

# The Argus

First Issue Published July 1, 1954

Vol. LVI No. 428  
MARCH 26, 2010



**Inaugural ceremony for the  
ninth HUFs President**



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

# The Argus

ESTABLISHED 1954

Published monthly except the school holidays by and for students of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. The Argus, the oldest campus English newspaper in Korea, pursues the highest standard of campus journalism.

- *President and Publisher* ..... Park Chul
- *Executive Editor* ..... Jun Jong-sup
- *Editor-in-Chief* ..... Hwang Jeong-hyeon
- *Editorial Consultant* ..... Lee Jun-geol
- *Editor* ..... Jeon Seong-jin
- *Associate Editors* ..... Kim Jun-kyu  
Lee Kyeong-eun  
Lee Yeong-eun
- *Reporters* ..... Kwon Jeong-a  
Lee Bo-mi  
Jeong Jin-kyeong  
Cha Eon-jo  
Suk Gee-hyun  
Prihantoro
- *Copy Readers* ..... Lyman McLallen  
Anthony K. Shin  
Kim Ji-hye

270, Imun-dong, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Korea  
(Postal Code 130-791)  
Tel: (02) 2173-2508 Fax: 2173-2509  
San 89, Wangsan-ri, Mohyeon-myon, Cheoin-gu  
Yongin, Gyeonggi Province, Korea  
(Postal Code 449-791) Tel: (031) 330-4113  
Printed by HONG DESIGN | Tel: 464-5167 Fax:  
464-5168

## C O N T E N T S

Hankuk  
University of  
Foreign Studies

### Departments

- **Campus**
  - News Desk** 04
  - Pandora's Box** 13  
Zsa-Zsa-Zsu
  - Proud HUFSans** 14  
Better Living through Chemistry  
Physics for the Future
  - In-depth Report on Campus** 18  
Students' Housing Problem is too Tough to Live with
  - Visiting** 28  
Another Chance, Another Life in Korea

- **Culture**
  - In-depth Report on Culture** 24  
Korean Literary Writers: Which Way  
Should They Turn?

- Review** 30  
You can't be as good as Me

- **Theory & Critique**
  - T&C Tower** 32  
Historic Chinese Sage

- Footsteps** 34  
Piety and Justice

### Miscellany

- Editorial** 02  
Worries about the Campus Media Suppressed  
at Some Universities
  - Road Casting** 03
  - Door 19** 22  
Que Sera Sera
  - Letter to The Argus** 36  
Real Globalization of HUFs



**Visiting-** The Argus met HUFS alumni Choi Won-geun, who is eagerly helping refugees in South Korea. He tells the story of his life full of humanitarian love.



**Footsteps-** Through this article, The Argus explores the philosophy of Cho Shik, who had the pseudonym of Nammyeong, and the old house known as Sanchonje.



News Desk

Inaugural  
ceremony for  
the ninth  
HUFS  
President



# Worries about the Campus Media Suppressed at Some Universities

About 50 students gathered at Seoul's Chung-Ang University on February 2 to call on school officials to guarantee freedom of expression for student organizations. The gathering followed an earlier recall of the school's magazine "Chungangmunhwa" (Chungang Culture) over a controversial article, the magazine's editor-in-chief said. With the new semester set to begin, and as thousands of young college freshmen look with anticipation to the coming year, it is regrettable that what should be a season of optimism should start on such a bitter note.

An article in the December issue of the magazine reported on the takeover of the school by a South Korean conglomerate Doosan Corp. Featured alongside the piece was a satirical cartoon depicting the university president. Some three hours after the magazine hit campus stands school officials had collected all existing copies. Not long after the magazine found that its budget had been cut and its editorial department placed under the strict supervision of school officials. Despite calls by six other campus publications for the university to ease the newly imposed restrictions, the school has held fast to its position.

Clearly, through its actions, the university has violated the magazine's right to freedom of speech and has eroded its editorial integrity. Sadly, the incident isn't an isolated case. A school newspaper at Myongji University ran its December issue with one page blank after student reporters had attempted to publish an article on the school's collective firing of teachers' assistants. While student organizations called for a general meeting with the university to discuss the issue, the reporters remained strangely silent, apparently due to pressure from school officials.

Active censoring and repression of free speech by university administrators go beyond campus publications. On the campus of Ehwa Womens' University, the country's oldest all-girls school, pictures of the school's president are strictly forbidden, a university source said on condition of anonymity. During a recent student body election, a poster of the president that had been put up in support of a candidate for student president was immediately taken down by the school, despite the fact that it made no attempt to caricature the school's leader, the source said. At Sejong University, posters that denounced a plan to disband a campus organization called Consumers' Cooperation were unilaterally torn down, students at the school alleged.

It is indeed regrettable that some universities took actions to deny freedom of speech in student media, invading the very values that university life is supposed to instill in students and impeding their progress toward becoming active members in our democratic society.

Freedom of expression is freedom of mind, which itself is essential for the development of strong character. Whether expressed in art or religion, or in the realm of science, freedom of speech, of association and of the press are critical to sustaining personal liberty. Modern society is one that allows for a free exchange of ideas and opinion, elements that are absolutely essential to the preservation of democracy. Where such rights are absent, so is democracy.

*Editor-in-Chief*  
**Hwang Jeong-hyeon**



# Road Casting



Kwon Jeong-a / The Argus

Thierry Berno  
(Graduate School of International and Area Studies)

**Reporter (R): How did you feel when you first arrived in Korea?**

**Berno:** I was frightened. Although I have been to Asia before, Korea was a very interesting place. There were a lot of things happening Especially. I'm from southern France, where there aren't nearly as many people as in Korea. So, it was very impressive.

**R: What are the differences you see between China and Korea?**

**Berno:** There are a lot of differences. Ah, people act differently towards each other. And, I'm sorry to say, but Korea is cleaner, though I love China.

**R: What made you come to Korea?**

**Berno:** I came to Korea as an exchange student, first. I came with my friend, who is a champion of the Korean martial art taekwondo. He came to Korea often, maybe two or three times, training with Korean teams. He told me Korea was a nice place, so although I could go to Japan as an exchange student, I decided to come to Korea. This is because I wanted to experience something new. Also the fact that not many people come to Korea attracts me.

