Freie Universität Berlin
Institute of Korean Studies

Annual Report 2011
Thanks to generous support for IKS from numerous sources, as well as the sustained efforts of all staff members, 2011 proved to be a very successful and indicatory year for the Institute of Korean Studies (IKS) at Freie Universität Berlin. Student numbers continue to increase, and the IKS was also able to make progress and produce tangible results of its research as well as extend its international academic network. With this annual report we would like to take the opportunity to inform you about the activities of our Institute in 2011.

We will continue to strive to further strengthen the foundations of the IKS and to position it at the very center of research and teaching on modern Korean Studies in Germany and throughout Europe.

I would like to thank you all very much, and kindly ask for your continued support in the future as well.

Prof. Dr. Eun-Jeung Lee
Director of the Institute of Korean Studies
Introducing our Staff

From left to right
Lower row
Dr. Hee-Seok Park, Joo Yong Park,
Andrea Großkopf, Dr. Eun Hee Kim,
Prof. Dr. Eun-Jeung Lee, Eric Ballbach

Upper row
Dr. Myung Joon Park, Arne Bartzsch,
Alexander Pfennig, Florian Schiller,
Dr. Werner Pfennig and
Dr. Hannes B. Mosler

Regular Staff
- Prof. Dr. Eun-Jeung Lee (Director)
- Dr. Hannes B. Mosler (Research and Teaching Fellow)
- Eric J. Ballbach, M.A. (Research and Teaching Fellow)
- Dr. Holmer Brochlos (Senior Lecturer)
- Dr. Eun-Hee Kim (Senior Lecturer)
- Daniela Claus, M.A. (Research Fellow)

Research Staff for the Project of the Academy of Korean Studies, “Circulation of Knowledge and Dynamics of Transformation”
- Dr. Myung Joon Park (Research Fellow)
- Dr. Hee-Seok Park (Research Fellow)
- Patricia Bunzel, Martin Weiser, U-Giong Eoh, Theresa Loske, Gabriel Dae-In Lux (MA Scholarship Fellow)

Research Staff for the Projects “Sharing the German government’s documents on unification and integration, and building a database on German unification” and “Unification, development, and societal integration”
- Dr. Werner Pfennig (Project Coordinator)
- Alexander Pfennig, M.A.
- Arne Bartzsch, M.A.

Visiting Professor
- Prof. Dr. Hogyun Kim (Korea Foundation Visiting Professor, Myongji Univ.)

Visiting Scholar
- Kihyeok Kim, M.A. (Ministry of Unification, Republic of Korea)

Lecturers
- Hee Kyoung Chang, M.A.
- Jihyun Kim, B.A.
- Dr. Yoonkyoung Lee
- Euna Moon, M.A.
- Sugeen Park, M.A.
- Dr. Klemens Schwitzer

Secretary
- Andrea Großkopf

Student Assistants
- Chi Hwan Lee, Joo Yong Park, Florian Schiller, Hoon Jung, Gabriel Dae-In Lux, Katja Olemotz
Research Projects

“Circulation of Knowledge and Dynamics of Transformation”

Overseas Leading University Program for Korean Studies
Supported by the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS)

June 2009 - June 2014

Since June 2009 IKS-FU has co-managed the five-year research project, “Circulation of Knowledge and Dynamics of Transformation”, together with the Korean Studies at the Ruhr University in Bochum (RUB), which is supported by the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) within the context of its “Overseas Leading University Program for Korean Studies”. At IKS-FU, five social scientists contribute to the project and are responsible for various subprojects covering two grand areas: culture, value, ideology, and elites on the one hand; and policy, institutions and structural change on the other hand. In 2011, the participants both refined the common research concept of the overall project and further intensified their respective research, education and networking activities.

Based on their own research areas and empirical topics, the researchers at IKS-FU in 2011 focused on the ‘perspective of translation’, as is exemplified by the organization of a large-scale academic event, held in late March 2012 in Berlin. This international conference elucidated the transformation of contemporary Korean society from a perspective of policy translation and explored its theoretical implications. Various scholars not only from Germany and Korea but also from the USA, Croatia and the Netherlands participated in the conference. It was a sister event which followed an event convened by our consortium partner in Bochum in May 2011, “Social Networks and Location in the Circulation of Knowledge”.

Research Projects
Interestingly, the conceptual approaches of the two project teams, whose research focuses on different eras (Berlin on the contemporary Korea, Bochum on medieval Korea), different perspectives of research (Berlin on transformation, Bochum on circulation) and on different disciplines (Berlin on political science and sociology, Bochum on philology and literature study), are increasingly converging. As demonstrated by the topics of each academic event, the Bochum team has developed an interest in social networks, which is usually a perspective for analyzing contemporary societies, and the Berlin team is focusing on the concept of translation, which is originally a concept of literary studies. This demonstrates how the interdisciplinary researches of our consortium are being influenced by each other and moving towards a new creative path.

