Georgetown Conference on Korean Attitudes Toward U.S.

From January 30 to February 1, PCI, partnering with Georgetown University, The Korea Society, The National Intelligence Council and the Asian Studies Program, sponsored a conference on the Georgetown University campus entitled, “Korean Attitudes Toward the United States: The Complexities of an Enduring and Endured Relationship”. Participants included Donald Gregg, president and chairman of The Korea Society and PCI board member, Don Oberdorfer, 2003 Building Bridge Award recipient, and Chung-In Moon, Director of Research and Korean representative for PCI.

The goal of this conference was a thorough analysis of how the close and complex alliance between the two nations can remain productive in the post-Cold War world.

A detailed conference report by David I. Steinberg can be found at: http://www.georgetown.edu/sfs/programs/asia/publications/conferences/Korean.Anti-American.Conference.3.5.pdf

2003 Annual Award Dinner Honors Don Oberdorfer

Don Oberdorfer was honored as recipient of the 2003 Building Bridge Award at the PCI Annual Award dinner on February 27, in Los Angeles, California. Professor Oberdorfer was selected for his service to America and Asia as an outstanding correspondent, versatile and accomplished author and dedicated teacher. He served in the Korean War; covered the Vietnam War for the Washington Post; has written about Japan, Korea and other parts of Asia; and has excelled as a diplomatic correspondent in Washington, D.C. The night’s program included: an address by Don Oberdorfer entitled, “The U.S. and Korea: The Emerging Crisis”, and a presentation of a clip from the film “Arirang: The Korean American Journey”.

Second Jeju Peace Forum

Sponsored by ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Yonsei University and PCI, the Second Jeju Peace Forum was held from October 30 to November 1 at Jeju City, Korea. This event was a sequel to the First Jeju Peace Forum successfully held from June 15 to 17, 2001. The ongoing objective is to bring together key leaders from Northeast Asia in order to jointly review prospects for peace, stability and common prosperity. Participants included William Perry, former U.S. Secretary of Defense and 2000 Building Bridge Award recipient, and Donald Gregg, PCI board member.

President Roh Moon-hyun delivers a keynote speech at the 2nd Jeju Peace Forum

KAC First National Convention

PCI, a proud supporter of the Korean American Coalition, congratulates KAC on its first national convention, which was held from January 10 to 13 at Waikiki, Hawaii. The gathering commemorated both the 20th anniversary of KAC as well as the centennial anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States.

5th Int’l Air Power Conference

With the theme of “Alliance, Maneuverability and Strategic Air Power”, the 5th International Air Power Conference was held on November 18, 2002, at Yonsei University, Korea. This event was sponsored by Yonsei University, RAND and PCI. Featured guests included Natalie W. Crawford, Vice President of RAND and PCI board member, and Ronald R. Fogleman, former Chief of Staff, USAF and PCI board member. This year’s conference addressed the strategic jointness of the U.S. and ROK in the context of the bilateral alliance.
PCIP Events and News

This past year saw PCI partnering with PCIP (Pacific Council on International Policy) on several events and projects. “A Conversation on the North Korean Nuclear Crisis” was held on January 28. It was chaired by Spencer Kim of PCI. The keynote speaker was Ambassador Charles Kartman, Executive Director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization. Another event on March 19 featured speaker Strobe Talbott, President of the Brookings Institution and former Deputy Secretary of State. Warren Christopher, former Secretary of State, served as chair. The topic was “War and Peace in an Age of American Preeminence”. A publication was also released entitled “Can Japan Come Back?” This report was the result of a task force commissioned to understand the future of Japan.

Pomona College Events

On February 28, an event was held at Pomona College to address the question, “Why are Relations with North Korea So Difficult?” PCI board member Donald Gregg was the featured speaker. In tackling this matter Ambassador Gregg examined the issues behind Kim Jong Il’s current policies. Commentary by Richard Halloran, PCI board member, and Spencer Kim followed the keynote address. This event was sponsored by the Pacific Basin Institute of Pomona College, Asian Studies Program, International Relations Program and PCI. Pomona College was also the site of a conference commemorating a century of Korean immigration to the U.S. This event was held on October 24 and was entitled, “The Korean American Journey Conference”. The chair was Spencer Kim and speakers included author Helie Lee, sociologist Barbara Kim and attorney Victor Sim. The Pacific Basin Institute, the Intercollegiate Department of Asian American Studies and PCI sponsored this event.

Pacific Forum CSIS and APMN

Working with the Pacific Forum CSIS, the Korea Foundation and the Asia Pacific Media Network (APMN), PCI sponsored a public panel discussion on May 19 on the campus of UCLA. The theme was “Anti-Americanism in Korea: Closing the Perception Gaps”. The two panel presentations were entitled, “The Nature and Extent of Anti-Americanism in South Korea” and “Korean Views on the Future Role and Value of the U.S.-ROK Alliance”. APMN, founded by Tom Plate, syndicated columnist and UCLA professor, is an organization dedicated to student education and media networking in the Asia-Pacific, and facilitating a better understanding between Asia and America. PCI was also privileged to help fund the Pacific Forum’s Vasey Fellow Endowment for young leaders.

