



NEWSLETTER

Korean Transportation Association in America

Vol. 36, No. 1, January 2025

President's Message

Dear KOTAA Members:



Happy New Year!

On behalf of the KOTAA team, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all attendees of the 2025 KOTAA Annual Meeting. I wish each of you a year filled with good health and happiness.

I am excited to share some significant updates from this year's Annual Meeting. Building on last year's record-breaking Travel Grants, we are proud to announce that KOTAA will be providing another record number of Travel Grants to outstanding students in the field of transportation and pavement engineering. A special thanks to the Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) and the Korean Society of Transportation (KST) for their generous support, which has made this initiative possible.

In addition to the Travel Grants, I hope that all KOTAA members will have meaningful and enriching experiences at both the KOTAA Annual Meeting and the TRB conference. May this gathering serve as a source of inspiration and excitement for everyone involved.

Wishing you a productive and rewarding year ahead!

Sincerely,

Sung-Hee (Sonny) Kim

17th President of KOTAA

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Current KOTAA Executive Officers

President

Sung-Hee Sonny Kim (University of Georgia)

Vice-Presidents

Kate Hyun (University of Texas - Arlington)

Kyungsoo Jeong (National Renewable Energy Laboratory)

Auditors

Bumsik Kim (Texas A&M Transportation Institute)

Heejeong Kim (University of Arizona)

Secretary

Jooneui Hong (University of California, Irvine)

Younghun Bahk (University of California, Irvine)

Treasurer

Samgyu Yang (University of Central Florida)

Uibeom Chun (University of Central Florida)

Webmaster

Hyunjun Hwang (University of Texas at Austin)

Advisory Member

Seri Park (University of Nevada, Reno)

KOTAA Annual Meeting 2025

Date/Time: January 5th, 2024 6:00 - 7:30 PM (EST)
 Location: Walter E. Washington Convention Center
 (Room 201), Washington, D.C.

2024 KOTAA Participants Status

A total of 139 KOTAA members attended at the 36th KOTAA Annual Meeting in January 2024.

Status	U.S.	Korea	Others*	Total
Professional	25	20	3	48
Student	22	69	0	91
Total	47	89	3	139

Status	U.S.	Korea	Others*	Total
Professional	18%	14%	2%	34%
Student	16%	50%	0%	66%
Total	34%	64%	2%	100%

* Includes Canada

2024 KOTAA Meeting Summary

Membership dues:

Professional (\$35/year), Student (\$15/year)

2024 KOTAA Membership Fee Report

	\$0	\$ 15	\$ 35	Total
Professional	1	0	47	48
Graduate	4	83	0	87
Undergraduate	4	0	0	4
Total amount	0	\$1,245	\$1,645	\$2,890

2024 Travel Grant Summary

Award	Number	Total
Travel Grant & Best Service Awards	52	\$ 10,400.00
Reimbursement	4	\$896.00

KOTAA Financial Status

Fiscal Year of 2024	
Revenue	110,092.01
Balance from FY 2023	64,125.91
2024 Membership	2,890.00
Donations from Members	1,784.00
Donations from Institutions	18,487.78
Financial Investment	22,804.32

Expense	-19,486.42
2024 Travel Grant (Part)	-4,400.00
2025 Travel Grant (Part)	-1,100.00
2024 Meeting Reimbursement	-896.00
2024 Annual Meeting Dinning	-5,507.35
2025 Annual Meeting Dinning (Part)	-4,718.75
Membership Dues for KSEA	-1,420.00
Website maintenance fee	-58.49
2024 Tax Refund Accountant	-200.00
Administration Expense *	-1,185.83
Balance as of 12/28/24	90,605.59

* Includes international wire transaction fee, PayPal transaction fee, and KOTAA TRB Annual Meeting Preparation

Monthly Dividend from Financial Investment

To enhance KOTAA's financial status, KOTAA continued to invest in equities and ETFs throughout 2024, following the decision made by executive officers. The following tables summarize the status of the investment in ETFs in 2024

Month	Monthly Dividend
Jan	\$ 2.55
Feb	\$ 0.00
Mar	\$ 0.00
Apr	\$ 5.73
May	\$ 0.00
Jun	\$ 40.64
Jul	\$ 7.62
Aug	\$ 0.00
Sep	\$ 0.00
Oct	\$ 6.77
Nov	\$ 0.00
Dec	\$ 37.76
Total	\$ 101.07

Earning from the Financial Investment

Date/Year	Investment Value
12/28/2023 (a)	\$ 5,595.00 (= \$3.73 x 1500 shares)
	\$ 1,068.00 (= \$10.68 x 100 shares)
	\$ 26,407.80 (= \$258.90 x 102 shares)
	\$ 1,512.00 (= \$15.12 x 100 shares)
	\$ 4,118.60 (= \$411.86 x 10 shares)
	\$ 3,610.00 (= \$36.10 x 100 shares)
	\$ 1,041.36 (Cash & Cash Investment)
12/28/2024 (b)	\$ 10,230.00 (= \$6.82 x 1500 shares)
	\$ 820.00 (= \$8.20 x 100 shares)
	\$ 44,029.32 (= \$431.66 x 102 shares)
	\$ 1,694.00 (= \$16.94 x 100 shares)
	\$ 5,225.60 (= \$522.56 x 10 shares)
	\$ 3,004.00 (= \$30.04 x 100 shares)
	\$ 1,154.16 (Cash & Cash Investment)

Total Earning = (b) - (a)	\$22,804.32
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Donations to KOTAA in 2024

Donations from Institutions

Donation Level	Institution	Donation
Diamond	KSEA ¹	\$9,365.00
	KST ²	\$5,000.00
	KUSCO ³	\$3,000.00
	KOSEN	\$1,122.78
Total		\$18,487.78

¹ Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association

² Korean Society of Transportation

³ Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center

Donations from Members

Donation Level	Name		Donation
	Last	First	
Gold	Lee	Hosin	\$1,000.00
Platinum	Park	Byungkyu (Brian)	\$200.00
	So	Jaehyun	\$165.00
Others	-		\$419.00
Total			\$1,784.00

Note: Only Members with donations more than \$100 are presented in the table.