In terms of education, this project has also demonstrated visible achievements. In October 2011, one of our MA scholarship fellows, Daniela Claus, who has received financial support within the frame of this project from early 2010, completed her MA studies with an excellent score at the IKF-FU. Since then, she has entered the doctoral degree program. Following her, three other scholarship fellows are preparing their MA theses as well. They are expected to finish their studies within the year 2012. Furthermore, five new MA scholarship fellows are at the moment receiving scholarships and preparing their MA theses within this project, interacting closely with the involved senior research staff.

Closing the second year in May 2011, the AKS positively evaluated the FUB-RUB consortium.
Sharing the German government’s documents on unification and integration, and building a database on German unification

(Ministry of Unification, Republic of Korea)

Since January 2011

In continuation of a project begun in 2010 at the Institute of Korean Studies, bilateral meetings were held and further documents and analyses presented to the Ministry of Unification in Seoul in January 2011. Thereafter, the main research topics for this year were: transformation of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED); late reconciliation - political controversy with long-term effects, with special reference to developments in the Federal State of Brandenburg; and attempts at reform - preparations for accession (lawmaking of the People’s Chamber under the last two East German governments 1989-1990). The IKS-FU research team consistently expanded the circle of experts and contemporary witnesses who offer their advice for the research project. We hosted weeklong seminars for Korean officials, where speakers from IKS-FU (Prof. Dr. Eun-Jeung Lee and Dr. Werner Pfennig) and other institutions gave lectures and discussed a wide range of issues within the context of German unification. The IKS-FU research team makes efforts to invite speakers from both the former German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, so that guests from Korea will be presented with a diversity of opinions. Officials from Korea are also shown important sites of the peaceful revolution and post-revolution in Berlin and elsewhere in Germany.

Unification, development, and societal integration

(Government of Gyeonggi Province)

2011-2013

Gyeonggi-do is a province in the northwest of South Korea which also encompasses the capital Seoul. When Korea was divided, the northern part of Gyeonggi-do came to belong to North Korea. Due to its special location, its large share of the population and economy of the Republic of Korea, Gyeonggi-do is expected to play a decisive role in the process of Korean Unification. Given obvious similarities, the government of Gyeonggi-do is interested, in particular, in the unification process in Berlin and Brandenburg. Against this background, FU and Gyeonggi-do launched a research project, and the Vice Governor of Gyeonggi-do and representatives of the FU signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Berlin in the fall of 2011 to that effect. In 2012, IKS-FU will also host workshops for officials from Gyeonggi-do.
Parallel to the joint decision to strengthen the mutual partnership between the FU Berlin and the Seoul National University (SNU), IKS-FU and the Institute for Peace and Unification Study (IPUS) at the SNU jointly convened a workshop at the IKS-FU regarding the future cooperation between the two academic institutes with a thematic focus on unification and transformation studies. At the workshop, Prof. Myoung-Kyu Park, director of the IPUS, gave an insightful presentation on the relationship among unification studies, North Korea studies and peace studies. Prof. Byung-Yeon Kim, vice-director of the IPUS, spoke on the results of the unification attitude surveys conducted by the IPUS in parallel with introducing the research activities of the IPUS. Thereafter, Prof. em. Manfred Wilke and Dr. Werner Pfennig discussed the issues of research on East Germany and research activities on German unification at the IKS-FU. The subsequent discussion was enriched by contributions of Prof. em. Helmut Wagner, Prof. em. Ralf Rytlewski and Prof. em. Sung-Jo Park, among others. After the workshop, FUB Vice President for International Affairs of FU-Berlin, Prof. Dr. Werner Väth, and the delegation from SNU, represented by the Vice President, Prof. Myeong-Jin Park, exchanged views on the cooperation plan between the two universities.
Intercultural lessons concerning reunification are best learned through intercultural communication. Korea seems to be one of the countries most interested in intercultural transformation. This conference was designed to facilitate learning about policy transfer at the most basic level. A transfer of even the most well-produced policies can have disastrous consequences. The basic conditions must be fully taken into account. It is difficult, however, to find all of these conditions, as many are implicit, rather than explicit. Through this conference, the participants identified some of these conditions related to intercultural transfer, especially those dealing with German transformation and reunification. The social scientist, in this case, acts as a “translator” of cultural transmission. This is not a translation of words, but an interpretation and transformation of culture within a context. The translator is not trying to translate the words of the text, but rather existing ideas into a new context and system. Obviously, it is still difficult to form a system of translation between East and West, especially between Germany and Korea. This conference was expected to serve as one of the first steps, a “cornerstone” in creating a foundation of cultural transfer and transformation. It was a joint-conference between IKS-FU and the Peace Institute of the Korea University. From the side of Korea, Prof. Hyug Baeg Im, Prof. Ho Yeol Yoo, and Prof. Chi Won Choi joined the event. From the side of Germany, external experts in the fields of German reunification study were invited: such as Prof. Everhard Holtmann, Prof. Michael Hofmann and Dr. Werner Pfennig.
“Students and Student Movements as Actors in the Development of Civil Society in South Korea and Germany”

