UTSA’s East Asia Institute Presents
“The Future of KOR-US Relations”

3/26/13- The East Asia Institute (EAI) will welcome Ambassador Suk-bum Park, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Houston who will present “The Future of KOR-US Relations” on Tuesday March 26, 2013. A public lecture will be held from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in Business Building 1.01.15. This event is free and open to the public and paid parking is available in the Bauerle Road Garage. See UTSA map http://www.utsa.edu/maps/pdf/UTSA-Campus-Map-2013.pdf.

In this lecture, Amb. Suk-bum Park will highlight recent major events, milestones and developments that affect the Korea-U.S. relationship to illustrate the importance of reinforcing the Korea-U.S. collaboration for the future. The topics will touch upon the swearing-in of the 18th President of Korea on February 25, the significant marking of the 60th Anniversary of the Korea-U.S. Alliance, the second year since the implementation of the Korea-U.S. FTA, and gauging progress and prospects of the relationship between Korea and the U.S., as well as between Korea and Texas.

Amb. Park received a bachelor’s degree in Economics from Korea University in Seoul. He received a diploma in International Political Science from the International Institute of Public Administration in Paris, France. Park has held numerous positions that allowed him to build and promote relations with Korea on an international level. His past positions include Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Iraq, and Director-General of
International Economic Affairs for the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade among others.

Based on GDP, Korea’s economy is ranked 13th in the world. Their economy is also ranked 8th compared to the rest of the world in both exporting and importing. Korea is an important trading partner for the U.S. and for Texas specifically. Partnership with Korea continues to grow with the help of the recently passed Korea-United States Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA).

The Korean Consulate General in Houston serves Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. Their mission is to promote the relationship between Korea and the aforementioned states especially in the areas of trade, cultural awareness, and exchange programs.

UTSA East Asia Institute’s mission is to promote appreciation and understanding of East Asian societies and cultures both on campus and in the community through research, outreach, networking, education, student/faculty exchange, and business development and cooperation. The East Asia Institute organizes seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, film festivals, visual art exhibitions as well as hosting performing arts groups from China, Japan, Korea, and other Asian nations. It also encourages faculty research collaborations both within UTSA and with participating East Asian university researchers.

For more information on this event, please contact the East Asia Institute at 210.458.4943, eai@utsa.edu, or see the EAI’s homepage at http://www.utsa.edu/eai.