

## Greetings from Sami Lauri, President of KOWIN DC



Dear KOWIN DC members,  
Finally, we have spring like weather after an unusual long winter! I hope you are enjoying beautiful cherry blossoms, which are the first sign of spring in the DC area. Since my installation as KOWIN DC president in August 2017, a new executive team was formed and various committee chairs were named.

Please visit [www.KOWINDC.org/board](http://www.KOWINDC.org/board) to see the names of the executive board and committee chairs. Newly appointed officers/chairs had a "Meet & Greet" on August 22 to familiarize with each other and to talk about KOWIN and activities.

As a member, you are encouraged to sign up for any committee that you have interest in or talent to share and contribute. If you haven't signed up, I urge you to sign up now. KOWIN activities are designed and run by functional committees, which plan, organize and execute them.

We also selected a new fellow among 3 applicants. I'm happy to introduce to you, Ms. Taeyi Kim, who has been a monumental addition to KOWIN DC. When you meet her at the next KOWIN activity, please offer her encouragement and warm support. Without the fellow program and a talented fellow, KOWIN DC cannot operate and sustain all the programs we run.

Besides having a quarterly meeting, there were several memorable events during the second half of 2017 and early 2018 and they are;

- Annual KOWIN conference (Aug. 30 - Sept. 1) in Gunsan, South Korea. Sue Vittas, Lucy Nam, JH Lee, Ann Choe, Youngjae Un, and Sami Lauri attended.
- Leadership Seminar (Oct. 28) at KEI Washington DC (Chaired by Florence Lee-Low, VP/Seminar Chair)
- Year-end Gala (Dec. 9) at Avenel Country Club (Co-chaired by Cathy Kim, VP)
- Annual members retreat (Feb. 23-25) at Lake Anna, VA
- First Spring Tea (Apr. 14) at Georgetown Club. (Sponsored by Suzanne Dodd-Galli, Senior VP)

Reports on the above-mentioned activities are included in this issue of the newsletter. We also decided to have "Saturday Breakfast" on every 2nd Saturday of the month at Corner Bakery in Tyson's Galleria. Suzanne Dodd-Galli and Jieun Kang will be in charge of this program.

The next quarterly meeting will be on June 9th at the conference room in Newstar Realty building. During this meeting, we will hold a fundraiser/bazaar to raise funds for the leadership seminar and fellowship program. We need your donation of gently used goods or consigned items to benefit both the consignor and KOWIN DC. Please mark your calendar! More details will be emailed later.

I wish to remind all the members that KOWIN DC is a "For the members and by the members" organization. It is crucial that everyone's participation is the most important factor in order for KOWIN to become an exemplary organization for both the Korean-American community and mainstream professional organizations!

Sincerely yours in sisterhood,

Sami Lauri  
President, KOWIN DC Chapter

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<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Sami Lauri</b> President, KOWIN DC Chapter
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## The 17th KOWIN Convention

August 30-September, 2017



The 17th KOWIN Convention, sponsored by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF, Minister Kang Eun-hee), was held at the Gunsan Saemangeum Convention Center (GSCO) in joint cooperation with Jeollabuk-do from August 30th to September 1st. Kowin DC members Anne Choe, Junghee (JH) Lee, Myong Ho (Lucy) Nam, Sami Lauri, and Sue-Kyong (Sue) Shin Vittas attended. The total number of participants at the convention was approximately 620 people, with 220 participants from abroad, representing 32 countries.

The theme of this year's convention was "The Fourth Industrial Revolution and the Role of Women: KOWIN opens the way to the future." The Global Women Leader Forum, which was a core program of KOWIN, was divided into 4 sessions (▲Job ▲Future Economy ▲Gender Equality ▲Social Value) in order to prospect the role of women in the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution. Women's entrance into the labor market and implementation of gender perspective policies in overall national policies were discussed.

Beginning of this year, the Networking by activity group program was reorganized to a special forum: ▲ (Economy) Women startups and use of viral marketing ▲ (Society) Future design for happy life Act II ▲ (Culture) Pansori (Korean musical storytelling) and MSG (Making Sense of Gender) ▲ (Education) Education of creative leaders in the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution.

All participants of Korean professional groups examined international trends in various fields and shared professional knowledge.



