



# NEWLETTER - Korean Transportation Association in America

Vol. 12, No. 1, January 2001

## President's message -



Dear KOTAA members,

It has been almost ten years since we formed our Korean Transportation Association in America (KOTAA). Over the ten years, when I ask people to join KOTAA, many people ask "What is in KOTAA for me?" So, I thought about what is in KOTAA for myself. Every year, I attended the annual KOTAA meeting, often skipping TRB committee meetings where I am a member or a TRB session. I spent some time and effort in organizing the KOTAA summer conference in Salt Lake City. I have contributed my limited financial resource in support of KOTAA activities such as membership fees, annual dinners and planned travel grants. I could not answer the above question because I still don't know what is in KOTAA for me yet.

Instead, I would like to ask many Korean transportation professionals the following question, "What is in you for KOTAA?" I am no JFK but I am trying. One good thing I can say about KOTAA is that I have met many good Korean people in transportation and I enjoyed meeting them. Therefore, I can answer, if you can meet one good Korean transportation professional through KOTAA and enjoy meeting her/him, the annual KOTAA meeting is worthwhile for you to attend. If you have not found such a Korean yet, please come to our next annual KOTAA meeting to meet someone.

I believe part of fun in living is meeting good people. It is more fun if good people are in transportation. It is even more fun if they are Korean. As always, I am looking forward to meeting you all at the 2001 annual KOTAA meeting.

Hosin "David" Lee, President  
KOTAA

## Annual Meeting

The 12th KOTAA Annual Meeting will be held at "Robert's Room" Shoreham Hotel on Tuesday, January 2001 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Dinner will be followed at the Thai Town restaurant (same as last year).

## News

KOTAA Travel Grant will be given upto four Korean Students beginning of year 2002 at the KOTAA annual meeting. Details will be available soon.

## Useful URLs

KOTAA - <http://kotaa.krdns.net>  
TRB - <http://nationalacademies.org/trb/>  
ASCE Jobs - <http://ads.asce.org/upa.html>  
TRIS Online (Transportation Search Engine) -  
<http://206.205.49.52/sundev/search.cfm>

Highway Capacity and Quality of Service  
(Transportation Research Board committee  
A3A10) - <http://www.a3a10.gati.org/>

ITE - <http://www.ite.org>

ITS America - <http://www.itsa.org>

University Transportation Centers (will let you  
know who got funds) - <http://utc.dot.gov/>

## Upcoming Conferences

The 9th World Conference on Transport  
Research is to be held in Seoul, Korea, during  
July 22-27, 2001 (<http://www.wctr2001.org>).

The IEEE 4th International Conference on  
Intelligent Transportation Systems is to be held  
in Oakland, California during August 25-29, 2001  
(<http://www.ieee.org/itsc/2001>).

## How to write a good journal paper?

- B. Brian Park (Research Fellow at NISS)

I don't think I am very well qualified for this  
topic since I haven't written many journal  
papers. However, I would like to share some  
experience that I have learned not only as a  
paper writer but also as a paper reviewer for  
journals including Transportation Research Part  
A and B, Transportation Science, Journal of  
Transportation Engineering, and Transportation  
Research Record.

First of all, we don't always have to write a  
winning paper. We write a journal paper to share  
what we found from our research with our  
colleagues so that they can learn from it. Let me  
take an example of my paper that dealt with  
traffic signal optimization. Of course, I had to  
compare with the state of practice, TRANSYT-  
7F. I found my approach produced much better  
performance than that of T7F. In a sense, I  
wrote a winning paper. Guess What? An  
anonymous reviewer, most likely involved in the

development of T7F, criticized my approach. I  
am not saying his/her arguments are wrong.  
What I am saying is that you'd better tone down  
your findings and simply suggest further  
research is necessary to confirm what you  
found, as if you were reporting from the live  
news scene.

Second, as a reviewer, I ask myself whether I  
liked the paper, what I learned from it, and if  
the authors were honest about their findings. As  
a "young" researcher, I do my best (including  
fine tunings) to find better results on my  
approach, while make a single run on existing  
alternative approaches. I can tell by reading the  
authors' paper in the methodology and/or  
discussion sections whether they've done their  
best on alternative approaches. Therefore, when  
you write a paper, you should spend fair amount  
of efforts on existing approaches and share the  
experience with others. Then, the reviewers will  
like your paper. As a reviewer, I don't like a  
paper that only sells the results. I do like a  
paper that shares what they learned. Don't hide  
what you learned and share it with the readers,  
then the readers will like your paper. And your  
paper will be published.

Good luck on your career.

Brian

## Member Notes

Ms. Soojung Jung (University of Maryland), at  
last, married to Mr. Keon-il Kim. She also  
successfully defended her dissertation, entitled  
of "Genetic Algorithm for the Vehicle Routing  
Problem with Time Dependent Travel Time." She  
will be working for Mitretek in Washington, DC.

Prof. Y. Richard Kim has been promoted to full  
Professor at North Carolina State University.

