KNA Holding 77th General Meeting
Professor Kyung-Rim Shin elected as 33rd President

Korean Nurses Association (KNA) held its 77th Regular General Meeting under the topic of “Advancement of Nursing Education to Develop National Health” in Seoul last February 18 to 19 to deliberate and decide on 2010 business and budget plan. Professor Kyung-Rim Shin, Dean of Division of Nursing Science at Ewha Womans University was elected as the 33rd President to lead the association for the coming two years (middle of the picture). Two running mates, Yong-soon Kim, Dean of College of Nursing at Ajou University (left) and Ho-ran Park, professor of College of Nursing at Catholic University of Korea (right) were elected as first and second Vice Presidents respectively. Also 8 directors and 2 auditors were elected. President of the nurses of the hospital and president of Seoul city nurses were confirmed to be committee member vice presidents as stipulated under the Charter of KNA.

Active Pursuit to Hold 2015 CNR in Seoul
Application submitted to ICN

KNA has applied to hold 2015 Council of National Representatives (CNR) and Conference for International Council of Nurses (ICN) and started preparations to hold the event. Application form to hold 2015 CNR and conference in Seoul has already been submitted on May 26, 2009, and ICN official visited Korea for onsite inspection in February 2010. Sixty years have passed since Korea joined ICN, and with experience of successfully holding ICN Seoul General Meeting in 1989 as well as managing various international events. David Benton, Secretary General of ICN who had visited Korea to conduct onsite inspection as an applicant country for holding 2015 CNR of ICN attended the opening ceremony of 77th General Meeting and expressed his congratulations. Secretary General David Benton mentioned that he “congratulates the holding of general meeting of KNA on behalf of President Rosemary Bryant of ICN and board of directors, and hopes that new ideas and solutions will be presented for the development of nursing profession and improvement of quality of nursing service.”
National Interest on the List of ‘33 Nurses’ who Contributed to Korea’s Independence

KNA, honoring the righteous lives of independent activist nurses
Media shedding new light on the role of nurses

As the list of 33 nurses who lived righteous lives of sacrifice for Korea’s independence during Japanese colonization has been found along with their major activities, it is causing huge commotion and interest in Korea. The participation of Korean nurses in independence movement started with the March 1, 1919 movement. After the March First Movement, the first women’s organization for independence movement was formed to proceed with a more well-prepared independence movement. They also actively participated in raising funds to support costs for national independence fighters and provisional government activities. KNA commemo rated the designation of nurse Ja-hae Park as an independence activist in July 2009 by holding a commemoration ceremony on 15th of July to honor nurse Ja-hae Park. Also, the media is showing much interest in shedding light on the Korean nurses who engaged in independence movement. Major broadcaster MBC TV broadcasted on August 11, just prior to August 15, the Independence Day a documentary on nurse Ja-hae Park as a special feature. Also, major news media Dong-a Daily printed an article explaining the activities of Korean nurses who participated in independence movement in detail as a lead story on the second page. From this list of 33 nurses who contributed to Korea’s independence, KNA plans to continue to identify independence activist nurses to honor and spread their patriotism and righteous lives.

“Nurse” Selected as a Job Trusted by Koreans

’Sista Journal’ a major current issues weekly magazine in Korea requested Millward Brown Media Research to survey 1,000 adults nationwide to conduct a telephone survey on July 21, 2009 to ask what jobs Koreans trusted and nurses were selected as the second most trusted job. First place was taken up by fire fighters with 92.9%.
KNA’s ‘2009 Nursing Policy Declaration

“Build Healthy Republic of Korea through Advanced Nursing”

KNA held a ceremony to declare its 2009 nursing policies and showed its determination to build healthy future for Korea through advancing its nursing system. The event was held at 63 Building in Seoul on December 3, 2009. Many national assembly members attended this ceremony to encourage nurses and promised to help to develop policies to promote national health. As President Shin declared nursing policies to promote national health and nursing advancement, the banner with the vision to build a healthy Korea through 100 years of nursing history written was shown to the public. Four major agendas were also presented with the vision. They are all national citizens have the right to be nursed by qualified nurses, advanced nursing starts from unified four years of nursing education; Korean nursing will establish the international standard for nursing; and, health and safety of patients can be ensured by complying with the legal personnel requirement for nurses. KNA also announced its 7 major agendas and 30 sub-agendas selected by collecting opinions from nurses on field and city organizations. 7 major agendas are: improvement of working environment and conditions; improvement of imbalance in supply and demand of nurses; enhancement of medical service competitiveness; improvement of elderly citizens nursing and insurance system; improvement of position of professional nurses; unification of four years of nursing education; and developing Korean nursing to become international standard. City organizations and other sub-organizations will focus on explaining these nursing policies and challenges by visiting local governments, central government bodies and national assembly members, etc. A performance of ‘Growing Tree of Hope for Nursing Policies’ were also shown during the declaration event. Leaders of the nursing industry wrote various ideas on policy challenges and solutions on pieces of paper and hung them on the Hope Tree in the hall. Photo exhibition showing 100 years of nursing history divided into different themes were also shown.

