

# Yonsei GSIS Newsletter

March 2018 Volume XXVIII



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## GSIS students at the Olympics

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GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

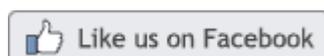
*Dear Yonsei GSIS Community,*

*Welcome back to all returning students. We extend a warm welcome to the new students as well. This issue marks the beginning of the Spring 2018 semester. The Newsletter looks forward to providing the Yonsei GSIS community with information regarding events, students, alumni, and professors.*

*This issue will be a 'Winter Olympics' special as many of our students helped make the Olympics run smoothly as staff.*

*Happy new semester to you all,*

*Newsletter team*



## Upcoming Events

### Membership Training (MT)

Departure: on March 10, 13:30 pm from the New Millenium Hall.

Return: March 11, 13 pm.

Location: Gapyeong

Notice: Head on up to the GSA Office on the 4th floor of the New Millenium Hall Building to book your spot.

### Special Talk, "Ireland: Korea's Partner in Europe"

Guest Speaker: Eoghan Murphy, Minister for Housing, Planning, and Local Government, Republic of Government



*From the 7th to the 25th of February 2018 South Korea was all about Curling, Short track speed skating and co. The XXIII Olympic Winter Games took place in PyeongChang - and our Yonsei GSIS students were an active part of it as well. Many of our students were hired to support the games and make them a success through working as hospitality staff or behind the scenes of the event.*

*When asked what motivated him to participate in the Olympics, Todor Merdjanov, a third-semester ITFM student from Bulgaria, said that ever since he knew the Olympics were being held in South Korea and he was going to be at Yonsei, he wanted to be a part of it. Being from a small country, he never even imagined working for such a massive international event like the Olympics, but as soon as the opportunity presented itself, he took the chance. Evan Ladao adds that, "As an International Relations student and the Olympics being one of the biggest multi-national events, it was an opportunity to experience what we study in real life."*

*With more than 90 nations coming together*

Date: March 12, 13-14 pm

Location: TBD

### **Special Lecture: "Economic Development and the Future of Asia - The Role of ADB"**

Guest speaker: Takehiko Nakao, President and Chairperson, Board of Directors of the Asian Development Bank

Date: March 14

Time: 3:15 - 4:30pm

Location: NMH 101

### **Open House**

Date: March 14, 18 pm

Location: TBD

Notice: Join us for an information session where we will discuss upcoming events and merchandise options for the Spring semester. We will also hold a Q&A session where you can ask anything regarding GSIS as well as give us feedback.

### **Kick-off Meeting**

Date: March 21

Time: TBD

Location: TBD

### **Career Workshop by Namuh Rhee**

Date: March 21, 12 pm noon; and March 22, 18 pm

Location: TBD

## **Winter Break Events Recap**

### **The Commencement Ceremony, 26th of February**

On February 26th, 2018, 78 proud Yonsei GSIS students graduated after 4 semesters of hard work. The Commencement began with a prayer and scripture reading led by the University chaplain, Simone Kim. Of the graduating students, 7 were KSP majors, 25 were PIC majors, and 46 were ITFM majors.

*to compete for Olympic gold, Yonsei students were able to apply what they learned through studying in an international environment every day. They had to consider cultural backgrounds and also diplomatic relations of their clients' home countries while working with them. However, they all agree that through working with so many different people from all kinds of backgrounds, they learned a lot.*



*Todor explained to us how he now truly understands that in a big team everything needs to work like a well-oiled machine, everyone has to work together in order to be successful. Effective communication is one of the main competencies they improved, as well as being able to think one step ahead and reacting fast to unexpected problems coming up. Manav Khanna, a fourth-semester ITFM student from India was amazed by the leadership qualities he was able to see in his managers and says he aspires to be like them in the future. Compared to other internships he did in Korea, he had more responsibilities and learned how to make important decisions on his own.*



Dean Mo gave a passionate Commencement Address highlighting community service through local communities. He said that the Yonsei community can help change the world so despite graduating and leaving campus, all students should stay connected as alumni.



