

Research Fellow Highlight: Seoungjun (SJ) Lee



SJ is a 3L student at UCI School of Law. Prior to law school, he graduated from New York University, majoring in Politics, and worked as an IP Specialist at an IP law firm in South Korea upon graduation. During law school, SJ did summer internships at Lee & Ko and LOGOS Law, LCC, which are big law firms in South Korea, concentrating his work on cross-border mergers & acquisitions and international dispute resolution. During his own time, SJ enjoys watching the New York Yankees and Liverpool FC games.

SJ served as a squad leader for the ROKA Military Police Special Duty Team, the same unit that BTS member V is currently serving in.

Visiting Scholar Highlight: Judge Miyeon Kwon



Miyeon Kwon served as a judge at the Changwon District Court. At UCI, her research topic focuses on U.S. cases of disability discrimination in insurance contracting and its implications.

Miyeon has been enjoying California's amazing climate and has had the opportunity to travel and experience America's natural wonders. Over the Thanksgiving break, Miyeon and her family visited Death Valley and the Grand Canyon.

She has also had the opportunity to observe court proceedings, gain firsthand insight into the workings of US courts, and participate in classes.

UCI Law Korea Law Center

December 2024



On December 6, 2024, Grace Lee (Program Director, Korea Law Center), Anna Davis (Director, Externships & Pro Bono programs), and Jasminde Deol (Assistant Dean, Career Development) presented at Seoul National University School of Law Public Interest Law Center International Conference on Public Interest Career development and Clinical Legal Education in Asia. Prior to the conference, the delegation from UC Irvine Law had a wonderful meeting with SNU's Public Interest Law Center regarding upcoming joint pro bono projects between the two law schools.



Past Research Fellow Esther Eun Jean Kye (J.D. Class of 2024) being sworn in to the California Bar by Judge June An. Congratulations Esther!



Research Fellows gathered for an End of Semester KBBQ night to celebrate the conclusion of classes and to fuel up before final exams.

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On Friday, November 1, 2024, U See I Write faculty writing retreat was held at the UCI Department of Continuing Education (DCE), providing a structured environment for faculty throughout UCI to focus on their scholarly writing. This year, participants from the Korea Law Center included Grace Lee (Program Director), Aiden Kim (Program Advisor), Sangmi Lee and Kyungwoo Nam (Visiting Scholars), and Yong Hyung Chung (Research Fellow and third-year law student). With a detailed schedule that included goal setting, four focused writing sessions, and breaks for reflection and collaboration, the retreat allowed participants to dedicate uninterrupted time to advancing their research, refining their academic writing skills, and achieving measurable progress. Korea Law Center plans on hosting a similar event in the Spring semester specifically for our KLC scholar community.



Upcoming Events



Mr. James Irvine Swinden invites Korea Law Center & Global Programs for a private tour of UCI Irvine Langson Museum on Thursday, January 16, 2024 12:30PM-2:00PM

Contact Grace Lee (glee@law.uci.edu) for more information

Charlotte Butler Skinner, Rampant Owen's River, 1938, Oil on canvas, 26 x 30 in. Collection of the Nevada Museum of Art, bequest of John A. White, Jr., in memory of Charlotte Skinner's grandson, James Skinner.

Global Language Cafe
FOR ENGLISH CONVERSATION

Date: January 24
Time: 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Location: MPAA 201
RSVP: Grace Lee (glee@law.uci.edu)
Join us for informal English conversations and cultural exchange at the Global Language Cafe!
Light refreshments served.

UCI Law
Korea Law Center

Research Office Hour

Every other Friday (1/10, 1/24)
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
UCI Law Library California Room
(1st Floor)

with:
Aiden Kim

- Dedicated time to focus on your own research.
- Personalized assistance with accessing law library materials.
- Supportive environment to enhance your research productivity.
- Opportunities to connect with an advisor for guidance and feedback.

2025 UCI Lunar New Year Celebration

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 | 9AM-6PM at the UCI Student Center & Irvine Barclay Theatre

Visiting Scholar Workshop: Judge Miyon Kwon

Wednesday, January 29, 2025 | 12PM-1PM in EDU 1121

Classroom Visits: Spring LL.M Courses

Please contact Grace Lee (glee@law.uci.edu) if you are interested in visiting the following classes:

Contracts LLM - Professor Eugene Kim

Monday & Wednesday at 3:30-5:00PM in EDU 1111

Torts LLM - Professor Jessica Lujan

Thursday 6:00-8:00PM in MPAA 430

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Korean Lawyers in America Project Updates: Conversations with Jin Hwang and Jenny Goak

After making meaningful connections at IAKL and beyond, the KLAP team virtually met with two important potential stakeholders - Jin Hwang and Jenny Goak. Jin Hwang is counsel at KSBranigan Law, with extensive experience working in-house at global companies and has held several leadership roles with the ABA and NAPABA. Jenny Goak is a senior associate at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP and the president of KABA Washington.

Jin Hwang gave us insight into her experience working on the Native American Women in the law research project conducted by the ABA Commission on Women and National Native American Bar Association (NNABA). Knowing that the Native American Women project brought the Native American legal community together, we can see KLAP taking on a similar role for the Korean American legal community.

With Jenny Goak, we discussed ways we could partner with KABA Washington regarding KLAP. As president, Jenny recently coordinated a joint KABA reception, working together with KABA organizations across the country. Through the reception, momentum was built in possibly finding other ways to bring together the various regional KABAs. We discussed that KLAP could become a focal point for a national KABA project.

As we continue to develop our project, the KLAP team will continue to meet with important partners to gain their unique perspectives and insights.

