



# NEWSLETTER - Korean Transportation Association in America

Vol. 20, No. 1, January 2009

## President's Message

Dear KOTAA members:



Happy New Year to each of you and your family members!

It has been already two years already since I became the KOTAA president. As time flies, it has been 10 years since I attended TRB meeting first time (and got involved with

KOTAA). This year in the meeting the KOTAA will elect a new president who I believe will do better job than me in his leadership and contribution for all our Korean American Transportation students, engineers, researchers, etc.

Let me start with some gloomy news. As everybody is concerned, the United States faces its most serious economic crisis since the great depression. As announced in media, markets have fallen 40% and the economy has lost 760,000 jobs in less than a year. I have seen some consequences already even in the academia. For example, a few graduate students recently finished up their degree (Ph.D.) under my supervision had difficult time in struggling with job search in transportation area.

But as our Korean proverb says, "Crisis could be turned into an opportunity". I think this is more relevant to our transportation practitioners in the USA and our home country in Korea. I think that the transportation engineering society will have better situation sooner than later, as the federal and state agencies are putting together stimulus packages, especially with the focus on transportation infrastructure sustainability projects. For example, to booster up the sinking economy the emergency plan of the new government (Obama and Biden) would make \$25 billion immediately available in a Jobs and Growth Fund for infrastructure projects to "Rebuild America". This plan makes more sense considering

that the most transportation facilities in the United States were built during the 1960's and 1970's, and they now exceed their design lives and are seriously deteriorated.

There are some opportunities in this mood already. For example, to address the challenges of the movement of people and goods on the nation's highways, Congress has created the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2). SHRP 2 addresses four strategic focus areas: human behavior Safety; rapid highway Renewal; travel time Reliability; and transportation Capacity. SHRP 2 is receiving approximately \$150 million with total program duration of 7 years. Personally, I have an opportunity to get involved in to a couple of SHRP 2 Renewal research projects with some other academia and professional colleagues.

Back to my message, I am truly honored to announce that the KOTAA selected 28 Travel Grant recipients. Right now, KOTAA has about \$30,000 endowed money and it generated money for entire recipients. In order for KOTAA to provide reasonable amount for each Travel Grant recipient, we will have to raise additional funds. To this end, the KOTAA initiated an establishment of tax deductible annual contributions in three categories: Platinum level (\$200), Gold level (\$100), and Silver level (\$50). Upon receipt of contribution, KOTAA will provide each donor with official tax deductible receipt. I strongly encourage you to contribute annual tax deductible donations toward KOTAA Travel Grant Fund. I am more than certain that it would be of great investment for Korean and Korean-American transportation professional society.

I hope everyone is successful in his/her professional career. I also hope that everyone enjoys this year's TRB meeting as well as the KOTAA meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Eul-Bum (E.B.) Lee, PhD, PE, PMP  
President of KOTAA for 2007 - 2008

## 2009 Annual Meeting

The 20th KOTAA Annual Meeting will be held at "International West" room at Hilton Hotel on January 13th, Tuesday, 2009 from 5:45 PM to 7:00 PM. Dinner will be followed at the Buca di Beppo (Italian restaurant), located at 1825 Connecticut Avenue NW (ph: 202-232-8466). Please refer to the attached agenda.

## 2008 KOTAA TRB Participant Status

A total of 80 KOTAA members attended at the 19<sup>th</sup> KOTAA Annual Meeting in January, 2008.

Status	U.S.	Korea	Total
Professional	20	16	36
Student	41	3	44
Total	61	19	80

  

Status	U.S.	Korea	Total
Professional	25%	20%	45%
Student	51%	4%	55%
Total	76%	24%	100%

## KOTAA Travel Grant

Beginning from year 2002, KOTAA has awarded Travel Grant to Korean graduate students attending the TRB meeting from all over the world. Through this grant, KOTAA wishes to encourage Korean students for their study as well as to enhance technical understanding and relationships for their future career development. The students shown in the following are the year 2009 KOTAA Travel Grant recipients. Prizes of \$150 and \$100 are presented to excellent researchers (first authors) and outstanding researchers (second authors or etc.), respectively.

