

AKPA Newsletter

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President Chueng-Ryong Ji Inaugurated the 28th AKPA Administration

Professor Chueng-Ryong Ji at North Carolina State University inaugurated his presidency as the 28th AKPA President with new members of officers. Professor Eun-Suk Seo at University of Maryland and Dr. Pil-Neyo Seo at Duke University joined the new administration as the vice president and auditor respectively, both elected from the election completed on August 21. (See the election article in page 6.) Below are the statements by President Ji and the outgoing President, Professor Taeil Bai at Stanford, followed by the introduction of the new AKPA officers.

Message from the 28th President of the AKPA

Chueng-Ryong Ji (Dept. of Physics, North Carolina State University)



Dear Fellow AKPA Members,

It is my honor and privilege to serve as the AKPA 28th President. I humbly accept many challenges ahead of us and attempt here to set my attitude for the success of this great organization.

The purpose of the AKPA is well documented in the Bylaws. I appreciate very much the consorted efforts of the leadership in the last 27 terms to shape the organization up until now. At the same time, I see that many challenges and tests are still ahead of us to improve the fulfillment of the AKPA objectives. As the organization is voluntary in many respects, the members have differences in thoughts, presentations and actions. I believe that we better embrace these differences and build up the teamwork to work together toward the common mission and vision. To succeed, we should maintain our integrity even in difficult times.

The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives will be the fuel that allows us to attain extraordinary results. My experience from chairing the US-Korea Conference (UKC2009) this summer gave me a great deal of confidence on the future of voluntary professional organizations. In particular, the Physics Session (New Frontiers in Basic and Applied Physics) was a good starting point for the 28th administration of AKPA. In this session, President Young Pak Lee of Korean Physical Society (KPS) and I had an agreement to restore the healthy link between the KPS and the AKPA. Following up on this agreement, we will exchange ideas and plans for the collaborative programs between KPS and AKPA.

We have also appointed the three officers of the 28th administration: Dr. Myungkee Sung (Louisiana State University) as General Secretary, Dr. In-Saeng Suh (University of Notre Dam) as Treasurer, Dr. Hye-Sung Lee (University of California, Riverside) as Publication and Web manager. I appreciate very much for their willingness to work for the 28th administration of the AKPA. Electing both Vice President (President-Elect) and Auditor in the near future, the 28th administration will be fully functional to carry out the tasks for the AKPA.

For the first year term of the 28th administration, we plan to publish electronically the three issues of the AKPA Newsletter and solicit the nomination of the Outstanding Young Researcher Award (OYRA) as widely as possible. We will charge the Publicity and Editorial Committee and the Award Committee accordingly. We will also charge the E-link and Web Management Committee to harness stable and versatile hardware/software including user-friendly websites.

It is fortunate that we have a few allies that support our activities. Let alone the KPS in our homeland, Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO) and Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) entertain the proximity. To keep a sustainable relationship with other organizations and even strengthen it, we need to develop a healthy and useful organization that can contribute to the mainstream societies both in US and Korea. Fellow members, let's work together to build such a great organization that we all can enjoy. Thanks!

Message from the Outgoing President

Taeil Bai (Hansen Experimental Physics Laboratory, Stanford University)



It was a privilege to serve as the president of the Association of Korean Physicists in America. I thank the colleagues who served as AKPA officers and committee members during my term: Dr. Do-Hyung Lee (General secretary), Prof. Youngho Seo (Web & communication), Award committee members (Prof. Yong W. Kim, chair; Prof. Howard Lee; Dr. Hoydoo You; Prof. Eun-Suk Seo; Prof. Jiyeong Gu); Nomination committee (Prof. Ki-Hyon Kim). I thank for Prof. Ho Jung Paik, my predecessor, who did hard work for AKPA. For this, he received a service award with a unanimous nomination by the Award Committee.

AKPA performs worthwhile activities such as finding out outstanding young Korean physicists through OYRA process and recognizing them, delivering public lectures on physics, and exchanging information among Korean physicists. Until now, AKPA has been sustained by dedication of a small number of physicists. I wish that more young physicists get interest in AKPA and participate in its activity.

Except for an annual meeting held during the March APS meeting, which is mostly attended by solid state physicists, AKPA mainly work through emails and newsletters. Therefore, sometimes I felt like working in a vacuum, when I did not get any feedback on AKPA activity. This is a discouraging aspect. Meeting many Korean physicists during the U.S.-Korea Conference (UKC2009) organized by the Korean Scientists and Engineers Association was encouraging.

The new president, Prof. Chueng-Ryong Ji, has assembled a team of competent physicists during UKC2009. I am pleased to see that AKPA is in good hands. However, interest in AKPA by many Korean physicists in America is vital for the success of AKPA.

(Cf. Auditor report for transition from the 27th to 28th administration will be included in the future issue of the AKPA when it becomes available.)

Introduction of the 28th AKPA Officers

The UKC 2009 (see the article below) provided President Chueng-Ryong Ji with a great chance of finding young scholars who he was desperately searching for the new AKPA administration. The officer positions required by the AKPA Bylaw, were quickly filled by three physicists who happily(?) volunteered for the honorable service - Dr. Myungkee Sung for General Secretary, Dr. In-Saeng Suh for Treasury Secretary, and Dr. Hye-Sung Lee for Web Management.



Dr. Myungkee Sung, the General Secretary, worked in the Experimental High Energy Physics for his Ph.D from the Ohio State University. Currently he is working in the Gravitational Wave Detection Physics in the LIGO experiment as a senior postdoc researcher at Louisiana State University.

