

#### KOREAN-AMERICAN WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MIHYEON(CHRISTY) JEON, PHD 9TH KWISE PRESIDENT



Greetings to KWiSE Members and Friends,

I am both humbled and honored to serve as the President of KWiSE Headquarter for the term 2022-2024. Since 2004, KWiSE has been one and only non-profit organization that represents Korean American women actively practicing in all fields of science and engineering across the United States. I would like to thank every one of you that makes a KWiSE an inspiring, fun, and welcoming place for all Korean American women in science and engineering. Kudos to all our amazing past presidents, local chapter leaderships, and their dedication to KWiSE!

Since I first got to know about KWiSE in 2011, I have truly enjoyed being part of this community, ranging from the inspirations and empowerment we get from women leaders in different STEM fields to the comradery, mutual trust, and friendship we build together while exploring our careers and everyday lives. My main goal for the KWiSE 9th Administration is to continue to expand our reach and lead programs that can benefit more members and friends, reinforcing our threefold mission: Network, Career Development, and International Cooperation (Mission & Activities – Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (kwise.org)). On behalf of KWiSE, I truly appreciate our partnerships and the financial and moral support from our sponsors. Here are some of our major activities we are proud of hosting annually:

- National/Regional Conferences sponsored by KUSCO and KSEA
- Global Cross Mentoring Program and STEM Career Talk Concerts sponsored by <u>WISET</u>
- Distinguished Women's Forums in United States-Korea Conference (<u>UKC</u>) sponsored by <u>KOFWST</u>, <u>WISET</u>, & <u>KWSE</u>

Additional focus areas for this administration include continuation and expansion of the mentoring program, streamlining and standardization of KWiSE's key processes and operations, transparent and open communications, and outreach to engineering communities. I want to thank all the amazing KWiSE Headquarter officers for their leadership and dedication to further our goals and mission (<u>Leadership – Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (kwise.org)</u>). Together, we can achieve more than we could ever dream of alone.

I look forward to another inspiring, fun, and exciting year with KWiSE. Thank you.

Warm regards,





# **Annual Supporters 2023**



Thank you to our 2023 Annual Supporters





















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# KWiSE**Ø9TH ADMINISTRATION**



President Dr. Mihyeon Jeon

### **Headquarter Officers**



Vice President (West) Dr. Bo Young Park California State University Fullerton



Vice President (East) Dr. Sung-Sil Moon



IT Director Dr. Hyesung Park Georgia Gwinnett College



## **Chapter Presidents**



LA Chapter Dr. Boram Bang Promis Diagnostics



SD Chapter Dr. Haekyung Lee Cue Health



TX Chapter Dr. Soonmi Lim SE Chapter Dr. Hyesung Park Texas A&M



Georgia Gwinnett College



DC Chapter Dr. Eunjin Han USDA



NIH Chapter Dr. Youngmi Ji



NY/NJ Chapter Dr. HeaYeon Lee Mara Nanotech NY Inc.



Between May 2022 and April 2023, KWiSE members actively engaged and interacted with one another, and the KWiSE took an active role in facilitating engagement and interaction among its members. All member events were organized by the KWiSE HQ, and brief information and flyers can be found below. Under each chapter heading on pages 8-22, you can find detailed descriptions of the activities organized by each KWiSE chapter.

## UKC 2022: KWiSE-WISET Women in STEM Forum in collaboration with KOFWEST-KWSE





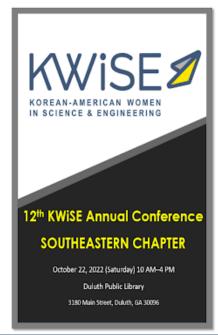
This forum was held on August 18, 2022, during the UKC annual conference. A team of four key players working for women in STEM, which includes Korea Foundation for Women In Science, Engineering and Technology (WISET), Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (KWISE), Korea Federation of Women's Science & Technology (KOFWST), Association of Korean Women Scientists & Engineers (KWSE), have been closely collaborated to make this forum happen. The missions of this forum were to exchange ideas on how to promote and empower women scientists in the various STEM fields, and to share information on policy and strategies needed for this process. Three important topics were discussed as a group. First, the WISET session discussed the current policy on women in STEM and future in Korea. Next, the KOFWST session prompted us to think about how to improve the Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity for Women in STEM. Last, the KWSE session shared the strategies for commercialization of R&D outcomes, which was followed by a panel discussion on how to foster further collaboration and networking between women scientists and engineers. It was an excellent opportunity to learn and get inspiration from each other to allow women scientists and engineers to engage effectively as leaders and active participants.

