

# KWiSE News Letter 2011



## President's Remark (Sanghee Yoo, Ph.D.)

Greetings, It has been already more than a year since I was elected as the second president of KWiSE. First of all, I would like to express my appreciation to all the volunteers, including each chapter presidents, Dr. Cho Seongeun (Washington DC chapter), Ko Minhee (Los Angeles Chapter), Kim Gweya (San Diego Chapter), Lee Cathy (Southeastern), Han Hyo Joo (Southeastern, VP) and Park Youngjin (RTP chapter). They have organized excellent science and career symposiums and annual meetings. Most of all, I would like to thank the vice president Dr. Hoh Eunha (San Diego State University) who has assisted in every aspect of KWiSE activities. She has been also the editor of the KWiSE newsletter since 2010.

regions. It was great to meet all the fine women scientists and engineers and to share their needs for a good supporting organization. Now that we have successfully established KWiSE as the supporting organization for women scientists and engineers, the next step is to maintain the enthusiasm and to provide more benefits to the members. All the chapter members and volunteers will have to work together to accomplish this goal.

Eventually all the members must take responsibility to guide the next generation of KWiSE members. Also we need to find established scientists and engineers, who can mentor young generations and lead collaborations with the mother country Korea. This year, I would like to initiate the e-mentoring program. Due to long distances, benefits from KWiSE meetings are limited to the members in the local areas. The e-mentoring program can provide benefits nationwide by bridging mentors to mentees. I will be contacting individual members for mentors; however, please send email to [info.kwise@gmail.com](mailto:info.kwise@gmail.com) if you want to be a part of this exciting project.

We have a long symbiotic relationship with Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) since the beginning of KWiSE. The collaboration will bring more opportunities of networking and job opportu-

nities. KWiSE is an independent organization from KSEA, but financially supported by KSEA. KWiSE has been supporting KSEA by contributing to regional conferences and the national math and science competition. Each chapter president presented KWiSE awards to 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade girls who scored well in the competition. KWiSE also organized the WISE (Women in science and engineering) forum in UKC 2010 (US-Korea Conference, Seattle). KWiSE will organize an additional women bioscience forum at UKC2011 to discuss key issues and trends in the field. I hope many KWiSE members attend UKC2011.

It has been a great learning and transforming experience for me to serve as the president and to meet many respectful women members. I hope that many KWiSE members will experience the same by volunteering. I will put my talents in test and expand my capabilities for KWiSE for one more year. Once again, it was great to meet you all, and hope to see you more often.



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Right now, it is an exciting time for KWiSE. KWiSE is expanding nationwide. The expansion was initiated by the database project funded by NIS-WIST (한국여성과학기술인지원센터, 이공주목구조장님), which allowed us to recruit 30% of new members nationwide. In addition, it opened the opportunity to meet many members with strong passions for KWiSE and allowed to establish the Southeastern chapter spanning Georgia and Alabama

## 2010 6th Annual KWiSE Meeting

On November 13, Saturday KWiSE held the 6th annual meeting at TSRI Immunology conference room. It was a beautiful sunny day with blue sky which only southern Californian can enjoy in this time of year. Delicious Krispy Kreme donuts and Starbucks coffee were served for breakfast and anxiously waiting for the presentation on healthy diet from the speaker. The meeting was started with opening remarks from KWiSE president, Dr. Yoo Sanghee and KSEA president Dr. Lee Jongdae. Dr. Lee encouraged more joint efforts in organizing meetings.

Liz Kim, KWiSE webmaster showcased the KWiSE new web page. She showed a simplified web page for the

**Simplified webpage (KWiSE) for the members to find contents easily and the new web page has exquisite color scheme**

members to find content easily and the new web page has exquisite color scheme that represents Liz's talent of graphic art. During her presentation, all attendees eager to suggest how to make use of the web site for KWiSE members. All agree to have a private site only for the members to discuss their problems or share interests.

Dr. Yoo updated 2010 KWiSE activities including NMSC award, newsletter and woman scientist award. She also presented KOSEN awards to Dr. Ko Min-hee, Dr. Lim Minyoung and Dr. Yoo Eunjeong for their contributions to KWiSE. KOSEN awards are given annually to KWiSE members who actively volunteer for KWiSE. The invited speaker, Professor Hong

