

Women's Worlds 2005

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Volume 2

<http://www.ww05.org>

Monday, June 20, 2005



Photo by Yoo-mi Park

The Welcoming Festival of the Women's Worlds 2005 was held at the Gyeonghuigung Palace on Sunday, June 19, 2005.

Women Come Together in the 9th IICW

The Welcoming Festival of Women's Worlds 2005 (WW05) was held on June 19 at the Gyeonghuigung Palace from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. More than 1,500 people participated and enjoyed the festival. It started out with an introductory video clip of Seoul. Then, Myung-bak Lee, the mayor of Seoul, opened the festival with his welcoming remarks. Lee said, "Since it is the first time this congress is held in Asia, it proves that the status of Korean women has improved. I'm sure that people participating in this congress will play a major role in the future. I also hope you enjoy the performance after dinner that brings the past and the future together, just like the city of Seoul." Pil-wha Chang, the Congress Convenor of WW05, also warmly welcomed the participants of WW05 to Korea and to the IICW.

Marilyn P. Safir, Congress Convenor of the 1st IICW, presented a toast and the participants enjoyed their dinner. "We never

imagined that this could happen when we had the first congress with 700 people from 36 countries. On each succeeding congress, I would think it can't get better than this. I was wrong; it can't get better than this."

After dinner, "She is Coming," a fusion theater performance with dancing and Korean traditional music was performed. The performance was produced by Hye-kyoung Lee, Co-chair of the Culture Committee of WW05, and choreographed by Ki-suk Cho, member of the Culture Committee, WW05, and a professor in the Dance Department of Ewha Womans University.

"She is Coming" consisted of four parts: She is Coming, Moonlight Sailing, Moonlight Dance and Sailing off Together. The performance showed diverse women coming from all directions mysteriously and turning into fast and large movements under the moon. Rejoicing in meeting others living on this earth, people in the dance embraced one

another and shared their body and spirit. The performance ended cheerfully with Sook-sun Ahn (singer) as the captain of the ship, sailing under the moon, congratulating the opening of the WW05, creating a festive mood.

Molly Hayes (U.S.), a participant, said, "The dance was very moving. Also, the fact that the drums were played by women was very impressive. The singing of pansori was also very beautiful."

by Bo-mi Kim

Notice Board

The Korean version of the articles can be viewed at the Ewha Weekly website (<http://inews.ewha.ac.kr>).

A free board is available at the Secretariat in POSCO rm.153 for anyone who would like to post notices.

Today's Schedule

09:00-10:30 Opening Ceremony
(Welch-Ryang Auditorium, Daegangdang)
10:30-12:00 Keynote Session
(Welch-Ryang Auditorium, Daegangdang)

Invited Speakers Sessions

13:00-14:30

"Women's Human Rights and the Global Agenda-How Women Have Used the International Human Rights System"- Charlotte Bunch, Florence Butegua, Gigi Francisco
(LG Convention Hall)

"Effect of Sports Training on Women's Health" Wipada Kunaviktikul

"Issues of Rehabilitation for Elderly Women in Japan" Susumu Tomonaga

"Development of On-line Female Health Education and Information System in Urban Community" In-guk Kim
(POSCO Building rm. 101)

14:45-16:15

Jean W. Bauer (LG Convention Hall)

Margaret M. Heitkemper

"Genetic Nursing in Health Care" Masato Tsukahara
"Hormone Therapy for Postmenopausal Women-What Are the Next Regimens after WHI Study?" In-kwon Han

"The Effect of Exercise Program on Physical Fitness, Depression and Self-Efficacy of Low-Income Elderly Women in South Korea" Kyung-rim Shin
(POSCO Building rm. 102)

Film Series Session

13:00-14:20 "Umma"

14:30-15:50 "Garivegas"/ "Ohh, You Make Me Sick"

16:00-17:20 "Pine and Fires: Women's Lives in Socialism"

17:30-18:30 "Ther Stories Are Still Going On" / "Silent Crying Voices of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan"

(Ewha POSCO Building B1)

Side Events

June 20-24 Quilting a "Green Resonance" on Behalf of a Salamander" (Ewha-POSCO Building B1)

June 20-24 Photo Exhibition on Women Workers (Humanities Building 3F)

June 20-24 Silent Crying Voices of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (Student Union Building B1)

June 19-24 Feminism Video Activist 2005 (Mary Hall, Sogang University)

June 20-23 WW05 Fair (in front of Human Ecology Building and Student Union Building)

Inspirations From a Leader



Photo by Yoo-mi Park

Mongella expounds upon her views on gender inequality as a feminist leader.

