

In Memoriam

Gill-Chin Lim, 1946–2005



Gill-Chin Lim, former dean of International Studies and Programs (ISP), passed away February 9, 2005 from injuries sustained in an automobile accident earlier that day. He was 58. Lim served as ISP dean from 1991 to 1995. In his faculty role, he was professor of urban and regional planning in the School of Planning, Design and Construction, holding an endowed chair as MSU Endowed Pro-

fessor of Asian Studies in a Global Context. He also directed the Program on Humanistic Globalization.

During his tenure as ISP dean, Lim provided intellectual leadership for international activities at MSU, oversaw a restructuring of ISP, and worked to establish endowments for all area studies centers as well as other units across campus. He also established the annual International Awards Ceremony. He was the founder of the Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP), an outreach unit for ISP and MSU focused on professional and cultural education for international professionals.

Lim had a life-long concern for poverty alleviation and the critical need for adequate housing. He was president and founder of the Consortium on Development Studies, chair of the Board of Trustees of Citizens for Decent Housing, copresident of the Korea Federation for Environmental Movement, and an adviser and consultant to a number of major international and national organizations. He was also chairperson of the Bilateral Trade Team for Michi-

gan and Korea under Governor John Engler. Later in his career, he was the founding dean of the Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management in Seoul, South Korea (1998–2001).

Educated at Seoul National University (BSE, MSE), Harvard (MCP), and Princeton (Ph.D.), Lim specialized in strategic planning, policy analysis, and governance. He published and lectured on topics of comparative development, housing, environment, planning and decision-making theories, and global education. He was the coeditor of the *Journal of Planning Education and Research* and an international adviser for the Environmental Impact Assessment Review. His published scholarly works consist of 31 books of which he was author, coauthor, or editor and a multitude of scholarly articles, book chapters, and published reports.

Lim was a devoted teacher who encouraged students to explore new areas of knowledge in global issues, development studies, and comparative and multidisciplinary studies. In the interest of encouraging the development of future scholars with global perspectives, he established an endowment to fund the annual Gill-Chin Lim Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Global Studies.

Lim advanced the discussion and debate about globalization and internationalization at MSU. He spoke often of the responsibility of every person to work to improve society, to recognize each person as an individual, and to help all people achieve their maximum potential. MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon wrote of him, “His special vision and unique work in Korea are embedded in the fabric of our international programs and we will benefit from the richness of his contributions for years to come.”

—Michael F. Miller