

## **AAPA President's Welcome Message**

Welcome to the 6th annual conference of the Asian Association for Public Administration (AAPA) in Xi'an, China on January 9-10, 2015. The 1<sup>st</sup> inaugural conference of AAPA was held in Tokyo in 2010, followed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Jakarta in 2011, the 3<sup>rd</sup> in Hong Kong in 2012, the 4<sup>th</sup> in Seoul in 2013, and the 5<sup>th</sup> in Cebu in 2014.

The main conference theme of the 2015 AAPA meeting is "Reform, Innovation and Sustainable Development in terms of Asian Research, Theory, and Application." Its sub-themes include: (1) how to push administrative reform and realize its aims; (2) innovations in the private and public sector; and (3) sustainable development from organizations, regions to countries. This year's conference brings together an international community of public administration professionals, scholars, and graduate students to learn about major theoretical and practical issues in public administration around the world and specifically in Asia.

The Asian Association for Public Administration (AAPA) was established in 2010 with the aim to expand and improve public administration and public policy by fostering excellence in research, education, and practice in the Asian region. Prior to it, a number of Asian scholars formed the Asian Management Forum and had annual meetings since 2001, which paved the way for the establishment of AAPA. Asian public administration has now become more prominently featured on the world stage so that a need to demonstrate a world-class quality of public administration in Asia to all levels of actors and stakeholders has become apparent.

Therefore, I strongly believe that AAPA can provide great opportunities for networking with scholars and practitioners, as well as scholarly activities that will encourage the development of new professional relationships in the field of public administration in Asia and the rest of the world. Once again, I thank you for your participation and contributions to AAPA. Your continuous support and dedication have ensured AAPA's influential role in public administration for many years to come. Let us promote excellence and professionalism in public administration and policy in Asia together!

*Pan S. Kim*

Pan Suk Kim

President, Asian Association for Public Administration (AAPA)