### 2009 KOTAA Travel Grant Recipients

#### *Excellent Researcher Award*

1. Chung, Yoonseok  
Louisiana State University
2. Hu, Hyejung  
North Carolina State University
3. Jang, Kitae  
University of California, Berkeley
4. Jeon, Eung-Jin  
University of California, Davis
5. Jo, Jang Hyeon  
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

6. Kim, Dongwook  
University of Maryland
7. Kim, Minkyum  
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
8. Kim, Namseok  
Delft University of Technology
9. Kim, Woon  
University of Maryland
10. Koh, Chulseung  
University of Florida
11. Lee, Gunwoo  
University of California, Irvine
12. Lee, Jisun  
North Carolina State University
13. Lee, Jung-Beom  
Rutgers University
14. Noh, Hyunsoo  
University of Arizona
15. Oh, Soonmi  
University of California, Berkeley
16. Park, Byung-Jung  
Texas A&M University
17. Park, Sangjun  
Virginia Tech
18. Shin, Kangwon  
Arizona State University
19. Son, Ho Jun  
University of Virginia

#### *Outstanding Researcher Award*

1. Baek, Jonggeun  
University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
2. Cho, Youngjae  
Texas A&M University
3. Choi, Jinheoun  
University of California, Irvine
4. Kim, Seoungbum  
The Ohio State University
5. Lee, Joyoung  
University of Virginia
6. Ryu, Seungkyu  
Utah State University
7. Song, Myoung Kyun  
University of California, Berkeley
8. Yang, Inchul  
University of California, Irvine
9. You, Soyoung  
University of California, Irvine

## 2008 KOTAA Meeting Summary

Membership dues:  
Professional (\$35/year), Student (\$15/year)

### 2008 KOTAA Membership Fee Report

	\$15	\$35	Total
Professional	0	36	36
Student	44	0	44
Total amount	\$660	\$1,260	\$1,920

### 2008 Donation Summary

	Number	Amount
Professional	18	\$2,305
Student	2	\$15
Institution*	1	\$1,000
Total		\$3,320

\* Please refer to page 4 for detailed information.

### 2008 Travel Grant Expense Summary

Number	Amount	Total
20	\$150	\$3,000

## KOTAA Financial Status

### 1. General Financial Status

Fiscal Year of 2008	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,621.99</b>
Balance from FY2007	\$4,681.32
Year 2008 Membership	\$1,920.00
Tax Return	\$20.67
<b>Expense</b>	<b>\$510.97</b>
Newsletter	\$57.24
Tax report (CPA fee, filing fee)	\$330.00
Administration expense (gas, parking, stamp, printer ink, etc.)	\$123.73
<b>Balance as of 12/31/08</b>	<b>\$6,111.02</b>

### 2. Travel Grant Financial Status

Fiscal Year of 2008	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$32,971.13</b>
Balance from FY2007	\$32,849.94

Revenue from CD & Mutual Fund	-\$3,198.81
Donations from Members	\$2,320.00
Donations from Institutions*	\$1,000.00
<b>Expense</b>	<b>\$4,650.91</b>
Administration expense	\$1,650.91
Awards (20 people)	\$3,000.00
<b>Balance as of 12/31/08</b>	<b>\$28,320.22</b>

### 3. KOTAA Finance Investment

To enhance KOTAA's financial status, KOTAA invested in CDs and Mutual Fund through 2008, based on staffs' decision. Following tables summarize the status of the investment in CDs and mutual fund in 2008.

#### 3.1 Earning from the Investment

(1)	Earning from the CD Purchase	\$582.97
(2)	Dividend from the Mutual Fund	\$1,391.52
(3)	Credit interest	\$20.70
(4)	Loss from the Mutual Fund	-\$5,194.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-\$3,198.81</b>

(1) Interests from the CDs (see Table 3.1.1)

(2) Dividend from the mutual fund (see Table 3.1.2)

(3) Annual credit interest (which obtained from the rest of money outside the investment)

(4) Loss from the mutual fund (Table 3.1.3)

#### 3.1.1 Earning from the CD Purchase

Year_Month_Date	Earning
2008_06_30	\$220.28
2008_12_31	\$362.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$582.97</b>

### 3.1.2 Monthly Dividend from the Mutual Fund

Year_Month_Date	Monthly Dividend
2008_01_31	\$115.96
2008_02_28	\$115.96
2008_03_31	\$115.96
2008_04_30	\$115.96
2008_05_31	\$115.96
2008_06_30	\$115.96
2008_07_31	\$115.96
2008_08_31	\$115.96
2008_09_30	\$115.96
2008_10_31	\$115.96
2008_11_30	\$115.96
2008_12_31	\$115.96
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,391.52</b>

### 3.1.3 Loss from the Mutual Fund Investment

Year_Month_Date	Mutual Fund Price
2007_12_31	\$11,956.80 (= \$11.28 × 1,060)
2008_12_31	\$6,762.80 (= \$6.38 × 1,060)
<b>Loss Amount</b>	<b>-\$5,194.00</b> (= \$6,762.80 - \$11,956.80)

Note: unfortunately, we lost some money from the investment of the mutual funds due to the stock market depression in year 2008. Currently, we have 1,060 shares of a mutual fund stock with a unit price of \$6.38.