Prof. Hosin David Lee, currently at University of  
Iowa, joined Samsung SDS America as Director

(part-time) of Infrastructure Information Technology (IIT) Group in Salt Lake City. Mr. Ki-Hyoung Kang, his graduate student and a current member of KOTAA, joined Samsung SDS America in Salt Lake City along with another full-time and two part-time programmers. Samsung SDS America licensed Prof. Lee's PicCrack and MapCrack Infrastructure Management software from the University of Utah. IIT Group is also working on commercializing various Samsung's transportation technologies in U.S. and is currently looking for full-time marketing personnel. The office address is: Samsung SDS America, Key Bank Plaza Tower, 50 S. Main Street, Suite 1230, Salt Lake City, UT 84144. Tel: 801-521-2481  
E-mail: sdsamerica@yahoo.com

Dr. Jung-taek Lee moved from Baltimore to Chicago and he works for Urban Transportation Center at University of Illinois at Chicago as a Research Assistant Professor.

Mr. Sang-soo Lee, at Texas A&M University, defended his dissertation, entitled of Analysis of Traffic Actuated Signal Control Strategies at Urban Diamond Interchanges, in October 2000. He will be working for Texas Transportation Institute as a researcher.

Mr. Chang Hwan "Billy" Park, Transportation Engineer at Fehr & Peers Associates, Inc. in Reno, Nevada, will be moving to the same company located in Sacramento, California coming January 2001.

Dr. Byungkyu "Brian" Park will be beginning his new career as a research assistant professor at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. He has been working with the National Institute of Statistical Sciences since September 1998.

Dr. Dongjoo Park took an assistant professor position in Civil Engineering at Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand.

Dr. Seong-Wan Park (Texas A&M Graduate in May 2000) is now working for Korea Institute of Construction Technology as a Senior Researcher.

Mr. Nak-moon Sung finished his final defense (dissertation title: Evaluation of Safety at Freeway Interchanges), and will be going back to Korea Transport Institute.

## Financial Status

Membership dues  
- General (\$35/year), Student (\$15/year)

Due to very generous donations and membership dues, our balance is STILL black (as of January 9, 2001). Here is a summary of our financial status.

Fiscal Year of 2000 (Feb. 1999 - Jan. 2000)	
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>\$3077.00</b>
Last year	\$300.00
Dues/Donations	\$2777.00
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$995.78</b>
Dinner	\$680.00
Meeting material (copy)	\$15.10
Meeting - drinks and snacks	\$60.98
After meeting (beers)	\$44.40
Plaques (Lee, Sung, Jung)	\$195.30
<b>Balance (February 2000)</b>	<b>\$2081.22</b>

### Revenues Detail

U.S. (General members) - \$1740.00  
Hosin Lee (\$1,000), Myung Hak Sung (\$200), K. Wane Lee (\$150), Kyung-Hwa Kim (\$100), Eil Kwon (\$100), Do H. Nam (\$50), Y. Richard Kim, Byungkyu Park, Dongwoo Sohn, Seongsoon Yun

Korea (General members) - \$640.00  
Young K. Nam (\$200, Gyu-Tae Cho, Won-Pyo Sohn, etc.), Jeong Gyu Kang (\$100), Keechoo Choi (\$50), Eui Jin Oh (\$50), Jae Eun Lee (\$40),

Yong Jae Lee, Ki Hyuk Kim, Jaeseong Cho, Jeong Hyun Kim, Hyung Bae Kim (\$25), Woneui Kang

Students - \$397.00

Soojung Jung (\$30), Taehyung Kim, Seri Oh, Eungcheol Kim, Changhwan Park, Dong K. Seo, Youngjin Kim, Hae-Bum Yun, Nak-Mun Sung (\$17), Cheol Oh, Taiwan Kim, Jutaek Oh, Jintai Kim, Boo Il Kim, Heemun Park, Donju Lee (\$20), Sug Joon Lee, Junseok Oh, Jaejun Lee, Heejoo Ham, Heungun Oh, In Kyu Lim, In Tai Kim, Jeong Whon Yu, Seongwan Park

**Membership Dues and/or Donations received (YR2001, not yet included)**

Seongsoon Yun (\$100), Eungcheol Kim (\$15), Seri O(\$15), Changhwan 'Billy' Park (\$35)

## **Current Officials**

### **President:**

Hosin David Lee (University of Iowa)

### **Vice-Presidents:**

Seongsoon Yoon (Gannett Felmming)

Y. Richard Kim (North Carolina State University)

**Auditor:** Sang-Soo Kim (Ohio University)

**Secretary:** B. Brian Park (NISS)

## **Advisory Committee Members**

Chang, Myungsoon (Hanyang Unviersity, Korea)

Lee, Robert Bumjung (Urbitran Assoc.)

Byun, Joon-ho (Federal Highway Administration)

Lee, Kang-won Wayne (U. of Rhode Island)

Sung, Myung-Hak (Gannett Flemming)

## **MEMO -**

Visit our website at <http://kotaa.krdns.net>  
Register your info. under Membership directory

Send comments or suggestions to general secretary (email: [park@niss.org](mailto:park@niss.org))