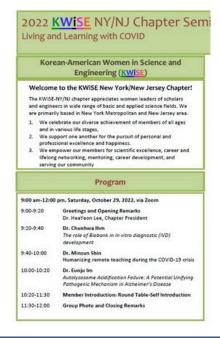




## **2022 KWiSE Annual Conferences**



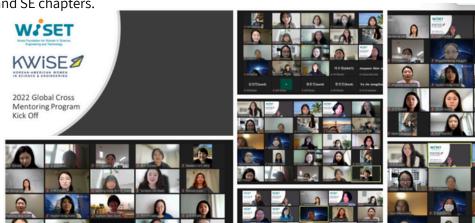






# **WISET-KWiSE Global Cross Mentoring Program**

KWiSE and WISET are very proud of the successful completion of the 2nd Global Cross Mentoring Program (May-November 2022). Twenty dedicated volunteers from two KWiSE chapters, LA/San Diego and SE chapters, served as mentors for Korean women undergraduate and graduate students, as well as those in the early stages of their careers, who are majoring in science or engineering in South Korea and the United States. The program received an overwhelming response, with over a hundred mentees eagerly joining in to benefit from the invaluable guidance and support provided by their mentors. Each chapter supported more than ten seminars and small group meetings, providing various forms of support for mentees from May to November 2022. We are excited to announce that KWiSE and WISET is launching the 3rd Global Cross Mentoring Program in May 2023, with mentors from LA/San Diego, Texas, and SE chapters.





## STEM Career Talk Concerts







# **KWiSE Forum 2022: Impact of Climate Change on Human Life**

The NIH and Washington DC Chapters of the Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering (KWiSE) were proud to host a virtual forum "Impact of Climate Change on Human Life". During the four-part forum series (October 19th, 27th, November 3rd, and 14th, 2022), internationally renowned experts from the United States and South Korea have shared their experience and research on policy, human health, infectious disease, and the food system. Starting with the opening remarks by Mr. Taeyong Cho, ambassador of the Republic of Korea, United States, speakers covered various topics including mortality due to temperature change, mental disorders, and their association with light and temperature, spillover infection of Coronavirus and Climate and Health Adaptation Strategies: (https://sites.google.com/view/kwise2022web/program).

Forum organizing committee members were Dr. Dong-Yun Kim (NHLBI/NIH), Dr. Jinyoung Barnaby (USDA), Dr. Eunjin Han (USDA), Dr. Youngmi Ji (NIDCR/NIH), Dr. Sun Jung Kang (NIMH/NIH), Dr. Ji Hyun Lee (CC/NIH), Dr. Sung-Sil Moon (CDC), and Dr. Yangmee Shin (CDER/FDA). The series was sponsored by the Korea Foundation.

#### '기후 변화가 삶에 미치는 영향은?'

재미한인여성과학자 협회(KWiSE, 회 정 전미현 박사) NITI와 DC지부가 공 동으로 지난 10월 19일부터 11월 14일까 지 기후 변화가 우리 삶에 미치는 영향' 이라는 주제로 4회에 결쳐 온라인 포럼 을 진행하고 있다. KWiSE 포럼 2022 에 서는 미국과 한국의 기후 장책, 건강 질 병, 농업 등 각 분야별 전문가를 조청하 여 기후 변화와 관련된 한국 및 전 세계 의 대용 방안, 각 분야별 최근 연구 동향 및 성과에 대해 소개하고 있다.

첫 포럼에서 조태용 주미대사는 축 사들 통해 "재미한인여성과학자들의 노력과 성과를 치하하며 향후 한미 양 국 과학기술 발전에 더욱 힘써주기를 당부하다"고 말했다 또한 권세중 총역



사가 '파리 협약과 국제 기후 변화 협상 에 대한 대한민국 정부의 시각'으로, 그 리고 필름비아 대학소재 기후와 사회 를 위한 국제 연구소 존 필로우 소장이 'UN 기후 변화 적용 정책에 대한 주제' 로 각각 강연을 했다.