"What ever you do, aspire to do it well, aim to be the best, and then you can break the glass ceiling," answers Honorary Mongella, current president of the Pan African Parliament (PAP) and WW05's keynote speaker, when asked how a woman may overcome the glass ceiling in a man-oriented society. "A glass ceiling is there to press women down, and it cannot be broken by just words, we need actions to break it, and powerful actions come with commitment and sacrifice."

Mongella owes a lot of the ability to breaking this glass ceiling to her parents' constant support in her education. "My parents supported my receiving an education. Both women and men need acknowledgement to build confidence, which in turn works as a catalyst to make courageous decisions. Running for the president of the PAP was a courageous choice, but I was able to make that choice with confidence, and without pondering too much on the questions, 'Will I? Or will I not?'"

Her appointment has surely made a tidal impact on the African public. It was, in her words, "a celebration for both women and men in Africa, it indicated that men are ready to vote for a woman, and demonstrated the success of women's struggles. Another positive change is that the African Union has taken into consideration the concept of parity in their parliaments," she adds.

As a feminist, Mongella views that gender inequality starts from two basic factors: 'decision making power' and 'economic power.' "The power to make a decision means the power to make choices at all levels - family, communi-

ty, and politics. These choices will influence development and make a difference in society. However, without economic power the woman cannot carry out her decision, thus the two must run together." Mongella went on to stress that education is the tool to pertaining the two factors. "In this globalizing process, women may be on board by making a decision which education helps her make."

Mongella mentions that the WW05 has significance for being held in Korea for various reasons. "First of all, the majority of women in the world are Asian. Secondly, and personally, I view Korea as a symbol of hope when it comes to getting out of underdevelopment. However, I've also come to question about the Korean woman. Has she benefited from this development? Where was she in the past 40 years?"

Finally, when asked what her vision of an ideal society is, Mongella answered, "Where sex is just a natural phenomenon, full stop. Where sex does not inhibit on any capability of any individual. Where equal opportunities are given to everyone disregarding gender. This doesn't mean that everyone will be treated the same, it simply means that everyone will be given the same opportunity - the rest is up to the individual. When I ran for president I said, 'Don't vote for me because I'm a woman, vote for me because I am able, don't ignore me because I'm a woman, but don't favor me because I'm a woman either.' In the end, it's not enough to be a man, or a woman, it should be about the skills of the individual."

by Eun-a Lee

Environment and Agriculture Prostitution In Korea

June 20, 13:00~14:00 at POSCO Building rm. 501

Speakers: Fredrick Samanya (Uganda), Helen Hui-chen Wei-Lao (China), Gana Pati Ojha (Nepal), Woo-joo Chang (U.K.)

In the lecture, "Empowerment of Rural Women Through the In-calf Heifer Project," Fredrick Samanya (Uganda) will speak about the promotion of various efforts by the government of Uganda to empower women in rural areas. The proposal suggests that rural women's horizons need to be widened in all aspects of development in order to enable positive development for women.

Helen Hui-chen Wei-Lao (China) will give a lecture titled, "Gender Equality in Cleaner Production and the Women for the Environment (WEN) Network," that will discuss the importance of managing the environment to ensure gender equality and the improvement of women's roles in society. Focusing on the implementation of the Cleaner Production (CP), the project will emphasize the reduction of environmental emissions; effective resource utilization; and active participation of women.

Under the title, "Vegetable Farming, Gender Empowerment and Soil Fertility," Gana Pati Ojha (Nepal) will introduce a sustainable livelihood program. The goal of the project is raising income; improving soil fertility; and empowering women. She will show how the growth of the market economy has improved women leadership.

