Yongmin Kim  
President  
*Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH)*

**What is your favorite Madison/campus memory?**  
Some of my favorite memories on campus include State St., drinking beer at the Union, and football and hockey games which I had season tickets to. Another fond memory was getting married in May of 1976.

**What has helped you achieve success in your career?**  
Education has helped me achieve success in my career. I believe the masters and PhD that I received from Madison provided a firm foundation for the rest of my career.

**Outside of class, what experiences did you find most meaningful?**  
Outside of class I had research advisers that gave me flexibility and the freedom to fail which I learned a lot from. With this chance to learn from my failures I learned what it takes to be an independent researcher.

**What excites you about the future of Engineering?**  
30-40 years ago no one imagined how things would transform. 20-30 years from now may be very different; that is the nature of Engineering: it is indispensable in creating the new future.

**Besides engineering, do you have another passion you have pursued or would have liked to pursue given the time?**  
When I was younger I had to decide between a career in the medical field, law, or electrical. After committing to electrical though I had no regrets. One passion of mine is research which allowed me to approach medicine through the engineering side of things. In my career I have developed patents for medical devices.

**Who was an influential peer/professor from your time at UW-Madison?**  
Professor Willis Tompkins and John Webster were both BME advisors that influenced and motivated me. Chuck Keim who worked on computer architecture was also influential.

**What are you most proud of in life? What is your greatest achievement?**  
I’m very proud of my two children and the 150+ graduate students that studied under me at the University of Washington - Seattle. It was a great achievement to see the students become leaders in their field. I’m also proud of the 80 patents that I have in medical and commercial products.

**What would be your advice to current students? What do you wish you had known?**  
Aim high, dream dreams, take risks, dare to be different, don’t be afraid of failure, tackle the seemingly impossible, face the risk. If you work toward something for 10-20 years you will get it.