

# The Argus

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## Decent Cultural Acts Provide Green Lives

Cultural acts are open to everyone and  
people should follow the trend of culture to activate lives



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES



# The Argus

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**Reportage** – The Argus participated in the Wednesday Demonstration, the protest for women drafted for military sexual slavery by Japan. Through the article, The Argus reveals the pain and situation of the victims.



**Round Talk** – The Society for Social Critique in Dept. of Philosophy weekly opens discussion with political issues based on fields of philosophy. The student in chief of the Society says philosophy does not only belong to bourgeois but it covers every piece of world functioning everyday.



## Cover Story

# Decent Cultural Acts Provide Green Lives

Creative capitalism, advance of nation, and cultureconomics have to become priority to economical development these day in South Korea. Many people assume that those are only settlements to almost everything. However, people nowadays do not feel happiness and comfort in living just because they have food to eat, clothes to wear, and shelters where they can sleep in. The thing that how much one enjoys culture is the criteria to measure one's quality of life nowadays. Art is no longer considered as just consumptions such as play and rest but it is now considered as criteria of social development and source of humane life. Such importance, however, it was not applicated to the people with little comfort. But their needs are not different from other people and they should enjoy just like other people.

### Are You Still Just Watching Culture?

People engage in creative activities in their everyday lives. These people are not professional, but they are involved in creative art. Here are some examples where programs like this are effective.

### Broadening Culture of Local Community !

In this article, The Argus visits a saxophone club, Bundang Neulpurun Saxophone Ensemble, which is a group of mid-aged people. When Korea considers mid-aged people as a busy breadwinner of one family, they show that how life enjoying culture develops quality of life.

### Sharing Hopes and Dreams

This article shows activities of an organization called "Aewon." Aewon is working on culture welfare to unprivileged people to make better world.

# The Way to a Mutually Beneficial World

Everyone is born with basic human rights. Everyone deserves to pursue what is right for his or her. Every person in a society should have the privilege of freedom, equality, justice, and the vote. Among the privileges people can pursue, the right to freedom is the most basic of all.

What do we mean, then, when we say having freedom as a right? We can define it as having free will about choosing what to do with our lives. However, in the sense of privilege, it deals more with social responsibility. The purposes of university presses are social responsibility signifying the freedom of the media, of publishing, and of assembly for everybody. When the freedom is guaranteed, it gives us the way to live as upright citizens of a democracy. These rights should be given to all people in the world. Isn't it obvious that these rights should also cover university life?


A university is there to provide good services to the students. The university is for the sake of the students. The university is a place where there should be respect for the students' voices. Therefore, as society has its presses, newspapers, magazines, radios, and broad casting stations which have their own characteristics, universities and university students also have their unique press outlets. In this viewpoint, the relationship may always be strained between the university presses and the university authorities. But I would darely like to say where the freedom of press is considered, what is more, the responsibility according to it could be followed.

It is said that a university press is for the students, by the students, and of the students. The student newspapers of a university represent not only the students, but the university itself, so there are two interests here that come together as one. University presses are not just ordinary *dongaris*. They are not even considered as those. The *dongaris* are clubs where students can pursue their mutual interests together in

the spirit of recreation, while the student-reporters of university newspapers have duties to the wider community. In society, the reporters work for the publisher and work to publish their papers or broadcast their news shows. Of course, there should be some rules between the two, but cooperating with each other is the most important thing.

A university, however, is in a slightly different situation than the larger society is. At a work place like a company, it is just work between the workers and the bosses. However, at a university, it's not just the matter between the university and its student press. The university has many other things to worry about, such as the students' welfare, how to improve the quality of instruction, funding for programs, and many other things. When the university asks the student reporters for some adjustments, it's not just to suppress the student reporters. Some reporters might think that the university's action is not understandable.

However, the faculty members in charge of making these decisions about the press are doing their jobs to make the press look good, to improve the details of the articles and finally help both the university and the students. It is not right for the students to think that the university is against what students are doing. Nevertheless, the university has to respect the students' right to responsibly express their opinions, and understand that the students want the same thing the university wants ultimately: a vital, open, and honest university where all are free to be involved in the open exchange of ideas so that we students can grow to be fully capable citizens to the betterment of our country and the world.

The job of the student presses, their editors, and reporters is promoting the basic right of freedom for everybody. 

Editor-in-Chief  
**Back Song-hyun**



# Things that Antibiotics Cause

Should scientists rely solely on antibiotics against bacteria?

**By Jang Ho-jun**

*Reporter of Theory & Critique Section*



**B**ritish tabloid magazine The Sun revealed that world-famous pop star Michael Jackson has been suffering from a nasal infection of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), a so-called super bacterium, or a germ that can resist all antibiotic treatment. Although Jackson revealed that this story was nothing but a rumor, the articles about his suspected disease put readers on their guard against super bacteria. In addition, the Seoul High Court ruled that hospitals and doctors are responsible for the consequences of patients consuming too-strong antibiotics that lead to a worsening of their illnesses. The legal developments showed that the war between antibiotics and bacteria is far from over.

Since Alexander Fleming discovered the first antibiotic, penicillin, in 1928 as a result of his carelessness as a lab technician, scientists developed antibiotics against a wide range of diseases, including pneumonia and tetanus. Soon,

however, germs resistant to antibiotics were continually being reported, and since then the medical world has been struggling to find new and stronger antibiotic agents. The appearance in the press of cases exposing some of the deleterious side-effects of antibiotics has cast doubt on the safety of this type of medical treatment.

Are antibiotics the only way to cure a bacterial illness? Although antibiotic therapy has been one of the most effective ways to beat germs, it seems that antibiotic medications show many more drawbacks than originally anticipated.

### Antibiotic Resistance

The elements of an antibiotic agent are usually microbes and the materials they secrete. These substances can be divided into three categories, according to their function. One type kills the germ by destroying its bacterial cell wall, another prevents the bacteria from multiplying by interfering with the synthesis of proteins that the bacteria need to reproduce, and the other kills the germ by interrupting the process of copying the genetic information that enables the bacteria to cause disease.

Repeated use of the same antibiotics, however, kills off weak strains of bacteria but in so doing facilitates the appearance of more resistant strains of bacteria. Since the remaining bacteria are the ones that were able to survive by having reinforced cell walls, by having special enzymes that they developed the ability to produce due to random mutation, or by acquiring the genetically encoded resistance through an organ called a plasmid, which enables the exchange of genetic information between bacteria, they are able to resist antibiotic attack and proliferate, causing disease once again.

Furthermore, many antibiotics have similar chemical structures, which means that a germ may appear with the ability to incapacitate several related medicines. This trait is called cross-tolerance of drugs. Many people mistakenly assume that they do not have to worry about drug-resistant pathogens if they take drugs only rarely. However, they can still experience problems when bacteria that can resist several types of antibiotics invade our bodies.

### Managing Resistant Pathogens

The Asian Network for Surveillance of Resistant Pathogens is a research group with



A researcher checks a test tube filled with germs after putting a small amount of antibiotic liquid.

representation from multiple countries in Asia for the surveillance of antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases in the Asian region in cooperation with World Health Organization. In Korea, the Division of Antimicrobial Resistance under the Korea National Institute of Health conducts research on resistant microbes, publishing data regarding the surveillance of them on the website of Korea's Center for Disease Control and Prevention. According to Antimicrobial Resistance division leader Lee Young-sun, "Although the process is slow due to the need to ascertain the reliability of the data, we categorize the traits of each bacterium and the antibiotics that are effective against it. Based on these data, we publish the guide to antibiotic therapy and distribute it to hospitals." Additionally, the institute of Culture Collection of Antimicrobial Resistant Microbes (CCARM) under the Korea National Research Resource Center (KNRRC) researches germs and antibiotics and then arranges the data on its website.

Yet there are serious inadequacies in Korean systems for the surveillance of bacteria. Congressman Yang Seoung-jo criticized the National Antimicrobial Resistance Management Program under the Korean Food & Drug Administration for not having satisfactory performance since 2003. He pointed out that the program investigated actual conditions and identified problems in the surveillance of bacteria without suggesting alternatives to solve

them. According to KNRRC President Lee Yeon-hee, "The program had existed for five years, and disappeared. The government provided an unreasonably minuscule budget compared to the number of institutes participating in this research, so we could not expect it to make smooth progress."

### Side Effects of Antibiotics

Numerous cases prove that antibiotics have adverse side effects on our bodies. The likelihood of such side effects occurring differs from one person to the next, but the possibility exists for any antibiotic. Allergic symptoms and anaphylactic shock are the most common side effects of penicillin. The famous TV program Consumer Reports revealed that several antibiotic ingredients in the pills for the common cold can cause a rare disease called Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, in which the sinews that bind skin to the body are ruptured and the body is stripped of its skin as a result.

In the U.S., there were 336 cases of this syndrome being caused by fluoroquinolone, an antibiotic that acts by interrupting the production of enzymes that prevent bacterial duplication. Due to this symptom, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) elevated the warning level of this medicine to "black-box," the highest level. A statistical report revealed that between 2004 and 2005 in the U.S., more than 140,000 people ended up in the emergency room because of the side effects of antibiotics.





Various kinds of resistant germs are researched in CCARM.

Fortunately, studies related to the harmful side effects of antibiotics have received more attention recently. KNRRC President Lee said, “Efforts to minimize the side effects of antibiotics are being undertaken at many research centers. Much research is under way on the protection of the lungs and kidneys from antibiotic substances and on the development of synthetic antibiotics that have a lower probability of producing harmful effects.”

### Overuse of Antibiotics

Most doctors know that overdosing medicine makes germs have resistance against antibiotics. Excessive use of antibiotics makes people develop a dependence on them, so that even if they get only a relatively mild infection, they need strong antibiotics to fight off the resistant bacteria. Another problem is that patients sometimes stop taking the prescribed medication early, against their doctor’s advice.

However, even though the visible symptoms of the disease have gone away, there remain innumerable bacteria in the patient’s body which can now multiply and launch a stronger attack. Both tendencies accelerate the growth of drug-resistant bacteria on the body. A graph from Korean Nationwide Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance shows that high rates of resistant bacteria like MRSA are observed in countries where it is possible to purchase antibiotics without prescriptions from hospitals.

Although antibiotics were developed to cure

human diseases, they have since been widely used for other purposes such as preventing diseases that are prevalent in livestock and promoting the growth of livestock and farm products. Over time, antibiotic substances accumulate in the bodies of animals and plants, damage their health, and enable bacteria to develop resistance to antibiotic treatment. Aside from this, the excrement of livestock that have consumed food mixed with antibiotics is used as manure and fertilizer on plant farms.

“Consequently, in this structure, these substances accumulate in the soil and damage the plants. Also, if these materials are discharged through sewage, they leach into the water that people use. As you know, there were many reports of scientists detecting antibiotic components in the four main river systems of Korea, and experts agree that it is not easy to filter these materials out with current water purification techniques,” said Choi Kyung-ho, a professor of Environmental Toxicology at the Graduate School of Public Health in Seoul National University.

### Research to Seek Alternatives


Research on the development of techniques for dealing with resistant germs is being performed worldwide. According to the Chosun Ilbo, one group in the U.S. reported that it was doing research on the killing of bacteria using a virus called a bacteriophage. The virus settles inside a bacterium, multiplies itself, and breaks

out of it by penetrating the cell wall. Experiments making use of both this virus and antibiotics showed that the laboratory mouse’s survival rate increased to 80 percent compared to using antibiotics only.

There remain significant obstacles to overcome, however, for this to serve as an effective alternative. Researchers agree that two major obstacles hamper the effectiveness of this type of treatment: discovering bacteriophages that fit each bacterium, and the human immune system from destroying the virus before it can kill the bacteria.

Other scientists insist that taking vitamin C is the best way to fight disease. In the 1950s, physicians such as William J. McCormick, M.D. and Frederick Robert Klenner, M.D. found that very high doses of vitamin C could be used safely and effectively, by itself, to treat viral and bacterial diseases and also allergies. McCormick wrote that vitamin C contributes to the development of the body’s own antibodies and the neutralization of toxins in the building of natural immunity to infectious diseases. Many experiments proved that vitamin C reduced the side effects of antibiotics such as allergic reactions and shocks.