Woo-joo Chang (U.K.) will discuss the dedication of Korean women activists to nature through, "Performativity in Caring for Nature: Women's Practice in Korean Consumers' Coopertives for Organic Materials." She will discuss the core values rooted in women's activism, examine the ecological awareness of the Korean women activists, and analyze the way in which Korea's environmental women activists "politicize" their environmental care work.

by Soo-hyun Kim

June 20, 13:00~14:30 at Hak-kwan rm. 901

Speakers: Sung-sook Lee (Korea), Chonghi Yu (Korea), Sun-hee Lee (Korea), Mun-hee Kim (Korea), and Hee-ju Kang (Korea)

Under the title, "Korean Women's Movement and Politics of Prostitution; Preventive act of Prostitution in Korea," Sung-sook Lee (Korea) from Yonsei University will go over the present status of prostitution politics in Korea. The main issues are threefold: the characteristics of the Korean women's movement; the results of prostitution policies; and prostitutes' revolts against infringement on their human rights. Opposing the Korean prostitution Act, Lee argues that decriminalized prostitution will benefit prostitutes and contribute to achieving gender equality in Korea.

Chong-hi Yu (Korea) will give a lecture titled, "New Policy on Prostitution in Korea" and discuss the laws laid down by the Korean parliament to eliminate prostitution and human trafficking. The "Act on the Punishment of Procuring Prostitution and Associated Acts" and "Act on the Prevention of Prostitution and Protection of Victims Thereof" was passed by the Korean parliament in 2004. Regarding this, Yu will examine the government's policy on prostitution in detail and how the realization of the violation of women's rights through the law has changed the lives of women who were victims of prostitution.

Under the title, "Korean Sex Workers' Voices," Sun-hee Lee, Mun-hee Kim, and Hee-ju Kang (Korea) will present the current situation of Korean sex workers. In order to urge Korean women leaders to listen to the voices of those who suffer from the ratification of the Act, the sex workers will stand in public for the first time in Korea to discuss their general problems, economic sufferings, and problems of the making of sex worker organizations.

by Eun-joo Lee

Focus on Female Artists of "Fantastic Asia"

June 20-23, 10:00~18:00

Entrance fee: 3,000 won

Sungkok Art Museum

The theme of this year's Women's Art Festival is "Asia Women Sexual Fantasy," reflecting an increasing interest in Asian women's culture. The third Women's Art Festival: Fantastic Asia will be an arena where current ideas about cultures, nations and sexualities may be analyzed in view of forming a new discourse for the future.

Famous Korean artists, Hwa-yong Kim, Sang-hee Song, Ji-a Chang, Eun-young Jung, Ji-eun Cho, Kong Queen, Taey, and other foreign artists from various Asian countries will participate. Their artworks will attempt to deepen understandings of Asian women and of sexuality as a socially embedded phenomenon. Workshops evaluating the quality of artworks will occur and speeches will be given by female scholars, as well as



Princess said/2004/Single channel DVD by Ji-a Chang. The princess is measuring the saliva that has spilt into her lover's mouth and the tears she shed after separation.

by the artists themselves. Participants also have the chance to watch movies relating to the theme and view a photographic exhibition portraying women and their sexuality.

The contents of sexuality consist of the customs of society about sex, sexual trends, identity, desire, and politics. Fantasy is a concept that makes us question the opaque

interval between reality and unreality, natural and supernatural. Thinking about women's sexuality and sexual fantasy is to expose both social and power relations. In Asia, the multilayer of patriarchy and capitalism influence women's bodies and sexualities that often lead them to suppress their desire or face cultural challenges. Authority's control over the issues of sexuality such as menstruation, pregnancy, child birth, abortion, contraception, lactation, maternity, appearance, sexual desire, sexual violence, prostitution and pornography often push women into silence. Issues pertaining to sexuality are not typically dealt with in public spheres, and even if they are, they are normally not done so from women's point of view.

This festival attempts to identify problems related to sexuality and to shatter distorted interpretations of sexuality by presenting women's perspectives on such issues through their words and art.

by Tae-yeon Kim

Topics of 20 Sub-themes in WW05 at a Glance!

1. Globalization

The process of globalization has both activated and victimized women's roles in different areas worldwide. The dual character of this phenomenon has aroused women to react to its effects. This reaction, for better or worse, ultimately alters their living standards, and furthermore, their positions in society. This section will analyze these effects.