**R: What is your goal for the next semester?**

**Berno:** I hope to get a job or internship. I'd like to find a job in Korea for the next two or three years.

**R: Which singer do you prefer, "Girl's Generation" or "Lee Hyo-ri"?**

**Berno:** Well, I don't know their music. Frankly, I don't listen to it much. I prefer Lee Hyo-ri because she's sexier.

**R: What kind of Korean Ra-myeon do you like?**

**Berno:** 'Sinramyeon' It's the spiciest one.

**R: What's your ideal woman?**

**Berno:** My girl friend. She's Korean.



Chia Eon-jo / The Argus

Chen Jing  
(Center for Korean Language and Culture)

**Reporter (R): How did you feel when you first arrived in Korea?**

**Jing:** I was embarrassed. And I think Korean roads are complicated.

**R: Why did you come to Korea?**

**Jing:** I'd like to enter university in Korea, so I am preparing for the college entrance examination. But I'm worried about whether I can pass the exam or not.

**R: What did you do during Seoul, the Lunar New Year holiday?**

**Jing:** I went to a ski resort in Ji-San with my friend. I don't like Korean food much, so I had Filipino food.

**R: Who is your favorite singer?**

**Jing:** Super Junior is the best among

Korean singers, because one of the group's members is Han-Kyung, who is Chinese. Also Taiwanese singer Jay Chou is the most famous singer in China.

**R: Where would you like to visit in Korea?**

**Jing:** Kyeongju. There are lots of kings' tombs. I am fascinated with them and am interested in the history of the Silla Dynasty.

Watch for The Argus reporters in the campus. **The Argus will be casting you.**

# SOAR OF A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

**By Prihantoro**

*Reporter of Campus Section*

**I**t was a chilly but quite sunny Tuesday afternoon on February the 23rd, 2010, when we had expected winter to end. Unlike other days at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS), however, more people focusing their attention on Ae-Kyung Hall in Seoul campus expecting something special to take place. That was the inauguration ceremony of the reelected HUFS president, Dr. Park Chul.





# 任命狀

茲因 劉明輝 先生  
曾任 中國外國語大學校長  
學術造詣 豐富 曾任 中國外國語大學校長  
經 中國外國語大學 校務會議 決議  
任命 劉明輝 先生 為 中國外國語大學 校長  
此 佈  
中國外國語大學 校長 李 南 周





This particular occasion was attended not only by foreign and Korean faculty members from various departments of HUFS, but by other celebrities in the nation. We also had university presidents from Ewha Womans University, Hanyang University, Korea National University of Arts, Korea University, and Youngsan University. Congratulatory addresses were made by Dr. Lee Bae-yong, the president of Ewha Womans University and the chairperson of Korean Council for University Education, and Dr. Lee Ki-

su, Korea University President.

During his lead from 2006, president Park Chul has restructured university administration that brought HUFS prestigious awards and projects from the government. HUFS was also ranked third place out of all Korean universities on the National Customer Satisfaction Index (NCSI) 2007.

“Our country is changing and with it, our place in the world” newly elected HUFS president Park Chul said opening the core of his address.

President Park Chul believed that

our university needed to achieve educational goals that suit HUFS’s national status and reputation. First, HUFS will establish a new education framework that nurtures talents with well-balanced knowledge and humanism succeeding the commitment of founding fathers of HUFS. Second, HUFS will produce competent global leaders who are conversant in foreign languages and majoring fields. Third, HUFS, as a university specializing in foreign languages, will keep expanding

its research to promote better communication among countries in the world.


He also mentioned on-going construction plans like new buildings at Seoul campus, a dormitory at Youngin campus, English town projects, and another HUFS campus in Songdo to support university's long term goals. Besides, President Park Chul promised to increase the number of full time foreign professors and foreign students, and to secure their life and work environments. Korean students will have more opportunities to study abroad, too.

Before closing his address, he emphasized his plan to make HUFS a global university. HUFS graduates are expected to become qualified experts in their majoring fields to meet the demands of the global market and to become leading figures of the world.

There was a reception at the Westin Chosun Hotel after the inauguration with congratulatory addresses made by Korean Labor Minister Lim Tae-hee, and the minister of Education, Science and Technology Ahn Byong-man, who was the fifth and seventh HUFS president.

The Argus hopes that the university

improves its service for both Korean and foreign students. The service is not only by constructing buildings on campus, but by fostering strong academic atmosphere. We also hope that HUFS can spread its wings wider to collaborate with more domestic and foreign institutions.

President Park Chul, on your shoulder we put our hopes and trusts. Help us make our dream come true. Together, we can! 









# Ceremony held for incoming HUFSans

**By Lee Kyeong-eun**

*Associate Editor of Campus Section*

**H**UFS held a festival celebrating 2010 freshman admission at the Olympic Hall in Seoul on Feb. 17 with university President Park Chul's keynote address. In his speech, President Park celebrated the students' accomplishments and told them that at HUFS they should expect to "meet the world."

Freshman students were briefed on the school's latest policies, its academic plans and scholarship opportunities, followed by a variety show featuring famous pop-singer Yoon-ha who is also a HUFS undergraduate in the Japanese department as well as the group 2NE1. HUFS alumnus magician Kim Jong-soo performed a splendid show at the festival as well.

The annual ceremony at Olympic Hall, located on the grounds of Olympic Park, began three years ago.











## HUFS Renews Exchange Pact with Spanish University



Strategy and Public Relations Team


**H**UFS renewed an agreement with Complutense University of Madrid on Jan. 19 to engage in more active academic exchanges and information sharing, school officials said.

The renewed agreement was made between HUFS President Park Chul and his counterpart Carlos Berzosa when Park visited the Spanish university one day ahead of his participation in the Korea-Spain Forum held in Cordoba.

The two universities have enjoyed more than 40 years of relations. They first signed an agreement on academic and student exchanges on June 23, 1966. The latest agreement is expected to reactivate exchanges that had become neglected in recent years.