### Time to Seek Diverse Methods

In the unending war between human beings and bacteria, microbes make fools of human researchers, quickly and tirelessly evolving and adapting to our most sophisticated methods of medical treatment. The most common way to get rid of those germs is to use antibiotics, as many people know. Unfortunately, plenty of research and case studies have shown that it can be risky to think that we can just rely on antibiotics. Wide-ranging studies and clinical trials can help protect us against bacterial infections. Individual and the government alike should take pains to use antibiotics properly, following the doctor’s directions and properly managing the use of antibiotics in the farming industry. It is also important to support the development of alternative therapies which can be used along with or instead of antibiotics. We may then find better ways of dealing with bacterial infections if we diversify our strategies for dealing with them. 

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# Think Philosophy Love

**By Jeon Seong-jin**  
*Reporter of Campus Section*

In "The Republic," the greatest of Plato's Dialogues, the characters discuss what a good nation should be, good social relations, and what is wisdom. The character, Socrates, leads the discussion about "original nature," where he speculated that even though someone is said to be wise and intelligent, he may not be wise and intelligent in fact. Karl Popper, a philosopher of the Vienna Circle in the early twentieth century, criticized this idea in "The Republic" fiercely.

Does this sound familiar? People today tend to fear being poor, being fired from their jobs, and suffering from disease because of the serious economic and environmental crisis. This fear makes people think less, love less, and feel less. Daily life is killing people inside. In this situation, where the challenge of day-to-day living is difficult enough, how can people even consider philosophy and think of the ideal state?

Still, some HUFsans are trying to consider the limits of human beings. They study the great books of philosophers, applying the ideas they find there to contemporary politics in order to understand why the world functions the way it does. The Argus had a chance to meet some of these students and ask them about their interest in philosophy.





**Argus:** *What is The Society for Social Critique? Could you talk about its purpose, the activities, and the subject?*

**Jung Chang-jo (Jung):** The Society for Social Critique is inspired by our studies in the Dept. of Philosophy. Because of this, we cannot help but examine the world through what we learn of philosophy. Particularly, the group studies the classics of the Greek philosophers, Plato and Aristotle. We look at contemporary politics through the ideas of the classics. Sometimes the members participate in activities of the Society of Western Classics led by Professor Park Hee-young of the Dept. of Philosophy.

**Na Yoon-jung (Na):** We search for functional principles of the world, and ask questions about those again and again. Through this task, the members of the Society are willing to carefully examine truth and principles. Also, we connect these with the matters of reality to ask why people dream, struggle, and study not so much TOEIC, but philosophy. For these methods, we use books like "Theory of the State," "Manifest der Kommunistischen Partei."

**Argus:** *What made you to join the Society?*

**Kim Jin-hoo:** A lot of questions flooded my mind, but I got more confused by them. I wanted to move my thinking in the right direction and I found that I could organize my thinking with philosophy. I also found that I could understand the ideas better in the discussions of the Society.

**Nam Hee-ji (Nam):** It was, I thought, desirable for us to get together and communicate each other. Reasoned arguments among HUFsians themselves are fascinating.

**Jung:** Actually, it was not my will to join this group. There were a couple of senior students who formed the Society, and I admired them very much and wanted to follow them, so I joined to be with them. Consequently, I became able to reason social concepts after I began to study with them. Reasoning the being myself became possible for me naturally. It is not absolutely perfect, but I can answer many more questions now than I could before. Gradually, I have come to think about life, politics, and the world with more logic.

**Na:** Philosophy is really difficult to understand and remember if you only work alone. Deciding to read those books alone is a huge agony. This club inspires and guides me to

read philosophy, and through the discussions, understand it more clearly. It also helps me a lot to study my major.

**Argus:** *Talk about the latest issue. What is it, and when did you discuss it?*

**Kim Dong-uk (Kim):** The latest issue we studied and talked about was "Philosophia Socialis" by Mapperson. This was our subject during last winter vacation at the Graduate School once a week. Particularly, we studied the work of Thomas Hobbes because he had different opinions from Mapperson. Both are focused on terms such as possession, social classes, and analysis. We approached these in the methods of academic research. We applied these concepts to actual principles to better understand how our society operates. There were several meetings between undergraduate and graduate students of the Dept. of Philosophy.

**Argus:** *A great number of people think that philosophy is too difficult to understand at a glance. Do you have any limits in studying Philosophy?*

**Jung:** We do not need the necessity to get that much financial support from the school for this activity. If there is something to study, think about, and discuss, that is fine all by itself. The members feel enjoyment about engaging in philosophy this way. However, the thing that matters is prejudice. Our name, the Society for Social Critique, scares people because we look at society up close. This comes from being unfamiliar with these ideas because people rarely think about them, and usually do not want to think about them. For those who do not want to examine society closely, our discussions can


be even unpleasant or disagreeable. I think this is a prejudice against thinking.

**Nam:** When my mother asked me what academic society I was joining, I told her I was joining this one, and she was not happy about it. She pled with me, "Be careful not to be arrested by police." This group sounds aggressive to many people. But it's just a discussion group.

**Argus:** *For those who may fear philosophy, please explain why they should not.*

**Na:** It's simple. Once you want to look at philosophy, just do it. Anyone can open the door. Philosophy is not a possession only for philosophers. Philosophy covers every day and the things you think of, dream of, and discuss. Anyone can think philosophically. Think of anything. That is philosophy.

**Kim:** If you want to analyze the world carefully and honestly, you have to see look at both sides fairly. Then a sound decision can be yours.

**Han Su-jin:** Anyone of us might have experiences in writing our own political opinions on web sites. Some people also have experience in joining a public gathering. I also have these kinds of experiences. Studying philosophy and politics at the same time, I have gained an eye to see through my city, country, and world. The study of philosophy helps a person make this process clear and sound. Once you want to think about something, you need to look at it logically. This is what we are learning as members of the Society for Social Critique. 

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Reading "The Republic" together, participants are discussing with their own counter points.

Jeon Seong-jin / The Argus



# We Shall Never be Defeated

The voices of women drafted for sexual slavery by Japan's military

By Park Hyun-chul

Associate Editor of Campus Section

“Japan’s government must apologize for the sexual enslavement of women by its Military!” shouted the small but vigorous band of Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (WSJ) at the Japanese embassy every Wednesday at a weekly demonstration to petition the Japanese government to address their grievances.

However, the Japanese embassy has not once responded to the group’s demands in 17 years. The Japanese government has denied wrongdoing on the international stage, possibly

in the name of preserving national honor or pride. The current Lee administration in Korea, more conservative than the former administration, has avoided making explicit references to the history of Japan’s colonization of Korea, as in the cases of the Dokdo dispute and the mistreatment of women by Japan’s military.

Especially on March 1. President Lee Myung-bak delivered a speech in which he focused not on the history of colonization but on the importance of having a good relationship with Japan. Most Koreans were angry about the Lee administration’s stance towards Japan.

However, many are upset not only because of

the painful memories of Korean women having been abused by Japan’s military but also because of Korea’s own national pride. Korean nationals have become angry at their government out of a sense of national pride. The Argus has followed the movement to demand that Japan’s government admit responsibility for abusing women to uncover and sympathize with their pain.

## Soft but Strong Voices at a Wednesday Demonstration

Every Wednesday, people gather at the Japanese embassy and demonstrate in a show of support for the demands of victims of sexual



violence at the hand of the Japanese military. When the reporter participated in the demonstration, some other participants who were victims of sexual violence by Japan military sought a formal apology of Japan government. However, the atmosphere of this demonstration was different from what this reporter had anticipated. Before joining the protest, the reporter thought that the demonstration would be serious and tense.

Yet most of the participants looked as if they were enjoying the protest. The faces of victims, most of whom appeared to be in their 80s, seemed not to be angry but at peace. The reporter wondered why this was so. When asked whether she felt uneasy about participating in the protest every Wednesday, one of the victims answered that although she did indeed feel uneasy and it was hard to protest against the Japanese government every Wednesday, she felt that she could work towards realizing her goal through her consistent involvement.

She added that most of the victims had been drafted into sexual slavery by Japan's military when they were only teenagers. At that time, Japan officials told the victims that they were being drafted as employees of the war materials factory in Japan's colonies. But when they actually arrived at their destinations, they were forced to work as the military's sexual slaves, according to an official of the Korean Council for Women Drafted into Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (KWSJ) who described the victims' sufferings. She added, "They were made into sexual slaves for Japanese soldiers, 5 to 50 of them every day. They also had lots of trouble because of the soldiers' violent behavior, punishing labor and sterilization forced upon them by Japan Military."

The ostensible purpose of drafting women into sexual slavery for Japan's military was to enhance Japanese army's morale. During World War II, Japan possessed many colonies in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. War crimes in the colonies, particularly sexual abuse by Japanese soldiers, raised anti-Japanese sentiment in addition to spreading venereal diseases. On the pretext of solving these problems, Japan's government drafted women from the colonies to serve as sex slaves, with 80 percent of the victims being Korean women.

Even after World War II ended, the suffering of the victims did not cease. Some victims could not return to Korea and others who could are still suffering from irrational prejudice. "At this



The sisters of the Daughters of St. Paul, a Korea convent, sing a song at the participants.

time, Korea's society was a patriarchal system in which women were judged by whether they were virginal and pure. Hence those who returned to Korea could not go home. They lived alone or had to be concubines. They had to endure a lifetime of distress," pointed out director of the bureau of the War and Women's Human Rights Center (WHC) Kim Dong-hee.

How could people enjoy anything after having suffered such unspeakable violence at the hands of the Japanese military, and facing further adversity and prejudice in their home country? General director of KWSJ Kang Joo-hye said that the group has gained hope through demonstrating. "Some people think that this demonstration is very grave or causes the victims to feel their wrath or sorrow acutely. However, the atmosphere of this protest is not sorrowful or vengeful. It is full of hope and pleasure. The victims feel hopeful when they are able to connect with people who shared this awful experience. This enables them to release their anguish. The event creates a happy, positive atmosphere at the Wednesday

demonstration," she added.

People from a wide range of backgrounds have participated in this demonstration. Not only international human rights activists but also foreign tourists have joined the protest. In the case of foreign tourists, they participate in it as a part of a tourist program because it is included in Korean travel brochures for foreign travelers. WHC curator Song Han-na said that most foreign travelers realized the seriousness of the victims' sufferings. She added, "Foreign tourists, even if they initially thought of the Wednesday demonstration as another tourist attraction, learned the truth of the history that the Japanese government has denied. In particular travelers who have realized that women drafted to be slaves by the by Japanese military live in their country have actively taken part in the movement to address the victims' demands."

One of the participants was a Japanese student. She had a chance to speak in front of the others about how she came to join the movement and express her thoughts about the victims' plight. She explained, "When I was a middle school student, I first learned about what happened to the victims. I couldn't imagine the pain of sexual violence which the victims suffered. So, I remembered crying because of their pain and sorrow." To help the movement for the victims, she decided to take up the cause of revealing the painful history about the women who were drafted into sexual slavery with the Japanese government's approval. "A number of Japanese didn't know this issue or didn't believe that there were really women who had been made to suffer such a cruel fate. My plan is to tell as many Japanese as I can about what really happened so that we can start to solve this problem," she added.

The sisters of the Daughters of St. Paul, a Korean convent, showed up for the 857th Wednesday Demonstration. On this occasion, they prepared and sang songs in support of the victims. Their singing of the Korean folk song Arirang tugged at everyone's heartstrings. It echoed the pain and sorrow of victims. By the end of song, tears had welled up in the victims' eyes. One of the convent sisters said to victims, "I wish the pain and sorrow of the victims could vent their spite through this song."

The participants held their Wednesday Demonstration at the Japanese embassy for over one hour. In this time, many people demanded a formal apology from the Japanese government. The Japanese embassy did not reply to their

demands. For 17 years, their government's attitude has not been changed. The chief of KWSJ said, "The Japanese government has put off their formal apology although the victims have born witness of Japan's guilt. But they are old enough that the government is waiting to bury the secrets of their sexual abuse when the victims die. Time will not erase Japan's imperial sins, so long as its government refuses to face the reality of its past."