2. Gender Identity

Though uncertain, the foundations of human identity lie partly in the construction of gender identity, which has been deeply affected by the gender-role stereotypes construed through learning in the earlier stages of life. Through research, feminists work to reconstruct stereotyped gender identities which will lead to the proper development of human identity and resolve gender-role conflict.

3. Family and Everyday Lives

Everyday life is based around the family, and encompasses the basic needs in life, such as food, clothing, and shelter, which differ depending on the individual's cultural background. Gender equality, violence, and women's roles in a family are important issues to discuss and examine.

4. Sexuality

Sexuality in feminism is examined to define women's sexual identity, and covers a wide range of topics, ranging from birth and reproductive technologies, pleasure, to psychoanalysis and post-modern feminism. This session will include discussions on the socio-cultural formation process of sexuality, historical changes in perceiving sexuality, sexuality in cyber space, and other related issues.

5. Gender and Religions

This session will deal with issues from various traditional religions. It involves both text-based and practiced religions and will also discuss issues dealing with historical, philosophical, theological, sociological, anthropological, and psychological textual analysis related to gender and religions.

6. NGOs and Activism

This session examines the relationship between theory and practice of women's movements in each country. Further discussions on the economy, forming political organizations, violence against women, and connection of regional and global women's movements will follow.

7. Environment and Agriculture

This session will deal with environmental and developmental issues around the world. It will mainly focus on "sustainable development" and will discuss the following: promotion of policies for women in rural areas, gender and natural resource management, gender and sustainable development, etc.

8. Gender and Science, Technology

This section will cover issues in the field of science, technology, and medicine. These include: women-related education and training, career development policies and support systems, activities, and consuming, all in the areas of science, technology and medicine.

9. Gender and ICT (Information Communication Technology)

This section will spotlight efforts to build an information society with gender equality. Some issues include: policies to relieve gender digital divide, capturing digital opportunities, gender sensitive ICT training, and human rights. The aim is to examine how women can actively participate in the information society.

10. Culture and Creativity

This section will discuss the development of women's culture through female imagination, passion, and action. It will cover the aspects of eco-friendly earthwork, literature, film, and music, citing the traditions of art history and constructing communities in cyberspace.

11. Gender and Media

This section will evaluate gender and media with research in three specific areas: the producer, text, and receiver of mainstream media, those of alternative/feminist media, and research related to the Internet and cyberspace.

12. Peace, War and Conflict

This section discusses the effects of regional conflict and anti-American nationalism due to American retaliation to the Sept. 11 attacks. It also deals with military conflicts caused by racial nationalism, and will address matters concerning women and the military, national security, peace and conflict resolutions, etc.

13. Economy, Work and Welfare

This section deals with labor-related topics including the discrimination of gender and affirmative action. The panel will also discuss the impact of neo-liberalism on women's labor and lives as well as women's welfare policies.

14. Law & Human Rights

This section will discuss gender equality before the law, in the law, and through the law. Some of the subjects include: the positive laws in each country, legal education, and the internationalization of human rights law in the UN and EU, etc.

15. Politics and Good Governance

Contrary to traditional views, globalization and local politics have affected women greatly. This session includes research that aims to find a new government framework, comparative research on the rights of women around the world, challenges women face regarding "security" and good governance, and research that promotes women's rights and interests.

16. Women's Studies

Research on theory construction, methodology and new perspectives will be the main focus of this section. The growth of women's studies, its recent trends, and its influences will be examined. Men's studies and theories in women's studies regarding East-West and North-South will also be specialized.

17. Women's Health and Sports

Women have unique physical and physiological characteristics that influence their health. This session will examine sports for maintaining good health in all ages. Sub-topics include women's health issues, women's activities and gender inequality in sports.

18. New Paradigms for Alternative World

"Anything Goes!" defines this section, as it focuses on "new" ideas. The changes and challenges faced by women require feminist scholars and practitioners to encourage newer ideas on living conditions of women and men.

19. East-West/North-South

Geopolitical divides between East and West, North and South will be examined concerning history, politics and economy. The possibility of transcending, dismantling and reforming those borders will be analyzed as well. This session welcomes diverse topics related to East-West and North-South.