HUFS has sent one student per year as part of a student exchange program with Complutense University since the two universities first signed the agreement. Students in the program are exempted from tuition fees and are provided with on-campus housing for a fee.

Park also visited the University of Malaga, where he signed an agreement with the school's head, Adelaida de la Calle Martin, on cooperation in academic and student exchanges. The two also made a verbal agreement on the exchange of five students per year between their two schools, HUFS officials said.

The University of Malaga was established in 1960 and has a student population of about 6000 students. 

By Cha Eon-jo

## HUFS Designated Education Center for Foreigners Seeking Korean Citizenship


**H**UFS was designated by the Ministry of Justice on January 29 as one of several centers offering educational services to resident foreigners seeking to obtain Korean citizenship, school officials said. Under the Korea Immigration and Integration Program (KIIP) supervised by the ministry, the university will begin offering language classes as well as courses on the country's culture and history to foreigners hoping to become naturalized Koreans. Participants will be divided according to language ability and knowledge of the country. Completion of the program will increase the likelihood that a foreigner's application for citizenship will be approved, the officials said. Implementation of the program is expected to make HUFS a major center in helping to ease foreigners' transition to life in Korea. The university's staff of skilled language teachers and its Center for Korean Language and Culture will help enhance the overall program, they added. 

By Kwon Jeong-a

## University Revises Course Credit System

**H**UFS has increased the ceiling of credits that individual students are allowed to sign up for each semester to 21 from 20, a school Web site said, with the new limit applicable for students who registered for 20 credits or less the previous semester.

According to HUFSLife.com ([www.hufslife.com](http://www.hufslife.com)), the school will implement the new system beginning with the spring semester of 2010.

The measure is in line with calls from students and the General Student Council to make a change in the accrediting system. Previously, a student was able to sign up for courses of up to 20 credits if the student took less than 20 credits in the previous semester. 

By Jeong Jin-kyeong

# Zsa-Zsa-Zsu



**By Jeon Seong-jin**


*Editor of Campus Section*

When there is an end, a new beginning soon follows, just as in nature. Flowers dry up when winter comes, only to bloom again in spring. Animals sleep during the cold season in order to reemerge months later with renewed vigor. So it is with HUFS. Overcoming past challenges, the university is stepping ahead to reach a new beginning. But as it does so, several hurdles still remain to be crossed.

As time passes, social values change. Universities play a vital role in preparing young men and women to meet life's challenges, and as such have sought to offer an education of both wider scope and improved quality. For its efforts, HUFS has been at the vanguard of helping to create a truly globalized Korea. And while laudable, such projects do not come without certain costs. In the case of HUFS, school administrators were forced to raise tuition fees, which have long been a source of tension between students and the university.

A freeze on tuition fees remained in place until just prior to the start of the application period this year. While it is understandable that the university is pushing to expand both its curriculum and other programs, what was particularly upsetting was the attitude taken by school representatives towards the fee hike. Certain professors were obstinate in their unwillingness to negotiate, while misunderstandings between GSC members led to bitter disputes. Web sites connected to the university became filled with furious attacks from people on both sides of the issue, with the truth becoming increasingly obscured under the vitriol.

While things have quieted down of late, the truth remains uncertain. Worst of all is that members of the university became divided due to a complete lack of communication.

As the season rolls on one can only hope that this fractious start will lead to a more fruitful and productive year. The British journalist Sydney J. Harris once said, "Regret for the things we did can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable." As issues like tuition fees continue to be debated, perhaps this process will help create a future of open and sincere dialogue. With the onset of Spring HUFS should look forward to a period of regeneration and growth. Though Myeongsu Lake is frozen, and the trees on the Minerva square are bare, it does not mean that they are dead or gone. Someday warm winds will blow and revitalize the University. 

*richard@hufs.ac.kr*

# Better Living through Chemistry

**By Suk Gee-hyun**  
*Reporter of Campus Section*

Science begins from and lives on experiments. So says Ha Hyun-joon, 51, professor of Chemistry at HUFs, and the director of Protein Research Center for Bio-industry (PRCB). With over 95 papers published in SCI-level science journals, his achievements in Organic Chemistry have surprised and delighted many in the nation, as well as overseas, including himself.

Professor Ha's field is Organic Chemistry, concentrating on pharmaceutically-related work. He has studied and earned his degrees from some of the top universities in the world: Seoul National University (SNU), Brown University, Stanford University, and the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST). In his work, he examines organic substances and their changing process. It sounds simple but his work is comprehensive. Anti-cancer drugs, PET scans, and even the use of proteins in medical care are all part of organic chemistry. "Everything around us is organic material" he says. "Anything that contains carbon can be a candidate. Organic chemistry is also called the carbon chemistry."

The working hours are indefinite, but usually Ha and his students



Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus

Professor Ha does lab experiments with his student



Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus

A student asks Professor Ha about molecules



stay in the lab from nine to six. To others, it might seem dull to be spending most of the day conducting research in the lab but Ha says it is most exciting part to be studying chemistry. "It is our duty as scientists to analyze and understand each organic material and learn how and why it changes. This will allow us to build many more advanced, diverse, and customized products to make life better for everybody on Earth," he said.


Every Tuesday, Ha holds a lab meeting with his students for about two hours. When he enters the room, he gives each student a packet of science reports. Evaluating each student's weekly report and presentation, Ha advises them about alternative methods based on his own experience. He explains that this lab meeting is not just about finding answers or solving problems, but more about branching out in other ways of thinking. "I do not tell my students to bring something from a box. I ask them what they think is inside the box and why they think they should bring it to me. After all, science was developed through curiosity about 'what' and 'why.'"

Ha has been studying organic chemistry for the last 30 years day and night. In 1982, when he graduated from SNU, South Korea was going through a rough time for developing science immediately after President Park Jung-hee's rule. The research environment for scientists in Korea was sparse and the government could provide only limited financial support for scientists to study abroad so they could develop science once they returned to Korea. Ha went to Brown University to study for his Ph.D. He continued his studies with a Post-doctoral Fellowship at Stanford, and upon his return, he became a senior research scientist at KIST. As the government had hoped, he had developed himself in one of the most competent and dedicated scientists in Korea.