## The KOWINNER US Office Visit by the "Ideathon" First Place Winners

August 28-29, 2017

*Report by Sue-Kyong Shin Vittas*

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MOGEF) sponsored an idea marathon ("ideathon") competition among 40 college students to encourage creative ideas and projects on August 28-29, 2017 in Gunsan. The competition overlapped with the KOWIN Gunsan convention, which was held August 29-September 1. In addition to being recognized by the Minister of MOGEF, the winning team received airline tickets and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. (sponsored by the KOWINNER Foundation) from December 18-23 where they were able to visit the KOWINNER US Office and participate in many educational events.

Despite her busy holiday schedule, KOWINNER Foundation president Jinhwa Suh made a special trip to D.C. to host a welcome dinner for the students and a few KOWIN DC members. KOWINNER Foundation's Myong Ho Nam (Operational Auditor), Sue-Kyong Shin Vittas (Director General), Cheong Young Lee (Office Manager), as well as Kyung Min Song and Sung Chul Shin (IBM) participated in the visit program and provided mentoring and consulting services for the students. The students' report on their D.C. visit is shown below.



## Winning Team Students:

Yukyung Lee (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)  
Nayoung Kim (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)  
Moonjeong Kang (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)

## 2017 Third Regular Meeting

September 22, 2017

*Report by Taeyi Kim*



The third KOWIN DC regular meeting of 2017 was held at Woo Lae Oak in Virginia (8240 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182) on Friday, September 22 with 17 members in attendance.

President Sami Lauri gave her short remarks, welcomed everyone, and introduced the board members: Suzanne Doud Galli (Senior VP), Florence Lowe-Lee (VP/Seminar), Cathy Kim (VP/Membership), Jieun Kang (General Secretary), Tae Yi Kim (Fellow).

Treasurer Ann Jelly provided a summary of the financial status. There are still a few members who have not yet paid the current year's dues. (According to the bylaw, a member who does not pay the fee for two years and has not participated in any of the activities will be dropped from the membership.) Also, members discussed membership dues and the initiation fee of \$300 that KOWIN DC will waive for those under the age of 35.

KOWIN DC president Lauri presented on the 2017 KOWIN Convention, which took place in Gunsan City, Jeollabuk-do from August 29 to September 1, 2017. The theme of this year's convention was "The Fourth Industrial Revolution

and the Role of Women: KOWIN opens the way to the future." President Lauri encouraged people to apply to attend the KOWIN Convention this summer. The 2018 KOWIN Convention is going to take place in Gangwon Province.

Seminar chairman Florence L. Lee announced that the KOWIN DC Leadership seminar will be held in November 2017. Ms. Lee said the theme of the Leadership seminar was chosen as, "The Pathway to Success: New Way of Thinking," and the speakers are Timothy Hwang (FiscalNote, CEO), Rebekah Kang (FiscalNote), and Yesim Oruc (UNDP). In addition, this seminar will include six-party talks 'negotiation game' for participants. Ms. Lee said, "Negotiation game is a useful technique of achieving a common goal through diplomacy and cooperation. Truly unique, this program guarantees an enlightening experience for those who are ready to make a difference."

Next, there was a discussion about the upcoming KOWIN DC Holiday Gala. The members agreed on a date and venue. KOWIN DC's Holiday Gala will be held on Saturday night, December 9, 2017 at the Avenel Country Club.

At the end, we had time for matching donations to people affected by Hurricane Harvey. KOWIN DC decided to make a donation to hurricane victims through the Korean community. President Lauri said, "This matching donation will have a great opportunity to expose KOWIN DC to Korean Communities."



As a special session, Dr. In Hwan Oh gave a lecture on "Collective Intelligence and Group IQ." Dr. Oh suggested different ways to improve group intelligence: 1) Share the vision and align with it; 2) More of "We" than "I" and be aware of the environment; 3) Observe things from the standpoint of leadership and group IQ for the benefit for all.

## 2017 Leadership Seminar

October 28, 2017

*Report by Florence Lowe-Lee*



The 8th Annual KOWIN DC Leadership Seminar was held on Saturday, October 28, 2017. More than 100 young men and women were in attendance. The title of the program was, "The Pathway to Success: New ways of thinking." The program was divided into two sessions. During the morning session, the participants enjoyed listening to the success stories of two young entrepreneurs, Timothy Hwang, a founder and CEO of FiscalNote, and Rebekah Kang, who developed the MyCandidates app, which was later acquired by FiscalNote. They both had visions of combining artificial intelligence and big data to deliver results. Additionally, Yesim Oruc shared her 20+ years of experience as a UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) country officer on how to manage disputes on a global stage.