20. Global Agenda in Asia

In this session, women's issues specific to Asia's different localities will be discussed. This will be followed by a discussion regarding transnational characteristics and regional distinctions which needs transnational cooperation in Asia for efficient solutions.

WW05 Tour Program: Trailing the Traces of Korean Women's Hidden Secrets in Herstory



Tourists will leave Seoul, (clockwise) see Jindo folk performances, mysterious Sea Road and encounter women of the Haenam region.

Women's Worlds 2005 (WW05) offers more than a series of presentations – it also offers the opportunity for participants to become acquainted with Korean culture and history through a variety of packaged tours. Unlike most tour programs, however, the tour packages on offer have been designed by the WW05 committee and focuses on presenting the lives of Korean women through the exploring of historical remnants and sites.

These special programs will concentrate on visiting places and sites that give insight into the lives of Korean women in the past. 'Her Story Tour in Seoul' which will be conducted by Seoul Women's Foundation (SWF), will take visitors to Changgyeong Palace, the majestic residence of many Korean queens, and Jongmyo, the tombstones of women royalty of ancient times. "Because WW05 partakers are highly interested in women's issues, the WSF planned a tour program that will most effectively show the ancient Korean queens' lives in a vivid manner," said Jung-eun Choi, a member of staff at SWF.

The package with the theme 'Women and Creativity,' arranged by Alternative Culture, provides an opportunity to engage in a more modern women oriented tour. This tour has been planned from the point of view that women who are often regarded as objects of

consumption, are creative subjects. It is a journey that questions why it is only women such as Helen Keller and Florence Nightingale who feature in biography books and searches for the life stories of creative women buried in history. In this trip, poet Jung-hee Goh will be the medium in linking creative women with their creativity. Poet Goh led an active writing career and was a passionate social activist for women's liberation movements. In search of Goh, the tour will take visitors to her hometown, in Haenam. Programs such as cloth dyeing and women's cultural festivals will attempt to boost participant's creative sides as well. Jindo Ari-rang and Ssitgimgut, part of Southern women's cultural heritage which sublimates the pain and suffering of life into ritual song, will be performed for tourists.

Another attention-grabbing tour program is a travel course that follows historical sites of Korean women's spiritual culture embedded in Buddhist practices. Korea is one of the few nations where the tradition of women's Buddhist practice still exists. Amazingly, Korean Bhikkunis (female monks) have maintained the unique tradition, culture and identity of Buddhism in a society that has been discriminatory against women. The focus of this trip will be on the rich Buddhist culture of Korean women and their tradition

of pilgrimage.

All participants and accompanying persons can register for tours at the Tour Desk at the conference venue from 8:30-18:00 every day from June 19 to 24. More information about the specific courses and prices regarding the tours will be found on the tours Women's World website, http://www.ww05.org/english2/program_04.htm

by Rhie-young Lim

<List of WW05 Tour Program>

◆Half Day Tours: Palace and Museum (DT01), Traditional Market Place (DT02), Temple in Seoul (DT03), Footstep of the Empress Myeongseonghwangu (DT04)

◆Full Day Tours: Suwon Tour (DT05), Art Museum and Gallery (DT06), Ganghwado Island (DT07), DMZ (Demilitarized Zone) Tour (DT08)

◆Night Tours in Seoul: Korean Traditional Art Performance (NT01), Nanta Performance (NT02), Dinner with Korean Traditional Art Performance (NT03), Walker Hill Dinner Show (NT04)

◆Post Conference Tours: The Ancient capital of Shilla Kingdom – Gyeongju (2D1N), Jeju Island – different face of Korea (3D2N).

Creating Unity between Practitioners and Researchers

Member and former Vice-Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Representative of the Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan, and President of Korea Women's Hotline, Hei-soo Shin is known as a leading figure of women's rights activism in South Korea. During WW05, she will play various roles in a number of sessions: chair/moderator for the first Invited Speakers Panel titled "Women's Human Rights and the Global Agenda – How Women Have Used the International Human Rights System" on June 20; speaker for "Armed Conflict, Violence and Justice: from sexual slavery to the ICC" for the Plenary Session on June 21; and chair/moderator for the sub-theme session "CEDAW and Women's Human Rights" on June 22. As the titles of her panel sessions suggest, rallying against sexual slavery is just one of the various activities which decorate her career of standing up for women's rights. In an interview conducted a month before the opening of the congress, Shin shared her views concerning activism in women's rights, Korean women's rights, and her hopes for this year's IICW.