KOTAA Travel Grant

Beginning from year 2002, KOTAA has awarded Travel Grants to Korean graduate students attending the TRB meeting from all over the world. Through this grant, KOTAA wishes to encourage Korean students for their study as well as to enhance technical understanding and relationships for their future career development. The students shown in the following are the year 2025 KOTAA Travel Grant recipients. Prizes of \$100 along with award certificates are presented at the 2025 KOTAA Technical Meeting.

2025 KOTAA Best Presentation Awards

- 1 Eunseo Ko, Hongik University
- 2 Gyeongjae Lee, Hongik University

2025 KOTAA Travel Grant Recipients

- 1 Hyewon Do, Seoul National University
- 2 Nuri Park, Hanyang University
- 3 Jooneui Hong, University of California, Irvine
- 4 Songha Lee, Hanyang University
- 5 Jeric Taehyung Kim, Seoul National University
- 6 Geonmin Kim, University of Seoul
- 7 Eugene Lee, Ajou University
- 8 Kwangho Baek, University of Minnesota
- 9 Eunseo Ko, Hongik University
- 10 Geunhwi Park, Hanyang university
- 11 Taeyun Kong, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- 12 Yichan An, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- 13 Eunhan Ka, Purdue University
- 14 Kihyun Kim, Hanyang University
- 15 Woowon Kim, Hanyang University
- 16 Hyunhwa Kim, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- 17 Youngseo Kim, Cornell University
- 18 Nayeon Kim, Chungbuk National University
- 19 Huichang Lee, Seoul National University
- 20 Seungeun Choi, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 21 Yoojin Park, Hongik University
- 22 Jaesik Choi, University of Texas at Arlington
- 23 Yongwook Lee, University of Alberta
- 24 Inkyu Jeon, Texas A&M University
- 25 Yongsung Koh, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- 26 Youngdae Kim, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
- 27 Eunjung Kim, Seoul National University
- 28 Jeonghoon Jee, Hanyang university
- 29 Garyoung Lee, Georgia Tech
- 30 Haneul Park, Ajou University
- 31 Yeji Sung, Hanyang University
- 32 Hyunjun Hwang, The University of Texas at Austin
- 33 Sungyeon Park, Purdue University
- 34 Yeonghyeon Lee, Chungbuk National University
- 35 Hongjae Kim, Hanyang university
- 36 Chaekyung Soo, Hanyang University
- 37 Hojae Kim, KOTTA
- 38 Dain Oh, Ajou University
- 39 Songmi Paek, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- 40 Jahyeong Koo, Seoul National University
- 41 Juyeong Kim, Ajou University
- 42 Seunghyeon Lee, Seoul National University

- 43 **Seungjun Choi**, The University of Texas at Austin
- 44 **Seungjae Lieu**, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 45 **Gyeongjae Lee**, Hongik University
- 46 **Donggyu Min**, Seoul National University
- 47 **Jinmun Kwon**, University of Seoul
- 48 **Gijun Lee**, Seoul National University
- 49 **Euijin Lee**, Seoul National University
- 50 **Jaeun Jung**, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology
- 51 **Geongyu Min**, Seoul National University
- 52 **Jahun Koo**, Hongik University

2024 Best Service Awards

- 1 **Samgyu Yang**, University of Central Florida, Treasurer
- 2 **Jooneui Hong**, University of California, Irvine Secretary
- 3 **Hyunjun Hwang**, The University of Texas at Austin, Webmaster
- 4 **Uibeom Chun**, University of Central Florida, Treasurer

Member News

- Dr. Heejeong Kim has been honored with Women of Impact award by the University of Arizona Research, Innovation & Impact
- Dr. Kyeongsu Kim was appointed as a Transportation Specialist at Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Dr. Bumjoon Bae was appointed as an assistant professor at Pusan National University
- Dr. Haesung Ahn was appointed a faculty member at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCTI)
- Dr. Bumsik Kim was appointed as an assistant program manager at Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)
- Dr. Seungwoo Ham was appointed as Researcher Fellow at National University of Singapore (NUS)
- Dr. Dawoon Jeong was appointed as Principal at Coupang Logistics Services

Join in KSEA

[KSEA](http://www.ksea.org) was established in 1971 to help Korean-American Scientists and Engineers develop their full career potential. KOTAA, as an affiliation of KSEA, encourages its members to join in KSEA. Please refer to www.ksea.org.

Let's Use KOTAA Website!!!

Please visit our KOTAA website (www.kotaa.org). It has been upgraded! We welcome any ideas/comments to improve the website or postings of useful information. If you are interested in contributing to any part of the web contents, please feel free to contact our webmaster (hjhwang@utexas.edu).

[Linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com) is an on-line professional network. In addition to KOTAA website, [Linkedin \(linkedin.com/company/KOTAA\)](https://www.linkedin.com/company/KOTAA) will play a role to connect us and share information. Please visit the website and add you and invite people to connect.

Send any comments or suggestions to our secretary, **Jooneui Hong**, at secretary@kotaa.org