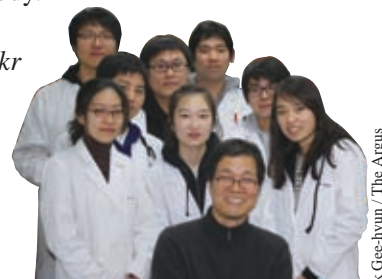
Dedicated as he is to his work, it is not surprising that he has coauthored six science journals just in 2009 and has obtained 13 patents, the latest of which is about Aziridine-nitrogen containing a three-membered ring. He was thrilled to introduce this molecule that will enhance the lives of all human beings. "Aziridine is also engaged in Radiopharmaceuticals. It is used in PET scans when diagnosing patients' illnesses. My work with this is just a continuation of previous studies in chemistry, but I'm looking for more cost-efficient, safe, and environmentally benign processes." This year, he will be conducting

four projects that amount to about \$150,000 in aid from the government, HUFSS, a research center, and a drug company.

When asked about the possibility of being a Nobel Prize winner in Korea, he compared this to the Olympics. "Everybody wants Kim Yuna, our great figure skater, to win the gold medal. But even if she doesn't win, she will still grow in skill and gain untold wisdom, and this is something meaningful that not a lot of people will notice. Of course, the number of projects, research funds, and human resources all matter. But we can avoid systematic failures in the development of Korean science only when we set long-term goals. Before being lured to tangible results, the quality of the research environment has to be the priority of everybody."

he said. 

[monicasuk@hufs.ac.kr](mailto:monicasuk@hufs.ac.kr)



Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus

### Ha Hyun-joon

Department of Chemistry, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Yongin, Kyunggi-Do, 449-791

[hjha@hufs.ac.kr](mailto:hjha@hufs.ac.kr)

- B.A., 1982, Seoul National University
- Ph.D., Brown University
- Post-doctoral Fellowship, Stanford University, 1987-1988
- Senior Research Scientist, Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST), 1988-1991
- Visiting Research Professor, Cambridge University (U.K.), 1993
- Co-founder of ChemBioNex Co., Ltd, 2000
- Chief Scientific Officer of Imagen Co., Ltd. (<http://imagen.co.kr>) 2003-present
- Chief of PRCB (Protein Research Center for Bio-Industry), 2007-present

# Physics for the Future

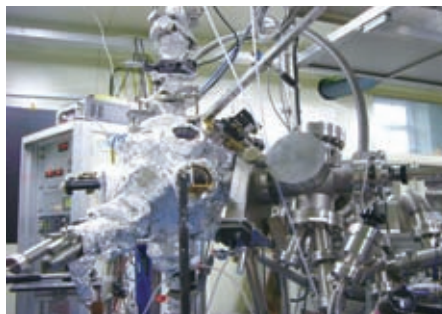


Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus

**By Suk Gee-hyun**

*Reporter of Campus Section*

**A**s Professor Jung Chang-uk enters his lab, his Indonesian students turn around from their computers to say hello. These are five highly talented students chosen by Jung when he was visiting Indonesia. “He’s unpredictable, energetic, and a workaholic,” says Reni Romasari, describing Jung. It has been only five-and-a-half years since he first became a professor of Physics at HUFS, but his work and enthusiasm are equal to any scholar in South Korea.



Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus

The equipments at Professor Jung's lab costs about US\$ 450,000

It all started when his high school teacher told him that he could live in a house with a pool if he did well in physics. Maybe it was his fate or maybe he was naive, but that became the turning point in his life. He finished his Bachelor of Science degree, his Master of Science degree, and his Ph.D. all at Seoul National University (SNU) in Physics. While working as a researcher at the Pohang University of Science and Technology Research Center (Postech), he got accepted to a project in Japan directed by Yoshinori Tokura, a Japanese scientist who was nominated for the Nobel Prize more than ten times. Along with a \$100,000 stipend, he was able to study new applications of science at the Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (AIST) in Japan. While he studied at AIST he got to work in an area that he was most interested in, advanced physics.


“Samsung is a huge company but eventually, there’s a high chance that it will be facing a downfall soon. As the technology improves, the data units go down, from megabit to gigabit and from gigabit to terabit. It is a question whether Samsung will be able to come up with a solution when faced with the limitation of downsizing,” Jung explained. In order to overcome such shortcomings, his studies mainly cover two areas in non-volatile memory: M-RAM and R-RAM. “Semiconductors, cell phones, LCDs, and such items are the cash cow. These are what

power the next-generation’s growth,” he said.

His foresight does not come for free. He wrote papers and did an unbelievable amount of research. During the last twelve years he wrote seventy papers, with over 1,200 citations by other scholars. This refers to the number of times that other scientists have quoted Jung’s papers in their papers. “We scientists take the number of citations pretty seriously. It shows if you have written good papers or not.”

He points to three things as the next red ocean. “The enlargement of capacity that Samsung is working on, alternative and mobile energy are going to be the next cash cows. It is hard to bear big outcomes when hoping for fast visible results. I learned from Japan during my stay at AIST that concentrating and a consistent support for science will eventually bring great results. With more motivation from students and long term goals, the future looks bright for Korea,” he says.

It seems like he has it all, but Jung says his personal goal is for one of his papers to be cited over

thousand times. Right now, there are only two people in Korea who have reached that milestone. But as a professor, he hopes his students will be able to become researchers who will discover new paradigms for science. “It will be rewarding to see my students leading scientific and social change through technology. I feel like a father raising my children,” said Jung. Though Jung might not be the students’ real father, he is more than just a professor for sure. 

