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**Former Prime Minister of South Korea to Lecture at Colorado College**

# Nakyon Lee to discuss why nuclear negotiations with North Korea have failed

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – May 10, 2023** *–* Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Nakyon Lee will present a lecture entitled “A Realistic and Pragmatic Approach for Denuclearization and Peace on the Korean Peninsula” at Colorado College on Friday, May 12 at 10:30 a.m. in McHugh Commons at the John Lord Knight Apartments located at 1090 N Cascade Avenue.

Lee will first meet with CC President L. Song Richardson for a fireside chat then she will introduce the former prime minister at the lecture. The visit is being arranged by Colorado College Professor Jiun Bang, who teaches courses in international relations and Asian studies. Bang says the topic is of great interest to her students and that hearing directly from a foreign dignitary can make a big impact on their understanding of international relations.

“Reading about policy can never fully replace the experience of hearing firsthand about policy from someone who was involved in its very making,” Bang said.

From 2017 to 2020, Lee served as the 45th prime minister of South Korea and dealt directly with the constant threat posed by North Korea. Lee negotiated with the country about its nuclear weapons program and other security issues. Reflecting on his extensive experience dealing with North Korean security challenges, Lee has identified the key reasons why previous attempts to negotiate with North Korea have failed.

Lee will share rare insights into the U.S.–South Korean Alliance and the important lessons that must be learned by policymakers to build a lasting peace in East Asia. Lee will suggest “realistic and pragmatic policy recommendations” that are necessary to build a well-defined, long-term roadmap to reduce threats and build peace in East Asia.

Lee is currently a visiting scholar at the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies, where his research focuses on the peacebuilding process on the Korean Peninsula. His lecture is sponsored by the Colorado College Department of Political Science and is open to students, faculty, and staff. It is not open to the public, but media are encouraged to attend.

**About Colorado College**

Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. In 1970 the college created the Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,300 undergraduate students take one class at a time in intensive 3½-week segments. A Master of Arts in teaching degree also is offered. The college’s vision is to ignite students’ passion and potential to create a more just world. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu.

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