### Earnest Desire, War and Women's Human Rights Center


On March 8, International Women's Day, a ceremony was held to mark the beginning of the construction of a museum of the WHC in the Seodaemun Independence Park. Though the victims of sexual violence by Japan military were glad at the establishment of the museum, some people were not glad. "How can a museum be put up in the Seodaemun Independence Park, a holy land for patriots? A placard to block the establishment of the museum and riot policemen positioned to prevent collisions at the Independence Park made for a tense atmosphere on this historic day. Who opposed building the museum to honor women forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military? Descendants of patriots who fought against Japan's imperialism. They agreed that the establishment of the WHC museum would teach descendants the truth of history. However, they emphasized that it should not be approved to build the museum in the Seodaemun Independence Park. Why were they against the establishment of a museum for victims there? The officials of KWSJ and other human rights activists said that the reasons for the patriots' opposition to the plan lay embedded in the patriarchal system that is alive and well in Korean society. In other words, they thought that the victims of sexual violence by Japan military did not deserve to be recognized

alongside men who fought against Japan.

A more fundamental problem is the difficulty of raising funds to build the museum. In fact, the Korean government has not supported the collection of funds to establish the WHC museum. Kim Dong-hee pointed out that the insufficiency of support by the government showed its passive attitude towards the problem of women drafted for military sexual slavery by Japan. "In 2004, the 17th National Assembly received the bill to establish museum for victims of military sexual slavery by Japan. However, the government obstructed the establishment of museum by refusing to foot the bill for it. So we are relegated to raising fund exclusively through private contributions." But private funding is far from easy to procure. Most business conglomerates avoided supporting the establishment of the museum because of existing ties to Japanese firms or out of a desire to avoid projecting an image that could be offensive or embarrassing to potential business links in Japan.

Although the total amount of private funding that the WHC has managed to raise has reached 700 millions won, this is not enough to complete building the museum. Nevertheless, the victims and their supporters are still hopeful. "When KWSJ and other human rights activists made the association to establish WHC in 2004, almost all the victims were pleased. However, when they heard that the money to build the museum for victims was insufficient, the victims themselves donated relatively small amounts of money, such as 5,000,000 won, to the association. In this way, the money to establish the museum has been gathered from many small but valuable contributions since 2004," an official of KWSJ said. Despite the fact that many of the victims are experiencing great financial hardship, they retain an earnest, heartfelt desire to support the establishment of the museum. Gil Won-ok, one of the victims of

the sexual violence perpetrated by the Japan military and a women's rights activist, emphasized the importance of WHC. "Some people think that we want to establish this museum is just for our own benefit. However, it is not just for us but also for you. By constructing the WHC museum, we can protect descendants from having to experience this pain by teaching them about what we had to go through," she said with tears in her eyes. She hoped that future generations could not commit the war crimes as the Japanese military did.

Victims and activists for these victims see the museum as a site of hope, as it can show and give voice to the victims' anguish and pain. However, to bring about lasting change the attitudes of people who may be resistant to the idea of constructing such a museum in economically difficult times, Koreans first need to be allowed to see history depicted accurately. KWSJ official Kim Dong-hee emphasized, "Most of all, university students should be concerned about this problem. Most of them are more interested in popular culture or love rather than social problems or historical accuracy. I feel that most of them are reluctant to concern themselves with these topics. They do have an accurate perception of Korea history. I want them also to be interested in the various social problems and make efforts to address them, and to support the campaign for women who were drafted for sexual slavery by Japan's military. If they participate in the Wednesday Demonstration or other program, these small acts could help us gain a more correct view of Korean history." In spite of the first ceremony marking the start of the museum's construction, conflict and indifference in Korean society continue to delay its establishment. 

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A victim prepares to participate in the Wednesday Demonstration.



The victims are requesting the apology from Japan at Japan embassy.



Victims and participants are having a conversation during the demo.





# My Dream, to be a World Citizen beyond Korea

**By Kim Sung-goo**  
Reporter of National Section

Underdeveloped and developing countries are marginalized in terms of their integration into the global economy under the control of more developed countries. Despite today's aggravated economic circumstances, there continue to be outpourings of international financial assistance towards the needy worldwide. South Korea received financial aid from foreign countries since becoming independent in 1945 up to 1995. Therefore, the government has assisted developing countries financially since 1963 in recognition of the great contributions from a number of international organizations in the name of the Official

Development Association (ODA). The Official Development Association Watch Young Professional (ODA Watch YP) in Korea is a non-profit organization that oversees the government's proper conduct of its affairs. The Argus met and interviewed Park Gyu-seop, a senior at Korea University and one of the third members of YP who has participated in the organization's activities since 2008.

**Argus:** Could you please tell us about the ODA Watch YP?

**Park Gyu-seop (Park):** In the first place, it is necessary to keep in mind that the ODA Watch is an independent organization that deals with the Korean government's foreign assistance policies for poorer countries. ODA Watch YP is just one of the three

This column is to introduce university students who voluntarily act on social movements for better society.  
...ed



Kim Sung-goo / The Argus

“I don’t think international affairs are irrelevant to Koreans. Every Korean should pay attention to what happens around the world as one of the world’s 6.1 billion citizens.”

Park Gyu-Seop, ODA Watch YP member in 2008

groups under the supervision of ODA Watch. The YP group consists of undergraduates and graduates who have great interest in global affairs. Originally the organization emerged to become an independent body from the International Affairs Community, Citizens’ Coalition for Economic Justice.

**Argus: How did you apply for the YP? I mean, what motivated you to join the YP despite being a university student?**

**Park:** When I was my third year of college, I joined the Global Student Union (GSU), a non-governmental organization established by university students in Seoul. I studied and had many discussions with its members about global issues such as poverty, human rights abuses, and climate change for one year. As a result of participating in these discussions, I became inspired to learn more about international affairs. I got to know about the ODA Watch YP thanks to a GSU colleague who introduced me to it. This colleague advised me that I should get involved in the ODA Watch YP if I truly want to concentrate on a variety of foreign issues as a student. I therefore applied without hesitation to take part in the YP group, because I believed that I must try to be educated practically by working with professionals who have a wealth of experiences in a wide-range of fields.

People often ask me why I am involved in such activities when they seem to have little or

nothing to do with my major, which is Environmental Science and Ecological Engineering. In response to this question, I would say it is a prerequisite for my life regardless of what I major in during my university years.

**Argus: What was your task or role at the YP?**

**Park:** When I started participating in the YP, I was assigned to the Monitoring & Evaluating team irrespective of my preferences. Hence, I did not expect to join in. My task was, as you might guess, to supervise and assess whether or not various government organizations were operating fully in accordance with ODA policies. I was personally responsible for overseeing The Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank), which is in charge of credit assistance. I visited the chief president of Korea Eximbank on a regular basis, asking him to open all financial disclosure forms for our review. Throughout our task, the operation of providing development assistance to developing countries becomes more transparent.

**Argus: The Argus heard that YP members write articles and cooperate to publish monthly magazine called OWL. Could you tell us more about this in detail?**

**Park:** Actually, on the surface, publishing a monthly-magazine is not relevant to monitoring

the government’s policies. However, there is no one else who is professionally in charge of issuing periodicals on this topic. Therefore, indispensably, the members including me are responsible for writing at least one article per month. As for the articles that I have written, others have commented on the limits of international conference and governmental monetary assistance many times. I have, in most cases, criticized Korean insufficient preparations and measures for assisting developing countries.

**Argus: Then you must have visited many seminars or conferences and met some celebrities while you were a reporter. Do you have any interesting anecdotes that you can reveal to our readers? What are the things you have learnt while working as a reporter?**

**Park:** It is true that I visited some world-famous seminars, and I would like to reinterpret the first question from interesting to coercing but unforgettable. As for me, the most memorable thing is “The second Seoul ODA International Conference,” held on June 3, 2008. I did not feel any difficulty while attending the meeting. However, composing an article was very burdensome work, contrary to my expectations. Starting a few weeks before the conference began, I had to prepare to collect data relating to Millennium Development



ODA Watch YP members pose for photograph at International Development Seminar in 2009.



ODA Watch

ODA Watch YP members participate in campaign for famine worldwide.



Goals, one of the main topics discussed at the conference. Furthermore, I had to search extensively to find basic information about the experts who were invited to the discussion, such as information about their careers, academic achievements, and publications. A common shortcoming among the conferences held in Seoul is that their answers to urgent problems have been too superficial. Although many professionals who have studied and penetrated into the individual problems for decades come to the international meetings to talk about ways to solve the emergency, they have not been able to suggest a clear answer, thus leaving it more ambiguous.

But, by working as a reporter, I was able to expand my knowledge on international issues beyond what I had anticipated. This new knowledge stimulated me to be more alert and hard-working in all matters. That is why I say it was difficult but unforgettable.

**Argus: What is your viewpoint on the ODA of Korea?**

**Park:** Even though Korea is now in a better position to aid underprivileged countries, neither the quantity nor the quality of its aid contributions has improved compared to the past in accordance with Korea's enhanced status. The size of development assistance offered by the Korean government is so meager that the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), a subordinate office under the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for financial assistance to developing countries, urged South Korea to increase its active support. The DAC advises all members of OECD to increase the proportion of their Gross National Income (GNI) devoted to foreign aid to 0.7 percent. The ODA of Korea reported that its assistance rate was 0.05 percent in 2006. This is far below the average assistance rate of DAC members, which is 0.3 percent. The government should take a more generous attitude as the committee urges.

In addition, the Korean government invested a substantial amount of money in African countries to help them rebuild from devastated circumstances in the name of the Korean Millennium Villages Project. One goal that this project has been working towards is for Korea to be seen as a country that helps to rescue people suffering from extreme famine. The government began speeding up this project as

soon as Ban Ki-moon, the former minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, was elected as secretary-general of the United Nations. I think it was too early to say how the plan will unfold. It is unfortunate that our government appears to be concerned with building this somewhat fabricated image of Korea for national fame.

**Argus: Do YP members have time to talk about global issues?**

**Park:** We discuss global issues with our members every month. It is one of the important activities that we do officially along with other teams. The topic chosen every month must be timely and discussable. YP members and an expert on international affairs are invited to talk about the topic in a serious way. We are all enthusiastic. The most impressive topic was Tibet. The first reason is that I once gave a presentation about this issue in front of an audience. The second reason is that I took part in a candlelight vigil by myself when the torch departed from Athens arrived in Seoul for the celebration of 2008 Beijing Olympic Game. Having these campaign experiences, I realized that human rights abuses, particularly those being committed in Tibet by the Chinese government, should not be allowed to continue. Studying and protesting about the same issue helped me to understand it in depth and inspired me to pay close attention to international affairs.

**Argus: What are the things you have learnt at the ODA Watch YP?**

**Park:** First of all, I have broadened my views on international society through my participation in the YP. Just a few years ago, when I was completely absorbed in studying internationalization itself, what I knew about it was only a fraction of the theory. Thus I began in a small room, but I was able to break it out by becoming involved in YP activities.

Secondly, I don't think international affairs are irrelevant to Korean affairs. Some people take advantage of this kind of organization to gain employment as officials of top-notch international organizations. I do not care about whether they join the organization with such purposes.

However, what I realized is that my motivations are different from theirs. The activities in which I was involved for a year were based on the principle of assisting the underprivileged. Helping those who are needy is



ODA Watch YP members have discussion around the table.


not only a matter of international society but also our own. Thus, the issues created in the world are equivalent to those in our country. Every Korean should at least pay attention to what happens globally as one of the world's 6.1 billion citizens.

**Argus: What would you like the ODA of Korea to improve on?**

**Park:** Government officials and YP members should seek and find appropriate role-models for ODA to emulate by searching for good examples in foreign countries. I personally will do research on northern European countries. Their policies on financial assistance for developing countries are totally advantageous for the recipient countries without causing political, economic, and social interruption. In other words, their example shows that the meaning of sincere assistance can be achieved without the recipients having to be disturbed by advanced countries.

**Argus: What do you want to do in the future after you graduate? Do you want to work in one of the fields you observed at YP?**

**Park:** My involvement in the ODA YP does not necessarily mean that I will go abroad to study more about international affairs. By taking advantage of the experiences I got from YP activities, I hope to help the underprivileged in Korea.

As I mentioned above, being attentive to global issues is directly associated with matters in my country. They are tightly interwoven. In addition, I will continue to watch what the government does. Whatever I do in the future, I will pledge myself to keep in mind the valuable experiences I obtained at the ODA Watch YP. 

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Kang Hye-rim / The Argus

# Are You Still Just Watching Culture?

Culture in daily life, discover the value

**By Kang Hye-rim**

*Reporter of Culture Section*

**K**orea is full of dynamic cultural lives. Cultural life is not necessarily a bourgeois. The Art Support Policy Forum opened about welfare, culture, and art in the lives of all Koreans. It is one of the cultural policies of the Forum that people have art activities in their daily lives easily. In the projects of the Forum, people engage in creative activities in their everyday lives. These people are not professional, but they are involved in creative art. Here are some examples where programs like this are effective.





The inhabitants change a ruined house into an art gallery.

Sewall Elementary school

### Pleasure about Art with Local Residents in Sewall Community

The Sewall Community Program (S.C.) restores healthy community playing on the basis of the spontaneity of local groups. Sewall Elementary School, located in Yangpyeong, Kyonggi Province, was about to be demolished due to the decrease of the number of the students attending. The role of the school is important, in that the parents do not have enough time to care for their children because of their work. The integrated cultural art education, related with Sewall Town Story, which progressed from April 2007, gives a great meaning to them. The place is filled with the flavor of cultural art that students, teachers, and citizens join together in doing.

There are numerous cultural education programs that are focused on the original culture of the town. Since April 2007, Sewall Elementary School has managed programs such as subject relation programs, integration programs among academic years, and assimilation programs with residents of the area. The subject-relation programs are broken down into age groups for elementary students and consist of six projects: Meeting the town in a picture book for first grade, exploring nature in the town for second grade, drawing the scenery of the town for third grade, drawing a map of the town for fourth grade, making posts of the town for fifth grade, and making a documentary movie of the town for sixth grade. These interest projects use local resources scattered around town. The Empty House Project is an integrated program that transforms an empty house into a familiar house that becomes an artistic work.

There are other programs for local

residents such as the local community play, making a movie of the town, drawing pictures on the tiles, and town photo exhibition. Especially, the fifth grade student made a movie with adults about a story related with a zelkova tree in the town. The students and the residents said that the program helped them recognize the preciousness of their region and the school.

### A dream of Young Artist in Poverty Beethoven Virus Project in Corporation Leftovers Love Sharing Community

Corporation Leftovers Love Sharing Community (CLSC) helps social welfare aiming at the world of poor families and getting their children to participate in the program, finding a Beethoven Virus in our town, which is a Beethoven Virus Project, a free music lesson for youngsters who have had little or no opportunities to artistic education in children protection centers. For the success of the project, Korea Arts & Culture Education Service decided to contract CLSC to cooperate and support the management of the program, with professional consultants.

Beethoven Virus Project is the first of 4C projects: Care, Chance, Challenge, and Change. 26 musicians and conductors act as professional tutors teaching the children at the children protection centers with musical instruments and supporting a chorus for free. These tutors have the vision of making a healthy culture for children in poor areas, and helping them come to understand the pleasures of art through sincerity, challenge, and harmony.

The project aims to follow the model of El Sistema or Jirani Children's Choir in Venezuela, in Korea, has the will to teach

the children in hard circumstances and to help them gain the sensibilities about culture and art and the pleasure of getting along with others.

El Sistema, an organization for poor communities in Venezuela with 35 years of history, helps over 250,000 poor children get free music lessons and enjoy the pleasure of cooperating with each other. In 2008, a concert by Gustavo Dudamel from El Sistema and Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra in Korea became a significant event. Jirani Children's Choir changed the children who picked up trash in Gorogochi, a region of extreme poverty, under the lead of Good Neighbors, a Non-Governmental Organization for volunteering.

### Great Art in the Citizens Daily Lives Seongnam, the City of Artistic People

A club for culture and art is a starting point for any citizens to perform and sustain creative activities. It functions as an organization that enables people to practice and develop their potential abilities and show diverse activities with their wills toward cultural and artistic activities. Even more, as new media, such as on-line communities have been developed, the desire to perform one's creative activities began happening more and more. Now, Korea is also in the middle of this step. Today, artistic clubs take pivotal positions in cultural policies. There is a club, Club Sarangbang, supporting groups in Seongnam.

Club Sarangbang gives many clubs chances to share related information with each other, and also helps them make their cultural surroundings spontaneously. For effective activities, it also plays a role in



This is the second Club Sarangbang Festival. The participants are Seongnam's common people.

Seongnam Art Center

managing the overall business of the clubs, and its support is involved in improving communications among local citizens and classes through the art.

Especially, the club holds Sarangbang Festival, in which all clubs participate every September. Last September, many citizen artists in diverse classes took part in the Sarangbang Cultural Festival, which was held for the second time in 2007. About 80 clubs presented their one-year works by making stages for direct-participation, exhibitions, and performances. The participants prepared for the festival and performed their works on a big stage, although they had great difficulties right up to the time for them to perform. The spectators were delighted with the performances as it was just regular people who made the dresses and worked in Exhibition of Moving Pictures. Some of spectators praised the performer's skills and proclaimed that they could be compared favorable with professional artists. The member of the clubs felt satisfied with a grandmother's a compliment, "It was the best attraction I've ever seen."

### Projects in Other Countries

#### Little Kids Rock

Little Kids Rock is a program to teach music to the children from low-income families in the U.S. Since the middle 1990s, as the U.S. government had cut the budget for education, public schools started to close their music courses. David Wish, who was critical of the policies, established Little Kids Rock program in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1996. This program has also donated musical instruments to elementary school students. The Little Kids Rock

method helps align music education with contemporary musical styles and trends, emphasizing music that the students are already familiar with, including: rock, funk, blues and hip-hop. Heavy emphasis is placed upon composition, improvisation and recording.

#### Con Carino

As a non-profit organization and a social company as well, Con Carino aims to establish a theater that connects art and towns based on Kotoi Hakken, Sapporo City. Its main purpose is not the place for just enjoying art, but the place as a volunteer center of performing arts. Besides, the company intends to strengthen the connection between different fields and diverse generations starting with live art. The purpose of the program is to improve the local community through art. The whole town fosters art, which helps develop the region, with the vision to be the center for live performances, as well. Con Carino has developed diverse cultural programs for seven years to realize these goals. Using open spaces, the artists, staff, and citizens create many impressions of the town.


#### Make Believe Arts

Make Believe Arts, a community located in London, is an esteemed place in Britain, as well as worldwide. It concentrates on enhancing children's creativity through art by providing programs, including plays and education. The idea of the institute is that it is important for every person to enjoy art from infancy, through childhood, and throughout a person's life. It actually enables children in kindergarten and elementary schools to experience high-level dramatic participation.

### Everyone Should Have the Right to Possess the Arts

People's spontaneous artistic activities and amateur performances have potentially huge cultural energy. Citizens' participation and interests should be the basis of art. Support to improve access to art in the daily lives of all people, borrowing ideas from other countries, enable ordinary people to enjoy culture. Also, these activities reinforce even more creativity in society, for it is well proven that people who have access to cultural arts enhance their creativity.

Recently, policies for cultural arts in each country have made it easier for cultural groups to pursue the development of the social aspects of art by extending opportunities to people so they can take part in cultural and artistic activities freely and easily. Policies in Korea should also be of great benefit to Koreans in every region of the country. This is the essence of these policies of culture and art all over the world.

In our rapidly changing society, people who have to decide important agendas should be responsible to present their vision of the future filled with many cultural resources. If this happens, the society will be better for all. 

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**By Hwang Jung-hyun**

*Associate Editor of Culture Section*

“Aewon’s ‘Kkumssi’ concerts and ‘Kkumssi’ lessons are about moral welfare, which entails providing opportunities to realize the hopes and dreams that any moral being deserves. It goes beyond the tangible social welfare of food, clothing, and shelter.”

Korea has made enormous progress in economic development. However, the situation of welfare remains at the low level of offering the basic necessities of life to unfortunate neighbors. Many people have not been really aware of the fact that such needy people are not just financially disadvantaged but also alienated from positive moral influences.

Aewon is well aware of this reality in Korea and they have taken steps to ameliorate the situation. This voluntary organization celebrates moral welfare and has led cultural welfare projects to improve the unfavorable conditions for art of Korea. The company is an innovator in promoting art and cultural welfare in Korea.

Aewon has long offered people a variety of opportunities to enjoy traditional arts, and it has taken the initiative in promoting the welfare of culture and art. Aewon has reached out to disadvantaged children, who have been alienated from their hopes and dreams due to disease, to help them become people who can contribute to society through the arts. Aewon’s initiative has come to be known as “Kkumssi” welfare, an innovative effort to advance the cause of moral welfare.

Aewon Secretary-general Kwak Sin-suk, a leading theorist of moral welfare, asserted that “Human beings want to be respected and enjoy happiness together. These are not things that only people who already have a comfortable life should be able to have. The disadvantaged, poor, and disabled alike want to enjoy culture. Thus one of the most important hopes for them, as important as food and shelter, is the opportunity to keep and protect the personal values that each individual deserves. We should work with other people to make things happen,” explaining the importance of moral welfare and the background of the group’s activities.

### “Kkumssi” Lessons and Concerts

According to Aewon, the word “Kkumssi” refers to children who happen to be disabled or who are experiencing economic hardship. This is a compound word of Korean origin, with “Kkum” literally meaning dream and “Ssi” meaning a seed. Aewon offers two art and culture programs to encourage the seeds of the children’s hopes and dreams to sprout and flourish.

## Sharing Hopes and Dreams



One of the programs is called “Kkumssi” Lessons, and it is a music teaching program for children and teenagers who have been neglected and not had many chances to learn or develop their musical talents. Arrangements are made for these children to meet professional artists who teach them how to play musical instruments such as the piano, violin, cello, and so on. The other program, called “Kkumssi” concert, helps the students realize their dreams by giving them the chance to become musicians immediately on stages of fine musical performance. Although their bodies may be uncomfortable because of their physical impairments, the children present audiences with an impressive arts showcase, marked by pure soul and burning passion. As the concert progresses, the children build their confidence and social skills.


Thus the children became people who can contribute their own talent to society and their stage became one with the audience through their conquest of the obstacles facing them through music.

Aewon puts on this concert four times a year, bringing hope to the children in various nations who are dreaming to become musicians. One of these was the “Kkumssi” concert at Seoul Asan Hospital on Jan.24 this year to give inspiration to patients who are battling disease with the support of their families and friends. Clearly, the concert gave hope not only to the children themselves but also gave them the chance to plant seeds of hope with others who are also fighting to overcome disease.

### Giving Hope to People as We Were Given...

“I want to be a great violinist who gives people inspiration and a good teacher who give back to the community by offering free lessons

to students in difficult financial circumstances just as I was offered such lessons through the ‘Kkumssi’ project.”

Lee Na-young is a blind girl who entered the Dept. of Education for the Handicapped at Gongjoo National University of Education. She was given the opportunity to study with Professor Kim In-ho at Anyang University through “Kkumssi” lessons. In Lee Na-young, who today is no less active than sighted musicians on many levels such as the which is the “Kkumssi Eumak-hoe” we see living testimony to the meaning and value of promoting art and cultural welfare, as exemplified by Aewon’s initiatives. Aewon is thus making great strides in nurturing the hopes and dreams of young people yet again in 2009, helping the seed of one girl’s dream sprout up to overcome the huge obstacles that she has faced. 

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# Broadening Culture in the Local Community



**By Hwang Jung-hyun**

*Associate Editor of Culture Section*

When people call to mind the word, “Orchestra,” they feel a sense of distance and alienation from what they love in music. However, many foreign musicians use the saxophone to turn classical music into Jazz so that people can feel the familiar and understandable music easily. Also, they are broadening their enjoyment of classical music. In Korea, however, changes are rising led by “The Bundang Neulpurun Saxophone Ensemble,” though most Koreans barely know about the saxophone and classical music. Also, this club is led by people in their 40s and 50s, who are also busy working and supporting their parents and families. Let’s find out who they are:

**Argus:** Please introduce yourself and tell us how you joined this ensemble.

**Kim Ki-duk:** Hi, I’m the leader of this ensemble. I’m taking part in “alto”. I started the saxophone about 30 years ago. I started playing the saxophone to imitate one of my friends who looked so cool when he was playing musical instrument. And when I grew up, I started to play the saxophone with other people. When

people gathered, we got into same idea that we should do some volunteer works for people who are not really familiar with music. It is how we started the basic activities that we are doing now.