*monicasuk@hufs.ac.kr*

### Jung Chang-uk

Department of Physics, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies  
Yongin, Kyunggi-Do, 449-791  
Cu-jung@hufs.ac.kr

B.A., 1994, Seoul National University (SNU)  
Master, 1996, Seoul National University (SNU)  
Ph.D., 1999, Seoul National University (SNU)



Suk Gee-hyun / The Argus



# Students' Housing Problem is too Tough to Live with

Because of high economic growth, and enthusiasm for education, many freshmen in a small town leave their house to go to college in the capital area or a major city. So, before entering university, many college-bound students and their families are busy finding boarding houses near their prospective campus. Students who already enrolled are not different than freshmen. But they can find rooms relatively more easily and for better rates.

But, finding a boarding house is not the last hassle. Some students can pay the key money for one semester to the landlord, but there are many who cannot afford the key money. So they pay a sum in advance as a security deposit and pay the balance in the form of monthly rental fees that eventually cost more than if they couldn't pay the lump sum at the time of occupancy.

This problem leads to other problems including the need to secure rental money each month plus the attendant stress. This article is an attempt to showcase the housing situation facing incoming students by analyzing specific concerns.





## Reference

**studio** : one-room unit

**boaring house** : a house which people pay to stay in for a short time like hasuk

**key money** : Instead of paying monthly rent, a renter will make a lump-sum deposit on a rental space = jeonse

**security deposit** : The renter pay an amount of money in advance as security against the payor's non-performance of a contractual obligation and renter then pays monthly rental fees(wolse)

**By Lee Bo-mi**

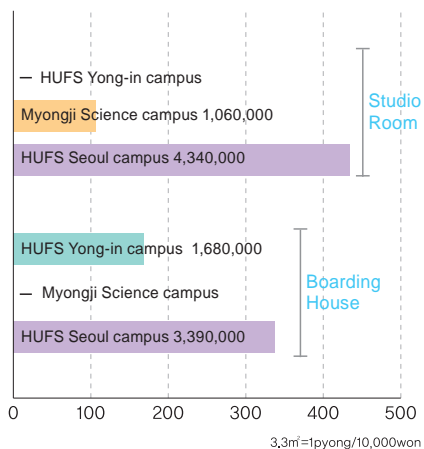
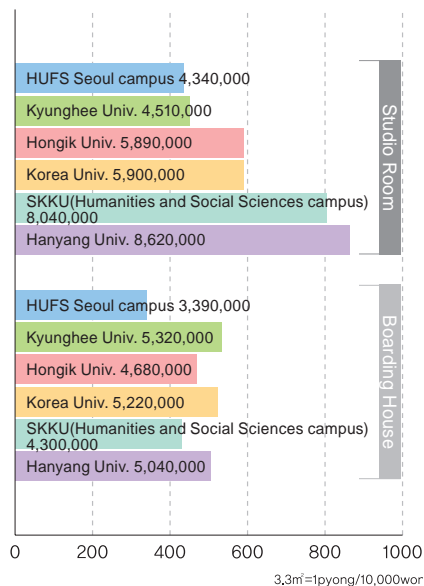
*Reporter of Campus Section*

## Situation and Students' Voice

A studio, one-room unit, near HUFs Seoul campus costs less than units around other universities (see chart cost per 3.3m<sup>2</sup> or a pyong in next page). Studios in Haengdang-dong near Hanyang University, for example, cost twice as much as those around HUFs. Boarding houses in Imun-dong cost 1.4 fold less than those in Haengdang-dong. Studios near HUFs Yongin campus cost a lot less compared to those near HUFs in Seoul and the Myongji science campus in Youngin, south side of Seoul, because of geographical, and other conditions. Nevertheless students of either campus share the same problem of expensive housing.

"I'd prefer paying the key money because I do not want to worry about housing every month. But guys like me always fall behind the schedule in terms of paying rent. For

### House Key Money of Each University



boarding students, dorm is essential.”, one of the HUFS students.

Some students who can not afford housing near the campus have to commute long distance, and there are some who commute to Seoul as far as Gyeonggi province. “I tried to find housing near the campus, but none suited my budget. However, students who live nearby are better off; I have to stay at a relative’s home, and pay them as much money as I would pay for a housing



Planning and Public Relations Team

near school. So I waste both time and money.”

### On-campus Accommodations

The Gleebe Dorm houses 662 students who represent 7.7% of HUFS Seoul campus student population. Gleebe Dorm gives priority to applicants with a physical handicap, students on social security, and students showing high grades (70%) and commute distance (30%). Only 4.1% of dorm students are from capital city while 74.8% are from various provinces.

The Gleebe Dorm opened in 2008, with a limited capacity as indicated. HUFS has no other sites to construct new dorms. This means many students will have problems related to housing.

The Mohyun Dorm has 736 students who account for 9.6 % of the HUFS Yongin campus students. It employs the same selection policy as HUFS Seoul campus. Of its current dorm occupants, 70 % are from provincial areas. In view of the on-going housing issues, it is imperative that HUFS build more dormitories at or near both campuses in the nearest possible future.

### We Need More Dorms!

A dormitory is necessary not only for housing but also for socializing among students living together as well as saving time so that students can concentrate on their studies. By living in a dorm, students can save money and a great deal of time. Also, parents whose students are living in a dorm less worry about their security, knowing that a dorm applies strict rules to its students.

According to an interview with some students, many students who are not living in a dorm say that they do not do so, only because they were not accepted due to a shortage of rooms. This shows that we need more dorms so that we will have enough to accept all the students who would like to live in them. In addition, students seem to think that having more dorms would solve the problem of their high cost of living. Here is a case from another university.

At Chonbuk National University (CBNU) in Jeonju, 45~50% of the student body comes from outside the city of Jeonju. However, compared to HUFSSans, the students of Chonbuk university do not seem to suffer from





The male Mohyun Dorm



The female Mohyun Dorm



CBNU residence hall

a shortage of rooms in dormitories, because CBNU is now constructing new dorms, which are scheduled to open in 2010. CBNU's dormitories can already accommodate up to 15% of its students and, through this building project, will be able to accommodate even more students who have commuting problems. So compared with the students of HUFS, at the university, fewer students are stressed out by having to pay a high housing cost.