두번째 포럼에서는 서울대 김호 교수 와 미국 국립보건원(NIH) 캐틀린 박사 가 급격한 기온 및 일조랑등의 변화가

#### 재미한인여성과학자 협회 주최 전문가 공개 온라인 포럼 진행중

사람의 신체 및 정신 건강에 미치는 영향에 관한 연구 경과를 소개됐다. 세반 함께 함께 하는 그렇다 하다 교수는 코로나 바이러스의 전염성이 기후반화와 어떤 관련이 있는지에 대해 소개했다. 11월 14일 열릴 예정인 네번째 포럼에서는 한국 농업진흥청의 김민경 박사와 미국농무부 (USDA-ARS)의 Liss Anisworth 박사가 기후반화와 관련된한국과 미국의 농업 연구에 대한 최근연구 동향을 주제로 발표할 계획이다.

한편 네번째 포럼에 관심있는 분은 누구나 온라인 포럼에 참석할 수 있 으며 포럼 웹사이트 (https://tinyurl, com/KWiSEForum2022)에서 자세한 내용을 볼 수 있다. 28599 71X



#### **NIH Chapter Steering Committee Members:**

Youngmi Ji, PhD, National Institutes of Health (NIH)

#### **DC Chapter Steering Committee Members:**

Eunjin Han, PhD, United States Department of Agriculture Sooyoung Cho, PhD, Edward Jones

# Post Forum: NIH/DC Chapter Meet and Greet 2022

KWiSE 2022 forum committee members met with Dr. Sei-joong Kwon, the Minister and Consul General in the Korean Embassy in Washington D.C. on December 5th, 2022. Dr. Kwon invited the committee members to commend the success of the KWiSE 2022 forum and to encourage continuous efforts and activities by the KWiSE NIH and D.C. chapters. Mr. Sung Won Bae, the Director of the Korea Foundation USA, the funder of the KWiSE forum since 2021 also joined the meeting and shared thoughts and experiences for supporting past and future KWiSE activities. The forum committee expressed sincere appreciation to Dr. Kwon for his support for the forum by presenting an appreciation plaque.



# 2022 End of the year Chi-Mac Night with KASBP

KKWiSE NIH/DC Chapters jointly hosted "2022 End of Year Chi-Mac Night" on December 29th, 2022 with the KASBP (Korean-American Society in Biotech and Pharmaceuticals) DC chapter to celebrate the work that the chapters have done and achieved in 2022 and give hopeful remarks each other for next year.





## 2023 KWSE-KWiSE-AKCSE Global Webinar Series [Korea-USA-Canada]

The global webinar series 2023 hosted jointly by the KWSE (Korea)-KWiSE (USA)-AKCSE(Canada), started on March 21st and will run the monthly webinar until November 2023. The invited Korean women researchers from three countries, Korea, the USA, and Canada, will discuss diverse topics under the central theme of sustainable technology. This series is sponsored by Korean Woman Scientists and Engineers. Members of the KWiSE NIH/DC Chapters (Dr. Youngmi Ji (NIDCR/NIH), Dr. Ji Hyun Lee (CC/NIH), and Eunjin Han (USDA)) serve as committee members of the webinar series from the US side.

Registration: https://kwse.or.kr/event/application.jsp?

record\_no=54

Abstract:

https://kwse.or.kr/kor/board/webinar/webinar\_l.jsp?

s\_year=2023



#### **News from Members**



Dr. Dong-Yun Kim, former president of the KWiSE NIH chapter, was awarded by KWSE (Korea Women Scientists and Engineers) in South Korea for her dedication in creating the KWSE-KWiSE webinar series as one of founding member and organizing committee to fostering collaboration and communication between Korean women scientists in South Korea and the US. Additionally, Dr. Kim was part of the NHLBI RECOVER team that received a group award from the director of the NHLBI for their outstanding dedication and leadership in implementing and overseeing an NIH-wide initiative to treat people with long COVID symptoms.