The Third International Conference between the Korea Democracy Foundation (KDF) and IKS-FU

21-24 June 2011 / Seminaris Hotel

Following the previous conferences in 2009 (“Challenge for Civil Society”) and 2010 (“Location of Civil Society”), the Korea Democracy Foundation (KDF) and the IKS-FU held the third joint conference on civil society. The 2011 conference focused on the actors (or activists) who actually gave new energy to civil society - especially university students, who provided the ground for civil society to become popularized. Both in Europe and in Korea, students played a decisive role in a profound transformation of civil society. In this conference, we pursued to compare the generation of 1968 in Europe and the so-called 386-generation in South Korea, who had fought against dictatorship in the 1970s and authoritarianism after 1987. Obviously, the student movements of Germany/ Europe and South Korea became the roots of civil movements. From different angles, the participants of the conference contemplated on the process of how civil movements were significantly enhanced by the student movements in Germany and Korea. Although student movements had limited effects on politics, they are perceived to have sparked broader social and cultural changes. Moreover, the participants scrutinized contents and processes of student movements occurring in the two divided nations, focusing on the question what impact did (or will) the students’ movements have on national unification in the long run. Finally, the workshop dealt with current international and domestic issues, considering how student movements were carried on in the era of “globalization”, and what roles the main actors of 1968 and 1987 are playing in today’s civil societies. Prominent experts from Korea, Germany and the US joined this conference, some of them were themselves leaders of the student movements. After the welcome address by Prof. Eun-Jeung Lee and Mr. Jong-Lai You (KDF), Prof. George Katsiaficas gave the keynote speech, titled “A Global Perspective on 1968”. Afterwards, Prof. Klaus Meschkat, Prof. Urs Müller-Plantenberg and Dr. Axel Rüdiger presented the German experiences, while Dr. Chun-Seung Yang, Dr. Ilpyo Hong and Prof. Yun-Tae Kim dealt with the Korean experiences.
“Germany, the EU, and the Question of Peace and Security on the Korean Peninsula”

10th German-Korean Forum - Public Panel Discussion

In mid-November 2011, the 10th annual German-Korean Forum, a meeting of specialists from Germany and Korea, took place in Berlin. One event of the three-day conference was a public panel discussion on “Germany, the EU, and the Question of Peace and Security on the Korean Peninsula,” hosted by Freie Universität Berlin and organized and conceptualized by the IKS. The first addresses were given by the President of Freie Universität Berlin, Prof. Dr. Peter-Andre Alt, the President of the Korea Foundation, Dr. Byung-guk Kim, as well as the Co-Chairmen of the German-Korean Forum, Dr. Hak-Joon Kim, Chairman of the Foundation of Dankook University, and Hartmut Koschyk, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Finance. The following panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Karin Janz, formerly the coordinator of the German Agro Action (Welthungerhilfe) relief program in North Korea, brought together Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Frank from the University of Vienna, Prof. Dr. August Pradetto, Helmut-Schmidt-University/University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg, Lee Gak-Bom from the (South Korean) presidential commission for informations strategies, and Dr. Kim Hak-Joon. While several speakers suggested that pragmatic policies should be pursued in order to ensure peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula, their views concerning the role or desirable level of influence of the European Union differed.
In December 2011, a delegation from the Institute of Korean Studies at the Yonsei University in Seoul visited the IKS-FU for a joint-workshop on the current status, challenges and future perspectives on Korean studies in Korea and abroad. Five professors from Yonsei University took part in the workshop, Prof. Young Seo Baik (director of IKS Yonsei), Prof. Seong Bo Kim, Prof. Hyun Joo Kim, Prof. Jong Seok Na, and Prof. Myung Lim Park. Among others, the delegation leads the large-scale research project “HK Social Humanities Project”, which has an ambitious vision to establish “social humanities as the 21st century’s Shilhak”. From IKS FU, Prof. Eun-Jeung Lee, Prof. Hogyun Kim, Dr. Hannes B. Mosler, Eric Ballbach, Dr. Myung Joon Park and Daniela Claus participated in the workshop, in which the two sides comprehensively exchanged their views and experiences in research and teaching, as well as the goals and strategies to further develop Korean studies in the respective institutes. Ultimately, basic ideas to further develop and strengthen the exchange activities were discussed.
Special Lectures
“Cooperation with North Korea”

Economic Cooperation between South and North: Historical Development, Future Perspectives and the Case of Kaesong Industry Complex

19 April and 17 May 2011

Mr. Kihyeok Kim, who is currently one of the directors at the Ministry of Unification in the Republic of Korea and an expert of economy and public policy, gave two talks within framework of the Special Lecture Series “Cooperation with North Korea”. Based on his experiences as an executive of the MOU he introduced the dynamics and guidelines of the South’s North Korea policy as well as the structure and infrastructure of the MOU for policy-making. Moreover, he also delivered his personal observations and interpretations on the structure, changes and problems of North Korean society based on his valuable experiences as an officer responsible for constructing the Kaesong Industrial Complex and the connection of the railways between South and North. Concluding his lecture, Mr. Kihyeok Kim emphasized the necessity of reunification of the two Koreans and led discussions on the methods to reach the goal.