HUFS, indeed, faces obstacles when it comes to constructing new dorms at this time. As for the Seoul campus, there is no space to build another building; in the case of Yongin, it would take a long time to finish constructing new dorms. However, good examples of the other universities exist, from which the University can learn some alternatives. Here is one case.

The Humanities and Social Sciences Campus of Sungkyunkwan University(SKKU) in Seoul does not have any dorms. Instead, SKKU supplies studio-type housing for the students who need housing services. This is possible because the university buys studios


around the campus and rents them to the students at lower rates than private housing units near the campus.

SKKU also directly contracts with studio owners, paying the deposit for the students. In this way, students can pay lower monthly fees than they would pay for private housing that they would rent on their own. Although the accommodation capacity of the studios is only 7.4% of the whole student population, the case of SKKU can be a good reference for HUFS.

HUFS, which already has some dorms can consider this method to make up for its lack of dorms. In this way, HUFS could give students the opportunity to save money on their cost of living, especially those whose academic grades are not sufficient for admission to the dorms, but who are still from other provinces.

### HUFS should Make Efforts for HUFSans

The root cause of the housing issue is the high price of land near the campus. The problem is compounded by the shortage of on-campus dorms at both

campuses as well as the delay in the construction of new dorms which are already in the plan. Given the gravity of housing crisis facing so many of its students, HUFS should take every initiative to help ease their problem in line with its vision of HUFS becoming a global university. 

*lbm9586@hufs.ac.kr*



Studios near SKKU

# Que Sera Sera

**2/3.** There is no place like home: Homesick HUFSans find shelter.

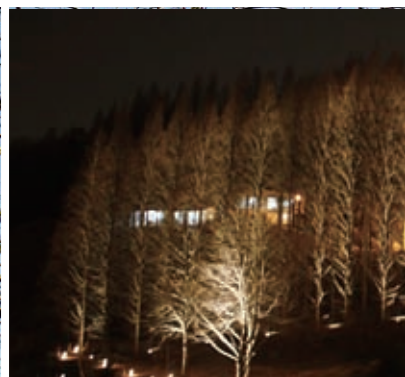
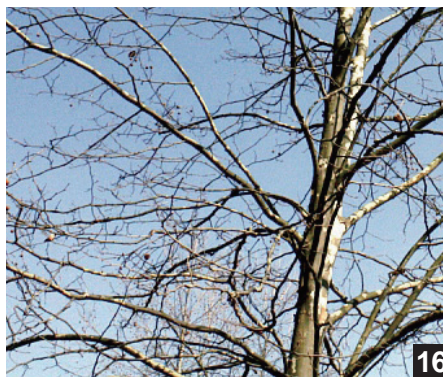
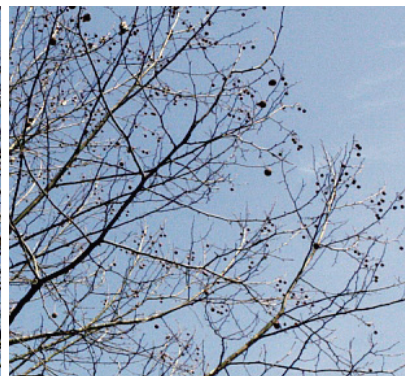
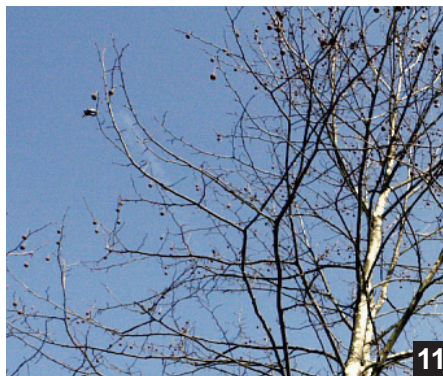
**5.** Every Jack has his Jill: Mr. and Mrs. “Jangseung” at HUFU understand international greetings.

**6/7.** A sound mind in a sound body: To walk or not to walk, that is the question.

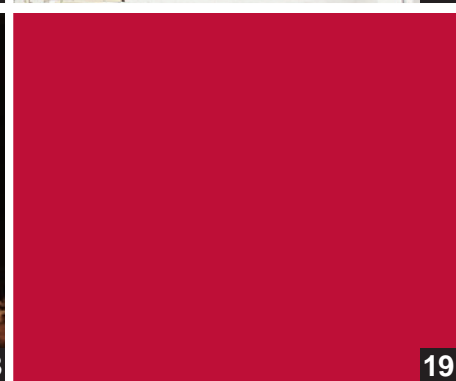
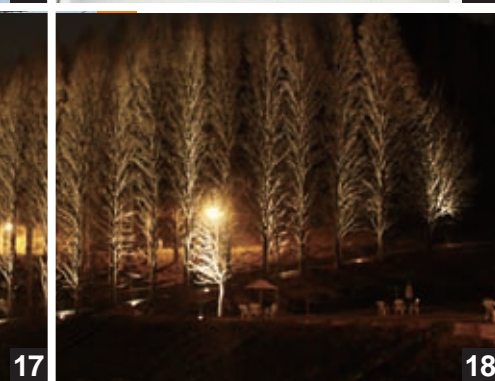
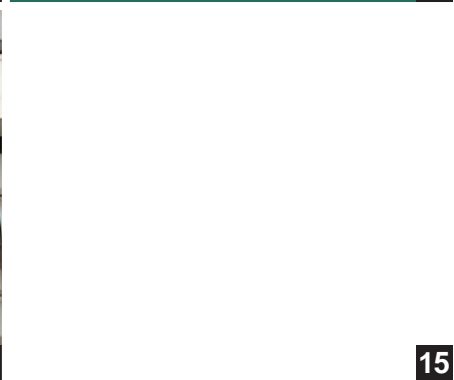
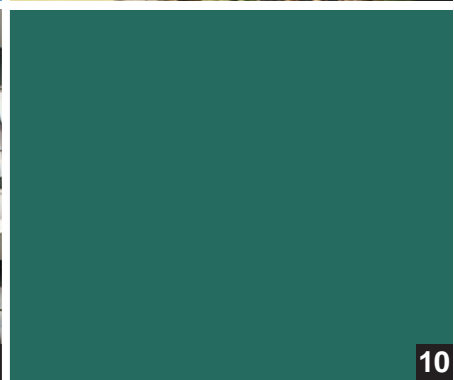
**8/9/13/14.** Rome was not built in a day: former Student Hall at Seoul campus.

