

# AKABFE - Newsletter

## Greetings from the President

**Dr. Christopher Yeonsik Choi**



Hello, everyone, and I wish you all a happy new year! Let us celebrate the accomplishments of 2015 and give a toast to 2016 as we continue to move the AKABFE forward.

I would first like to thank Dr. Bosoon Park for providing us such effective and graceful service, and

I am elated by the news that he has been named an ASABE Fellow. To finish his term as the founding president of AKABFE on such a high note seems most fitting. Not only does this honor recognize Dr. Park's exceptional professional achievements, but also it brings attention to his concerted efforts to promote networking and encourage professional development among members in Korea and in the United States. Throughout his career, Dr. Park has had a remarkably positive influence on the lives of many fellow researchers, young professionals, and students.

In 2015, our community added a considerable number of new members and held our first AKABFE Symposium, "*Technical Trends and Career Opportunities in the U.S. and Korea*," which was focused on helping future engineers and researchers. Much credit should go to the speakers, the leadership team, and the student volunteers for making the event so successful.

As we move forward, we will be working to establish collaborations and identify opportunities to network with key academic institutions, industries, and other professional organizations such as The Korean Society of Agricultural and Machinery (KSAM). We will also be seeking ways to build on our accomplishments of 2015. I expect to gather another panel of inspiring and innovative speakers for our next AKABFE Symposium, which will be held during the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AKABFE Meeting in Orlando, Florida. I hope to see you all there in July!

## About the AKABFE

Association of Korean Agricultural, Biological, and Food Engineers (AKABFE) was established on July 30, 2012 in Dallas, Texas, USA. Currently, the AKABFE has 128 members including full members and student members.

## AKABFE Updates

### *Successful 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held in New Orleans*

The 2015 AKABFE annual meeting was held during the ASABE international meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. An official meeting took place for an hour in Jackson hall in the New Orleans Marriott. 37 attendees participated in the meeting, and the total number of association members became 128 including 20 new members. To increase communication channels between Korean and U.S. society, a new agenda for 2015-2016 season was discussed. Also, Dr. Christopher Yeonsik Choi, Dr. Won Suk Lee, Dr. Seung Chul Yoon and Dr. Kyo Suh were elected president, vice president, U.S. secretary, and Korean secretary for following two years.



Picture: All these members are listening to a moderator's announcement during the official meeting.

During the meeting, Dr. Christopher Yeonsik Choi promised to continue the good collaboration that has been ongoing between Korea and the U.S. An associated dinner followed at a nearby Korean restaurant and gave an opportunity for the members to network in a more comfortable environment.



Picture: Participants at the associated dinner, held at a Korean restaurant in New Orleans.

## ***Empowering Korean Young Generation – Advices from Seniors: Technical Trends and Career Opportunities in the U.S. and Korea***

In an effort to facilitate communication between the Korean and U.S. societies and also to bridge the gap between seniors and the younger generation, a special session, 'Technical Trends and Career Opportunities in the U.S. and Korea,' was presented during the 2015 ASABE annual international meeting. The session's speakers explored a wide variety of topics ranging from past to future trends in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, and they also gave extensive advice concerning the pursuit of an academic career. One attendee



commented that the session was very informative, especially for the younger attendees.

Picture: Special session attendees listening speaker's presentation.

### ***Make plans to participate: 2016 ASABE Annual International Meeting***

We are thrilled to announce that 2016 Annual International Meeting will take place on July 17-20, 2016, in Orlando, Florida. During the ASABE meeting, the AKABFE will hold its 5<sup>th</sup> annual meeting as well as an associated dinner gathering and a special session. All deadlines, a meeting registration form, program notes, and travel information can be found at this link: <http://www.asabemeetings.org/>.

## **Member's News**

### ***Dr. Bosoon Park elected ASABE Fellow***

The ASABE named twelve individuals as ASABE Fellows in 2015, and Dr. Bosoon Park, a past

### **Explore the AKABFE!**

AKABFE Website: <http://www.akabfe.org/>

AKABFE LinkedIn: [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=6521941&trk=myg\\_ugrp\\_ovr](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=6521941&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr)

AKABFE president, was named one of the honorees. To be named a Society Fellow is ASABE's highest honor, and it recognizes a recipient's unusually distinguished professional career and outstanding qualifications and experience in agricultural and



biological engineering. Dr. Park was recognized at the ASABE Annual International Meeting during the Induction and Honor Ceremony.

Picture: 2015 ASABE fellow recognition during ASABE luncheon.

### ***Dr. Chang-Hyun Choi elected President of Korean Society for Agricultural Machinery***



The Korean Society for Agricultural Machinery (KSAM) elected Dr. Chang-Hyun Choi as its new president. In his interview with a member of the Korean press, he emphasized the need to increase the number of members in the society, and also called for encouraging more active participation by the current members.

### ***Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers Names Dr. Jae-gwon Son for New President***



Dr. Jae-gwon Son became a newly elected president in The Korean Society of Agricultural Engineers (KSAE) in January, 2016. He will serve the position for next two years until December, 2017. In the KSAE website, Dr. Son mentioned that he feels responsible for further development of their technical conferences in newly emerging areas in agricultural engineering.

## **The AKABFE's Mission**

The AKABFE was established to (1) promote information exchange and networking among agricultural, biological, and food engineers who are interested in the development of agricultural and biological science and technology in Korea; (2) foster educational exchange programs between Korean universities and organizations and institutions in the United States of America; (3) facilitate the transfer of technology to and from Korea; and (4) encourage professional development among members within the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE).