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Dr. Rhee received his BA from Seoul National University Law School, MBA from Rutgers University, and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. He is holding the K. J. Luke Distinguished Professor of International Banking and Finance. He is the managing editor of the ***Pacific-Basin Finance Journal***, a premier academic journal focusing on Asia-Pacific capital markets and financial systems. He is currently holding an adjunct professorship at Monash University (Australia) since September 2011 and a distinguished visiting professorship at National Central University (Taiwan). He also serves as External Academic Advisor for City University of Hong Kong for a three-year period from October 2014 to September 2017.

He serves as the president of the Asian Finance Association for a two-year period, 2014-2016. He was the founding president of the Pacific-Basin Financial Management Society, an academic association created to promote academic research on the region's financial and capital markets. He also served as a board member of the U.S. Financial Management Association. He served as Program Chair of the Annual Pacific-Basin Finance Conferences, 1989-1997 and of the Asian Finance Association Annual Meetings, 2010-2012. He served as the chairman of the Asian Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee (ASFRC) in 2004-2007. The ASFRC is a part of the Global Shadow Financial Regulatory Committees which include the committees of United States, Europe, Japan, Latin America, Australia/New Zealand, and Asia. The ASFRC is charged to identify and analyze developing trends and ongoing events in Asia that may affect the efficiency and safe operation of financial markets and the financial services industry. ASFRC translates concepts drawn from academic research into concrete policy recommendations.

He served as the dean (2008-2011) of the SKKU Business School in Seoul, Korea to initiate various reform programs to upgrade its research programs while he is on leave from University of Hawai'i. During his tenure, he successfully led the SKKU Business School to be accredited by the AACSB in 2009. He was Resident Scholar (1997-1999) of the Asian Development Bank. As Resident Scholar of the Bank, he spearheaded research programs on Asian financial crisis, mortgage-backed securities markets, and government bond markets. He was also involved with financial sector reform programs for Thailand, Indonesia, and Korea as part of the International Monetary Fund's support packages. He was a key member of the Bank team which created a regional economic monitoring program and this program eventually led to the creation of the Office of Economic Integration. He also served as a visiting research professor at the Hitotsubashi University (Japan), Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, University of Malaya, Renmin University (China), and National University of Malaysia. He was the Tun Ismail Mohamed Ali Distinguished Chair in Investment and Finance of National University of Malaysia in 2005.

His research has been published in numerous academic journals, including: ***Journal of Finance, Review of Financial Studies, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of International Money and Finance, Journal of Financial Markets, Journal of Accounting and Economics, Journal of Risk and Insurance, Journal of Empirical Finance, Journal of Financial Services***

Research, Journal of International Business Studies, Decision Sciences, Financial Management, etc. He has published over 90 academic papers and edited or authored 18 books on Asian financial markets.

Dr. Rhee was a founding member and board member of the Ohana Pacific Bank, which is a state-chartered bank and serves ethnic minority business communities (Korean, Chinese, Philippine, Viet Nam, and Indonesian) in Hawaii. The Bank has been in business since June 2006. He consulted for a number of international institutions such as Asian Development Bank, Asian Development Bank Institute, International Chamber of Commerce, International Monetary Fund, Mexican Ministry of Finance and Public Credits, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, U.S. Agency for International Development, Bursa Malaysia (formerly Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange), Jakarta Stock Exchange, and MIR Asset Management Ltd. of Australia. He received the 2001 Archimedes Award from University of Catania (Sicily) and Erasmus University (Netherlands) for his contribution to academic research on Asian capital markets.