The second session was truly unique to KOWIN DC leadership where all participants were invited to partake in negotiation gaming (6 party talks). This experimental learning provided everyone with a useful technique where common goals can be achieved through diplomacy and cooperation. The format of the seminar was slightly different from previous years but it was an enlightening experience for all of us.

## 2017 KOWIN's End-of-the-Year Gala

December 9, 2017

*Report by Jieun Kang*



KOWIN's End-of-the-Year Gala just happened to coincide with the first snow of the season. Despite the snowy weather, many KOWIN DC members and guests attended the event. KOWIN DC's Secretary-General Jieun Kang McClintock and Daniel Lee were co-hosts of the Gala. The atmosphere was lively until well after 10 o' clock at night.

Sami Lauri, President of KOWIN DC, made welcoming remarks and was followed by Florence Lowe-Lee, Vice chair of KOWIN DC, who reported on the status of KOWIN DC branch activities in 2017. A congratulatory message was followed by Woonan Kam, Counsellor of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. This followed with the President's award ceremony. The winners of the 2017 KOWIN DC Appreciation Award are Sue-Kyung Shin Vittas, former KOWIN DC president, Paula Park, 2016 Gala Chair, and Florence Lowe-Lee, 2017 Seminar Chair.

After the awards ceremony, dinner commenced with a toast by Sami Lauri and a congratulatory performance by soprano, Jieun Park. After the dinner, a swinging party atmosphere began. The highlights of the Gala were the fashion contest and the dancing queen contest, which was hosted by Cathy Kim, Chair of Gala Committee. 15 contestants were accepted for the qualifying match and a fierce competition began. With the 2NE1 song "I Am the





Best" playing, 15 models paraded and showed off their dresses and beauty.



Next, was the Highlight Dancing Queen Party. All Gala party participants moved to the stage in the center hall with exciting music from a deejay and dazzling light effects. Everyone was swinging to the beat and had a good time. What was to end at 10 o'clock went 20 minutes longer than expected. The 2017 KOWIN DC Year-End Gala is over but we are already looking forward to the 2018 Gala!

## 2018 Retreat

February 22-25, 2018

*Report by Soyeon Kim*

This year's winter retreat was held at Heron's Cove near Lake Anna from February 23-25. A log cabin facing the lake was the perfect place to relax and enjoy the views over the weekend. Starting with sub sandwiches for dinner, brought by You-sook Lund, and light conversation, the first day was a great start of the retreat with a relaxed atmosphere.

The next day, members enjoyed a plentiful continental late breakfast including fruit, juice, sausage, bacon, eggs, croissants, and bagels with cream cheese. Following the breakfast, a regular meeting was held with 10 people in attendance.

During the meeting, various topics were discussed, including how members could more actively and intimately be engaged in KOWIN DC and how to improve this year's KOWIN DC leadership seminar so that more students could benefit. Also, President Lauri announced the exciting news that the Korean Ambassador's wife would be joining the Afternoon Tea at Georgetown Club on April 8. In the middle of deep discussion, good tea brought by Myung Ja and

homemade cookies from our fellow, Taeyi Kim, gave members a nice break.



After the meeting, President Sami Lauri demonstrated her excellent cooking, including Korean pancake and braised pork back ribs with kimchi. Taeyi was an excellent assistant in making the pancake crisp just right. Along with makgeolli and side dishes brought by a friend of Myung Ja Lee, members truly enjoyed the meal.

With full stomachs after the meal, members strolled along the lake before sunset. Thankfully, the rain stopped before members went out. It was a nice walk with a fresh breeze blowing.

The day's last program was a hat contest. With a rhythmic music playing, each member demonstrated her own unique hat style. And this year's winner was Jieun Kang who wore a classic black dress and black hat. Jieun received the most points because her style was simple but also very elegant. By the end of the day, members were more open to one another and the conversation and laughs went on until very late at night.

The last day of the retreat started with a late breakfast. Taeyi made a croissant omelette with whipped cream sugar, which was extolled by all the members. Just before packing and cleaning the house, members did a quick yoga session led by Suzanne Doud Galli and ended with a group photo.

All attending members agreed that this year's retreat was a great opportunity to get to know each other on a personal level. The log cabin partly contributed to making this retreat more cozy and intimate. Members bade farewell with a

promise to meet again in March for a monthly morning coffee meeting.