Mee Young's presentation was followed with the title, "Diet-problem or solution?" She pointed a typical American life style of high calories and low or no exercise. She recommended not to focus on specialized diet programs, but a balanced life style with healthy food and exercise. She presented examples of good and bad food of carbohydrate, protein and fat. She recommended organic food within a practical range. Dark chocolate, red wine [grape juice], colorful vegetables and fruits provide many health benefits. Rats with dark chocolate diet showed reduced colon cancer development than rats with normal diet. Therefore she recommended a colorful dinner table than dishes with plain colors. Exercise is the way to burn calories from meals. Even brisk walk can burn more calories than sitting and about half amount of running. The table of calorie burning from different exercise was useful information. Dr. An Haejung pointed that it is hard to burn 50 calories



from running on a treadmill after taking up one candy bar with 200 calories. Professor Hong also told us the other side of extreme weight problem-anorexia, too thin than normal weight. She said the perception of beauty is heavily influenced by media and dangerous influence on growing children. The bottom line was not to

take extreme measures, but enjoy balanced

**Diet-problem or solution?  
A typical American life style of high calories and low or no exercise. A balanced life style with healthy food and exercise**

life.

Dr. Lee Jongdae replaced Joanna Kim who could not attend, but prepared quizzed for the meeting. He opened with his own nonsense quiz and prepared us for the rest of questions. We had a great time with a lot of laugh. Then we posed for group photos. Dr. Kim Min was the official photographer for KWiSE and he is an awesome photographer.

Delicious lunch was waiting for us with rice cake. The lunch order was organized by Dr. Kang Yunyi and we thanked her for all the good food. After lunch we had a session introducing ourselves. Also we discussed next year's activities and collaboration with KSEA. Afterward several members went to a café at Del Mar, enjoyed San Diego's sun and closed the day with the beautiful sunset.



## 2010 WiSE-Network

KWiSE organized 2010 WiSE networking dinner in support of NIS-WiST. This was held on Aug 12, Seattle, WA in Commons building of "Microsoft". Dr. Jung Jaeyeon at Intel Lab-Seattle and Dr. Lee Bongshin at Microsoft organized the meeting from assigning the conference room to ordering food. The meeting was begun with delicious Thai food at 7PM. After the dinner each members introduced themselves. Dr. Han Gyewon did not forget to introduce four successful ladies from Korea, Professor Lee Gong-Ju-Bock from NIS-WiST [and professor at Ewha University], Dr. Weon MeeSook at and Dr. Yoo Youngsook at

KiST. The other attendees were from many different areas such as Georgia, North Da-

**support success of young generation by mentoring and networking with experienced and successful members**

kota, Maryland and California. Many young students were studying computer sciences and engineering. One PhD candidate was from University of Southern California (USC) and studying biology. Three attendees

were from Microsoft.

After delicious dinner, Dr. Yoo Sanghee, KWiSE president presented KWiSE mission and activities to the audience. She mentioned she is proud of young scientists and engineers working in areas where men are dominating. She emphasized the mission of KWiSE, support success of young generation by mentoring, and networking with experienced and successful members and providing trainings. Traditionally the high light of the KWiSE networking dinner is to present "Women Scientist Award" to a KWiSE member with significant achievements as a scientist and contributions to



### Continued

KWiSE. Dr. Han Gye Won was selected for this year. Dr. Han has worked on determin-

**Dr. Han Gye Won was selected for Women Scientist Award in 2010. She views that anyone who can influence others positively is a successful person.**

ing protein structures using X-ray crystallography. She determined 145 protein structures in last 7 years at Joint Center for Structural Genomics comparing 1-2 structure

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in the KWiSE history and shared those with us. As a final conclusion she recommended the young generation to live as you hoped and planned, not to live individual days. At the final minutes we had a session for the young generation to ask questions. Dr. Han started a question to Dr. Yoo Young Sook, KIST VP, how she has been leading men with such a soft personality. She answered that "leading is not demanding, but serving others". The serving philosophy of her leading has been working very well, she said. That was an eye opening comment (although it

sounded simple, it is easy to forget). Song Hyunyoung, a Microsoft intern and student at the University of Maryland (College Park) asked how to find a good mentor. Dr. Won told us the difficult times when she grew up without guidance and mentors because not many women scientists were working. She suggested to attend as many networking meetings as possible to find mentors. Then young generation will have better chances to find not one mentor, but many good mentors for different aspects of life. Dr. Lee Gong-Ju-Bok recommended to

determination per year for an average scientist. She currently moved to more challenging projects in solving structures of membrane proteins. She gave an inspiring talk to the young members. She talked about her past in the view of her career development. In addition she recommended the young generation to define "success in career". She viewed anyone who can influence positively others is a successful person. According to her, she has been very successful by founding KWiSE and positively influencing KWiSE members. In addition, she has been collected speech notes from other speakers

have a longer session for young generation to interact with others, not focus too much on presentations in a networking dinner format. It reflected on our wish of staying longer, but we had to leave and move on. Everyone was left with satisfaction of meeting with successful women and knowing the existence of KWiSE.