Humanitarian Cooperation with North Korea: The Activities of the Welthungerhilfe in North Korea

3 May 2011

Karin Janz, former director of the Pyongyang office of the German NGO Welthungerhilfe (WHH, German Agro Action), visited the IKS in early May 2011 and gave valuable and interesting insights into her work in North Korea. The WHH has had an office in Pyongyang since 1997. Dr. Karin Janz imple-
mented various projects between 2005 and 2010, including projects for the EU. In her lecture Dr. Janz introduced the activities of the WHH for humanitarian cooperation with North Korea, her achievements, and difficulties. She also delivered interesting insights into the everyday lives of the North Koreans she observed at that time, and introduced the listeners to the various methods of engagement in organizations such as WHH.

**Approaches of Political Foundations for Cooperation: The Activities of the FES in North Korea**

31 May 2011

German political foundations have played a significant role not only in the domestic field as an agency to activate political education and social debates on various issues but also abroad, where they act as a platform to implement and develop international cooperation on the local level of a foreign country. Dr. Werner Kamppeter, who was a local office director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) in Seoul, gave a talk on the different approaches of the German political foundations and especially the FES to intensify economic cooperation, and especially on his experiences with North Korea, which he from time to time visited, while he was in Seoul.

**Cooperation with North Korea: A Political Science Approach**

7 June 2011

How has the international media described North Korea? The image of the closed society has been often negative in an extremely coherent way. In the final session of the Lecture Series, Eric Ballbach, who works on North Korea at IKS-FU, presented his new research project on image construction on North Korea in the various domestic and international media, connecting sociological theories about the media and political science approaches.
Special Lectures

“Politics and Society in Korea”

“Development and Problems of Progressive Politics and Parties in South Korea”  
10 May 2011

We invited Mr. Seung Soo Cho, representative of the Korean New Progressive Party and one of the parliamentary members of the National Assembly, and listened to his answers on the fundamental question: ‘Why is it so difficult for a progressive party in South Korea to stabilize itself and to have influences on the real politics?’ Mr. Cho identified several decisive factors that caused the peculiar and asymmetric development of Korean politics. One of the most interesting for comparison with the German experience is the disconnect between strong worker organizations and lack of political parties based on labor support.

“Student Protests in South Korea then and now - Current Demonstrations for Halving Tuition Fees”  
16 June 2011

It was a surprising event that South Korean students in 2011 occupied streets and the offices of their university presidents, demanding to either halve the university entrance fees or annulling reforms of the institutions of university governance. In June 2011, Prof. Geun Shik Jun, who was personally engaged in the negotiation between the representatives of the students and the administration of his university (Seoul National University), gave a talk at IKS on the backgrounds, evolution processes, main issues, limits and achievements, and further perspectives of this new emerging movement, comparing the current experiences with the previous trends of student movement in the 1980s and 1990s, when their activism was oriented to bring about democratization.
“The Social Network and Power of the Korean Elites”

6 July 2011

Informal ties and connections between political elites and large business circles are common phenomena in Korea. During the period of rapid industrialization, Korean business leaders sought to establish alliances with state officials, politicians and professional managers. Prof. Yun Tae Kim from Korea University dealt with an apparently simple but in fact very complex question of why such connections are so important in Korea? Showing his in-depth analysis on the phenomena, Prof. Kim emphasized that such coalitions were formed in Korea in order to have influence on the state and society as a whole, and were reinforced through extensive social and political networks with various ruling groups. Interestingly, the elite community generated a high degree of self-recruitment and social closure through school, marriage, and kinship networks, so that the leading sector of the Korean business elite (Chaebol) could form complex, often contingent, relations with the state elite, and act as an integral part of the upper class in society.


30 Nov. 2011

As a post-colonial society and as one of the most serious and longest victims of the Cold War, Korea faces subtle challenges in the interpretation of the 20th century. Without wide-ranging and precise investigations, without widely agreeable consensus-building, and without taking reasonable measures, evaluations of controversial figures in the contemporary history of Korea have been neglected: from pro-Japanese elites to social democrats who contributed to national liberation and to the victims of purges and persecutions during the Korean War. Prof. Dong Choon Kim, who had worked as a standing commissioner of the Truth Commission in South Korea, paid a valuable visit to the IKS-FU and introduced the background, activities, achievements, and limits of the Commission. Interpreting the Korean case, he moreover set fruitful and significant benchmarks for how the Korean approaches to its historical experience can contribute to strengthening the value of human rights in the East Asian region.
“International Trade of South Korea”

26 October 2011

From the beginning of the initiative for economic growth in the early 1960s, the national economy of South Korea has always been oriented towards the interaction with world economies and has been heavily influenced by international factors. Dr. Hyeong Gon Kang, team director of the KOTRA (Korea Trade Promotion Agency) office in Frankfurt, visited the IKS-FU and presented the economic history and various aspects of Korea as a leading trading country in East Asia. Dr. Kang elucidated various factors such as culture and leadership in order to help the audience better understand the dynamic and success of the Korean economy.