*First unofficial 28th AKPA staff meeting during UKC2009.
[From left] In-Saeng Suh, Myungkee Sung, Chueng-Ryong Ji, Hye-Sung Lee*

Dr. In-Saeng Suh, the Treasury Secretary, is currently working for the University of Notre Dame as a High Performance Computing Engineer in the Center for Research Computing as well as Concurrent Research Associate Professor in the Department of Physics. Major working areas are the Open Science Grid, LHC CMS, high-performance parallel computing and Astrophysics.

Dr. Hye-Sung Lee, the Web Manager, got his Ph.D. in theoretical particle physics at University of Wisconsin - Madison, and is currently a postdoctoral research associate at UC Riverside. His research area in particle physics includes model building, collider phenomenology, and dark matter physics.

Report on the Physics Symposium of UKC2009

Taeil Bai (Hansen Experimental Physics Laboratory, Stanford University)

Annually, the Korean Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) organizes a conference attended by many scientists and engineers from U.S. and Korea. The UKC2009 was held from July 16-19, 2009 at Raleigh, North Carolina. The organizing committee for UKC2009 was chaired by Prof. Chueng-Ryong Ji, who is the President of KSEA and also serves as AKPA president.

The physics symposium was entitled “New Frontiers in Basic and Applied Physics.” It was organized by Taeil Bai (Stanford University), Bum Hoon Lee (Sogang University), Dean Lee (North Carolina State University), and Young Pak Lee (Hanyang University). Sixteen physicists (nine from U.S., six from Korea, and one from Brazil) presented talks on variety of subjects ranging from solid state physics, quantum mechanics, general relativity, and computational physics.

It was a good occasion to learn what is going on in other areas of physics, although it was like random sampling of topics. It was a good occasion for many physicists to meet old friends. It was moving to see that Prof. Kiuck Lee, who had served as the second president of KSEA in 1973, presented a paper. The paper was read by his



daughter, Linda, because of his ill health, but he himself answered questions after the presentation. Prof. Ki-Hyon Kim's informal talk on his visit several years ago to North Korea was interesting. There were several physicists doing research in general relativity experiments, and they had a chance to discuss on collaboration.



Some participants in physics session, UKC2009.

Rear [from left]: William Jo, In-Saeng Suh, Hye-Sung Lee, Myungkee Sung, Bum-Hoon Lee, Dean Lee, Jaewan Kim, Gungwon Kang, Jungjai Lee

Front [from left]: Ki-Hyon Kim, Dong-Pil Min, Young Pak Lee, Kiuck Lee, Chueng-Ryong Ji, Taeil Bai, Yong Wook Kim

After science presentations were over, we talked about physics community issues. It was fruitful in this aspect also. The new president, Prof. Chueng-Ryong Ji was able to recruit some physicists there as AKPA officers. Prof. Young Pak Lee, the president of the Korean Physical Society, talked about a close cooperation between AKPA and KPS.

As for future physics symposiums, it was proposed to ask senior physicists to review current status and future trends of various research fields. Attendants can benefit more from such a symposium than from a symposium of the current format of presenting his (or her) own research. Oral presentations are to be devoted to review talks, and research papers are to be presented in posters, with brief summary presentations in oral sessions.

Prof. Ho Jung Paik Gets a Service Award



On March 5, 2009, the Award Committee (Yong W. Kim, Chair) unanimously nominated Prof. Ho Jung Paik for a Service Award. During his term as the 26th President, Prof. Paik worked tirelessly for AKPA. His hard work was recognized through this award. He started cooperative relation with KUSCO (the Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center), and he initiated the public lectures. Public lectures were introduced in the spirit of the World Year of Physics 2005, but AKPA decided to continue it after good responses within AKPA as well as from Korean Communities.

Prof. Eun-Suk Seo Elected as the 29th AKPA President

Prof. Eun-Suk Seo (U. of Maryland) was elected as the 29th AKPA President by the AKPA members. Dr. Pil-Neyo Seo (Duke U.) was also elected as the Auditor for the current 28th administration. Below is the official statement announced from the Election Committee:

Dear Esteemed AKPA members,

We appreciate very much your support and participation in the election of President-Elect and Auditor despite the tight schedule. All the candidates were particularly strong this year and we are very grateful to all the candidates who were willing to serve the AKPA. We also express our thanks to the nomination committee members who worked hard to find the excellent candidates.

Now, the election is completed and the following is the result.

Total: 18 votes

The 29th President: Prof. Eun-Suk Seo - 12 Dr. Taik-Soo Hahm - 6

The Auditor: Dr. Pil-Neyo Seo - 18 (Unanimous)

According to this result, we are pleased to announce that Drs. Eun-Suk Seo and Pil-Neyo Seo were elected as the President of the 29th term and the Auditor of the 28th term, respectively. According to the bylaws, Dr. Eun-Suk Seo will also serve as the Vice President of the current 28th term.

With the newly elected officers, we have now the basic structure of the 28th administration. We still need to complete the committee memberships and will solicit the memberships from you. If you are interested in serving any of the committees, please let us know as soon as possible. Thank you again for your support.

*Best Regards,
Election Committee*



Prof. Eun-Suk Seo accepted the election result with the following statement:

“I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the 29th president of AKPA. I am greatly honored to accept the responsibility. I would also like to thank the nomination committee and the election committee for overseeing the electoral process.”