Speaker Profile

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Donghwan Kim received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Metallurgical Engineering from Seoul National University in 1982 and 1984, respectively, and Ph.D. degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Stanford University in 1993.

Before joining the faculty at Korea University in 1995, Dr. Kim worked as a research professor on a project on high-efficiency polycrystalline CdTe solar cells in Physics Department at Colorado School of Mines (CSM) for two years. The Project was granted by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and was by nature a joint work between CSM and NREL since the work involved an intensive characterization and evaluation of semiconductor materials and devices as well as processing.

Dr. Kim was a member of Sigma Xi, a society for achieved physicists, while he was at CSM. Since 1995 when he joined Korea University, Dr. Kim continued his research on various types of solar cells such as nano-hybrid solar cells. He became the President of Korean Photovoltaic Development Organization (KPVDO), a semi-government organization for planning and managing the National Solar R&D Program, in 2004.

Dr. Kim is interested in fabrication and characterization of compound semiconductor thin films and nano-structures such as CdS and CdTe primarily for solar cells. He currently is working on synthesis and measurement of polymer-semiconductor hybrid solar cells. In this type of work, understanding the role of the interface between the polymer and the nanocrystal and controlling the properties are very important. Application of thin amorphous Si layers to the surface of crystalline Si wafer to form a heterojunction is also a topic of his research work.