# KWiSE NEW YORK / NEW JERSEY

**CHAPTER** 

# 2022 STEM Virtual Youth Summer Camp

The KWiSE NY/NJ chapter held a virtual youth summer camp on August 6 from 9am to 12pm. The program's theme was "Magic of Nanoworld." Mara Nanotech (CEO HeaYeon Lee) hosted the camp, which was sponsored by the Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA), and National Nanofab Center Korea. 30 students, ranging from grades 8-12, were given nanobiosensor kits by Mara Nanotech ahead of time and split up into five groups during the camp. The experiment was led by artificial intelligence. While the students waited for the results of the experiment, guest speaker Dr. Hak Soo Choi presented on the topic "Shine a Light on Cancer: Bioimaging and Nanomedicine". After the experiment, students discussed their interpretations. At the end of the three hours, each student received a completion certificate.





#### **Steering Committee Members:**

HeaYeon Lee, PhD: CEO, Mara Nanotech Korea/New York Inc. Sung Eun Choi, PhD, RD: Associate Professor, Queens College Yeon Bai, PhD, RD: Professor, Montclair State University Jong Min Lee, PhD: Adjunct Professor, Montclair State University Jung Lee, PhD: Professor, Stockton University Minsun Shin, EdD: Associate Professor, Montclair State University

### 2022 KWiSE NY/NJ Chapter Seminar

The 2022 KWiSE NY/NJ chapter seminar took place on October 29 from 9am to 12pm, virtually via Zoom. This year's theme was "Living and Learning with COVID." The program began with greetings and opening remarks from chapter president Dr. HeaYeon Lee, and Dr. SeungEun Choi served as moderator. The speakers in order were Dr. Chunhwa Ihm, Dr. Minsun Shin, and Dr. Eunju Lim. After each 20-30 minute session, all 17 members introduced themselves, answered icebreaker questions, and shared their thoughts about the future of women in science. The program ended with closing remarks and a group photo.





# KWISE SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER

# **KWiSE SE Chapter Conference** in October 2022

Last fall, the Southeastern chapter held a conference centered around the presentations of five speakers. The conference showcased a diverse range of captivating topics, providing attendees with a wealth of knowledge. Some of the highlights included:

Bonghan Duct System (BHS)/Primo Vascular System (PVS) Science: Kyung Aih Kang, Professor Emeritus at the University of Louisville, offered a concise review of this fascinating vascular system. Originally discovered by Dr. Bong Han Kim, it was later renamed PVS by Dr. Kwang-Sup Soh. This system plays a crucial role in stem cell production and cancer metastasis.

Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Infectious Disease Reporting System: Jonghee Choi, Consul at the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Atlanta, provided an informative overview of the EOC's operations and the infectious disease reporting system.

Formulation Development for Topical and Transdermal Pharmaceutical Delivery: Yujin Kim, PharmD, delved into the formulation development and characterization of topical and transdermal pharmaceuticals. She explored both traditional and non-traditional approaches, shedding light on new possibilities in drug delivery.

**Lunit CARE: Terri Kim,** Vice President at Lunit, Inc., introduced Lunit CARE, a groundbreaking information service designed to support breast cancer patients. This service promises to be a valuable resource, providing guidance and assistance throughout the breast cancer journey. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.lunit.care">www.lunit.care</a>.

#### The Role of Innate Immune Cells in Parkinson's Disease:

Jae-Kyung Lee, Associate Professor at the University of Georgia, shared her research program's focus on understanding the impact of the immune system on neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's disease, Lewy body dementia, and multiple system atrophy. Her studies concentrate on the accumulation of alpha-synuclein protein and its effects on immune cells in the central nervous system (CNS) and the periphery. Utilizing a mouse model, the lab investigates the composition of immune cells during the prodromal stage of Parkinson's disease. Their findings reveal that natural killer cells play a crucial role in reducing alpha-synuclein burden and provide a potential immunotherapeutic strategy.

#### **Steering Committee Members:**

Hyesung Park, PhD: Associate Professor, Georgia Gwinnett College Mikyong Shin, DrPH Jungreem Taylor Woo, PhD

We extend our gratitude to all the presenters for their enlightening contributions and commend them for their dedication to advancing scientific knowledge in their respective fields.



