

Good Morning,

I am Myung Jhon, the organizer of this US-Korea Forum from the US side. Today, I am extremely pleased to welcome the 34 presenters, and many other esteemed guests to this fifth US-Korea Forum on Nano-biotechnology. This symposium is sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Science & Technology (MEST) of Korea and National Science Foundation (NSF) of USA. Along with the efforts from Carnegie Mellon University, Korea Institute of Science & Technology Information (KISTI), Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center (KUSCO), and Korea Nano Technology Research Society this U.S. - Korea Nanoforum is marking its Fifth anniversary. It is my great honor and pleasure to address you on behalf of organizing committees. We heartily welcome all the participants from US and Korea for this Forum.

Let me give you a very brief history of these Forums. At the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Commission for Scientific and Technological Cooperation held on Oct. 31, 2002, both governments agreed that the MOST (termed as MEST from last month), and the NSF should jointly hold a Forum on a regular basis starting in 2003. And, as an outcome of their decision, Dr. Lee and I, along with Dr. Mike Roco had organized the 1st Forum at Seoul in 2003. This Forum provided a platform for exchanging information on the recent R&D status, and created an excellent opportunity for cooperation in nanotechnology among the experts from both countries. Since then, the successive three Forums have dealt with topical issues including the design and characterization of nano-materials, devices and systems in various areas including nanomanufacturing, educational program, active nano devices & systems, and sustainable nano energy.

This fifth Forum held at Jeju island deals with the emerging area of nano-biotechnology with emphasis on novel nano-biomaterials, device/instrumentation/sensors to overcome critical challenges in biomedicine and delivery of healthcare as well as their environment, health & safety (EHS) and toxicity issues. With a broad spectrum of nano-related areas covered in the previous forums (both at fundamental and application levels), this forum will complement the previous forums.

I am convinced that it is of deep significance for us to hold this Forum by fusing nanotechnology and biotechnology which opens a new scientific and technological paradigm in the twenty-first century. By presenting expertise of each speaker and intensively participating in today's technical seminars we will create a framework for fruitful discussion sessions in subgroups tomorrow. During subgroup discussion, you will be delivering important outcomes for both countries which include identification of key technology, strategy for mutual collaboration, educational program enhancement, promotion of exchange of young scientists, and generation of other novel ideas.

Although, I am an outsider in the field of nano-biotechnology, we all know there are plenty of applications and potential impacts that nano-biotechnology will have on human health and environment, and I am particularly pleased to be organizing this Forum with eminent scientists and engineers sitting in the audience.

We will have 12 outstanding oral presentations from US participants and nearly equivalent number of Korean participants as well as 12 poster presentations from both the countries. U.S. keynote speaker Dr. Roco could not join us today however; he spent extra effort to come to Jeju island and will give a keynote speech tomorrow morning. We have a keynote speech from the Korean side today by Dr. Moon immediately following this opening session.

I hope that this Forum will be a great success and that all the participants here will be able to exchange information candidly with one another and accomplish results which will be beneficial to both countries and mankind in general. I hope you enjoy your trip at Jeju Island and safely return home. I would like to conclude my speech by expressing my deepest gratitude to the Korean organizers and all the staff for their great efforts in bringing about this Forum and ensuring its success.

Thank you very much.

Myung S. Jhon