

News Letter

Spring 2006

The past 12 months since the publication of the first annual News Letter have been a very fruitful and critical period for the Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (KWiSE) as it established as a non-profit organization. During this period, KWiSE celebrated its first anniversary and had a number of accomplishments including: three successful career development meetings in San Diego, organizing its sessions in national and international conferences, volunteering and awarding prizes at the KSEA-SD/SC National Math Competitions and holding a meeting at NIH to initiate the nationwide embarkation of KWiSE. These events have clearly contributed to the success of KWiSE serving its members in their career development and promoting scientific information exchanges among women scientists and engineers in both Korea and the U.S.

KWiSE MEETINGS

3rd Meeting

- Beckman, TSRI, June 11, 2005

Dr. Sooja K. Kim, Chief of Endocrinology, Metabolism, Nutrition and Reproductive Sciences, Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at NIH gave a seminar "How to Prepare a Successful NIH Grant Proposal" and provided an overview of the review process for a research grant and expert recommendations for the grant writing and submission.

Dr. Kim also spoke about common problems in grant applications and tips for resubmitting if revision becomes necessary. The seminar was followed by a Korean dinner (Gim-bob), provided by KWiSE and KSEA-SD. The meeting was extremely informative and beneficial especially with helpful handouts and a detailed Q&A session. We thank Dr. Kim for taking her time to provide us with an excellent opportunity to learn essential features of grant writing. *(by Dr. Sohye Kang)*



4th Meeting & First Year Anniversary Celebration

- IMM-E, TSRI, November 17, 2005



The fourth meeting was in conjunction with a celebration of the first anniversary of KWiSE. Dr. Kim, Jin-Soo, the president of FAR-TECH, Inc., gave a presentation “Working at Your Own Company,” as the third talk of Career Development Series. While having delicious Korean dinner, more than thirty members as well as honorary guests were introduced to each other. Following that, Dr. Lim, Yeon-Hee reported KWiSE membership statistics and Dr. Kim, Hana reported financial status of KWiSE. Dr. Han, Gye Won, president of KWiSE, introduced new executive officers and future plans for KWiSE including Women Symposium at UKC 2006, research seminar series, career development series, job fair, and web improvement and management. After introduction of meeting agenda by Dr. Han, KOSEN award ceremony was held. Dr. Suk, Ji Young, Dr. Jeon, Myung-Shin, and Dr. Kim, Hana, received the awards. Letters of Appreciation were given to the KWiSE sponsors including LG Electronics and Samsung Electronics. During her presentation, Dr. Kim discussed diverse topics on operating business as a woman scientist, including: 1) history of FAR-TECH, Inc.; 2) pros and cons of owning business; 3) how to start your own business; 4) advices for those who have bosses and who are bosses. Question and answer session was followed by the impressive presentation. We greatly appreciate Dr. Kim for her wonderful talk. *(by Dr. Seunghee Han)*

5th Meeting, KWiSE-KSEA Joint Seminar

- IMM-E, TSRI, February 25, 2006

Dr. Esther K. Yang, R&D Director of Clinical Chemistry at Abbott Laboratories (Dallas, TX), gave a presentation “Critical Success Factors in Industry” as the fourth talk of the Career Development Series. Dr. Yang shared her personal story of career development and her personal vision as a desire to make a difference in the world. Critical success factors described by Dr. Yang were broadly categorized as the Basics, Influence



Management, and Leadership. She emphasized the importance of the development of soft skills that allow scientists to move on to the interdependent stage, where they can truly develop into leaders. One of the take home messages was that the perception of success generally amounts to the ratio of reality to expectations, and therefore, put simply, the key to success is to under promise and over deliver. Toward the end of her talk, Dr. Yang surprised one person in the audience with the gift of a book entitled “Good to Great” by Jim Collins, which served in part as the basis of her talk. Dr. Han, Gye Won presented Dr. Yang with a small token of appreciation from KWiSE. A simple, delightful lunch followed, along with a casual Q&A session in a more relaxed atmosphere. We are indebted to Dr. Yang for such an insightful talk. *(by Dr. Jieun Kim)*

KWiSE-NIH Dinner Meeting

- Sam Woo Restaurant, Rockville, MD, March 17, 2006

This is the first meeting to take place outside of San Diego where KWiSE was first established in 2004. Dr. Gye Won Han, the KWiSE President and Dr. Myung-Shin Jeon, the Executive Director of KWiSE from San Diego attended this meeting. The goals of this meeting were i) to gather Korean Women Scientists in NIH, ii) to introduce KWiSE to them, and iii) to take the network of Korean women scientists one step higher to the nationwide level. Over 30 people participated and joined KWiSE/KSEA. Most people were from NIH except a few other attendees like Professor Oksoon Choi from Johns Hopkins University and special guests from Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO, Dr. Sung-Mok Lee, Mr. Hee-Sok Park and Mr. Woo-Jin Lee) and KSEA (Dr. Yong-Min Cho). The meeting began with Dr. Sooja Kim