“Korea-EU FTA”

7 Dec. 2011

As an export-oriented industrialized country in East Asia, South Korea actively seeks foreign investments. From the mid-2000s, a core strategy to manage the national economy was to bilaterally conclude Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with various countries, and the FTA between South Korea and EU, a core element in this strategy, became effective in July 2011. Mr. In Ho Lee, economic counselor at the South Korean Embassy in Berlin, introduced diverse aspects of the FTA policy of Korea, such as its background and direction, the current situation and further goals. Mr. Lee then discussed the outlines of the South Korea-EU FTA, its importance and implications for South Korea. In addition, he especially elucidated the changing economic relationship between South Korea and Germany as a result of the South Korea-EU FTA.
Special Lectures

“Korean Literature”

“In National? Transnational or Trans-territorial?: Images of Berlin in Korean Novels”

1 June 2011

In June 2011, Prof. Yun Young Choi from Seoul National University visited the IKS-FU and gave a lecture on the images of Berlin in Korean novels. Arguing that an image of a city is formed not only ‘mechanically’ by its objective history or geographical location but also from subjective experiences, individual history and the level of the visitors’ expectations, Prof. Choi suggested the concept of “mental maps”. In her lecture she dealt with several famous Korean novelists, distinguishing three different constructions of the images on Berlin in the contemporary Korean novels since the 1990s, which respectively focused on the national, transnational, and trans-territorial aspects of the city.

“Talk with a Poet”

21 June 2011

Yong-Mok Shin, who came to Germany with the support of the Arts Council Korea (ARKO), held a special lecture at the IKS-FU on “The Worries of Young Korean poets”. Born in 1974, he belongs to the younger generation of Korean writers. He mainly publishes poems besides studying literary theory and teaching at Korea University and Chungju University. Giving some of his own and other poets’ works as an example, he profoundly analyzed the changes in poetry in the context of the social changes in Korea since the 1980s. In the following discussion, our students raised various questions which addressed individual, social, and artificial changes.

“Talk with a Novelist”

6 July 2011

Su-Ah Bae, a rather controversial figure in Korean literary circles, visited IKS-FU while she was staying in Berlin with support from the Arts Council Korea (ARKO). In July 2011 she gave a lecture on her short story “Pack of Black Wolves”, which is the only one published in German among her works so far. The central thread of her lecture consisted of questions she had been asked on this story by the audience during previous readings in Germany. The lecture developed into an interactive one, treating a wide range of interesting topics from the symbolic meaning of the “black wolves” up to the living conditions of writers in Korea.
“The Origin of the Koreans”

14 October 2011

In his lively lecture, Prof. Jong Uk Lee, the President of Sogang University, gave an overview about the ‘origins of Koreans’. Starting with the ‘Tan’ gun myth and ending up with modern K-Pop legends, he explained the development of the Korean names of clans and families throughout the centuries. Prof. Lee described Korean genealogy and family trees and discussed why four different family names make up the majority of the Korean population. Besides the historic point of view, Professor Lee also touched on contemporary questions such as changes in the legal regulations of the family register and Korean society’s development towards a multi-cultural society.

“Introducing the Korea Foundation and International Cultural Relationship of South Korea”

23 November 2011

Culture is becoming an increasingly important issue in the diplomatic and international relationships of South Korea. In his lecture, Mr. Jae Jin Choi, the new director of the Korea Foundation Office in Berlin, gave an overview of the changing focus on cultural diplomacy and international cultural policy of Korea by introducing the roles and programs of the Korea Foundation. This was an especially meaningful opportunity for the students and academic and teaching staff of the IKF-FU to get an overview of the various programs of the Korea Foundation.

“North Korea, the Border and the War”

28 November 2011

As a bilingual (German-French) journalist and film-maker, Mr. Pierre-Oliver Francois, who is among others working for the French-German TV station ARTE, has produced a number of documentaries e.g. on Russia, Finland and North Korea. In November 2011, he visited the IKS-FU to present and discuss his documentary film “North Korea - the Border and the War”, which was produced in 2004. In the documentary he raises various critical questions on the role of Korea in East Asia and in the world, and discusses specific questions on North Korea, bringing insights from his recent visit to the country into the following discussion.
Visiting Professors and Scholars

Korea Foundation Visiting Professor
Prof. Hogyun Kim
- Myongji University

December 2011-December 2012

In December 2011, Prof. Dr. Hogyun Kim, economist at the Myongji University in Seoul, joined the IKS-FU as a visiting professor. During the one-year term, which is supported by the Korea Foundation, Prof. Kim will share his expertise on economics through his teaching and research activities at the IKS-FU. Already in December, Prof. Kim started his teaching, opening a regular seminar course on economic cooperation in East Asia. Throughout the year 2012, he will further intensify and broaden his educational and research activities.