**11/12/16.** Dead men tell no tales: A wiseman becomes a tree at Yongin campus.

**17/18.** No man can call again yesterday: Forest of Oblivion helps erase memory of painful past.









Cha Eon-jo / The Argus

Korean Literary Writers:

## *Which Way Should They Turn?*

Light and dark side of the Korean literature market

**By Cha Eon-jo**

*Reporter of Culture Section*

If you visit the bestseller corner of Kyobo Book Centre, you will get the idea that many literature works dominate a book chart. Specifically, you will find that among the best-selling books, Korean literary works stand out. “Duk-hye Ongju”, a Korean novel written by Kwon Bi-young, for example, beat “1Q84” by Murakami Haruki to become No.1 for 3 weeks. “Take Good Care of Mom” by Sin Kyung-suk sold more than 1.2 million copies, breaking one record after another. As the book list at Kyobo shows, works of literature especially attracted many Korean readers last year. Korean literary works also carried a great deal of weight on the book market last year. For instance, “Take Good Care of Mom” was absolutely the No.1 best-seller in 2009.

Does this mean that Korean literature market has a bright future though? On the bestseller lists from three main online bookstores, Aladdin, Yes24, Kyobo, there are three or four names of Korean writers like Sin Kyung-suk, Gong Ji-young, Han Bi-ya, and Jang Young-hee. According to Gang Kyung-



seok, who is a literary critic, last ten years of Korean literature shows a “polarization of the fiction market and a stagnation of poetry.” He observed that except only a small number of Korean writers, it is rare for writers to sell more than 10,000 copies. It is difficult enough to sell 3000 copies. Even so, “Gongmudoha” written by Kim Hoon, famous for his other work called “Namhansansung”, was published in last October and made the best sell list about ten days after printing. Lee Oe-su’s “Haak Haak” was number 1 on the chart for over nine weeks. These facts indicate that there are polarization in the field Korean literature, remaining so to date. How so? The reasons can be analyzed in four categories: publishing firms, debut system, writers, and readers.

### What makes the life of writers difficult?

The first reason for the polarization of Korean literature lies with publishing firms. This is because although one’s work should be judged by esthetic values based on truth, quality, and beauty in principle, there exists a tacit agreement among the publishing companies formed first by personal relations like school ties, regionalism, and kinship ties. That means a writer who is connected with someone at a publishing company can introduce his or her works to people more easily. The second thing is public opinion that is unspoken in the publishing world. That means if there is some kind of an assessment about a writer, it spreads fast throughout the entire publishing world. That’s why if a writer once becomes devaluated, he or she won’t be able to work again easily. The profit structure of publishing companies is another element affecting the Korean literary world. Major publishing companies such as Changbi, Minumsa, Munhakdongne, and Woongjin register sales annually to the tune of 50 billion won, promoting business with many familiar brand names. These firms publish

the works of such popular established authors as Shin Kyung-sook, Park Wan-seo, or Kim Hoon to make a big profit. In this way, they also publish the works of new or talented but unknown writers. This is because the companies cherish their brand value, trying to pick out outstanding works. However, the problem is that while the publishers won’t make a big loss when publishing a certain work two or three times, the authors lose big due to scant sales. To earn about 20million or 30million won a year, a writer should sell more than 10,000 copies.

The second reason has to do with the debut system, which is problematic in that it doesn’t have enough power to let authors continue writing. Generally, if one wins a contest, he or she directly becomes a star overnight. Is it an effective system for writers in the true meaning of the word, though? How come many writers have trouble working even if they have won a prize? Gang Kyung-seok, a literary critic, said that literary contests in Korea are also polarized. It means that there is a difference of scale and power among the contests. He explained, “The annual spring literary contests conducted by major newspapers can generate greater promotion for new writers and support so that they can let many people know about their works. However, local contests or contests by minor newspaper are not as productive.” Meanwhile, new literary awards have recently emerged offering 100million won to the winner. Now there are 7 such awards - Segye Literary Award and New Wave Literary Award of Chosun Ilbo, etc.. Except for the former, most awards had their start between 2007 and 2009. Munsa Novel Award came up in 2008 while MultiLiterary Award did in 2009. They are blamed for exerting a weak influence, however. Many prize-winning works don’t sell well, not even 100,000 copies. Literary awards were created in a rush at the end of the 1990s and, since 2000s, they have

---

The reasons can be analyzed in four categories: publishing firms, debut system, writers, and readers.

---

The novel “Take Good Care of Mom” written by Shin Kyung-suk





The book "Style" written by Baek Young-ok

become prosperous in that most of the best sellers grabbing attention by critics were prize-winning works. For instance, "The Last Fan Club of Sammi Superstars" written by Park Min-gyu who won Hankyoreh

Literary Award sold about 100,000 copies. "Misil" written by Kim Byeol-a and "My Wife Got Married by Park Hyeon-wuk", both of which received Segye Literary Award in 2005 and 2006 respectively, sold about 250,000 copies each. However, since 2007, no works of the prize winners were among the 10 best sellers, except for "Style" written by Baek young-ok, who received Segye Literary Award. What is the problem behind this phenomenon? The first problem is that there are many literary awards being so similar that readers become insensitive awards. Most awards that popped up recently were full-length novels, now looking for 'sources' leading to a drama or movie version. The awards thus lose their influence and become unable to buy support neither for prize winning writers nor for the critics. "The critics are in charge of the 'bridge' to connect writers and readers, finding valuable things in new works, so they are an important key to vitalizing Korea's

literary market," said Gang Kyung-seok, a critic. The debut system produces new critics but it can't be their full time profession. A considerable number of critics have other jobs such as teaching at a university.

