

ICKL-HISOKL Merger Document Signed

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To: ICKL@lists.ucla.edu <ICKL@lists.ucla.edu>;

Cc: ssmkuno@outlook.com <ssmkuno@outlook.com>; Ik-Hwan Lee <ihlee@yonsei.ac.kr>; kimrenau@gwu.edu <kimrenau@gwu.edu>; Sangoak Lee <sangoak2@gmail.com>; David J Silva <provost@salemstate.edu>; Jun, Sun-Ah <jun@humnet.ucla.edu>; James Yoon <jyoon@uiuc.edu>; Alan Hyun-Oak Kim <alanhkim@siu.edu>;

1 attachments (506 KB)

ICKL.HISOKL.Merger.Signed.072616.pdf;

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to report to you that the merger between the Harvard-ISOKL (Harvard International Symposium on Korean Linguistics) and the ICKL (International Circle of Korean Linguistics) has become effective as of July 27, 2016. The merger document, signed by James H. Yoon and Alan H. Kim on behalf of H-ISOKL and ICKL, respectively, is attached.

We express our sincere gratitude to the leaders of the two linguistics groups, including Professors Susumu Kuno, Ik-Hwan Lee, Sun-Ah Jun, and Young-Key Kim-Renaud, who made this possible, and in particular to Professor David Silva for his time and efforts in drafting the merger document. Many thanks go to the leadership members of the two groups who participated in the entire process of discussing, reviewing and finalizing the merger document.

Sincerely,

James H. Yoon and Alan H. Kim

As a supplementary, some brief remarks on how the merger was initiated and conducted may be in order for future reference.

- The eventual merger between the two organizations began as a consequence of unexpected changes in the 19th ICKL presidency. Professor William Idsardi's (University of Maryland) sudden resignation of his presidency of the 19th ICKL in **Feb.21, 2014** necessitated a response from the ICKL Council. The Council nominated and elected Professor Sun-Ah Jun of UCLA as the 20th President of ICKL (expected tenure March 2014-summer 2016). The ICKL operating paper stipulates that a president must host a biennial conference during his/her tenure. Conventionally such a biennial conference has been given during the president's final year of tenure, which was in an

even-numbered year. Since there was no ICKL conference in 2014, having an ICKL conference in 2016, the final year of Prof. Jun's tenure, would mean there will be a 4 year gap between ICKL conferences (the most recent one was in 2012 during the tenure of Prof. Silva). Advised by Prof. Kim-Renaud, Prof. Jun had decided to host an ICKL conference in 2015 during the LSA Summer Institute where she was scheduled to teach. Professor Jun realized that if an ICKL is held in July 2015, that would conflict with the biennial conference of Harvard International Symposium 2015. (Traditionally, Harvard ISOKL and ICKL alternate their biennial conference – ICKL in an even year and HISOKL in an odd year.)

- To avoid this problem, Prof. Jun contacted Prof. Emeritus Ik-Hwan Lee, a leader and one of the founding members of HISOKL, and proposed to have a joint conference of ICKL and HISOKL in 2015. The ICKL Council, Professor Young-Key Kim-Renaud, in particular, was ardent in this solution. Prof. Ik-Hwan Lee, after consulting members of the Executive Committee of HISOKL, agreed to co-host the conference, and proposed Prof. James Yoon of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign as a representative of HISOKL.
- **2015 Joint Conference of ICKL & Harvard ISOKL, held on the University of Chicago campus, as one of the satellite conferences of the 2015 LSA Summer Institute, was highly successful.**
- Given that the next ICKL meeting will be held again in the odd year, 2017, Professor Sun-Ah Jun discussed a possibility of merger between ICKL and HISOKL with various people at the business meeting during the Chicago conference, including Professor James Yoon of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the newly elected ICKL President Alan Hyun-Oak Kim of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The success of the Chicago joint conference made it easier for people to consider the merger of the two organizations of Korean linguistics. Professor Young-Key Kim of George Washington University, at President Alan Hyun-Oak Kim's request, approached Professor Susumu Kuno of Harvard University, who started the HISOKL together with Prof. Ik-Hwan Lee. Professor David Silver of Salem State University (the 18th ICKL president) prepared a draft of merger document at the request of President Alan H. Kim. The merger draft was reviewed by the leadership of both parties through internet communications. There were a series of rigorous discussions about the title of the new merging organization and the decision was reached by the majority of voting on March 21 to adopt ICKL without modification. (The results were 7 voted yes with 1 opposition on the part of HISOKL and 12 voted yes with 1 opposition on the part of ICKL).
- The document of the merger agreement was scheduled to be signed by James Yoon representing for HISOKL and Alan H. Kim for ICKL on April 27th, but it was cancelled due to the latter's unexpected hospitalization just prior to the arranged day. Signing took place electronically on July 27th between the two representatives.
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Alan Hyun-Oak Kim, President

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