Prof. Yun Tae Kim
- Korea University

March 2011-August 2011

As a visiting professor of Korea University, sociologist Prof. Yun Tae Kim stayed at IKS during the summer semester of 2011. Prof. Kim gave a course on Contemporary Korean Society and actively carried out his own research on a comparison of social welfare policies in Western Europe and Korea.

Mr. Kihyeok Kim
- Ministry of Unification in Korea

October 2010-March 2012

Mr. Kihyeok Kim, one of the directors at the Ministry of Unification in the Republic of Korea, continued to be with the IKS throughout the year 2011, having begun his stay in autumn of 2010. While he was conducting research on various issues regarding the German experiences of reunification, Mr. Kim also gave lectures on his special experience and knowledge on North Korea and cooperated with us at various IKS-FU events on national reunification policies.
Study Program

Integrated Korean Studies

The Bachelor Plus Program is a special program of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to support establishing four-year bachelor courses with an integrated year abroad. It is aimed to increase the mobility, internationalization and exchange of students who thereby acquire particular interdisciplinary and pre-vocational qualifications. Although these courses lead to a Bachelor degree from the home university, the skills acquired during their stay abroad will be appropriately identified through a separate Diploma Supplement and additional documents from the host institution. The program started in 2009 and is financially being backed by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and grants structural support for planning, elaborating and introducing the degree program as well as scholarships for students within a five-year frame.

In spring 2011, IKS-FU successfully applied for the program and is now one out of the 65 projects that are granted support from the BMBF Fund to establish a four-year bachelor course with two integrated semesters at selected partner universities. Having started to receive the support in October 2011, the IKS is preparing to launch its program “Integrated Korean Studies” by working out legal and functional structures. In comparison to the existing three-year bachelor course, the advantage of the new program lies in the staying abroad for two semesters, which will include intensive language training, regular classes in cultural studies, social science or economics as well as an internship to gain practice-oriented knowledge without lengthening the course duration of four years. The year abroad will help the students to gain a deeper cultural understanding of Korea, to nurture their research ability and to develop their soft skills. Another advantage can be seen in the four-year duration of the program, which corresponds to the Korean bachelor system and improves the job opportunities for graduates in Korea.

In the fall semester 2012, the first students from IKS will be sent to Korea via this program: either to the Sogang, the Yonsei or to the Ewha Womans University in Seoul.
“Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften” (Long Night of Science and Academics)

For the first time this year, the “Lange Nacht” event at IKS was organized by our students. The chosen topic, “Cultural Bibimbap”, was put into practice through a range of lectures, presentations and workshops, presented to introduce a variety of aspects of Korean culture. The event was highlighted by a students’ theatre performance of the traditional Korean “Story of Hûngbu” (홍부전), a performance directed by Ms. Eunseo Yi (이은서) from the Michael Tschechow Studio Berlin which even highly positive feedback from people in Korea who saw it on a video. Especially noteworthy is the fact that most of the actors were students in their first semester. Another group of students performed a show of Korean martial arts, presenting different styles, not only the most famous Taekwondo. A following presentation gave a theoretical background to the Hûngbu-jôn performance by comparing motifs of German and Korean fairy tales. A second presentation dealt with the topic of online games in Korea, which gave the audience a profound introduction into this world of its own. Other presentations included poems and music performances, from traditional P’ansori (판소리) tunes to the latest K-pop songs. Workshops took place on paper folding (종이접기) as well as on making Korean food like Kimbap (김밥) and Bibimbap (비빔밥).
Sôllal Party
3 February 2011

In early February 2011 the IKS celebrated the beginning of the traditional New Year in East Asia. Combined with traditional songs and poems the celebration was meant to give students an introduction to traditional Korean New Year customs, such as the greeting ceremony of children and grandchildren in front of their parents and grandparents. The party was also taken as an opportunity to say good-bye to Prof. Hyo-je Cho, who had been with the IKS as a DAAD STAR professorship for one year.

Hanbok Festival
11 October 2011

This year too, a Hanbok Festival was organized for the IKS freshmen. For most of them, it was the first encounter with traditional Korean clothing as part of traditional Korean culture. Thanks to our donors the students were given the opportunity not only to try on the self-chosen Hanbok, but they were also taught about the different types and styles of Hanbok as well as how to fix bands, tie bows etc.

