Fulbright Letter of Affiliation

September 5th, 2015

Dear Fulbright Selection Committee:

I am a Professor of Contemporary Korean History in the College of Humanities at Seoul National University, specializing in the Korean War and post-war Korean development. I have agreed to offer Ms. [Redacted] an affiliation with our department for one year, if she is awarded a Fulbright Research Grant.

Her chosen dissertation topic - the cultural transformations of Korea over the last century and their impact on Korea's political stability - fits well with my own work on modernization and nationalism in post-independence Korea, and I would be happy to work with her as she gathers evidence and develops her arguments further. Over the course of the year, I will hold regular meetings with [Redacted] to assess her progress and further develop her research strategy. I will also help introduce her to other Korean historians at SNU and other universities conducting research on related topics. If departmental resources allow, I will arrange to provide a space for [Redacted] to work here in our department.

Since [Redacted] is a political scientist and not a historian, we can both benefit from exchange and collaboration between our two disciplines. Because [Redacted] research deals with tracing the origins of cultural change over time, it will require a deeper training in historiography and archival research than political science typically offers. I can help her in this regard, while showing her how to use the archives and other historical resources at SNU. In addition, as the Director of the Research Team for Contemporary Korean Oral History at SNU, I can help [Redacted] access existing oral history archives and also introduce her to Korean oral history researchers, who can help to train her in oral interview techniques. As a political scientist and an American, [Redacted] can bring a fresh set of eyes to the research going on in our department and perhaps offer a different perspective.

I am looking forward to mentoring [Redacted] next year and observing this project as it develops.

Best Regards,

[Redacted]

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