## 2023 KWiSE SE Chapter (East) WISET Global Cross Mentoring

The Southeastern chapter hosted the annual eastern region mentoring program. As mentors and mentees increased yearly, exchanges between mentees in Korea and the US emerged. Through this mentoring program, mentees learned through seminars about research, grant writing, resume writing, job search, and other helpful information for building their careers and expanding their expertise. Additionally, mentee satisfaction was very high, according to a survey. The mentees highlighted several positive aspects of the mentoring program, including the practical aspects of the educational content, the encouragement and advice based on the mentors' experiences, and the impression of the mentors' dedicated attitude toward life. They emphasized the mentor's attentive care and feedback, which was very helpful, and the efficient delivery of useful information on career development in the US. This review conveys a positive evaluation and gratitude toward the education provided by the mentoring program. As a result, for consecutive years, the Southeastern chapter has produced the WISET best mentor award winners (Dr. Sungsil Moon and Dr. Sohyun Park). The year 2022 Mentors were Drs. Sohyun Park, Mikyoung Shin, Sung-Sil Moon, Jae-Kyung Lee, Junghui Koo, Heesoo Joo, Mihyeon Jeon, and Hyesung Park, and 51 mentees from the eastern part of the US (21) and South Korea (30) participated in the program.



# KWISE SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER

### 2023 New Year Networking Event

The Southeastern chapter held a New Year Event. At this event, Dr. Mihyeon Jeon, President of KWiSE Headquarters, shared the history and achievements from the past year, discussing the future direction and networking. This event was particularly meaningful as it marked the first in-person new year event since the pandemic began and was hosted by the newly formed steering committee. The 2022-2024 steering committee comprises Dr. Hyesung Park, Dr. Mi-Kyong Shin, and Dr. Jung Rim Woo.



### **News from Chapter Members**

Congratulations, Dr. Mihyeon (Christy) Jeon!



Dr. Mihyeon (Christy) Jeon has been recently listed as one of the 100 Most Influential Women in Georgia Engineering by American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Georgia. She was also elected to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of Georgia Section Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) for 2023. Founded in 1930, ITE is an international membership association of transportation professionals who work to improve mobility and safety for all transportation system users and help build smart and livable communities, with a network of more than 17,000 members working in more than 78 countries.

#### **Announcement**

#### Spring Monthly Seminar Series

The Southeastern chapter will be hosting Seminar Series covering topics of IoT, Psychology, and Neuroinflammation from April to May 2023.

#### **CDMRP Open funding opportunities**

Dr. Moon Han (ATSDR/OAD/OIA, CDC) announces that the Department of Defense's (DoD's) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) is offering funding opportunities for health and basic science fields. Dr. Moon Han, who serves as both a former Scientific Reviewer and current Panelist, has recently announced that many researchers are not aware of these opportunities. These options offer a chance to secure 2-3 year funding in health-related, basic science, and therapeutic/biomarker development categories. However, it's important to note that each program has unique award mechanisms, and applicants should review the categories carefully to ensure eligibility. While early career scientists are highly encouraged to apply, the platform is highly competitive. To learn more about the funding opportunities, please visit https://cdmrp.health.mil/funding/default.

# KWISE ANGELES CHAPTER

### **Monthly Meetings**

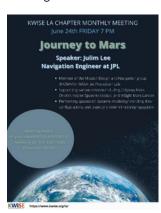
#### April 2022-December 2022

Every month, the KWiSE LA chapter holds meetings where members take turns presenting their current research. In April, Dr. Sinhwa Kang from SOAP Health presented on the use of virtual humans for patient counseling, explaining how they can efficiently collect and organize information between doctors and patients. In May, Dr. Suejung Huh from Ohhh! Inc. discussed the development of metaverse and NFTs and how they can be used in future business directions. In June, NASA navigator Dr. Julim Lee gave a special lecture on NASA's research direction for space and the process of sending spacecraft to Mars. In August, Dr. Bo Ram Bang from Promis Diagnostics discussed the development of diagnostic devices before and after the pandemic, as well as the recent Theranos scandal. In September, Dr. Sunyoung Park from California Lutheran University shared information on the research process and considerations for meta-analysis in data science. In December, LA Chapter members gathered for a meal to reflect on the year and enjoy offline social time, which was rare due to the

By sharing their research and work every month, members were able to gain a better understanding of each other's fields of research, creating great opportunities for collaboration and receiving help based on that understanding.