***Eight percent of Success is showing up. - Woody Allen***

## WiSE Forum at UKC 2010

KWiSE held its fourth forum at the 2010 US-Korea Conference (UKC) in Seattle, WA. This year's KWiSE forum consisted of two sessions. The first session had five mini science talks, chaired by Dr. Sanghee Yoo. The second session, led by Dr. Gye Won Han of The Scripps Research Institute (TSRI) and Dr. Sun Hwa Hahn of the Korea Institute of Science Technology Information (KISTI), followed with many inspiring invited talks with the theme of 'Leadership and Career Development for Today's Women Scientists and Engineers'.

[Session I]

Hyojoo Han, an associate professor of the Information Systems at the Georgia Southern University, presented a study about the increasing popularity of social

medical researchers search for previously unpublished yet highly relevant resources.

Jihie Kim, a research professor at the University of Southern California (USC), presented the research project on the

**Leadership is an ability to manage diversity, uncertainty, and complexity**

intelligent technologies for teaching and learning that she had been leading. The goal of the project is to understand online learning environment and to develop new technologies for supporting online education. The rest of the session had two more technical talks — the first



networking and its implication for user privacy and Internet cyber crime. Her presentation included that the Facebook users and not so well-known "features" of Facebook that could harm users' privacy.

MiKyung Han, a resource navigator of the eagle-i Consortium at the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) introduced the eagle-i Consortium, which is supported by a two-year \$15 million funding from the National Center for Research Resource (NCRR), part of the National Institute of Health (NIH). The goal of the project is to build a prototype of a national research resource discovery network, which will help bio-

on surface-modified nanoscale zero valent iron (NZVI) by Bahngmi Jung from University of Toronto, Canada ; the second on the role of H3.3 and HP1Y in HSP70 regulation by Hyunjung Kim, who is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Southern California.

[Session II]

Prof. Kong-Ju-Bock Lee, the director general of the NIS-WIST in Korea entitled "Building Capacity of Women Leaders in Science and Technology". This presentation was about the current status of women scientists and engineers and difficulties that they face as making progress in the career path. Women's participation rates of economic activities

significantly drop after marriage in Korea, causing severe career interruption and impacting the nation's science and technology competitiveness. To address these issues, the NIS-WIST advocates policies including requiring over 30% female researchers hired by government-funded organizations by 2013. Prof. Lee emphasized that Leadership is an ability to manage diversity, uncertainty, and complexity.

Dr. Jane Oh from NASA delivered a short and clear message on the four dimensions of leadership; being grateful (cultivating), being authentic, reality-based optimism, and emotional support for self-motivated individuals. Dr. Young Sook Yoo, the vice president research of KIST, introduced her own career path in the past and her passion for research and for researchers working. KIST's campaign for female work force includes expansion of female employees, strengthening childcare benefits, and promoting women researchers within the institute. Cathy Lee, a professor at Gordon College in Georgia, delivered a passionate speech on women leadership in science, technology, engineering, mathematics education in 21st century.

The last part of the session was chaired by Dr. Sun-Hwa Han from KISTI. Dr. Mi-Sook Won showed the impressive achievements of the Korean Women in Science and Engineering (KWSE). The organization, since 1993, established the database system; established the women in science and technology evaluation pool; enacted the law for promoting women in science and technology in Korea; hosted three major international meetings; and established child care centers in Daeduk science valley. Dr. Sanghee Yoo presented challenges in woman's leadership with interesting history, gender psychology, and cultural issues. Her closing remark emphasized the need for building strong supporting groups. Prof. Ha Sook Chung from Duksung Women's University showed the interesting results from the study of visiting laboratory program on food safety in WISE Seoul Center.  
—by Dr. Jaeyeon Jung (Intel) .

## KWiSE Regional & Local Chapter Meetings

The spring event of KWiSE, East Coast & West Coast meeting was held on June 5<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> respectively. The meetings were organized by KWiSE with support of KSEA and KUSCO. The objectives of these two meetings are to exchange scientific progression and provide training for career development and success. In support of the database project [building a database of Korean-American women scientists and engineers], the focus of this year's meetings was to extend the meeting invitation to eastern areas including Washington DC, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania for the east coast meeting and Los Angeles, Irvine

and San Diego areas for West Coast Meeting.

