USC Korean Studies Institute Dosan Ahn Chang ho Family House
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ABOUT

Our Mission
Explaining Korea to the world

Our Vision
To become the global leader in research and teaching about Korea

US Ambassador to Korea Sung Kim, KSI Director David Kang, and ROK Ambassador to the US, Choi Young Jin at USC, 2012
FUTURE LEADERS

The Annual “Rising Stars of Korean Studies” Mentoring Workshop
Senior scholars from throughout the discipline gather to mentor the next generation of Korean Studies scholars. Since 2009, we have hosted over 50 senior and 70 junior scholars from around North America.

KSI Manuscript Review: Helping USC Faculty Become Leading Scholars in Korean Studies
A 3-hour seminar devoted to the book manuscript of a young USC scholar. We have held nine reviews since the program began in 2010.
There are five Korean Studies faculty at USC, with ambitious plans to expand even further. Our faculty’s research spans many disciplines and helps shape discussion about important issues related to Korea.
The KSI hosts two postdoctoral fellows each year through a grant from the Academy of Korean Studies. These young scholars bring energy and new ideas, and increase the sense of community for Korean Studies here at USC.
The annual KSI Graduate Student Symposium
Organized by graduate students, this annual symposium allows USC students to meet other graduate students from the region, to share ideas, and to present their research topics.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

KSI Director David Kang with graduate students Scott Wilbur, Gloria Koo, Chin-hao Huang, and Inyoung Min, at dinner following the 2012 Graduate Student Symposium
Each year we select a small group of outstanding USC undergraduates to be KSI fellows. Undergraduate fellows perform research, host visitors, and assist with KSI programs. They also have opportunities to attend private events, such as a dinner for a distinguished guest, or lunch with a Korean film director.
Alternating venues between USC and Michigan, this conference features undergraduate research presentations by KSI fellows and students from the University of Michigan.
Students from EASC’s Global East Asia – Korea Program

Korean Minor Lauren White with KSI Fellow Jennie Lee

KSI Fellow Matt Arkfeld touring the DMZ
UNDERGRADUATES: STUDY

Minor Degree in Korean Studies through the East Asian Studies Center
Housed in the East Asian Studies Center, and consisting of six classes at the undergraduate level, the Korean Studies Minor is a focal point for students across the university.

Global East Asia Study Abroad in Korea
The East Asian Studies Center offers a scholarship summer study abroad program for USC undergraduates. This intensive program gives students the opportunity to live, study and travel in Korea for four weeks and study with a USC faculty member.
James Kyson Lee, C.S. Lee, and other KA actors meet students, 2011

Korean Animator Kim Moon Saeng at USC, 2012

Director Im Kwon Taek at USC, 2011

USC Haneulsori
CULTURAL EVENTS

Chuseok and Lunar New Year
The KSI annually hosts Chuseok and Lunar New Year celebrations which include live Korean folk music performances from USC Haneulsori (undergraduate student group), and traditional Korean food and festivities.

Annual Korean Film Festival
In partnership with the School of Cinematic Arts, the KSI hosts and showcases the work of an acclaimed Korean director annually. Im Kwon Taek had his first North American retrospective at USC through the KSI, and we have hosted other directors such as Park Kwang Su, Kang Je Gyu, Hong Sang Soo, Park Chan-wook, Lee Myung Se, Yim Soon Rye, Kim Moon Saeng, and Choi Dong-hoon.
COMMUNITY SUPPORT: THE SEJONG SOCIETY

The Sejong Society holds regular events organized by the KSI, as well as regular dinners and lunches with special guests such as U.S. Ambassador Robert King. Members of the Sejong Society support the advancement of KSI’s mission and vision with an annual gift of $1,000 or more.
Korea Academy for Educators (KAFE) is the only national organization that helps K-12 educators learn about Korea. Twice a year, over 150 teachers from over 27 states come to Los Angeles to attend KAFE, at which KSI Director David Kang is a featured speaker about Korean history and politics. Since its inception, the KSI has collaborated with KAFE by providing faculty speakers, helping with logistics, and fundraising. We plan to increase our work with KAFE even more in the future.
Educating the world about Korea includes helping to shape public knowledge of and discussion about important issues in US-Korea relations. The KSI has hosted key figures within the US-Korea dialogue that have included Kathleen Stephens, Robert King, Steven Bosworth, Sung Kim, Victor Cha, and many other influential leaders.
KSI IN THE MEDIA

A sample of our media appearances over the years:


David Kang, “North Korea happy after China just bailed them out, say analysts,” *Christian Science Monitor*, September 16, 2010