Visit to the Korean Cultural Center
12 October 2011

The Korean Cultural Center (KCC, 한국문화원) is the cultural dependence of the Korean embassy in Berlin. As part of their preparation course, the first-term students of the IKS were given the opportunity to visit the KCC in October 2011. Ms Stoyke, an employee at the KCC, explained the facilities and the wide range of offerings, from the well-equipped library to Yoga courses. The special exhibition on Hangeul calligraphy with this year’s topic of “Love” was explained by one of the participating artists, and a documentary on the Korean island Tok-do was shown.
On the Korean Calligraphy

13 October 2011

As in previous academic years, Zen Master Byong Oh Sunim held a calligraphy course as an additional offer for our students. The course placed the emphasis on Hangeul calligraphy. Additionally, as part of the freshmen’s preparation course, on 13 October 2011, the President of the Korea Calligraphy Association (한국서예협회), Bok Hwan No (노복환), held a special lecture on the topic of “The Origin and Development of Calligraphy as an Art”. About 50 students and other guests took part in the event. In a very lively lecture, President No explained the principle of harmony in calligraphic art, starting from the philosophical essence of Chinese characters rooted in Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism. He gave a vivid description of the development of Chinese characters from the oracle bone, seal and square characters and other styles of writing up to the grass writing.

Meeting the Berlin Phil

10 November 2011

In November 2011, the Korean Cultural Center in Berlin invited students and staff of IKS to the gala concert “Korea Meets Classic 2011”, held at the Chamber Music Hall of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra Hall. Star guests of the evening were the Korean contra-tenor David DQ Lee and the Novus String Quartet. All the artists deeply impressed the audience technically as well as through the variety of pieces they offered, from Handel to Jake Heggie, covering several centuries of musical development. When David DQ Lee commented on a Korean song, the enormous richness of his unplugged voice could be clearly felt. His excellent piano accompaniment and the perfect synchronization of the string quartet added to the great enjoyment of this musical performance.

KLTI Essay Contest 2011

As in previous years, in 2011 an essay contest was organized by the Korean Literature Translation Institute (KLTI, 한국 문학번역원), in which our IKS students participated with great success. This year’s topic of the essay contest was the novel “Black Flower” (검은꽃) by Young Ha Kim. Six universities with Korean studies departments in Germany participated in the contest, with 34 entries altogether. Eight of them came from IKS students with the first prize awarded to to Janis Walter, one of our first-year students.
International Cooperation

The FU Berlin Delegation’s Visit to Korea

IKS-FU has started to play a central role in communication as FU Berlin strengthens its cooperative relationship with Korea. Between 3 and 8 March 2011, a delegation from FU Berlin visited various partner institutes in Korea in order to strengthen the partnership between FU and Korea. The delegation was comprised of Prof. Dr. Werner Väth (Vice President for International Affairs), Ms. Elke Loschhorn (Administrative Director of the Department of International Affairs), Prof. Dr. Eun-Jeung Lee and Dr. Hannes B. Mosler. The delegation visited five partner universities as well as further important institutions such as the Korea Foundation (KF), the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) and the Ministry of Unification (MOU).

Connecting the Strategic University Networks with Five Universities

In the context of FU Berlin’s “Strategic University Partnerships” initiative, FU concluded MOUs with five major universities in Seoul this year: Ewha Womans University, Sogang University, Korea University, Yonsei University and Seoul National University. For that purpose, a delegation of the FU (see above) paid a visit to each university in March 2011. In turn, delegations from the partner universities also visited the FU throughout the year. The mutual visits were designed to strengthen the cooperative relationships, e.g. through the institutionalization of mutual exchanges including the establishment of specific cooperation programs.
Visitors

Delegations from Partner Universities in Korea

Throughout the year, delegations from all of the five partner universities in Korea came to IKS-FU. A highlight was the visit to IKS-FU of high-ranking delegations from several universities: Prof. Myoung-Jin Park, Vice President of Seoul National University (SNU) and her delegation (5 May 2011); Prof. Sun-Uk Kim, President of Ewha Womans University (EWU), and her delegation (11 May 2011); and Prof. Jong-Uk Lee, President of Sogang University (SGU), and his delegation (14 October 2011). Moreover, several professors from Korea University and Yonsei University visited FU Berlin to participate in academic workshops.

Politicians and Policy Experts from Korea

Several legislators and policy experts from South Korea visited IKS-FU in late March 2011 to participate in a workshop “Financing Unification - German Lessons”, co-organized by IKS-FU and held at the Henry Ford Building at FU Berlin. The delegation was comprised of several parliamentary members and senior researchers from various important research institutes in Korea. The visiting politicians, from the two major political parties Grand National Party (GNP) and Democratic Party (DP), belonged to the Standing Committee of the Korean National Assembly for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Reunification (UFT). For the Korean delegation, the workshop was one of several appointments during their study trip in Germany.
Publications and Presentations

Books


Journal Articles, Book Chapters and Reviews


Presentations

Ballbach, Eric J.