### Donations to KOTAA in 2008

#### Donations from Institutes

Donation Level	Institute	Donation
Diamond	KOTI*	\$1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>

\* Korea Transport Institute

#### Donations from Members

Donation Level	Name		Donation
	Last	First	
<b>Platinum</b>	Lee	Hosin	\$470
	Choi	Byung Sun	\$300
	Chon	Kyungsoo	\$200
	Lee	Eulbum	\$200
	Park	Byungkyu	\$200
<b>Gold</b>	Sung	Myunghak	\$165
	Kim	Eungcheol	\$100

	Lee	Kangwon	\$100
Silver	Hong	Seockjin	\$65
	Koo	Jaidong	\$65
	Kwon	Iil	\$65
	Kwon	Sooahn	\$65
	Kwon	Youngjun	\$65
	Lee	Heon-Seok	\$65
	Park	Seri	\$65
Miscellaneous			\$130
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,320</b>

### 2009 KSEA Scholarship

To recognize outstanding students with Korean heritage who have excelled in academics as well as in community services, and who demonstrate potential for becoming leaders in the society, KSEA is going to provide several categories of scholarship. Please refer to the announcements on KSEA's Website ([www.ksea.org](http://www.ksea.org)) for further information.

### Member News

#### Changing Positions

Dr. Young-Jin Park became an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada.

#### Opening New Business

Prof. Sangsoo Kim recently opened a company, ABCD (Asphalt Binder Cracking Device). Please visit [www.EZasphaltTechnology.com](http://www.EZasphaltTechnology.com) for further information.

#### Next KOTAA President and Web Master

We have a presidential election in 2009 and are currently looking for a new web master who will support the KOTAA for the next 2 years. Please contact to Dr. Eul-Bum Lee ([eblee@berkeley.edu](mailto:eblee@berkeley.edu)) or Woon Kim ([secretary@kotaa.org](mailto:secretary@kotaa.org)) if you are interested in.

#### Graduations

- Dr. Min Wook Kang (University of Maryland) graduated in May, 2007 and got a job at ATRC, Morgan State University.

## Upcoming Conferences

1. The 50th Annual Forum of Transportation Research Forum (TRF'2009), March 16-18, 2009 Portland, Oregon USA
2. ITE 2009 Technical Conference (ITE-TC'2009), March 22-25, 2009 Phoenix, Arizona USA
3. The 15th International Conference on Urban Transport and Environment, June 22-24, 2009 Bologna, Italy
4. The 4th International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation, October 27-30, 2009 Irvine, California USA
5. The 2009 IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV'09), June 3-5, 2009 Xi'an, Shaanxi China
6. The 10th Asia-Pacific Intelligent Transport Systems Forum & Exhibition 2009 (APITS'2009), July, 2009 Brisbane, Australia
7. The 7th International Conference on Traffic and Transportation Studies (ICTTS'2010), August 3-5, 2010 KunMing, China
8. The 16th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems (WCITS'2009), September 21-25, 2009 Stockholm, Sweden
9. ITS America's 2009 Annual Meeting & Exposition, June 1-3, 2009 National Harbor, Maryland USA
10. National Rural ITS Conference, August 23-27, 2009 Seaside, Oregon USA
11. 18th International Symposium on Transportation and Traffic Theory (ISTTT18), July 16-18, 2009 Hong Kong

## Current Officials

### President

Eul-Bum Lee (University of California, Berkeley)

### Vice-Presidents:

Sangsoo Kim (Ohio University)

Jun-seok Oh (Western Michigan University)

### Auditors:

Young-jun Kweon (Virginia DOT)

Yong-Rak Kim (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

### General Secretary

Woon Kim (University of Maryland)

### Webmaster

Minchul Park (Virginia Tech.)

Send any comments or suggestions to general secretary, **Woon Kim**, at [secretary@kotaa.org](mailto:secretary@kotaa.org) regarding any issues for operating KOTAA.

## Let's Use KOTAA Website!!!

Do you feel the one time KOTAA annual meeting is not enough for you? Don't you think it would be nice to meet our members whenever you want? The KOTAA website ([www.kotaa.org](http://www.kotaa.org)) is the right place to satisfy your enthusiasm for daily activities. Currently, the KOTAA website is under renewal. Any ideas to improve the website or postings of useful information are very welcome. If you are interested in managing any part of the web contents, feel free to contact the secretary ([elly9911@gmail.com](mailto:elly9911@gmail.com)).

## NOTE