**Exchange scientific progression  
and provide training for career  
development and success**

The east coast meeting was organized by Dr. Cho Sung Eun at FDA, Dr. Kim Soo Ja and Dr. Song Minkyung at NIH. The meeting was held on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2010 at KUSCO building in Virginia. The west coast meeting was

organized by Dr. An Haejung at FDA and Dr. Yoo Sanghee at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. The meeting was held in the new facility of FDA at Irvine. At East Coast meeting, the morning session was focused on career talks with introduction of working at FDA and scientific talks was followed in the afternoon session. The meeting was closed shortly after the panel discussion on key factors in successful grant writing. The west coast meeting was opened by Dr. Han Gye Won and she explained the missions of KWiSE and followed by Vice President of KSEA, Dr. Chung Hyungmin. Dr. William Martin, regional director of FDA welcomed

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At 2010 KWiSE East Coast Meeting

KWiSE members and attendees. Three speakers from FDA presented and Dr. Hoh Eunha, vice president of KWiSE presented her work in the afternoon session. The attendees were split into two groups for the laboratory tour. The meeting was closed after raffle. This event was genuinely joint effort between members in Los Angeles and San Diego in addition to Dr. An Haejung's tremendous contribution.

#### I. East Coast Meeting

Dr. Choe Yun spoke a basic process of US Patent system and things-to-know for non-legal professional. Dr. Yoo Sanghee pre-

sented KWiSE mission and updated the activities as well as her work on drug discovery process with an example of cystic fibrosis. Dr. Huang Shiew-Mei, deputy director of FDA, spoke the significance of ethnical/genetic background on dosage of drug. During lunch, members had a getting-to-know-you time. The afternoon session was focused on scientific presentations. Dr. Hahn Young Shin presented her work on Hepatitis C virus, *in particular* extracellular HCV core plays as a viral factor to cause HCV-induced T cell impairment via its suppressive effect on the activation and induction of pro-inflammatory responses by

### Continued

antigen presenting cells (APC) (i.e. monocytes, macrophages, DC). Dr. Choe Regine presented diffuse optical techniques have a great potential for detection and therapy monitoring of breast cancer. Dr. Lee Heykyung spoke about BACE1 knockouts presenting severe behavioral and physiological deficits. Dr. Lee EunKyung from NIH presented that RNA-binding proteins (RBPs), heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein (hnRNP) C, and fragile-X mental retardation protein (FMRP) associate with the same APP mRNA coding region (CR) element and influ-

ence APP translation competitively. In the final session, Dr. Kim SooJa and Dr. Song Minkyung informed new changes in grant review and review process. Dr. Choe Regine shared her grant award experience.

#### II. West Coast Meeting

Over 45 participants of regional Korean scientists and engineers from Los Angeles and San Diego areas and 6 speakers from FDA attended the meeting. The conference was opened by the KWiSE president, Dr. Sang Hee Yoo followed by Dr. Gye Won Han,

Founder and the past KWiSE president who presented the brief history and mission of

**KSEA support for KWiSE activities  
and strong collaboration between  
KSEA and KWiSE**

KWiSE organization. Dr. Hyung-Min Michael Chung, the Vice President of Korean Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) introduced KSEA activity and community con-

**Continued**



At 2010 West Coast Meeting

tribution and emphasized KSEA support for KWISE activities and strong collaboration between KSEA and KWISE. Then the morning session was moderated by Han Chol Paek, FDA supervisor. Dr. William B. Martin, regional laboratory director gave welcome remarks with the historical background on FDA and the government food safety regulation. Mr. Dennis M. Farley, district director, explained the PRLSW function and organization to bring food and pharmaceutical manufacture into compliance. Dr. Teresa T. Cain presented an intriguing overview of illegal drug screening effort for dietary supplements of ED drugs and dietary pills. Dr. Michael Kawalek gave the overview

of microbiology activities to detect and identify harmful bacteria in food supplies. In the afternoon, there was a scientific presentation by Dr. Eunha Hoh, San Diego State University. She spoke on potential benefits of an untargeted analytical approach for environmental health studies, focusing on the persistent contamination of the degradation-resistant fire retardants in the environment. The tour of the FDA facility was led by Drs. Michael Kawalek and Haejung An.

III. RTP Year-End Meeting  
KWISE RTP members gathered on December 3, 2010 for networking dinner with an invited speaker, Prof. MiKyung

Kim from History of Science at CSU. She gave us a talk about her new book in "The Aerial Emperor". This is a story of the hot air balloon in France at 18 Century. On November 21, 1783 the first free flight carrying a



RTP year end meeting

human occurred in Paris, France. It was in a hot air balloon made of paper and silk made by the Montgolfier brothers. After her talk, members had a lot of discussion on keeping balance between career and personal life. New plans for 2011 were discussed.