(KWiSE-NIH meeting organizer) and Dr. Han's greeting, followed by Vice President of KSEA, Dr. Cho's welcome remark. After Dr. Lee and Mr. Lee's greetings, Director Park of KUSCO introduced KUSCO's history and its mission which to foster cooperative efforts in science and technology between Korea and the United States. After his talk, Dr. Han presented an appreciation award to Director Park of KUSCO for his invaluable support to KWiSE. Without KUSCO's support, this meeting would not have been possible. Around 8pm, Dr. Han's speech started with introducing KWiSE to the audience: who is KWiSE and why KWiSE has been established. She also explained KWiSE's mission and goals. In addition, she showed all the past activities starting from the very 1st KWiSE meeting. Finally, she presented the future plans of KWiSE. Through this meeting, we exchanged information and experiences and realized once again the importance of an organization that can support career development of its members. *(by Dr. Myung-Shin Jeon)*

CONFERENCES

Women in Life Science Session at the 15th & 16th Annual KSEA- SC Conference

KWiSE organized Women in Life Science (WLS) session at the 15th & 16th annual KSEA South-Western Regional Technology Conference. President Dr. Han gave a short talk introducing KWiSE and announcing its embarkation, and Drs. Myung Shin Jeon (LIAI), Hana Kim (UCSD), Ji Young Suk (TSRI) and EunJung Hwang (Caltech) presented their work at the 2005 WLS session (UCI, March 5, 2005).

2006 WLS session was chaired by Dr. Haejung An (USC), and Drs. Gye Won Han (TSRI), Eunbyul Sou (USC), Su Young Ryu (Caltech) and Haejung An presented their work (UCLA, March 4, 2006).

WiSS Session at UKC 2005

- University of California, Irvine, August 11-13, 2005

KWiSE organized a Women in Science Symposium (WiSS) at the US-Korea Conference (UKC) 2005. WiSS included "Women in BIOScience", "Women in NT", and "Women in EE" sessions. UKC promotes cooperation between scientists and engineers from the U.S. and Korea by providing a forum to discuss their achievements and current interests, develop cooperative projects, and establish professional network. In addition, it provides the attendees from both countries with an opportunity to explore career opportunities. WiSS were chaired by Drs. Gye-Won Han (The Scripps Research Inst.), Eun-Hee Park Cirlin (Int'l Technology Associates), Myeong-Hee Yu, (KIST), Kwang Hwa Chung (KRISS) and So-Jung Park (UPENN). Speakers from universities and institutes both in the U.S. and Korea were invited to present their work and the seminars were highly attended. Through this event KWiSE confirmed the widespread active interest in networking and support amongst Korean-American women researchers and opened up new interactions and career opportunities for its members. *(by Dr. Ji Young Suk)*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

KSEA-San Diego/KSEA-Southern California National Math Competition (NMC)

KWiSE presented KWiSE awards in the KSEA NMC. The KWiSE awardees are:

- April 2, 2005: KSEA-SD NMC - Harin Song (La Jolla High Sch., 11th)
KSEA-SC NMC - Amy Lee (Beverly High Sch., 11th)
- April 22, 2006: KSEA-SD NMC - Jasmin Yoon (Meadow Brook Middle Sch., 8th),
Sunghee Gill (La Jolla High Sch., 9th)
Heeyoung Cho (Rancho Bernardo High, 11th)
KSEA-SC NMC - Ashley Ahn (Fairmont Private Sch., 10th),
Eun Jung Lee (La Canada High Sch., 11th)

MEMBER NEWS

Farewell to Prof. Cho, Jungsook who has returned to Dong Kuk University after the completion of her sabbatical at The Scripps Research Institute in 2005 and to Dr. Yang, Eun-Jin who after the completion of her postdoctoral research at The Scripps Institution of Oceanography, has taken a position at the Department of Marine Sciences, Pusan National University in 2005.

FUTURE EVENTS

KWiSE-KSEA Dinner Meeting in Los Angeles

KWiSE will organize a dinner meeting with Dr. Chung, Kwang Hwa, KRISS in Los Angeles in April 27, 2006. The title of her talk is "Introduction of KRISS and Government's Efforts for Women Scientists and Engineers in Korea."

UKC2006 in New York

KWiSE will organize a WiSE symposium as well as Women's Forum in the U.S.-Korea Conference, August 10-13 2006 (Teaneck, New Jersey). WiSE symposium will include "Women in BST" and "Women in AMT". WiSE will be chaired by Drs. Gye Won Han (The Scripps Research Inst.), Sooja Kim (NIH), Kwang Hwa Chung (KRISS), Ariana Kim (Columbia Univ.), Young Sook Yoo (KIST), Myung Hee Park (NIH), Hye Jin Lee (UCI) and Kyung-Hwa Yoo (Yonsei Univ.).

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