy School, he came back to Korea and started an education company called Eduberry.

Eduberry (Education + Berry) means the fruit of education. Eduberry’s mission is providing high-quality learning opportunities to Korean youths, parents and teachers. Eduberry focuses on developing and spreading unchangeable wisdom and value-based education instead of changeable knowledge-based education. Every year he meets thousands of people as a public speaker. He translated a book and published two books for youths and children. “The 6 Days Course on Manifesting Your Dream” was the #1 bestseller in youth self-help and it became a steady seller. As an educational entrepreneur, he has been involved in various public and private services in education. Before he studied at Harvard Kennedy School, he had worked for Goodwill Industries of Korea as a director of strategic planning and education to launch the Korea headquarters of Goodwill Industries International. He has a strong passion to make the world a better place through education. His vision is to establish a school which can help our next generation reach their fullest potential. (YTN TV Interview, KBS Radio Interview)

Congratulations to Mindy Gee!

Recent ERI/Yale Alum

After graduating from Yale this past May, I moved out to Washington, DC for a job at the Department of Justice, Office of International Affairs, where I now work to facilitate extraditions and mutual legal assistance. I primarily cover the Middle East and some African countries, acting as somewhat of a liaison between U.S. prosecutors and foreign authorities. So much of my work depends on the cooperation between foreign countries and our own, and the precedents that a single individual can set for years to come. I find myself learning something new every day, particularly about relationships—I am daily reminded of the fact that cooperation could not persist without a mutual respect for cultural differences, which is at the heart of the philosophy that ERI inspires.

It was through ERI that I met Dr. Koh, as well as a wonderful group of people from different academic disciplines coming together for the purpose of fostering cultural understanding. Although my main role at ERI involved managing the newsletter, my favorite and most memorable experience was volunteering in the library during my last few weeks at Yale. As an English major, my affair with literature was always an important part of my college career. However, the collection of texts that passed through my hands during those few weeks confirmed my belief that books are living documents, especially as I got to touch and feel the direction that Korea Studies has been able to take in the past few decades through the perseverance of Dr. Koh.

My time at ERI has not only impacted my approach to scholarship, which should surely be a lifelong endeavor, but has also encouraged me to begin my professional life with an open perspective. The all too human relationships that govern foreign relations often present a challenge. However, while the geographical region I cover at work generally does not overlap with East Asia, I know that the lessons learned at ERI provide a solid foundation on which to stand. And most importantly, I have no doubt that ERI’s greater mission to become a bridge between cultures has continued to persist in the hearts of all its members, just as it persists in mine.
ERI Welcomes Jacqueline Kim!

David Kim, Long-term Member of Young Professionals and Supporter of ERI

David Kim, CEO of C2 Education, and his wife, Minjae, welcomed a new addition to their family on November 14, 2012. At birth, Jacqueline Kim was 8 pounds, 9 ounces and 21.25 inches long. She has grown a great deal since then, both in size and personality. At only 3 months old, little Jacqueline already knows exactly what she does and doesn’t want – and she makes certain that the rest of the world knows as well!

Mr. Kim’s professional life has also grown by leaps and bounds as C2 Education has added 24 new locations in the past year. This unprecedented growth was fueled by a record number of perfect SAT scores from C2 students during the past year. C2 students also excelled in their college choices with dozens of C2 students matriculating at Ivy League institutions this year, including Yale, Harvard, Brown, and Columbia. The upcoming year appears to continue this successful arc as C2 plans to open dozens of new locations in 2013.

Greetings from Hye-Roun Kim and Family!

Office Manager of ERI, 2006-2009

Hye-Roun Kim moved to Boston three years ago for her husband’s new job. She got an Enrolled Agent license in February 2012 and she is now working at H&R Block as a Tax Professional. She also loves to teach Korean at MIT’s Korean Class, hosted by MIT Korean Graduate Students Association, as a volunteer. Her kids, Jeong-Wan (10 yr, 4th Gr, Fiske School) and Joshua (3 yr, Pre-schooler) enjoy sledding.

ERI and Community

Congratulations on the 53rd Annual Korean Night Gala

An Excerpt from ERI’s congratulatory letter:
January 2, 2013

Dear President Chan Y. Han and officers and members of the Korean American Association of Greater New York:

Congratulations on The 53rd Annual Korean Night Gala

East Rock Institute takes great pride in having worked with many past presidents of KAAGNY, and we look forward to working with you as important allies in the future. Indeed, the gala’s theme of “Growing Together, Stepping Forward” is perfect given KAAGNY’s history of partnership with so many organizations.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite KAAGNY to join us in initiatives of interest to many Korean Americans, both in Greater New York and beyond.

As you all may know, Korea is the most rapidly aging society in the world, and older Korean Americans are also facing challenges with respect to choosing culturally sensitive and appropriate models for retirement living. These conferences sought to explore the critical cultural factors that should be embodied in such communities to enhance the opportunities for both retired Koreans and Americans to lead healthy and productive lives. We look forward to continuing to pursue both of these endeavors in partnership with KAAGNY - educating the young as well as caring for the aging in culturally appropriate ways.

Respectfully yours,
Hesung Chun Koh, Chair and Christopher Y. Park, MD, PhD, President

Dr. Hesung Chun Koh, ERI Chair, and Dr. Charles C.S. Kim, ERI Vice Chair, Attended the First Board Meeting held by the New President of KASCT March 9th, 2013
Please make checks payable to East Rock Institute.

East Rock Institute is a non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. All contributions made can be deducted for U.S. Tax purposes.

Please make your contribution today!

Your tax-deductible contribution will help us to further our mission and goals.

Please enroll me as a member of ERI in the category marked below:

___ $100 Friend of ERI
___ $500 Patron
___ $2,000 Sponsor
___ Other (Amount: $____)

Name(s): ____________________________
Address: __________________ City/State/Zip: __________
E-mail: __________________ Telephone: ___________