**Kim Ju-hyung:** The reason why I started this is because I’m kind of old now. So the saxophone was right instrument for me. It is very easy to learn to play the saxophone, regardless of age, so most anyone can play in an orchestra within a few months.

**Kim Tae-hong:** I’m in “alto” section. To be honest, I started the saxophone because it is roman for me. I have fantasies on this instrument. Anyone seems so sexy when playing the saxophone.

**Ma Nam-il:** You know, as Tae-hong said, the saxophone strongly appeals to all ages, especially adults. It is because that no other instrument can sound like a person’s breathing like a saxophone can. The intended breathing sound is so attractive to older people. I don’t know why this is. We old people, are crazy about it.

**Argus:** How did you start the ensemble? And what was your goal when you started?

**Kim Ki-duk:** I have been playing music since I was very young and there are many good amateur musicians in Seoul. For that reason I wanted there to be lots of organizations in Bundang, too. So my first goal was to organize a residents’ saxophone orchestra in Imae-dong such as a “wind orchestra,” and a “string orchestra.”

**Argus:** How did this ensemble transform your life?

**Kim Ki-duk:** In the old days, there was the culture of flat bench in the country and real estate agency in the city. It was for social life for people in their hometowns. However, these kinds of places are very rare in modern society. But the ensemble can do the same thing for people.

**Kim Ju-hyung:** Yes, yes. I feel like, I have friends for when I get old. More than that, I have a good hobby, also. This hobby really makes me feel alive.

**Argus:** What are the reactions from audiences when you perform?

**Kim Ki-duk:** As you saw, the reactions are very good. People love the sound of the saxophone.

**Kim Ju-hyung:** Yeah, yeah. It is all contributed to our leader, Kim Ki-duk, who selected the music well. 30 years of playing the saxophone really pays off, doesn’t it?

**Kim Ki-duk:** As we are in our 40s, it’s easy for us to perform in front of middle-aged people. To hear such things as “unconditional” or “love is not easy for everyone” is music to our ears. To communicate with audiences is most important. You know, we want the performance to be a passage of emotions.

**Argus:** What does music mean to you?

**Kim Ju-hyung:** It is an activator of my life. Some people may think that middle-aged people cannot really enjoy life, but for me, it’s the time to have even more fun and hope.

**Kim Ki-duk:** Music and the ensemble is an





Hwang Jung-hyun / The Argus



The ensemble is performing the music with their saxophones in the disabled center.

elixir or a tonic to me and to all of us. Yes, an elixir and tonic. It is what all our members feel.

**Kim Tae-hong:** Asceticism. Yes, that is the right word.

**Ma Nam-il:** I don't agree with Tae-hong. The reason why he says that is just because every song he chooses is so hard. And you know why? It is all because what his wife likes is all difficult songs. Like "Do you have girlfriend" of singer Lee Eun-mi's.

**Argus:** How do you practice saxophone?

**Kim Ki-duk:** Mostly we practice in an Imaedong studio and we usually buy through the Internet. Our leaders are usually in charge of practice, I and a conductor Lee Min-ki.

**Argus:** In which way is the ensemble different from other music clubs?

**Kim Ju-hyung:** Other clubs play popular music such as K-pop or world-pop mostly by MIDI accompaniment. So they mostly are made up of amateurs. However, we have a classical saxophone textbook called "Lacour" that is an essential course for people to learn the basics of music. After learning this basic ensemble course, they can jump up to intermediate and high level courses. We have an orchestra in which everyone can participate.

**Argus:** Because the saxophone as a Jazz instrument has not become popular in Korea yet, are there any difficult problems in playing saxophone music here?

**Kim Ju-hyung:** Securing music is the

biggest difficulty. Also when the number of members gets larger, the place to practice also becomes a concern.

**Argus:** We know that you are very busy with such activities as performing in the subway and visiting welfare and cultural facilities. Could you tell us more about your activities the ensemble is planning?


**Kim Tae-hong:** The biggest goal for this year is to put Imaedong Orchestra into the right place and make it more active. We hope to have concerts at regular intervals in Seongnam Art Center. Also, we will work on "Neulpurunseonyul," the women's saxophone ensemble, and "The Christian Saxophone Ensemble" to all become wonderful organizations. For our volunteer work, we will play about 30 times in many places around the local community with the cooperation of the Sarangbang Culture Club of Seongnam Culture network.

**Argus:** I know that you are planning an "Imaedong orchestra" as the first village unit orchestra in Korea. Please tell us more about it.

**Kim Tae-hong:** In the case of Europe and Japan, country bands play at high levels of musicianship. However, we don't, at least not yet. We just have musical education for elites. However, we want music to be in all around us. We want music in which families can participate. I want people to share the catharsis of music. In order to do that, I thought a village-unit orchestra was right for an organization that contributes to a local community and as

communication and fellowship from generation to generation. My hope is that the Imaedong Orchestra can be a start to activate a music community and spread to Seongnam-si, to Gyeonggi province, to the region, and eventually to the whole country.

**Argus:** It is hard for 40 to 50 middle-age people to enjoy art and culture because they also have to work to support their families. What is it like to lead your club in this situation?

**Kim Ki-duk:** There is a big difference between "our" happiness and "my" happiness. A long time ago in Korea, it was a virtue for a person to sacrifice his or her life for their family's good. However, it left people with a big "grudge." However, we of the 7080 generation are not a generation of that kind. Our generation is made up of people who actively pursue their own interests. It's not about money. It is about determination. We have distributed our children's happiness to our own happiness. We have to work for our children's happiness as well as for our own happiness. Who will love a person when even they don't love themselves. Also we have to make ceaseless efforts on self-development to be happy. We have to fight for our happiness. It is impossible to earn money and play in a band together without thorough effort. It is important to lead amateurs ceaselessly in their efforts to get productive results. So it is a great challenge and thrill in leading this club. 

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# Better, Smarter, Stronger Bus System

**By Jeon Seong-jin**

*Reporter of Campus Section*

**H**UFS, Yongin Campus, has operated its own bus system since 2002 to help the many students who commute long distances to campus everyday. Beginning with the second semester, 2008, 32 buses have been in service on 16 lines throughout the metropolitan area, with 13 percent of the students using the bus service. There still remained problems such as insufficient fuel supplies, excessive demands of the students, and accidents, the bus system just draw numerous complaints from HUFSans from time to time. This is the same between the students and the university on a number of issues. Both the students and the university talk about their problems, but never seem to resolve them.

Overcrowding of the buses is just one of the issues but a significant one. Standing on the buses is prohibited, and all passengers must be seated while the bus is in operation. However, the buses are frequently so crowded that some of the riders must stand, which compromises safety. Understandably, the students think that the university should suggest a matter solution to alleviate the exacerbated situation.

In light of this situation, in this issue, The Argus looks at many aspects of the university's bus problems and looks for ways to resolve some of these problems between the students and the university.

## **University Management of the Buses**

In talking to both sides, the students and the university have different viewpoints about the buses. The Administrative Office of the Young In campus, which is in charge of buses, stated that the buses that serve HUFSans cover a bigger part of the metropolitan area and that the university has more buses than any other university



in Gyeonggi Province. The students at Yongin Campus are served by 32 buses, only two of buses, however, belong to HUFS because of the budget in operating the buses. The university decided to transfer possession to a professional bus corporation. To add to this, HUFS tuition fees are frozen this year and so is the budget for bus services. So the university is in a difficult situation and would be severely strained financially to expand the number of buses.

The students' viewpoint is different. Their biggest complaints are that the university does not provide a solution for the insufficient number of buses and this creates potentially dangerous circumstances in commuting. On the condition of anonymity, students who commute by bus have a number of observations. A student who rides on the Suwon line suggested that the university should add more buses. As mentioned previously, university officials say that because of current budget constraints, it cannot now operate any more buses.

To try to solve this problem and bring both the students and the university officials to a mutual understanding, the students should not just blame the university for not listening to them and realize how HUFS is doing its best to please the students. For the university, instead of stopping by saying that the budget is short, it could work with the students to think of new ways to at least lessen this problem. One student said that, "When HUFS is making a statement regarding the bus system, it always talks about how the budget is tight. Instead of using the budget as an excuse, if the university would work with the students, and help us all work within the budget, then maybe students will understand the situation better and also help the university solve the problem. We, the students, don't want to nag the university when there is a reasonable and understandable problem. But we do want the university to work with us. We might not solve the problem, but at least we have a chance if we work together."

### Winner Takes It All

Showing The Argus the official documents regarding the buses, the university explained the details about the two accidents. Just after the accident on the Ilsan line, the university and the bus corporation in charge of this accident made out insurance for every student in the accident. More, the university conducted a thorough training session for the bus drivers on safety. Even though the Administrative Office did

everything it could, there are still students who try to get on the buses when there is only room to stand. The students, however, have a different point-of-view from the university on this issue.

Another student who uses the Suwon line said that there are too many dangerous situations on the Suwon platforms because there is some reason of more students using that line because the public traffic system is so complicated and it costs more to use it than if the students use the university buses. The Suwon Station platform for buses is extremely long and bi-structured and there are lots of buses from other universities also such that HUFSSans must run to the HUFS buses in order to win the competition for a place to sit on the bus. Even though the university continues to make many attempts to create safe conditions for the students who ride the buses, the system is not yet foolproof, and the students still have complaints. In fairness to the students, though, they are the ones who ride the buses.

### Stuck in The Middle


Another controversy is the conflict between the university and the Gyeonggi Bus Corporation, a private-run company. The university explained the financial strain of expanding the number of buses with the Gyeonggi Bus Corporation. The Gyeonggi metropolitan bus, 1303, which covers Anyang station to HUFS Yongin Campus, sent official documents to the Administrative Office with strong language stating they will stop running the buses on the 1303 line because of their revenue losses. The bus corporation said that from Anyang station to Jukjeon station, students of Dankuk University use lines heavily, but that from Jukjeon station to HUFS Yongin Campus, there are few riders. The bus corporation said that the reason there are so few riders is because HUFS has a bus already going the Anyang area. The official from the bus corporation showed many documents, including correspondence between itself and HUFS, and said again that if HUFSSans want to help develop the metropolitan bus system, then as many students as possible need to ride the 1303 bus line.

The university is hard-pressed to do anything about this, and the school does not think it is fitting to force the students to pay more money to ride the buses on the 1303 line just so they can help develop the metropolitan bus transportation system. This remains an unresolved issue.

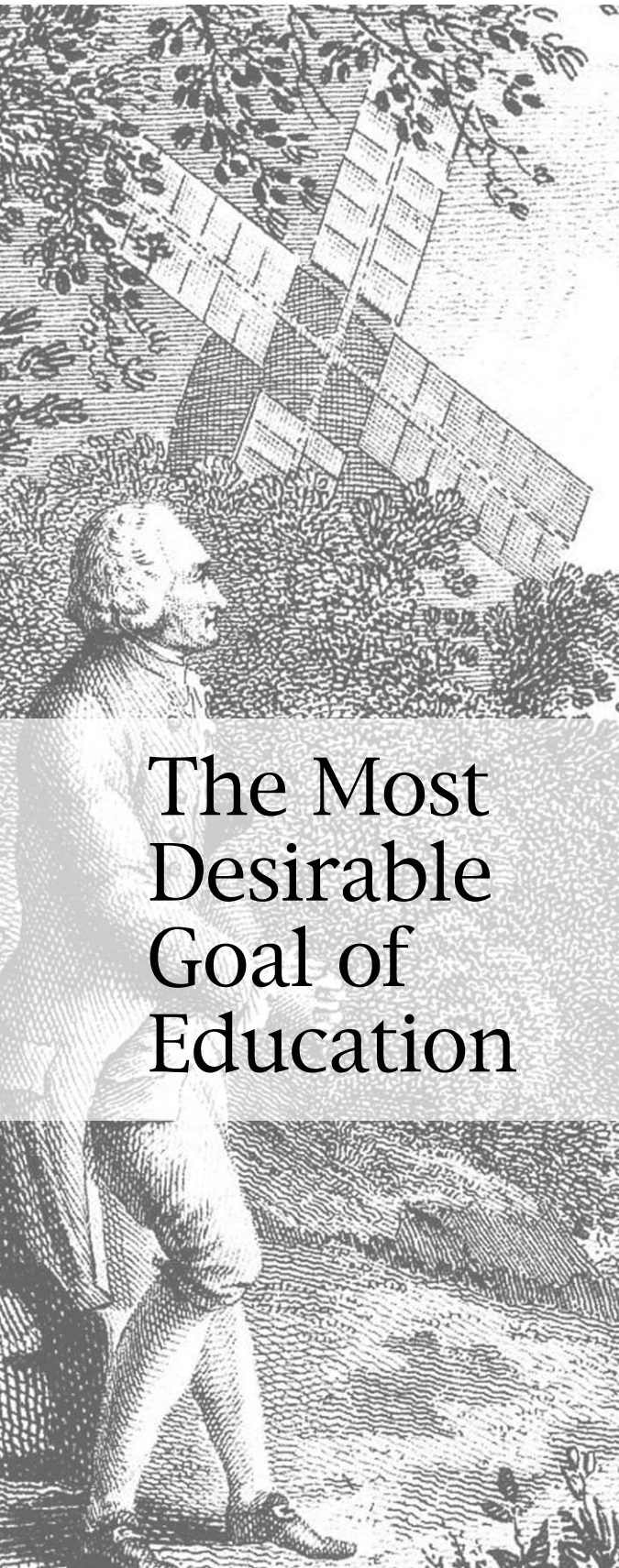
### Comparing HUFS Bus Service to Those of Other Universities

Among other universities in Gyeonggi province, HUFS has the best school bus system of all. Kyunghee University, International Campus, operates only four lines going to campus, and just two lines leaving. The Kyunghee system surrounding the Suwon station, however, is for commuting students from Seoul. The officials at Kyunghee are currently recommending that the students use the Gyeonggi metropolitan bus system. Dankuk University, Jukjeon Campus, operates nine bus lines for its students. This is because there is the Jukjeon station of the Bundang subway line. The students at this campus use a monthly boarding pass. It is efficient but also unreasonable and expensive at the same time for students who don't ride the bus everyday.

At Sungkyunkwan University, Natural Sciences Campus, they have four lines and they don't operate as commuting buses, but rather as shuttle buses. Because of the location of this campus, it can take advantage of the many buses on the Sadang line. However the large number of lines serving these campuses is insufficient, especially on the Bundang line where the buses don't go directly to a single destination but travel to several stations in Bundang before reaching the campus. Consequently, it takes a long time for the students to get to campus. Also, there are no bulletin boards notifying the students about the bus schedules, which complicate things even more for the students at Sungkyunkwan.

In comparison with other universities in the region, HUFS bus system is much more convenient and reasonable. Still, we should not just accept the bus situation as it is. We should never stop trying to make the HUFS system better, and this is the responsibility of both the university and the students, and to do this, there must open lines of communication and trust between the two. The university must always explore many ways to communicate with HUFSSans who ride the buses. One good way to do this is to set up a web cafe so that university officials can read the students' feedback. Then, the university and the students can look for ways together to make the system better. 

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# The Most Desirable Goal of Education

By Jang Ho-jun

Reporter of Theory & Critique Section

Last year, the introduction of international middle schools was the hot potato in Korean education. There were controversies among experts, whether these schools will be the cradle of students who will have international sense of views, or they will just become schools for helping students matriculate to reputable universities. Currently, the government seems to patronize the schools actively in spite of the opinions of the opposition. Also, the arguments regarding the admissions of Korea University in 2009 were more severe than ever. The university still remains silent about its relations between its suspicious admissions policy and the high rate of the students from foreign language high schools among those who passed the entrance exam. The two incidents do not seem to be relevant each other, but they do show the purpose of education in Korea.

The events happened under the system that promotes the idea that university entrance is the ultimate goal of secondary education. Most people in Korea agree that a student needs a university education to get a good job and that the only way to do this is to graduate from university. Is this the way of ideal education the society really needs?

The theories about education have changed in many ways through the centuries. However, the views and methods have focused on an education that sets worldly goals for the students. These circumstances are being repeated in the current Korean education. Fixing the purpose of the education and teaching children to follow it have been at the core of many problems.

## Questions about “Return to Nature”

In the history of education in western countries, the education for the citizens in a modern society became the pivotal point of teaching after the Renaissance. The representative view of educations in the modern community was from the Enlightenment, prevalent in 18th century. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, one of the main philosophers of that time, wrote a work called “Emile.” Whenever people hear the name Rousseau, regardless of the experience of skimming his works, they remember one famous statement, “Return to nature.”

Certainly, people can have doubts about this saying as follows: Does returning to nature mean giving up the benefits of civilization and escaping from personal interference? Is it right letting children alone as they are, without pointing out any aspect of decent behavior? Some parents who think that their children can learn a lot of things through school education continuously may disagree on assertions, such as taking their children to forests remote from cities.

## The Emergence of Natural Traits in Civilized City

How should the phrase “Return to nature,” be understood? The proper way is to reform the corrupt education system in these days. The first chapter of “Emile” starts with the sentence “God makes all things good; man meddles with them and they become evil.” It is an intense criticism against human civilization and an expression of supporting an ethical doctrine of innate goodness. However, it does not mean the benefits of civilization should be completely excluded. The statement in the fourth chapter, “But remember, in the first place, that when I want to train a natural man, I do not want to make him a savage and to send him back to the woods; rather, that while in the whirl of social life it is enough that he should not let himself be carried away by the passions and opinions of men,” is an exact example that shows that Rousseau was not completely hostile to civilization. The book describes the five steps of teaching an imaginary student called Emile. Did Rousseau instruct nothing to raise him as a natural man? Kim Yong-min, a Political Science professor at Hufs, explains the trait of Rousseau’s educational philosophy in an essay for “Social Criticism,” a magazine, “The passive education is not like



the theory that a teacher should do nothing. It is excluding the human, social influence which may inhibit someone's natural traits from emerging spontaneously."

Education in Rousseau's age centered on Catholic values and people of the upper class who desired to stabilize their states. Influenced by these values, children experienced the injection of goodness to purify original sin, which served as the obvious frame in the mental formation of the child. The right of enjoying higher education was usually for people such as aristocrats and bureaucrats; therefore, the direction of education became the acquisition of social power. Education in that era shows several similar features with the educational direction in modern Korea, which does not value personal potentials sufficiently, but demands actual values that might only be helpful materially.

### Things Instructors Should Tell Children

Emile, raised in the virtual world that Rousseau created, is the desirable human being who harmonized his nature with civilization. Rousseau insists that the essence of education


should minimize the influence of teachers or civilization, and pursue spiritual freedom. Education of nature that esteems a human being's ability to develop naturally should be prior to education to increase experience and knowledge. He emphasizes instruction that includes equally nature, experience, and knowledge rather than one that regards knowledge as the most important.

Ko Mi-suk, a research professor at Korea University Institute of Educational Research, stated that the instructors should avoid restraining children's activities and growth, or attempting to force into activities with narrow functions. "The ideal education is instructing students to realize various concepts through experience and speculation. Rather than just injecting knowledge, the students should know what the meaning of learning is, why they should know it, and how it is related with our lives," she added.

Of course, it is not easy to emphasize physical and sensuous development over knowledge to children in the 21st century. However, trying to teach any kind of knowledge to a child before one's natural trait emerges may damage the growth of natural characteristics. The main

cases could be turning on English audio books for prenatal care and demanding a child to study previously before primary school. Students who got used to the injection of knowledge show troubles in preparing the logic essential to live in a society. Preparing writing tests to enter universities causes doubts as to why such vast sums of money should be spent to enhance logical thinking, even though people know that the ability to think logically cannot be acquired quickly.

### Advice for the Future of Education

Several current scholars criticize Rousseau's theory as an unreliable idealism because the system of current education does not work to educate children in nature. His methods of instruction, however, complement the values that the education in Korea has lost in many aspects. He intended to prevent a growing child from being raised within artificial limits and in the structure of education meddled by the existing generation. Considering his opinions about educating human beings whose natural traits are developed, it is time to think about the direction of education in the future. 

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## Virtual Interview

(On a bench at H University, a freshman comes and sits.)

■ **Freshman:** It's been a month since I've come to this university. The entrance examination for universities in 2009 was so severe. For three years, I trained in the skills for picking an answer on objective tests. Professors, however, seem to expect more than just listening to their lectures. The way of teaching suddenly became different. Getting used to new systems confuses me.

■ **Rousseau:** You seem to murmur about your new life. Are you a freshman?

■ **Freshman:** How did you know that? Anyway, who are you?

■ **Rousseau:** Are you feeling good with your new life on campus?

■ **Freshman:** I was fortunate to enter this university, which I aimed for three years. But now, I often feel that I entered a severely different world from my previous life. The situation gives me headaches; therefore, the time I spent on drinking has increased.

■ **Rousseau:** Did you desire to go to university for a long time?

■ **Freshman:** As I got older, I naturally recognized that it is hard to survive in this society without graduating from university. In my high school, I was shocked that there was not much time for me, so I started studying. The current elementary school students might have driven into this situation faster than me. That's why they enroll in educational institutes after school.

■ **Rousseau:** What? Institutes? Do they have to stay there until late, in addition to being educated in such a crowded school? Do they have enough time to meet their families and run around their towns actively?


■ **Freshman:** If it was 20 years ago, they may have. Today, as the competition in education deepens, children gradually become busier, so there is not much time for them to feel the love of their family.

■ **Rousseau:** (drinks a beer from a can quickly) Why haven't things changed? Education that puts

the children in artificial frames is still prevalent. Did you decide for yourself to go to college? You might conventionally have followed the idea that one should enter the university to succeed.

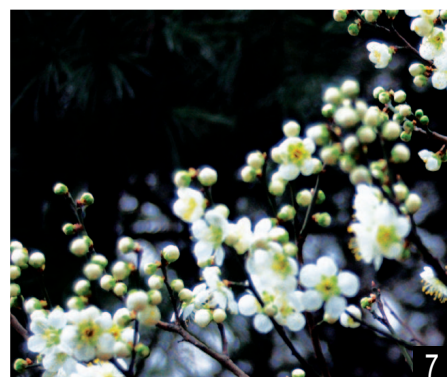
■ **Freshman:** I admit it, but there are no other ways to compete in Korean society.

■ **Rousseau:** Anyway, it was your decision. I thought that the method of education in my ages should be modified. I strongly believed that educating how to feel nature, how to train a person's senses, and how to control the self should precede other kinds of instructions. It does not matter that acquisition of knowledge is delayed for years. A natural kid who is not fixed by a frame can get knowledge really fast. When I arranged these thoughts in my book "Emile," many people criticized them as if I had thought like a dreamer. Though, I was satisfied with the work because I believed my thoughts would be realized someday. Maybe I still have to wait. Find that book in your school library. Farewell!

■ **Freshman:** What have I just seen? 

# April is Cruel

printemps fatal



- 1/6. I see your eyes
- 2. A shining object on a muddy street
- 3/4. Row me to the tree and let me play on moods of oblivion - The Forest of Oblivion in Yongin Campus
- 5. By taking these before midnight, you can become Cinderella
- 7/8. A tree laden full of popcorns
- 9/10/14/15. One magnolia blossom tree, solely standing beside a skyscraper, twinkles its glorious beauty in glee
- 11/12/16/17. Strangers are gazing us on the shelf
- 19. Twinkle, Twinkle, Little star on the street
- 13. God let me to feel my "bexplosion" - When bloomings hit explosions
- 18. Red seats bodyguard the flowerpot





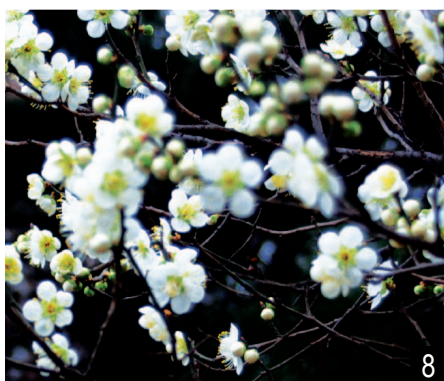
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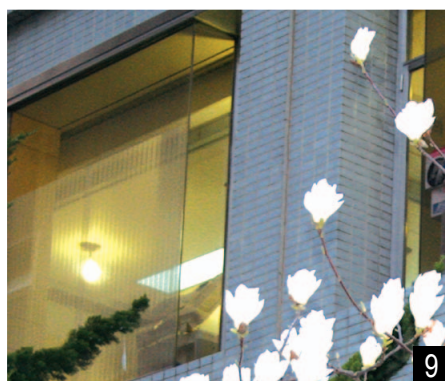
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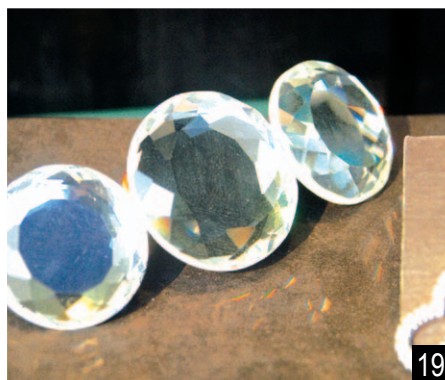
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19



20



# Lies, The Temptation You Couldn't Resist



By **Kim Ro-na**

*Guest Reporter*

**M**any have dreamed about winning Nanum Lotto 6/45. Up until 8 o'clock every Saturday, millions of Koreans hold and stare their lucky lottery tickets, even if the chances for disappointment is high. Let's say you happen to pick up a brief case with 10 trillion won in it on your way home. What would you do? Are you going to report the lost property to a police station? Or, will you take it? When it comes to money problems, it's hard to see a fair and moral response. And what if the money belonged to the mafia and no one can claim it? Who takes the money, owns it. What you need to do is only figuring out how to disappear with a fortune quickly so that no one chases you. However, holding on to your luck proves harder than you might guess. This is how Ray Cooney's play, "Funny Money," rumbles its characters into a breathtaking series of lies.

A prolific British playwright and actor, Ray Cooney knows the consequences these liars will fall into. By making his play a farce, a type of play in which Shakespeare put characters into unexpected situations, Cooney has written series of hilarious plays where actors rush onto the stage to generate hearty laughs from the audience by cruelly struggling in the sequence of lies they trap themselves in to get out of sticky situations.

This is all about temptations people couldn't resist: lies. The temptation of a lie, especially a small one, produces massive force to pull people down. But how about consequences that follows when one enjoys lying? When a person is lucky enough, small lies can often save his or her days. However, as we all know, a lie is not a magic spell after all.

## No Noble Men Out There

There are some formulas beneath Cooney's play. First, there are always two men playing the main characters make endless lies to overcome their consequences of previous lies. Among the two, one always lies to prevail upon others for his greed what he describes as true love or little fun, while forcing his friend to get

involved in the cover up.

Ray Cooney does not make any of his characters superior to others, regardless of whom they are. The liars have good jobs and families in contrast to their counterparts who reluctantly wind up in the consequences having lower social status. Turned into scapegoats of their friend's small lies, their counterparts show more naivety and rigidity than the liars and do most of labor by rushing and dashing onto and off the stage by wrongfully being accused of being perverts, womanizers, and other such things. Also, every character's behavior and words ridicule them by revealing their foolishness.

In "Room No.13: Out of Order," a superficially pompous congressman, Richard Wiley, shows how a politician's rhetoric and negotiation skills malfunction and turn his innocent secretary, George Pidgen, into a newlywed, psychiatrist, and womanizer. Both of them are struggling because of being outwitted for their useless persistence and that they and their counterparts are not strong enough to cut off useless friends. Also, even in other plays, Cooney's characters act contrary to their job ethics: a cop extorting money from citizens, an accountant feeling no shame on taking others' money, an ordinary family man maintaining his bigamy, and a bell boy working only when paid.

Ray Cooney uses money and women, the most fundamental temptations that motivate his characters to rush into lies. Although he exaggerates these situations in his farce, while laughing at the actors' chaotic struggles, the audience knows that the plays depict their own innate lust with the



In "Liar 3: Funny Money", Young-ho, an ordinary accountant finds a bag of fortune and turns his friend, Hyun-jun as a gay who winds up dreadfully to keep the money for Young-ho

Papya Production



same temptations. What if you happened to be falling in love with a sexy and attractive lady and you are a married man? How about polygamy? How about cheating on your wife for a young but dizzy blonde secretary? The names of the game are money and women. This logic running through the farce reflects how in this secular society, shrewd people who do not bother to penetrate the truth by losing by rational perspective to distinguish truth from lie, are not so shrewd after all.

### “Liar, Liar” Caught the Eyes of Koreans at First Sight: Does Entertaining Taint the World of Theater?

Since 1999, the Papa Production has introduced the series of Ray Cooney’s plays of “Run for Your Wife,” “Caught in the Net,” and “Funny Money” in Korea after a successful run of eleven years by breaking the record of the longest running plays at West End in London. Renaming the plays in Korean versions, a series of “Liar1,” “Liar2,” and “Liar 3” have earned the title of what people describe “Gukmin Younguk” meaning every Koreans’ favorite play. Ryu Hyun-mi, the director of “Liar 1: Run for Your Wife” points out several studies and the proper adaption of language by players and directors have marveled “Liars” into comprehensible Korean plays. The Papa’s well arranged Korean version of Ray Cooney’s wit and innuendos has changed the stereotypes of the play, notorious for their dull and puzzling sides, into entertaining plays that have gained much popularity with Korean audiences. Even though the stories originated in Britain, Ryu compliments cultural universality found in Cooney’s ordinary characters and their agonies convinced Korean audiences.


While the public warms to the wit of “Liar,” the players do not always get a big hand of applause, especially from other theatrical people who persist on the superiority of “Jeontongguguk,” referring to classical plays such as Hamlet and Equus. Ryu confesses receiving criticism from others devaluing the “Liar” series for meeting the audiences’ taste and being commercialized. Probably, they are right to accuse Ray Cooney’s farce delivering no messages to enlighten audiences and satirize over the fraud of authority and riches. However, a show for nothing, as Ryu describes, “Liar” does not forget the innate nature of the play -- entertainment. For sure, “Liar” would not play a propaganda media existing in communists’ totalitarian regime where artists are forced to educate people. Lee, Hyun-gyu, founder of the Papa Production, has agonized to figure out how to

live a standard life while pursuing his passion for theater and provide financial security to ordinary theater people in order to escape from worries over choosing life or play.

As once a conservative theater student, Ryu also has hesitated several times in directing “Liar” while emphasizing on the motions, abstract meanings, dramas, and poetic sides of theatrical work. However, finding the overwhelming response of laughs and excitement from audience has enlightened her to core value of theater, entertainment. Cooney’s works are not only having audiences rolling in the aisles, but also using polygamy and homosexuality to get people laughing. Ryu concludes that Cooney does not intend to push his audiences to judge right and wrong over controversial issues. Rather, he wishes to widen their eyes by showing them taboos in hilarious material, especially considering the period when his most beloved farce, “Run for Your Wife,” first played back in 1983 in London where the issues of sexual innuendo implied surely raised controversies.

### Be the Guest to Shore up Vulnerable Korean Theaters

Far from being ordinary people’s favorite pastime, especially in Korean society, going to plays has never been popular. However, not many plays can compete with Ray Cooney’s farces. Cooney’s plays erase the fear of the audience of abstract and esoteric plays and entertains them with laughter. At the same time, his plays give them insight into their own lives. Through these plays, the Papa Productions is nurturing a budding Korean theater by getting their audiences to look forward to coming back for more.

Beyond all these words, forget what is written here and just find out how much you can laugh at others’ tragedies with their lies in what Ryu describes as “Catharsis of Tears.” The lesson of this catharsis is that you will learn when a lie starts, a disastrous struggle will put you in a worse place. 


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tip



### What is farce?

Ray Cooney, O.B.E (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire)

Online Britannica defines a farce as a comic dramatic piece that uses highly improbable situations, stereotypical characters, extravagant exaggeration, and violent horseplay. The term also refers to the class or form of drama made up of such compositions. Farce is generally regarded as intellectually and aesthetically inferior to comedy in its crude characterizations and implausible plots, but it has been sustained by its popularity in performance and has persisted throughout the Western world to the present. 



# Problems with the Writing Certificate

**By Lee Jin-woo**

*Editorial Consultant*

**T**he university needs to consider more carefully its writing courses. The Department of Philosophy of HUFs adopted a policy about the certificate of qualification for philosophy teachers in 2007 and has issued this certificate to give the opportunity to teach the writing of essays in the name of the HUFs president. There are two reasons why the school selected the training programs for essay writing teachers.

First, Korean students at universities are required to express their opinions with logical order in their writing. The interests in teaching students to write like this are increasing. The process of educating the students to become writing teachers has not been done well by the universities. So, the Departments of Philosophy at all Korean universities have decided to operate the programs for training those who want to be teachers of discourse after their graduation. Also, HUFs feels the importance of training students to become writing teachers.

The other reason is related to the current economic recession. In the past, receiving a diploma meant employment, and universities had a tendency of letting their students solve their own problems by themselves, which meant that students taught themselves how to write. However, what is happening in society today is getting worse economically. Some students even intentionally delay their graduation as a means of acquiring skills to help their employment because today getting a diploma does not automatically mean employment. That is why universities go to great efforts to meet these urgent demands: so they can expand students' opportunities to be employed.

However, every policy has its weakness. There are problems with operating the qualification certificate for essay teachers. The detailed regulations of the policy should be dealt with before more problems arise.


Several enforcement regulations are presented with students who want to be essay writing teachers. The qualification certificate for discourse teachers is open to the students at both

the Seoul and Yongin Campuses. There are three steps to gain the certificate. First of all, anybody who wants to get the certificate must take the twenty-four credits that are approved by the university within the courses approved for the certificate. Second, grades have to be higher than B. Finally, a graduation thesis must be accepted. After completing these three steps, in the name of HUFs president, the certificate of qualification for discourse teachers is issued.

However, before the three steps can even be started, the real important step is registration for this program. So, taking a closer look at the current circumstances about registration on the Internet is needed to solve these problems. Even if students want to take the course, those who do not register for these courses on the Internet cannot get a chance of earning a certificate.

Most students who hope to be a writing teacher have difficulties registering for the courses on the Internet. On both campuses, each sophomore class has one course for the certificate, each junior class has two courses, and each senior class has one course. The classes are limited to nineteen students and that means they are graded on the absolute grading system.

The intention of restricting the number would be a better idea to improve the course quality. It is more suitable to teach writing in smaller classes. Also, the absolute grading system has the advantage of making both students and professors focus on in-depth study more easily than if the class were taught on the relative grading system.

However, under the current system, the lack of courses prevents those who are accumulating the credits for the certificate from registering for the courses, which means losing the chance of becoming essay teachers. Taking the current situation seriously, it is time for the university to assess the accurate demands for the courses to stop the present conditions from continuing. 

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# Fair Treatment is What They Need




**By Kim Min-ji**  
*Planning Director*

A bill on temporary workers, which was revised in 2007, will be revised then reconsidered in an extraordinary session in April. Before considering the earlier law, the legislators hastened to amend the bill. The details of the law that will be changed will extend the two years of an irregular workers' employment to four years. Some say it is not a simple change, but a retrogressive revision of the bill. Seemingly, it is likely to make the workers' lives in Korea more stable by giving them two more years to work. Considering many of the companies, though that have recently abused the irregular workers bill in the two years since the law was revised, such as KTX women employees, E-Land, Kiryung Electronics, revising the bill this time is not going to be simple.

Many people were concerned that the bill in place now on temporary workers would force the workers to be dismissed after being here for two years. This was because companies intended to avoid changing them into regular workers after their two-year employment. This July, 2009, it has been two years since bill about irregular workers was revised. About one-million irregular workers might get discharged without reasonable grounds, rather than get promoted to regular worker status. That was expected result two years ago. Changing the law is the center of this concern. Extending the employment period of the irregular workers does not guarantee their stable employment, but it does help their employers' profits in that it would cost the companies more to promote the workers. It seems that extending the amount of time irregular workers can stay in Korea at that status mostly helps the employers.

The companies claim that employing the workers for four years is less dangerous and more profitable for them than only keeping them for two years. The laborers, however, are always nervous about their temporary status. They cannot live without the uneasy feelings that they are apt to be dismissed any time. Due to the changed law, it became much more difficult for them to get promotions to become regular workers than it was before.

What is surprising is that the leading political party in the legislature is ambiguous about revising the law, even though the government is behind the revision. In the political community, there is an important event coming up ? the elections at the end of April. Because of this the attitude of the leading party could change quickly. About half of the electorate supports the laborers, so the leading party is thinking about their position seriously. This shows that the law about foreign laborers is being taken advantage of by the politicians as a means of their success in election. The importance of public opinion is hard to find in the National Assembly, although it should be the first consideration in light of the laborers.

The essential problem should be changed. The period is not that crucial, but what the politicians should be concerned about is the workers' stable lives and also their working conditions. As an aside, it seems that the government only cares about the number of the jobs the companies need to get the work completed, not for the foreign workers doing the work, or even for interns, for that matter. Projects for increasing the number of jobs and internship programs in public firms are examples of these policies. These are temporary measures, however, as the period of the jobs is at most ten months and when the employees finish their work, they leave without any expectation of employment with the company where they did their internship. The quality of the job must be considered now. Abusing temporary workers arbitrarily by the bills needs to be prevented for the betterment society. 

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## Graduate School Invites Students to Area Studies

The HUFS Graduate School of International Area Studies (GSIAS) started to hold special lectures that offer deeper views on area studies. The first lecture was held in Aekyung Hall of the International Center on March 19 under the auspices of the Export-Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank), an official credit agency providing comprehensive export credit and guarantee programs to support Korean enterprises in conducting overseas business.

Three experts from Korea Eximbank delivered lectures in turn about the analyses of economic situations in diverse regions. Park Se-keun, senior manager of the Country Research & Risk Evaluation Office, gave a lecture about investments and prospects in China. Ahn Sang-hoon, senior deputy director of the Overseas Economic Research Institute; and Jo Yang-hyeon, director of the same

department, held lectures about the economic crises in Russia, the CIS, and East European countries.

Approximately 50 students participated in the lectures and showed interest in global economic issues. Time was allotted after each lecture for free discussion between the audience and speakers.

These lectures are normally included in the content of the course called “Special Lectures” that graduate students in GSIAS must take. However, they are also open to HUFSSans who are interested in the subject of lectures.

Kim Won-ho, Associate Dean and Professor of HUFS GSIAS, said that “The lectures that we provide will help students who want to comprehend area studies through analyses of international economic and political issues. GSIAS tries to advertise this program to the all HUFSSans. It’s an opportunity to meet famous



Students focus on the presentation slide while listening to a lecture about the European market.

people who influence international issues, such as the chairman of General Council of World Trade Organization. Remember, we always welcome students who have the curiosity and interest to attend.”

**By Jang Ho-jun**

## HUFS Brings Multicultural Families Together in S. Korea

A total of 59 recruited foreign brides proficient in Korean started to serve as both interpreters and translators for foreign women married to Koreans with 11 languages from March 19 at each assigned 39 centers for multicultural families across nation, said the Center for Multicultural Studies at HUFS.

The University was designated as a center for managing the entire interpretation and translation service and training the employees on Jan. 29, collaborating with the Ministry for Health, Welfare, and Family Affairs.

With the nation-wide service aimed at helping foreign women who have difficulties in terms of language barriers in the current society, the professionally trained employees from 10 countries perform their own tasks. “The bilinguals do various things concerned with interpretation and translation for the immigrated foreign brides. They do simple consultation by telephone, interpret by visiting each household, and accompany with their clients when they should go to public offices,”

one official at the Center for Multicultural Studies said.

HUFS recruited 59 foreign women among foreign women who married to Koreans, based on their living experiences in South Korea, fluency in Korean and so on through written examination and interviews in Korean.

“I helped one immigrated housewife who had been faced with their inner conflict between her family members by interpreting with two languages. Even though it is a bit tough to handle some problems with the use of words, I am very honored to assist for those who need my help,” said Donnabelle Casipong, from Philippines, one of the three recruitees working at Dongdaemun-gu Multicultural Family-Support Center.

The two other interpreters, Ikeda Mayumi and Susy Rahayu Wiryani, from Japan and Indonesia respectively, pointed out the difficulty of Korean language. “All of us still, in common, have difficulty in translating foreign languages into Korean with accuracy. We are responsible for studying Korean more



Ikeda Mayumi, one of the three interpreters, reads papers concerned with interpretation and translation for foreign brides in Korea at Dongdaemun-gu Multicultural Family-Support Center on March 31.

assiduously.”

To operate the program effectively, the government provides financial assistance to HUFS for one year. “The government officially announced to offer a total of about 940 million won by this year,” the center at HUFS added.

**By Kim Sung-goo**



## Dongari Exhibition Catches Eyes of Freshmen

The dongari exhibition in Yongin Campus was held at the front yard of Student Center, April 1. It was held by HUFS the 27 *dongaris* during the afternoon. This event had finally opened after a rescheduling the programmed date March 26.


About 38 clubs made booths to open a lot doors to HUFSSans and gave balloons, a glass of beer, and numerous presents through joyful games like darting and collecting stamps. This was a successful event unlike last occasions such as job recruiting, special classes of celebrities, etc, dragging HUFSSans to Student Center during daytime. From 16:30, dancing clubs showed their own performances and the

clubs gave another game to prize students in the spot.

In booths, a club “Hwalhoe” prepared to show their performance like “Bongukgwonbeop,” “Jedokgeom” and also did give students an opportunity to perform together grabbing bows and swords. One performer of the club said that this exhibition made out a brilliant way to do public relations and gather *dongari*’s member more easily. And another club in a department of religion, “YWAM,” prepared movie clips including contents they did during the *dongari*’s activities and explained their evangelism behavior through travel, workshop, etc. In various fields,




*Dongaris* in various fields in Yongin Campus are setting up their own booths.

each club showed their own characters and had a beneficial time with participants. 

**By Jeon Seong-jin**

## HUFS Establishes New Open Major Division

About 2,900 students applied the College of Social Science at Seoul Campus has newly established Open Major Division, whose competition rate hiked to 104.65 : 1, higher than that at any other university this year. This is because the division gives students attractive opportunities to select from classes in 45 foreign languages and in MBA and Law degree programs as well. A freshman Kim Ji-soo (Open Major Division-09) said in an interview, “it basically gives students pursuing bachelor’s degrees in social sciences another choice.” “This is the concept

of ‘free law school’ that I referred to in the orientation for freshmen, which HUFS is the first to offer in Korea,” she added. The student stated that this “Open Major Division” continues until graduation so that students need not move out of this track, even though every student in this division has to choose a second major. This is a different open major system from the one offered by the Humanities and Natural Sciences Open Major Division at Yongin campus. 

**By Jeon Seong-jin**



Unlike before, there established brand new Open Major Division in the College of Social Science this year.

## Dept. of Chinese Reborn as College


The University held a ceremony celebrating the establishment of the College of Chinese Languages, drawing attendance from school officials and alma maters at Aekyung Hall, Seoul Campus, on March 27.

At the official event marking the start of Chinese college, the college Dean Chi Jae-woon confirmed that “HUFS will be an

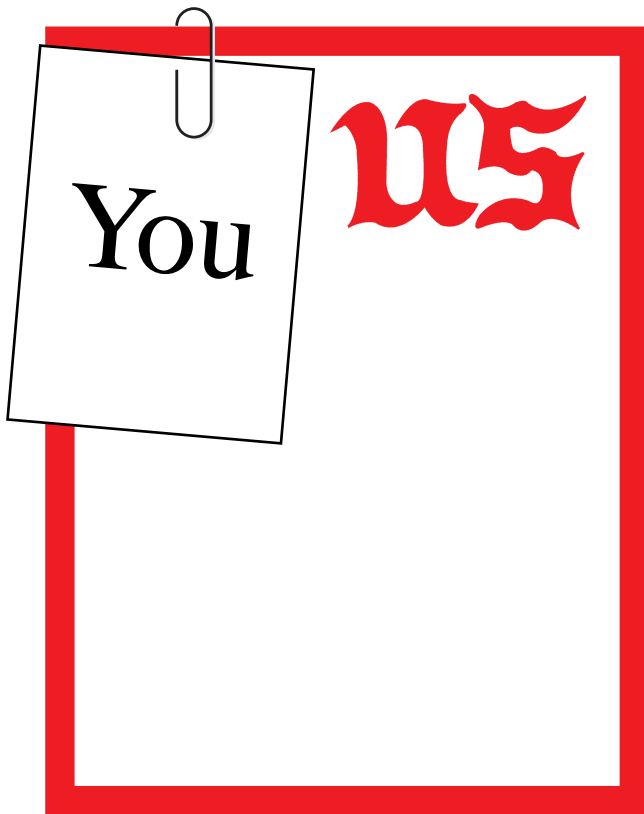
epicenter of Chinese studies both across our nation and world,” in front of the audience.

With the systematic reshuffle to the college from Dept. of Chinese at the College of Oriental Languages in 2009, the school created three majors; Chinese Linguistics, Chinese Literature, and Chinese Area Studies.

“Students at the College of Chinese Languages will be assigned to one of the three

majors next year according to their preferences. Some students may fail to meet their wishes even if their demands outnumber the maximum capacity per major, which is one third of the 110 students, though. College is making strenuous efforts to compensate for the probable problem for the students,” Dean Chi said. 

**By Kim Sung-goo**



# The Argus Completes You

## 83rd The Argus Cub-Reporter Wanted

**D a t e:** 04.29 Written Examination

05.01 Interview

**L o c a t i o n:** GlobeeDorm room 402 (Seoul Campus)

Student Center room 211 (Yongin Campus)

**Q u a l i f i c a t i o n:** 09 Freshmen

**I n q u i r y:** [www.theargus.org](http://www.theargus.org)

010-8799-9550 (Editor-in-Chief)



**Bea Yeon-joo**  
Cartoonist  
of The Argus





# 3rd SEOUL WORLD DJ FESTIVAL

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**2009.5.09 (sat) - 5.10 (sun) + AFTER PARTY 5.10 (sun)**  
**Han River Park Nanji Area 한강 난지지구** PM 2:00 - PM 7:00

**DEEP GROOVE** **DJ TOWATEI** **RICKYSTONE**  
 - KLANG ELECTRONIK / RESIDS / UNDERWATER - ASIA #1 RANKED DJ  
**Daishi Dance** **SCOTT PULLEN**

**Afternoon Crew**  
 DJ BeeJay & Stereo  
 House Rulez MC Sophie, 안지희

**Foundation Crew**  
 ORIENTAL FUNK STEW  
 E.E

**V.I.P**  
 DJ JAEN and AVUL  
 ONDHAL ESHE DANCE

**Amoeba Culture**  
 다이나믹듀오  
 슈프림 팀, 공시디

JAEN BEEJAY Sungwoo Kuma Fhifan Ultradog Kid-B Richard Boxer  
 Clubber Langz INNU H-man Arikama Fin Unjin TripleHouse Psytonic  
 E-You Volume DJ Crew (devil, ahn) Dj-Conan Jieun DJ YOO

## TICKETS FOR FOREIGNERS

ADVANCED TICKETS 30000KRW FROM MARCH 19TH UNTIL APRIL 5TH (BANK ACCOUNT WILL BE LOCKED FROM APRIL 6TH. DO NOT TRANSFER THE MONEY FROM APRIL 6TH).

AT THE VENUE : 50000KRW

SC제일은행 (Standard Chartered or SC First Bank): (주)상상공장 - Sangsanggongjang, Inc.  
 Account: 300 - 20 - 077934

- I. Put your full name on the deposit.
- II. Send us an email with the deposit name, full name, amount, and quantity of tickets purchased.
- III. Email this address and a confirmation will be sent to you (nanji.tix@gmail.com). As an added precaution please keep a copy of your deposit receipt or bank transfer statement.



A plan of new dormitories in Yongin Campus



# Bird's-Eye-Views of New HUFs



A Plan of new underground facilities in Seoul Campus