

KOTESOL'S LEADERSHIP RETREAT

by Michael Duffy

On the first weekend of December, Taejon's riverside Moon-wha Hotel provided a pleasant venue for the annual KOTESOL leadership retreat -- a grand get-together of newly-elected national and chapter officers, committee and department chairs, and one or two other interested parties. One outstanding piece of business remained from October's national conference. This was the election of a First Vice President, a rather important position since the holder will take over the presidency from Carl Dusthimer following next year's PAC2 Conference. Prof. Han Sang-ho of Kyongju University was duly elected. Congratulations and best wishes to him.



Newly-elected 1stVP Han Sang Ho (left) meets with Gavin Farrell and President Carl Dusthimer.

A retreat provides a rare opportunity for regional chapter representatives to compare notes and swap ideas on building their organizations. Two infant chapters, Chongju and Cheju, have recently joined the five long-running ones, and they will soon be joined in turn by two more when Cholla Chapter forms North and South divisions, and South Kyonggi (based in Suwon), is established. With four chapters planning conferences and two planning drama festivals in 1999, regional activity is going to reach unprecedented levels, and so a chance for newcomers to spend time kicking ideas around with old hands under the wise chairmanship of Doug Margolis was most welcome.

The Main Event of 1999 will, of course, be PAC2. Jane Hoelker, Research Coordinator and PR Chair for the Korean arm of the operation, presented a report on current progress on preparation for the conference, both here and in Japan. Her PR team presented a host of proposals for promotion, publicity and sponsorship, plus some ideas for the all-important PAC2 logo. PAC2, naturally, also involved the largest bud-



get to be proposed and passed; others were for the chapters, Tom McKinney's Technologies Committee, and the extremely active KTT. Carl Dusthimer's financial report anticipated a healthy balance for the coming year.

Amid all the hard work and seriousness, there was time for some light relief in the form of a game of "Truth or Dare", conducted, in the absence of our usual *Spielmeister* Andrew Todd, by Doug Margolis with a combination of charm and cruelty, sparing not even the KOTESOL president. Nonetheless, it was a long and busy weekend for those who attended from the opening on Friday evening. It was not until late Sunday afternoon that the last participants departed, ready for the year of hard work that lies ahead.

LIOJ International Summer Workshop for Teachers of English

The Language Institute of Japan Summer Workshops are perhaps Asia's most recognized Language Teacher Training program. In the past few years, KOTESOL has had scholarships for this program. We would like all KOTESOL members to consider attending this high-powered teacher development program. Last summer Yeom Ji Sook (of Seoul) was KOTESOL's scholar; she reports as follows:

The first LIOJ Workshop was offered in 1969, which makes the LIOJ International Summer Workshop for Teachers of English one of the oldest ongoing teacher training conferences in Japan. To date, over 3,700 English teachers have attended the Workshop.

Each year, many well-known teacher trainers in the fields of language teaching and intercultural communication have been

guests at the Workshop. The Summer Workshops have hosted guests and scholars from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Korea, Laos, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Morning Classes run three hours a day for the duration of the Workshop. Prior to the Workshop, participants select a class to join, and continue with that class throughout the week. The morning classes are always popular for a number of reasons, one of which is that they give the participants the opportunity to share some of their own expertise with their peers.

In addition to the professional development activities, we had some fun in the Workshop. Besides the opening and closing night parties and an evening out in the town of Odawara, in the middle of the week LIOJ hosted "International Night,"

which is always very popular. Participants spend an evening exploring displays from different countries around the world, and watching cultural performances.

I could share tons of teaching ideas and information, and moreover make a lot of friends. It was one of the most wonderful experiences I have ever had.

For more information on the Workshop, feel free to contact us at

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