**Welcome KWISE New Chapter: Southeastern Chapter (Georgia-Alabama)**

New Chapter, South-Eastern Chapter was founded on April 23, 2011. The kick-off meeting was held in Atlanta, Georgia. 27 new KWISE members joined. Welcome many engineer members! Sincere appreciation to Dr. Lee Cathy, president in 2011 and Dr. Han Hyo-Joo who telephoned everyone in the picture to invite to the meeting. We love your passion and energy. We wish your continuous success. We believe that your passion will inspire all nationwide KWISE members. -Dr. Yoo Sanghee' note after her attending the kick-off meeting.



## Community Outreach

KWiSE-SD, KWiSE-LA, and KWiSE-RTP presented KWiSE AWARDS to the top scoring high school girls at the 2011 KSEA National Math & Science competition (KSEA NMSC). Congratulations to the recipients! We specially thank Dr. Ko Minhee and Dr. Yoo Sanghee who presented the KWiSE awards at the NMSC event.

### Awardees:

#### San Diego:

Sarah Bhattacharjee  
Namyoon Kwon  
Hyemin Song

#### Los Angeles:

Ah jin Cho Yorba Linda High School  
Julie Ko Harvard-Westlake School

#### RTP:

Hyeji Jeong Providence High School  
Yeonsoo Sara Lee Gordon College



Sarah Bhattacharjee and  
Drs. Yoo Sanghee and Lee Jongdae



### KWiSE Executive Committee:

President: Yoo Sanghee (Vertex )

VP: Hoh Eunha (SDSU)

Executive director: Kim Gweya (UCSD)

Treasurer: Kim SungEun (TSRI)

Membership director: Yoo Eunjeong (USC)

Communication: Yoo Eunjung (UCSD)

YG relations: Yoo Janet (UCSD)

Graduate Student Relations:

Jung Chaim (UCSD)

Post-doc relations: Lim Minyoung (USC)

Event: King Sookyoung (TSRI)

Advisory: Han Gye Won (TSRI), Kim Sooja (NIH), Jung Mira (Georgetown Univ), Yang Easter (Abbott)



Yeonsoo Sara Lee



Hyeji Jeong



Dr. Ko Minhee and Julie Ko



Ah jin Cho and Dr. Ko Minhee

## Newly Remodeled KWiSE Website

Liz Kim, Webmaster, remodeled KWiSE website! If you have not visited the website, please see us at [www.kwise.org](http://www.kwise.org). Check news and announcements for exciting activities and become a member by simple registration. You can read full stories of the news reported in this letter in the KWiSE website.

### KWiSE Chapters Presidents

- ✓ SD: Kim Gweya (UCSD)
- ✓ LA: Ko Minhee (USC)
- ✓ RTP: Park Youngjin (SAS)
- ✓ Great Washington: Cho Sungeun (FDA)
- ✓ NIH: Kim Hee Yong (NIH)
- ✓ Georgia-Alabama: Lee Cathy

## Future Events



### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual East Coast Conference

**When:** Saturday, May 14, 2011  
9:30AM – 3:00PM

**Where:** KUSCO Headquarter  
1952 Gallows Rd. Suite 330  
Vienna, VA

RSVP to [seongeun.cho@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:seongeun.cho@fda.hhs.gov)



## 5<sup>th</sup> West Coast symposium

Korean-American Woman in Science and Engineering



**When:** May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
9:30AM-3:30PM

**Where:** Doheny Eye Institute  
1355 San Pablo St, 1<sup>st</sup> fl Library  
Los Angeles CA 90033

\*\*Parking will be available only @ P2 level in the structure to access to Doheny Eye Institute DVRC library (1<sup>st</sup> Fl)

\*\*Contact to Dr. MinHee Ko, Tel: 213-268-4745

RSVP to Dr. MinYoung Lim ([minylim@gmail.com](mailto:minylim@gmail.com))

## US-KOREA Cooperation

# UKC 2011

## Park City, Utah

August 10-14

US-Korea Summit  
on Science and Engineering of 40 Years



# UKC 2011

Park City, Utah  
August 10-14

## EARLY ONLINE REGISTRATION

May 1 ~ 31, 2011

## WiSE Forum at the UKC2011

KWiSE will organize two sessions in UKC2011 at Park City, Utah, on August 13, 2011: KWiSE Bio Summit Meeting and WiSE Forum. Details of topics and subjects of each session will be available in the webpage of UKC2011 ([uks.ksea.org/ukc2011/](http://uks.ksea.org/ukc2011/)). We expect to see many KWiSE members at the sessions.

## Acknowledgements

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