#### **Steering Committee Members:**

Bo-ram Bang, Director of R&D, Promis Diagnostics Grace Suh, Manufacturing Associate, Immunitybio



#### **KWiSE West Coast Conference**

#### October 2022

The KWiSE LA and San Diego chapters held an online conference. Dr. Christy Mihyeon Jeon, the current KWiSE president, presented on KWiSE's past activities and future directions. Dr. Eunjoo Pacifici then explained regulatory science, which may be unfamiliar to many, and the importance of FDA regulation compliance, as well as the preparations and assistance provided by regulatory affairs professionals for the many pharmaceutical and medical device developments currently underway.



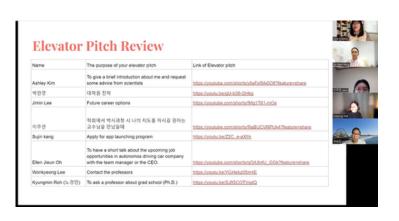


# KWISE ANGELES CHAPTER

### **Mentoring Program**

#### May 2022-November 2022

In 2022, the KWiSE San Diego and LA chapters collaborated to organize a mentoring program, consisting of monthly meetings with 13 mentors and 67 mentees from May to November. During the sessions, mentors shared their past experiences, educational background, and professional insights gained through their years of experience. The program was conducted online, with mentees participating from both Korea and the US. Furthermore, mentor Dr. Sunyoung Park traveled to Seoul to meet the mentees in person, providing them with a valuable opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance directly. The program aimed to foster a supportive environment for mentees to learn from experienced professionals and help them develop their skills and careers.



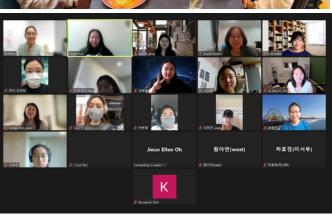


# KSEA Math Competition -KWiSE Awards

#### April 22, 2023

Dr. Jayoung Kim represented the KWiSE LA Chapter and presented awards to eight female students who performed well in a KSEA math competition, encouraging and supporting them to choose STEM majors in the future.















#### **Steering Committee Members:**

Soon Mi Lim, PhD: Associate Professor, Texas A&M University Crystal S. Shin, PhD: Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine Yangjin Bae, PhD: Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine

## The 4t Annual KWiSE @TAMU Conference at Texas A&M University

November 12, 2022

KWiSE@TAMU hosted its annual conference at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. The 4th annual KWiSE@TAMU conference also served as the annual conference of KWiSE Texas Chapter on November 12, 2022. Attendees, primarily undergraduate and graduate students who recently moved from Korea, enjoyed a lunch of traditional Korean food and snacks such as Japchae, Bulgogi, Toktokkie, and Dakgangjeong. Dr. Soon Mi Lim's Bulgogi was a standout among the delicious Korean dishes. During lunch, participants, including faculty, research scientists, postdocs, and graduate/undergraduate students, shared their experiences as Asian women in Texas.

#### 4th Annual KWiSE@TAMU Conference Program

12:00 – 12:15pm Welcome and Opening remark, 2119 CHEM

Soon-Mi Lim, President, KWiSE Texas Chapter;
 Instructional Associate Professor, Chemistry, TAMU

12:15–12:45pm Lunch and Small Group Conversations, 2119 CHEM

"Sharing life stories as an Asian woman in Texas"

12:45 – 1:45pm Career Success Tips, 2119 CHEM

Yidan Shen, Graduate student,
 Materials Sciences and Engineering, TAMU
 "Graduate Internship as an Asian women"

- Dr. Jeonghee Kim, Assistant Professor,
 Engineering Technology & Industrial Distribution and
 Electrical & Computer Engineering, TAMU
 "Getting faculty offers from US and Korean

 - Dr. Kyuson Yun, Associate Professor at Houston Methodist Research Institute;
 Co-founder of EMPIRI, INC.