Anan Chang gave the valediction as the graduate representative. Her inspirational speech was full of tips for everyone. She mentioned how Yonsei GSIS's greatest gift is that we are from all over the world and will now have connections in many places. She left off with these words, "Take chances and don't be afraid. Set goals and work hard to achieve them." Congratulations to all of the GSIS graduates!

*After experiencing the Olympic spirit first-hand, they all smiled while telling us stories about the people they met, because after all, the Olympics are about the people that come together. The athletes, the fans, the volunteers, the workers - all of them coming together under the same spirit - a once in a lifetime experience. Manav told us about his favourite memory - a figure skating gala exhibition on the final day of the games. All athletes came together to perform - not compete - and simply show their talent as one united team.*



*With lots of beautiful memories, newly acquired soft-skills and promising connections our students are back on campus for the upcoming spring semester. We congratulate them one more time for getting the wonderful opportunity to work for the PyeongChang Olympics and thank them for representing Yonsei GSIS as well.*

### **The Orientation Day, 27th of February**

The incoming Spring 2018 students had orientation on the 27th of February. The Yonsei GSIS welcomed 77 new students this semester: about half of the students were from Korea, and the rest came from over 15 different countries. Orientation started with a welcoming remark from Dean Mo, and he emphasized the importance of being proactive inside and outside the two-year rigorous curriculum.

Orientation then proceeded to a program introduction by Prof. Michael Kim. Professor Kim highlighted the importance of achieving versatility in graduate student life. The professor encouraged students to take advantage of the international and diverse learning environment at Yonsei GSIS as well as get involved in a variety of student activities.



Professor Kim's program introduction was then followed by a career orientation by the head of the CDC, Namuh Rhee.

After the career session, all the new students then grouped into three groups according to their intended major and the professors of each department welcomed the new students. This more personalized orientation offered new students the opportunities to not only get to know fellow newcomers with shared interest, but also receive a personal consultation from an expert in the field.



After taking group photos in front of the New Millennium Hall, the GSA members and representatives of seven GSIS student clubs introduced a variety of club activities the new students could participate in.

The students finished the first day of their endeavor at Yonsei GSIS, having dinner all together in Sinchon. Welcome to Yonsei GSIS!

## Alumni and ODAR

The Newsletter's **previous Editor-in-Chief, Minja Marjomaa**, graduated this year and has joined the ever-growing group of **Yonsei GSIS alumni**.

The Newsletter team would like to personally thank Minja for her year of dedication and leadership to the GSIS Newsletter.

As Dean Mo stressed in his Commencement speech, "**All students may be leaving campus but they aren't leaving the Yonsei GSIS community. All students should stay connected as alumni.**"



The Yonsei GSIS Alumni Association has been changing and after a fundraising effort, they will continue to contribute toward future events for both current students and alumni. We look forward to continue strengthening the Yonsei GSIS community well into the future and start bringing about change in the world. **Again, a warm thank you to Minja for her contribution** to the Newsletter.

**Dean Mo visited Taiwan** this last January for a business trip. He was there from January 23rd to the 25th. On the 23rd, he attended the inaugural meeting of the **Taipei chapter of the Yonsei GSIS Club**. Among the **Yonsei GSIS Alumni** in attendance were **Philipp Wieland** (the coordinator of the Yonsei GSIS Club of Taipei), **Ju Hsuan Cheng**, **Fei Bi Huang**, and **Yi Jung**

## Wang.



On the second day, the Dean had an important meeting with Min-hsiu Chang, the Dean of the College of Social Sciences at National Chengchi University. Jen-te Pai, the Dean Deputy; Ping-yin Kuan, the Associate Dean; and Mei-chuan Wei, the Chair of International Master's Program, also attended the meeting.

## Student Feature

### Evan Ladao

Third-semester ITFM student **Evan Ladao** had the chance to experience the PyeongChang Winter Olympics 2018 first hand while working as a host for Jet Set Sports, an official supporter of the Olympic games.