and National Health and Welfare Forum of National Assembly. Booths were installed around areas with high floating population to educate on methods to wash hands and prevent the influenza. Apart from this, KNA also performed free-of-charge treatment and voluntary activities to prevent the influenza for homeless people jointly with social contributive organizations where 13 welfare and medical organizations belong to.

Women Consumer Organization and led by Ministry of Gender Equality pursued to practice green life. ‘G-Korea’ is a nationwide campaign to build hopeful Korea through Green Life. Getting Jon and Giving Hope, and President Lee Myung-Bak and First Lady Kim Yoon-Ok also attended the launching ceremony to encourage the participants.

KNA, Signed Share Care Treaty
KNA signed an agreement of cooperation with Share Care that is campaigning to share books and computers on December 3, 2009. Two organizations will actively collaborate to practice sharing and caring that cover cultural, sentimental and economical values.

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Interview with President Kyung-Rim Shin of KNA

“A Proud History of 100 Years for Korean Nurses. We will Design a New History of 100 Years”

Education - Division of Nursing Science at Ewha Womans University - M.A. at Columbia University, U.S. M.S. of Nursing Education at Columbia University, U.S. Ph. D of Nursing Education at Columbia University Career - Currently Professor at Division of Nursing Science, Ewha Womans University - Currently 1st Vice President of Korean National Council of Women - Currently Director of National Health Personnel Licensing Examination Board - Dean of Department of Health Science of Ewha Womans University - Director of External Affairs, Ewha Womans University - President of International Council of Women’s Health Issues President Kyung-Rim Shin, re-elected to lead KNA presented “a proud history of 100 years of nursing, and a future plan for the coming 100 years” with the motto of policy direction and core strategies to be developed. President Shin announced her commitment to focus on promoting the position of nurses to be properly valued in our society. “I will focus on legislating minimum wage standard for nurses and improving working conditions, including compliance with personnel requirements specified under law to ensure the rights of the nurses and national citizens to receive proper nursing services. I will also work towards preparing the framework for unifying 4 years of nursing education. I also plan to pursue the construction of Nursing History Memorial to enable our national citizens to breathe and experience the 100 years of nursing history.” It shows her determination to further accelerate her efforts based on her government activities made during the 2 years as President. President Shin emphasized the importance of realizing creative welfare for its members and to guarantee rights of nurses systematically and under law. “KNA will be reborn as an association guarding the rights of nurses in realistic term by constructing creative welfare system closely linked to actual livelihood. We plan to establish a system combined with credit and consumer cooperatives.” President Shin also added that she wanted to “build a world where nurses feel safe, happy and proud to be a professional nurse” and that she “will do her utmost best to keep the promise with association members.”

Gather Opinion by Holding Various Discussions
KNA had focused its efforts in the last year to informing the necessity and validity of improving nursing system and policies and to forming a public opinion. Public hearings on diverse nursing policies were opened jointly with national assembly members to discuss on various issues including the introduction of re-registration of health personnel license, strengthening of requirements for establishing nursing schools, development of various work type under the precondition that the position is permanent position, improved childcare support and improved working conditions, promotion of reemployment of nurses, and introduction of replacing military duty with working for male nurses to form national consensus and collect opinions. Efforts were also focused to improving nursing related insurance costs which resulted in increasing house visit fees and maternity nursing fees from 2010, and hospitalization fees have also increased to ensure sufficient number of nurses at recuperation hospitals.

1st Korea-China-Japan Nursing Symposium
The First Korea-China-Japan Nursing Symposium was held from August 18 to 21 in 2009 hosted by Chinese Nurses Association at Beijing Conference Center under the topic of “Insufficient Nursing Personnel and Countermeasures”. President Kyung-Rim Shin of Korean Nurses Association, Chairperson Lishuuhwa of Chinese Nurses Association, and President Setsuko Hisatsune of Japanese Nurses Association agreed to develop a project cooperated by the three countries which resulted in this symposium. The conference of three countries will be held annually with 2010 symposium held in Japan and 2011 symposium held in Korea.

Leading the Campaign to Prevent H1N1 Influenza
KNA launched nationwide campaign to prevent H1N1 influenza jointly with 5 major welfare organizations of Korea.