"Entrepreneurship as a female scientist"

1:45 – 2:30pm Research Presentations, 2122 CHEM

universities."

- Mi Sun An, Graduate student, Construction Science,

"Critical Thinking (Reasoning and Judgment) Skills in Engineering Classroom"

Elevator speeches by faculty, research scientists, postdocs, and graduate students

2:30 – 3:00 pm Career Center Resources, 2122 CHEM

 Marilyn Yeager, Associate Director for Graduate Student Services, Career Center, TAMU

3:00pm Future KWiSE events and Closing remark, 2122 CHEM

Following a delightful lunch and engaging conversations, we had the privilege of hearing from three remarkable speakers. Yidan Shen, a graduate student in Materials Sciences and Engineering, shared her internship experience as an Asian woman. Dr. Jeonghee Kim, an Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University and Hanyang University in South Korea, discussed her faculty application journey and offers from US and Korean universities. Dr. Kyuson Yun, an Associate Professor at Houston Methodist Research Institute and co-founder of EMPIRI, INC., shared her unique story of founding and leading a successful startup after her academic research. Their stories inspired and sparked enthusiastic discussions among the attendees.



This year's research session started with a presentation by Mi Sun An, a graduate student in Construction Science, and followed by research conversations among participants in elevator speech format. All participants joined small groups and gave 1–3-minute talks about their research and answered questions from the team members. Senior members in each team served as moderators, and all team members rated other team members to select the best speaker from each team. The session ended with an award ceremony for the best speakers.

# KWISE TEXAS CHAPTER

## The 4t Annual KWiSE @TAMU Conference at Texas A&M Universitycontinued









After getting pumped up by motivational talks and encouraging conversations, an information session by Ms. Marilyn Yeager was followed. Ms. Yeager shared resources and career tips with students. The conference adjourned with appreciation remarks and future plans of KWiSE Texas chapter. On the post-event survey, participants gave positive comments and showed interest in future KWiSE events. The following are some of the comments from the participants. "As international, I don't get much information getting a job or opportunities, but I could learn from this conference a lot." "I didn't usually get the opportunity to meet students from different departments, but it was great to connect with people studying various majors and have conversations about research." "Being a woman, I found the strength and wisdom to balance working from home and pursuing my goals." "I learned what other people went through to achieve their goals and build their careers, and how they keep balance between work and their personal lives."



## KWiSE Member's Presentation at 2022 KSEA West Gulf Coast Regional Conferences

December 10, 2022

Two KWiSE Texas chapter members, Dr. Kyusun Yun and Dr. Crystal Shin played major roles at the Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association West Gulf Coast Regional Conferences as giving opening and closing remarks and leading Keynote lecture discussions and Technical Discussion Session. Following their leadership, many KWiSE Texas chapters members participated in Trainee Research Presentations, Technical Discussion, and Faculty Research Presentations. The photo below is of KWiSE members with the keynote speaker, Dr. Peter Hotez, Dean for the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor at Baylor College of Medicine Houston.





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KWiSE (Korean-American Women in Science and Engineering) is a non-profit organization of Korean-American women professionals in science and engineering.

We offer members opportunities for networking, career development, and mentoring for members and provide opportunities for collaborations. We promote international cooperation, especially between the United States and Korea.

# Why KWiSE?

Most Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) fields have seen growth in women over the years; however, there are still persistent challenges.

- While the ratio of women in Biological Sciences and Mathematics is close to 50%, there is a considerably lower proportion of women in higher-level positions. This is called the "leaky pipeline" or the "glass ceiling" problem.
- In Physical Sciences, Computer/Information Technology, and Engineering, the ratio of women is only about a quarter, which indicates a severe problem of recruitment into those fields of study.
- The proportion of Asian-Americans in leadership positions in STEM-related academia, government, and industry jobs are disproportionally low compared to other races. This is called the "bamboo ceiling" problem. In particular, Asian American Women show the lowest percentage in promotion in all STEM-related jobs. KWiSE aims to help address & solve these issues.

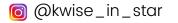
Together, we can make a difference!

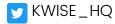


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