## Afternoon Tea at Georgetown Club

April 8, 2018

*Report by Soyeon Kim*



On April 8, thanks to Suzanne Doud Galli, who arranged an exquisite afternoon tea meeting at Georgetown Club, about 20 members and their guests enjoyed the Sunday afternoon enjoying tea and cookies. This place is one of the most elegant dining clubs in the U.S., patterned after the finest in London and Paris, and it's a focal point for entertaining prominent Washingtonians, diplomats, and leaders in various sectors.

Since this year's main theme was the Kentucky Derby, all people who joined dressed up with a hat and dress in their own unique style.

The private room was a warm and elegant place decorated with intimate wood panels and cherry blossom tree. The tables were full of irresistible sandwiches, scones, and sweets. While members and guests sipped on a generous selection of elegant tea, deliciously savory and sweet, they also enjoyed splendid conversation.

For this Afternoon Tea event, the wife of the Korean Ambassador joined as a special guest. President Lauri, as an expression of appreciation for her support to KOWIN DC, presented to her a pen that had the "KOWIN" logo as a special gift.

The last part of the event was a hat contest. Along with vibrant music, each person walked one by one to the stage

and showed off their best styles. Three valuable prizes were given to the persons with best style.

The place was originally reserved for two hours, but was extended another hour as the conversation went on, continuing with great intimacy. It was truly one of the best days to enjoy the beginning of spring with KOWIN DC members.







## Member News

### Lucy Nam

#### ***PyeongChang! PyeongChang!***

#### ***What a memorable winter Olympic experience!***

KG high school alum HJL texted me – “Sis, do you want to go to PyeongChang Olympics? I have sudden cancellation for a room and several hot tickets!” After a brief moment of sheer surprise, I decided to take the offer. When else will I be able to attend the Olympic Games in Korea in my lifetime?

Newly opened Incheon International Airport Terminal 2 is roomy, clean and friendly! After passing through customs, the KTX express train station was located in the basement of the airport. What a convenience! It took only 2 hours from Incheon to Pyeongchang. A friendly lady taxi driver took me to the pretty pension I was staying at, which looks like an old castle from a children’s story book.

First day of the Olympics: wake up alarm at 6 a.m.! It was amazing to watch the figure skating group competition finals in person - 5 finalist countries performed for men’s and women’s singles and an ice dancing competition. For lunch, we had the famous “Pyeongchang Korean Beef barbecue,” and took a taxi to see the night view at Gangneung beach! We got back to the hotel at 11 p.m., but were not tired at all.



Second day of the Olympics: a 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. day! Again we were at the Gangneung Ice Arena, but this time we watched the men’s 1500 meter speed skating competition. This event was dominated by tall and big muscular Northern Europeans from the Netherlands,

Germany, and Norway, and North Americans from the U.S. and Canada! Among them, a short and small Korean skater, Kim Min Seok, caught my eye. He kept on qualifying up to the finals, and, my goodness, he won the bronze. My eyes and heart were swelling up with something warm.

After the competition was over, I got a glimpse of the skater - he was very young and ordinary sized, and I could not believe my eyes that he beat the big guys!

After a brief lunch, we went souvenir shopping and then to the Curling Stadium to watch the mixed doubles curling tournament, which was a new category. I always thought curling was a boring game, not a sport. Watching this event changed my perception 180 degrees - Curling is a mixture of chess, billiards, and ice sport. I fell in love with this game after all!



Third day of the Olympics: Finally, I would be watching outdoor games! The weather was much milder than the first two days! Before the Men's double luge competition, I had time to go to Gangneung and visit the birth place of the siblings, Heo Gyun, writer of the novel, Hong Gil-dong Jeon, and Heo Nanseolheon, a famous poet, and learned the rich history of the Heo family. Afterwards, we had

dinner at a famous Pyeongchang “hwangtae” fish restaurant, which holds three patents for its preparation and cooking. There were all kinds of hwangtae dishes and our taste buds were treated very well! As for the double luge, I



have never witnessed a sled that moves like a bullet! It runs too fast to capture a decent photograph!

Fourth day of the Olympics: With a sigh, we left Pyeongchang and headed back to Incheon. But, Yeongjong Island provided another opportunity for pampering our taste buds! Fresh catches were cooked on site and I loved it.