Q: During WW05, you will moderate a panel session under sub-themes related to NGOs and activism, particularly against sexual slavery. Are there any particular results you are hoping for?

A: As a coordinator, I selected that particular panel topic because I thought it would be good in providing a comprehensive field in which to discuss women's rights. The speakers who will participate in the panel are from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and North America, and some are both activists and theorists. Others are those who participated in rallies in front of the Japanese Embassy for the human rights of women who were forced into military sexual slavery. I hope that, by illustrating and discussing the situation with former "comfort women," speakers from various backgrounds will get a taste of activism for women's rights. I'm also hoping that panel participants can join the rally against atrocities committed by the Japanese military on sex slaves during World War II, which takes place June 20 during WW05.

Q: Many people see "activism" and "research (academia)" as two different spheres within feminism. As a leader of an NGO, how do you think "activism" and "academics" should connect during



Hei-soo Shin

WW05?

A: Because the feminist movement took root in practice and not in theory, "Women's studies" and "Feminist activism" are inseparable fields of feminism. Personally, however, I hope more people who work in NGOs participate in this year's congress, because usually in gatherings like these it is researchers or scholars who fill the seats.

Though the official English name for WW05 was decided on as the "9th International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women," and not on "Women's Studies," it is unfortunate that in Korean the title is translated as "Women's Studies." This may cause unnecessary misconception on the part of Korean NGO activists, and decrease what could have been a higher participation rate.

However, I think it is imperative that WW05, overall, plays the role of a meeting place for people who mainly work as activists and those who work as theorists. The sub-theme I will moderate under, "NGO and Activism," is focused on finding ways for fields of academia and activism to cooperate.

Q: From an NGO Activist's standpoint, how is the 9th IICW significant compared to other congresses?

A: I believe the significance of this year's WW05 lies in "networking." The last IICW in Uganda focused less on networking; thus, not many people who research and people

who work in NGOs were able to connect with each other. This time, I hope that not only these two parties, but those working within similar fields will connect with each other as well. The point is to find solutions to limitations that people in each field of work experience. I hope this congress will be an opportunity for NGO employees to express the frustration they receive while working, such as lack of time and resources. I know that there are many people in the academic field. It would be best if more researchers and scholars could participate in campaigns.

Q: What do you think should be modified before the actual congress?

A: I think this congress will be a financial burden to some people — NGO activists, in particular. They could lower the costs of booths and registration for these people.

Q: What problems do you think should be modified during the actual congress?

A: As in all large congresses for women, the participants speak well and actively voice out important issues. Yet, I believe one has to participate with an open frame of mind, or they will not be able to get as much out of this opportunity as they should. Generally, since this congress is the first to be held in Asia, I especially hope participants will gain a wider and more comprehensive view of the current situation concerning women's rights and feminist movement and studies.

Q: What are your personal expectations?

A: From my point of view, problems concerning former sex slaves are important issues that all IICW participants should know more about. I hope a lot of people will watch the movies about military sexual slavery that will be shown during congress. Most importantly, I am hoping many IICW



Shin leads a rally in front of the Japanese Embassy for women who were forced into sexual slavery in WWII.

participants will sign a petition for the rights of former military sex slaves. There will be a demonstration for the human rights of "comfort women" held worldwide on August 10, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of WWII. Hopefully during the IICW there will be people who are willing to participate or lend a signature for the cause.

by Sook-young Park



"Global Agenda in Asia" will be held as the 20th sub-session of the 9th IICW from June 20 to 23 at the Ewha-POSCO Building.

Young Feminists Rediscover Asian Identity

"What do you think it is like to live in Asia as a woman?," "What does "Asia" mean?" are two of the many questions Asian feminists are attempting to answer. For those young feminists who are involved in the analysis of feminism in the Asian context, the WW05 offers a welcomed sub-theme session titled, "Global Agenda in Asia." Each session deals with problems and questions that many feminists, especially in Asia, encounter.

