## Plans for ICCF17 Announced



A s reported in *IE* #96 ("Overview of ICCF16 in India"), a delegation of researchers from South Korea attended ICCF16 in India and expressed interest in hosting the next ICCF (International Conference on Cold Fusion/Condensed Matter Nuclear Science). While the conference series was on rotation for a North American location, the International Advisory Committee of the event felt strongly that Korean interest in the field was more than enough reason to accept Dr. Sunwon Park's offer to chair ICCF17.

Dr. Park, a professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), announced in July that ICCF17 will take place at the Daejeon Convention Center (Daejeon, Republic of Korea) from August 12-17, 2012. Co-chair of the organizing committee will be Dr. Frank Gordon, formerly of SPAWAR Systems Center's Navigation and Applied Sciences Department (San Diego).

Weekly Skype meetings are being held amongst the organizers. Dr. Gordon noted, "We are both excited and very optimistic that ICCF17 has the potential to have a very significant impact on the status of this field. It has been more than 20 years since Fleischmann and Pons announced their discovery and a lot has happened since then. Thousands of



Dr. Frank Gordon and Dr. Sunwon Park, co-chairs of ICCF17.

experiments have confirmed the production of excess heat beyond what can be attributed to chemical means, transmutation to tritium and other elements that were not present in the original cell, and production and measurement of nuclear ash ranging from soft X-rays to gamma radiation and high energy particles. At the same time, translating the experimental results observed in the laboratory into applications has lagged behind. The current claims by Andrea Rossi about his E-cat have yet to be demonstrated to satisfaction, but whether he's right, wrong or someplace in between, he has reinvigorated interest and many groups are now exploring the nickel-hydrogen (Ni-H) system, producing results that we anticipate will be presented at the conference."

Hosting ICCF sessions requires much effort and funding. Dr. Park added: "We encourage people to start making plans now to attend. There is considerable broad-based support to host this conference in Korea. This is demonstrated by current fundraising efforts to keep the costs down for attendees. For example, the city of Daejeon committed \$30,000 to cover the costs of the Daejeon Convention Center where the conference will be held. In addition, hotels have established special conference rates ranging from \$60 per night to \$120 per night depending on accommodations requested. Air transportation costs to Seoul are comparable to costs between Europe and the U.S. Daejeon is the home of KAIST, which was identified by Asiaweek in 1999-2000 as the number one science and technology university in Asia; it was ranked as 34th of the top 100 world universities in technology by The Times newspaper in 2008. Hosting of ICCF17 in Daejeon, Korea is a perfect fit."

There is clear indication that ICCF17 will have "a considerable increase in interest in the Ni-H system." Dr. Gordon noted, "By next August, more will be known about Rossi's Ecat, which will stimulate considerable discussion. The Daejeon Conference Center will hold up to 2,000 people so we are clearly able to handle increased worldwide interest."

The initial conference website, which will be updated as more details become available, is:

http://www.iccf17.org