Even though it was a short 8 night/9 day trip, it gave me a lifetime of memorable experience and photos!

## Soyeon Kim

### *Volunteer at PyeongChang 2018 Paralympics*



In March 2018, Soyeon served at PyeongChang 2018 Paralympics as a Paralympics Committee member assistant. Among many committee members, Soyeon was responsible for assisting the President and Vice President of the British National Paralympics Committee. During the Paralympics, Soyeon served as a guide and interpreter at many major games and receptions. One major event Soyeon attended was the British Night reception, organized by the Embassy of Britain, and the Team Korea House Korean Night reception, where the Korean Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism and the President of the International Paralympic Committee attended.

Besides assisting the committee member, Soyeon also had the opportunity to meet many great people from around the world, watch the games, and travel to many great places in Gangwon Province. Eating local food at Jeongseon Market, such as rice with thistle and buckwheat crêpe, was one unforgettable experience!

## Sue-Kyong Shin Vittas

### *Women Leaders Forum in Seoul*



As an Honorary Ambassador for Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, I was invited to the 10th Women Leaders Forum in Seoul, Korea held on October 19, 2017 at the Grand Ambassador Hotel Ballroom. Dae-hwan Jang, chairman of the Mae-Kyung Media group, delivered the opening remarks; Hyun-back Chung, Minister of Gender Equality and Family, delivered the congratulatory remarks; and Nirmala Rao, Vice Chancellor of the Asian University for Women in Bangladesh, gave the keynote speech. The theme of the Forum was "Women, the Center of the Universe" and Nirmala Rao emphasized the critical importance of education as the primary resource for women to advance in their careers.

The Forum was followed by musical entertainment and a wonderful opportunity to network among the "who's who" of approximately 100 women leaders in Seoul!

## Young-Key Kim-Renaud

### *Interviewed on the upcoming US-NK summit*

Young-Key Kim-Renaud participated in a panel discussion on the breaking news of the future meeting between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un ([VOD](#)). The talk-show, called *The Heat*, was aired live on March 9, 2018, by the Washington, D.C. based CGTN (China Global Television Network) America.





Kim-Renaud was also interviewed on related topics by two South American newspapers: Chilean newspaper *El Mercurio*: "Kim invita a Presidente surcoreano a Pyongyang para una cumbre de alto nivel" [Kim invites South Korean President to Pyongyang for a high-level summit], February 11, 2018; and Argentine on-line newspaper, *Infobae*: "El asombroso giro de Kim Jong-un y qué se puede esperar de las cumbres con Trump y Corea del Sur" [The amazing turn of Kim Jong-un and what can be expected from the summits with Trump and South Korea], March 11, 2018.

## Su Kwak

**Exhibition at June Kelly Gallery, NY**



Su Kwak participated in an exhibition titled, "Celebrating 30 Years: Gallery Artists, Drawings and Photographs," in New York at June Kelly Gallery, a member of Art Dealers Association of America, from 21 December to 30 January 2018. Kwak exhibited a new work - "Light Cycle 1" - a watercolor and acrylic collage on paper that utilizes a new concept of drawing with brushes.

Su Kwak's upcoming one-person exhibitions are at Brauer Museum of Art, from August 2019 through December 2019 and at June Kelly Gallery in fall 2019.

## New Members

### Soo Kyung Koo



Soo Kyung Koo executes strategic development and leadership and policy training at the International Leadership Foundation (ILF). Prior to joining ILF in 2014, she worked at think tanks and had extensive media and political experience in Washington, D.C. and South Korea. Recently, she has been appointed by County Executive Isiah Leggett to serve on the Montgomery

County Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) in the position of Public Representative. She holds an M.A. in Government from Georgetown University, where she graduated with Academic Distinction, and a B.A. in Political Science from Ewha Womans University. She has recently completed Emerging Leaders, an executive education program at Harvard Kennedy School.

### Young Jae Un



Young Jae Un is currently Chairperson of the Organization of Korean American Women, and has been conducting many activities for the Korean community in Washington, D.C. The Organization of Korean American Women is one of the oldest volunteer organizations in the region and has a history of 55 years. They operate a shelter of hope for victims of domestic violence. Ms. Un and Yumi Hogan (First Lady of the State of Maryland) work hard to help adopted kids every year as well.

Also, Ms. Un is an advisor to WORLD-KIMWA and serves as vice president of the Women's Committee of the National Unification Advisory Council, Washington DC.