Back in March 2017 Jet Set Sports recruited several GSIS students and after six intense months of bi-weekly workshops about hospitality and the history of the Olympics it was finally time to meet his clients. Not only did he get to meet the heads of international companies and watch Olympic games with them but he also learned how one of the biggest international events works behind the scenes. He was fascinated by the community of people that work at the Olympics every single time and the amount of organisation and attention to detail that goes into running a large-scale event like that smoothly. However, he adds that even though everything is planned out perfectly, things always go wrong, so you always have to be flexible and able to react fast as well. Two of his favourite moments were the Russia versus Germany gold medal hockey match as well as seeing the North Korean athletes and



cheerleaders being integrated into the Olympic environment naturally. During our interview he laughed and admitted that in the U.S. he actually didn't really watch many sports games nor would he describe himself as particularly nationalistic - but in the Olympics he got really into sports and also really nationalistic - **"The spirit and the feel of the Olympics is just something special and I enjoyed that."**

Even though working hours were exhausting with a maximum of five hours of sleep per night, he says that he would definitely do it all over again and if anyone has the chance to join the Tokyo Olympics 2020, they should - without a doubt - use that opportunity.

### **Tabea Strohmaier**

During the last winter break ITFM third-semester student **Tabea**

**Strohmaier** worked for the hospitality company Jet Set Sports as well - her role was to take care of VIP and corporate clients at the Olympics as well as assisting in hotel logistics and management. Under the premium concept of New Horizons, clients were able to experience the Olympics in an exclusive way with the help of **Tabea**. Since she is really interested in event management, she wanted to



get more experience as well as make connections in the field. The work as a hospitality staff turned out to be perfect to achieve those goals and she was able to learn a lot about how international events are organised and managed from within. Besides her work she was also amazed by the spirit and the Olympic culture that she was able to be a part of.

However, **Tabea** mentions that what she really gained from the Olympics was to learn about jobs she never considered or thought about before but are now becoming a possible future for her. By trying something new and rather unusual for GSIS students she discovered many more possibilities and doors that are open to her through her Master's Program at Yonsei.

She also told us that the Olympics taught her that even when things go wrong during your work sometimes, you can always overcome them and turn the situation around - so even though one of their clients' busses got lost on the first day, she was able to build a really great connection with them afterwards. **Not everything always goes as planned, but the essential part is to never give up.**

## **In the Public Eye**



Professor Jung-hoon Lee was quoted in an article for USA Today, "Seoul should have two diplomatic objectives in dealing with North Korea: denuclearization and improvement of human rights."

Professor Lee was a former human rights ambassador for South Korea. You can read the entire article [here](#).

## Jobs and Opportunities

### **ODAR (Office of Development and Alumni Relations) Full-time Assistant**

Responsibilities Include:

- Updating alumni contact information
- Establishing a worldwide alumni network
- Organizing alumni event (once a semester)
- Making ODAR newsletters
- Making posters and shooting photographs for GSIS event

\* Tasks will be shared by two ODAR Assistant

Working Hours: 20 hours a week (Mon. ~ Fri)

Eligibility

- GSIS Students who are currently enrolled and will be enrolled on Spring 2018
- Fluent in Korean & English
- Sociable, Sincere, Diligent, and Enthusiastic
- Organized and Punctual

Application

- Please send your resume to [biodent@yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:biodent@yonsei.ac.kr) ASAP, by **Mar 11**(Sun) at latest.
- Interviewees will be contacted individually.

**The Center for International Studies, GSIS looks for a research assistant**

**Position Description:** Assist administration of CIS and provide research assistance to ongoing projects of CIS

**Requirements**

- Research skills
- Computer skills
- Korean language skills

**Working Condition :** 10 hours per week

**Benefits:** Scholarship of 3,000,000 KRW per semester

**Application period:** by March 8th

Please send a resume to [gsis@yonsei.ac.kr](mailto:gsis@yonsei.ac.kr). Short listed candidates will be contacted individually for an interview.

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