Ga-ram Kang, Program Coordinator of the sub-theme program, "Global Agenda in Asia," also known as "Young Feminists' Forum," explains how it was planned and organized: "People who prepared this theme are basically young feminists. While preparing for the WW05, the Asian Center for Women's Studies thought of using this opportunity (WW05) to support young feminists, and in November 2004, students in their master's and doctorate courses and activists from various nongovernmental organizations including the Unninet network, WAW, and Beautiful Store gathered to develop an independent sub-theme focused on the thoughts of the rising generation."

The program, "Global Agenda in Asia," consists of five panel sessions and one workshop, under the themes of "Queering Asia," "Asian Lesbianism Video Activists," "Thinking Feminisms in Asia," "Women, beyond 'Family Line,' toward Feminists Line," and "What Makes Asian Women Want to Travel to Asia."

The experimental and new thoughts and analyses relating to current issues will be introduced in the program. For example, in Panel 1, "Queering Asia," lesbian identities,

which are traditionally understood and accepted in the eyes of the Western culture, is newly interpreted in the Asian context. Introduction of serious inquiries on the status of women is scheduled as well. During the fourth panel session, speakers will question the reality that a woman is regarded only as a member of a family, rather than as an independent individual. Woo-jung Kim (Korea) will read a paper "Women, beyond 'Family Line,' toward Feminists Line," which focuses on the recent repeal of Hoju-system, Korean social registration system.

The workshop session will be a good chance for exchanging participants' own thoughts and experiences on how to live as a feminist, make money and work efficiently. Moderated by Ji-hye Joh from Unninet network, Korea, the free discussion in small groups is planned.

Compared to their predecessors, younger generation feminists have been brought up comfortably. According to Kang, most young feminists were able to come to terms with their femininity naturally, without the painful experience which their seniors had to suffer. On the fertile soil made by their seniors' sweat, the young feminists could develop their ideas on the field more freely. Kang says, "This forum is a great opportunity to express our gratitude and how well we have grown up. Through this program, we wish to share what we think and do, and to hear comments from general participants."

To maintain a balance of perspectives, feminist scholars in the field have been invited to act as moderators for each session, while nominating the young as speakers. Kang says, "We hope participants will be

inspired and take this opportunity to develop new movements on women issues, through networking with fellow scholars and activists. The center's primary goal is to provide a good chance to activate the network between feminists." Having this objective, the "Global Agenda in Asia" will convene until 23.

by Chae-gyung Jun

Panel 1 Queering Asia

Ewha-POSCO Building P23 (#454)

June 20 14:45 ~ 16:15

Panel 2 Asian Lesbianism Video Activists

Ewha-POSCO Building P23 (#454)

June 20 16:30 ~ 18:00

Panel 3 Thinking Feminisms in Asia

Ewha-POSCO Building P03 (#B 152)

June 21 14:45 ~ 16:15

Panel 4 Women, beyond 'Family line,' toward Feminists line

Ewha-POSCO Building P05 (#253)

June 23 13:00 ~ 14:30

Panel 5 What Makes Asian Women Want to Travel to Asia

Ewha-POSCO Building P05 (#253)

June 23 14:45 ~ 16:15

Workshop: Being Feminists, Doing Feminism(s): How can we make continuous and various trials possible as feminists?

Ewha-POSCO Building P05 (#253)

June 23 16:30 ~ 18:00



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1. Exhibition booths are installed between the Student Union and Alumnae Building (Morris Hall).

2. Volunteers post direction signs on the ground on the way from the front gate to the Welch-Ryang Auditorium (Daegangdang).

3. Over 1,500 participants and organizers sit in Gyeonghuigung Palace for the Welcoming Festival.



3

4. A volunteer puts up posters at Mary Hall, Sogang University, for the side event "Feminist Video Activist 2005." The event was organized by the Video Activist Group IGONG and will be held from June 19 to 24.

5. Volunteers stand at the Information Booth located on the first floor of the Ewha-POSCO Hall.

Photo by Yoo-mi Park, Ji-sun Kim

4



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