Asia Society Event

“Engaging Korea: The Emergence of Nuclear North Korea” was the title of the Asia Society event held on December 10 in Los Angeles, California. Prominent experts on North Korea from government, academia and think tanks were invited. The keynote speakers were Charles Kartman, former Executive Director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization, and Ambassador Chung Chongwook, former Korean Ambassador to the PRC and current professor at Ajou University. Two panel sessions followed the keynote addresses. Panelist included Professor Chang Dal-Joong of Seoul National University, Professor Bruce Cumings of the University of Chicago, Nina Hachigian of RAND and journalist Kim Dae-Joong of the Chosun Ilbo. PCI served as a cooperating organization for this event.
Project Bridge News

On June 7, PCI hosted a luncheon at the White Eagle Ranch in Thousand Oaks, California honoring the journey of the 2002-2003 Project Bridge Los Angeles young ambassadors. Project Bridge is an annual event sponsored by PCI and The Korea Society. Participants are high school juniors and seniors from New York, Los Angeles and, beginning with the 2003-2004 program, Washington, D.C. The primary goal is to create relationships between Americans of diverse ethnic backgrounds and foster mutual understanding between different cultures. Activities during the year long program include:

- monthly workshops on multicultural youth leadership issues and relations
- seminars covering Korean history, language and culture
- field trips
- community service
- a ten day educational study tour of Korea

Even after the formal ending of the program, PCI continues to provide leadership training for past Project Bridge participants.

A recent article in the New York Daily News (dated January 11, 2004) tells the story of Ammon Ford, a participant in this year’s program, and highlights the importance of programs like Project Bridge which foster understanding instead of prejudice.

The 2003-2004 Project Bridge Los Angeles program was officially launched with a welcoming dinner on November 24. Group leaders for this year’s program are: Jaqueline Borja, counselor at Gabriellino High School, Lecia Brooks, founder and principal consultant for Diversity Matters, and Lisa Sueki, owner of the Professional Development Group. The following is a list of the participants for the 2003-2004 program: Alejandra Gillette-Teran, Anna Hoang, Yu (Eddy) Lam, Miles Prince, Sophia Sou, Michael Trinh, Raymond Truong and Julie Tu. PCI is looking forward to another great program year and is proud to support Project Bridge and its participants.

For more information on Project Bridge or to find out how you can participate or help, please visit our website at: www.pacificcenturyinst.org.

2004 Annual Award Dinner

February 26 is the date for the 2004 PCI Annual Award Dinner to be held at the Radisson Wilshire Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California. The highlight of this event will be the awarding of the 2004 Building Bridge Award to H.C. “Hank” Stackpole. General Stackpole was selected based upon his distinguished service to America and Asia as a brave warrior, dedicated peacemaker and serious scholar. Hank Stackpole served in Vietnam and was awarded the U.S. Silver Star and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry. He later became commander of all Marines in the Pacific. In peacemaking, he led and participated in rescue work in Bangladesh and the Philippines, saving millions of lives. As a scholar, he taught at Stanford University on the subject of Southeast Asia and was awarded the Admiral Sims Award as the outstanding graduate of the Naval Command and Staff College.

For more information on this event, contact: Samuel J. Kim at (818) 337-1628.

Board Member Changes

PCI is privileged and honored to have Natalie W. Crawford join its Board of Directors as of February 2003. Ms. Crawford is currently Vice President and Director of Project Air Force at RAND. She received her graduate and undergraduate degrees from UCLA, and has numerous awards and honors from such distinguished institutions such as JPL, the National Academy of Engineering and the Department of the Air Force.

As of February 2003, Congressman Mervyn Dymally has resigned from the PCI Board of Directors. PCI is greatly appreciative of the contributions Congressman Dymally has made during his tenure as a board member.
Book Projects

The United States and East Asia: Old Issues and New Thinking is a collaborative effort between Georgetown University and Yonsei University which PCI is helping to fund. G. John Ikenberry of Georgetown University and Chung-In Moon of Yonsei University are the project coordinators. This project will explore the dynamics of regional change in East Asia and the implications for the United States in the decades ahead. To do so, scholars from the region will be brought together to debate their views on critical issues. Ultimately, a major publication will be produced that can be widely used as a textbook by students and as a reference book by policy-makers.

Rising Sun, Morning Calm: Hostility Between Japan and Korea Jeopardizes U.S. Interests in East Asia, a book edited by Richard Halloran, PCI board member, and funded by PCI, is nearing completion. It will include contributions by PCI award recipient Frank Gibney and PCI members Richard Halloran, Chung-In Moon and Desaix Anderson. This book of essays delves into the basic causes of the animosities between the peoples of the two nations and suggests ways they may be overcome. It will eventually be published in three languages, English, Japanese and Korean.

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