- “Framing an Enemy - A comparative analysis of the representation of North Korea in selected international media outlets”. International conference <Social Networks and Location in the Circulation of Knowledge>, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, 6 May 2011.
• “The Media’s Construction of an Enemy Image”. <Special Lectures Series: Cooperation with North Korea>, Freie Universität Berlin, 7 Juni 2011 [in German: “Die mediale Konstruktion eines Feindbildes”].


Brochlos, Holmer


• “Problems of teaching Korean grammar to German native speakers”. International Symposium for Kim Il Sung University’s 65th Anniversary. Kim Il-Sung University, P’yŏngyang, North Korea. 20 September 2011.


• “Unity in freedom - Hope for Korea”. As a Panel Discussant at the “Hessen erinnert - 50 Jahre Mauerbau” - event series at the Hessische Landesvertretung. Berlin, 30 November 2011 [in German: “Einheit in Freiheit - die Hoffnung für Korea”].

Lee, Eun-Jeung

• “Contemporary Discourse on East Asia in South Korea”. 2011 Joint Conference of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) & International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS). 31 March - 3 April 2011 Hawaii (accepted).


Mosler, Hannes B.


• “Comparative study of the constitutional status and actual interpretation of political parties in South Korea and Germany with focus on party organization.” 25th AKSE (Association of Korean Studies in Europe) Biannual Conference. 17-20 June 2011. At the International Center for Korean Studies of Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia [in Korean: 한국과 독일에서 정당당의 헌법적 지위와 그 실질적 해석에 대한 비교연구: 정당조직을 중심으로] (accepted).

• “South Korean politics: presidents, parties, positions”, a public lecture at the Museum of East Asian Art Cologne. 8 May 2011 [in German: Politik Südkoreas: Präsidenten, Parteien, Positionen].

Park, Hee-Seok

• “Between mythology and high-technology: insight into the manifold history and culture of Korea”, a public lecture at the Museum for East Asian Art in Cologne. 10 April 2011 [in German: Zwischen Mythologie und Hightech: Ein Einblick].
Park, Myung Joon

- “Policy-Experts as Translators and Entrepreneurs: Attention to Two Cases of Labor Markets Reforms in South Korea”. 4th Korea Foundation Workshop <Koreatage in German Speaking Area>. at Ruhr Universität Bochum. 4 November 2011 [in German: “Policy-Experten als Translators und Enterpreneurs: Betrachtung von zwei Fällen der Arbeitsmarktreformen in Südkorea”].

Claus, Daniela

- “Punk and Hardcore Music in South Korea - Politicization of the Youth?”. 4th Korea Foundation Workshop <Koreatage in German Speaking Area>. at Ruhr Universität Bochum. 4 November 2011 [in German: “Punk und Hardcore Musik in Süd Korea - Politisierung der Jugend?”] (accepted).

Interviews with Media

Ballbach, Eric

- “朝鮮提出會談，韓國要先研究其意图”, Deutsche Welle, 06.01.2011
- TV-Interview mit ARD Extra, 07.01.2011
- Interview with Spreeradio Berlin, 19.12.2011
- TV-Interview mit Swiss TV, 19.12.2011
- TV-Interview with Channel One Russia, 19.12.2011
- TV-Interview mit ARD Extra, 20.12.2011
- Interview with the daily newspaper “Die Rheinpfalz”, 20.12.2011
- Interview with Dradio Wissen, 21.12.2011
- Interview with Hessen Radio, 21.12.2011

Mosler, Hannes

Pfennig, Werner

“‘Kim Jong-il’s death can be an opportunity,’” 20 Minuten Online, December 19, 2011 [in German: Kim Jong-ils Tod kann eine Chance sein]

“Kim Jong Un is an enigma,” Deutsche Welle, December 19, 2011 [in German: Wer ist Kim Jong Un?]

“Change of power in North Korea also offers opportunities,” Märkische Oderzeitung, December 20, 2011 [in German: Machtwechsel in Nordkorea bietet auch Chancen]

“Tante Kyong-hui - die Macht hinter dem jungen Diktator,” Blick, December 20, 2011 [in German: Tante Kyong-hui - die Macht hinter dem jungen Diktator]


“How powerful is the dictator with the baby face?,” Bild, December 20, 2011 [in German: Wie mächtig ist der Diktatur mit dem Milchgesicht?]


“Change of power in North Korea also offers opportunities,” The website of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, December 21, 2011 [in German: Machtwechsel in Nordkorea bietet auch Chancen]

“North Korea puts troops on alert,” Bild, December 21, 2011 [in German: Nordkorea versetzt Truppen in Alarmbereitschaft]


“National mourning before the funeral”, ORF, December 23, 2011 [in German: Staatstrauer bis zum Begräbnis]

Interview with RTL Aktuell, December 28, 2011

Interview with RTL Nachtjournal, December 28, 2011
Contact
Institute of Korean Studies
Freie Universität Berlin
Fabeckstr. 7, 14195 Berlin
Tel: +49 - (0)30 - 838 56894
Fax: +49 - (0)30 - 838 56898
http://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/e/oas/korea-studien/index.html