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Asia Society Korea Center Year at a Glance

Since the inauguration of the Asia Society Korea Center in April 2008, the Center has conducted 17 high-profile programs and events in policy, business, journalism, art and culture, and hosted nearly 1,500 guests. In 2009, we plan to embark on many new programmatic initiatives that will strengthen our profile as the Center of Excellence within the global Asia Society organization.

The Monthly luncheon series will be further developed in accordance with the Center’s program and event development momentum, and new programs will be launched and/or further developed for 2009. The programs will consist of symposia, cultural events and other programs that will feature a cross section of Korean and Non-Korean leaders in Korea who are leading in their fields of expertise and influencing the relations that exist in between the Asia Pacific region and the United States.

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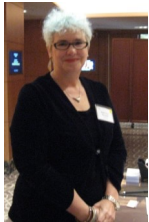
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Monthly Luncheon Series

January 20

**Global Refugee Situation:
Mixed Migratory Flows in Asia**



Janice Lyn Marshall

Ms. Janice Lyn Marshall, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), provided our luncheon audience with a PowerPoint Presentation on the “big picture” of contemporary challenges to protecting refugees and others in need of international protection, UNHCR’s mandate, and also about how those challenges manifest in Korea and how UNHCR tries to address them here. She explained that UNHCR has an additional aim in Korea – to enhance public awareness about refugees, both here and abroad, and increase Korean support, both Governmental and private, for refugees .

February 17

Covering Korea in Time of Crisis



Donald Kirk

Mr. Donald Kirk, Correspondent for Christian Science Monitor and CBS Radio, was the guest speaker for the Asia Society Korea Center’s February luncheon. Mr. Kirk has been reporting off and on from Korea since 1972. He is the author of two books on Korea, “Korean Dynasty: Hyundai and Chung Ju Yung,” and “Korean Crisis: Unraveling of the Miracle in the IMF Era,” and was co-editor of “Korea Witness: 135 Years of War, Crisis and News in the Land of the Morning Calm.” He provided our select audience with his experience in Korea as a journalist covering five presidential elections as well as “Korea in time of crisis.”

March 17

**The Challenges and Joys of
Living and Working in Korea as an Expatriate**



Alan Timblick

Mr. Alan Timblick Head of the Seoul Global Center, was the guest speaker for the Asia Society Korea Center’s luncheon in March. Mr. Timblick, an English man who has lived in Korea for 23 years, was the first non-Korean in the history of the country to occupy a senior government post. The Seoul Global Center is a resource set up by the Seoul City government to provide the range of free services and legal consultations to Seoul’s foreign residents. Mr. Timblick provided our audience an informative presentation on “the Challenges in Joys of Living and Working in Korea as an Expatriate,” and shared his own experience as an expatriate.

April 21

**The Current Status of
World Taekwondo:
How Taekwondo Has Helped the World**

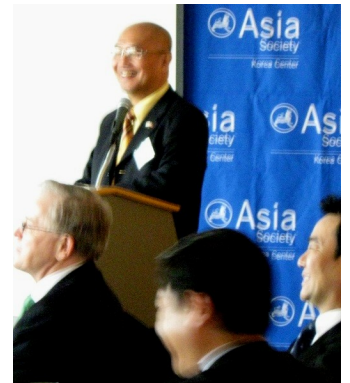


Jin Suk Yang

The Korea Center’s April luncheon speaker was Mr. Jin Suk Yang, Secretary General of the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF). Mr. Yang was named the new secretary general of the world’s taekwondo governing body in 2007. Prior to joining the WTF, he had been a two-time mayor of Corte Madera City within Marin County, California, and has held high-ranking positions in the police and law enforcement. At the luncheon, Mr. Yang not only shared his extensive experience and knowledge in taekwondo, but also emphasized how Taekwondo has been influencing the world and its practitioners. Under the WTF body alone, there are over 70 million practitioners in the world and nearly 200 countries have opened their doors to Taekwondo.



Year at a Glance (continued)



**For more information about our events and programs,
please visit us at <http://www.asiasociety.org/visit/korea>.**

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