On the other hand, authors themselves are also one of the causes for polarization because, as some people say, low-quality works affect the status of literary contests. As a matter of fact, Munsa Novel Award did not select any winner. Literature of Literature Award picked a winner in only the first contest in 2007 and then folded up without deciding what type of work would be the object of its prize. A judge for a contest offering 100 million won to a winner said, "It is not easy to choose a work befitting a big prize. Absent a high quality work, public interest and faith in literary contests will fade."

The last factor has to do with readers. The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism found that 3 out of 10 Korean adults did not read even a single book last year. It also found that adults read an average of 10.9 books a year, which was a notch lower than the 2008 percentage of 11.9. Furthermore, the survey also indicates that, on a monthly basis, a half of Korean adults don't read any books. Those who do read last year represented 71.7%, which was lower than they did in 2008. This figure is also the lowest since 1994 when the survey was started. Said Han Gi-ho, head of the Korean Publishers



Marketing Research Institute: “Fundamentally, readers play the key role in our line of business involving literary works. However, the scope of their attention is still so miniscule that the business of publishing literary works remain weak.”

### What’s the solution?

There are some politics involved in providing support for writers. The funding is determined by the Art Council of Korea, which is a national institution, and, others aimed at their respective local communities like Busan and Incheon Foundations for Arts & Culture. The politics thus works both nationally and locally. For example, they give money for books to companies to publish the works of literary writers. They also operate a guest House where writers gather to establish connections with one another.

Literary contests need to change to attract a wide range of readers with attention their various and distinctive tastes and preferences. “In Japan, there are literary awards like the Naoki and Akutagawa Prize, but they operate in different ways. For instance, the staff of a bookstore choose the winner, and the awards are limited to one genre. That’s why the contests can maintain their strength,” said Han Gi-ho.

Literary critics also need to involved more actively to help promote Korean literature. In America, for instance, the critics work as journalists so they don’t have to worry about additional jobs. The publishers in Korea should also keep a keen eye on emerging writers without being too market oriented.

On the other hand, writers should work harder to raise their quality. Today, a huge number of writers who win in contests come from the departments of creative writing in universities. Go Myung-chul, a literary critic, had this to say: “There is no doubt that university departments of creative writing help Korean literature to grow.” But he added saying, “Did the quantitative development enhance the quality of literature?” He stressed the importance of improving the educational system. He said many writing classes are excessively engaged in practical



techniques while teachers who are currently authors are likely to infuse their literary preference into students, thus curbing their imagination and making it difficult for them to find new esthetic values. Therefore, he argues, schools should focus on lectures which can help students develop their imaginative, creative thinking.

Gang Kyung-seok, also a literary critic, suggested that Korean literature go abroad. He said that going overseas would be “an effective way to overcome limitations of the domestic market whose readership is weak. So if works of Korean literature are sold in foreign countries, the number of readers at home will increase.” He added that to introduce our works to foreigners, the content of literary works should cover a broader subject matter that foreign readers can understand and find impressive.” Some critics believe that many Korean literature works are too regionally oriented, being tied to Korean modern history. However, this does not mean that the writers should avoid Korean material to export their works overseas. Instead, they can think about how to make foreigners understand Korean things. Although “Take Good Care of Mom” by Shin kyung-suk is strongly tinged with Korean ethos, it is selling in 15 different countries thanks to its universal undercurrents of empathy. Novels like Mom could potentially set a new type of genre appealing to a larger audience as we try to build up a readership abroad. 📖

*eunjo814@hufs.ac.kr*





# Another Chance, Another Life in Korea

**By Lee Kyeong-eun**

*Associate Editor of Campus Section*

**T**he Argus first met Choi Won-geun, a HUFS alumnus (Russian-00) and now the NANCEN Project Manager last semester. He was a special lecturer of one of the courses The Argus took. A non-governmental organization for refugees, NANCEN may not be familiar to most HUFSSans, but it was the very reason for him to give a special lecture. To make HUFSSans become aware of the importance of refugee issues, The Argus met Choi around New Year's Day for the second time to learn about his life and his activities.

**Argus:** *You majored in Russian with a double major in Political Science and Diplomacy. Were there any special reasons for selecting these fields of study?*

**Choi Won-geun (Choi):** Yes, several reasons. Actually, I have been concerned about North Korea because my grandparents fled to South Korea during the Korean War, leaving some of their family members behind in the north. In other words, they have been separated since the 1950s. So I became interested in North Korea naturally, and my choice of Russian language as a major had a lot to do with my family history. I thought that if I majored in Russian, I could obtain various data or

documents about North Korea written in Russian, which would enable me to understand North Korea better.

But with a dual major in Russian and Political Science and Diplomacy, I developed a higher perspective that broadened my interest in issues including North Korean refugees and their human rights. There was a study group which had a relationship with AI (Amnesty International) which consisted of Political Science and students including me. Following advice from AI, we held a meeting on the question of refugees in which I became increasingly interested.

**Argus:** *In your special lecture, you*

*said that your studies at HUFS gave you a lot of benefits for your work. In what ways specifically?*

**Choi:** That is quite true. One of the NANCEN activities is legal aid, that is, helping refugees to go through legal processes entirely in Korean language. Southeast Asians have little problem in language as they are rather good at speaking English, and they can learn Korean. The refugees from the Middle East or Africa, however, have a serious problem in understanding the legal processes. Fortunately, HUFS can help NANCEN with interpretations between languages like Arabic, Persian, French and Korean.

**Argus: What is your job at NANCEN?**

**Choi:** Everything.

**Argus: Everything?**

**Choi:** Yeah. Even though I cover nearly all of the jobs at NANCEN, legal assistance like selecting lawyers is my principal responsibility. Besides, I take part in promoting public awareness, namely, educating the public. It's my favorite activity. So I deliver lectures frequently. Last winter I led a seminar about refugees with 25 students. Oh, I'm running a blog about my job and refugees ([blog.naver.com/frchch](http://blog.naver.com/frchch)).

**Argus: What is the most unforgettable case you've had at NANCEN?**

**Choi:** We had a very heartbreaking case involving a refugee from Southeast. NANCEN met him and his family after their appeal was denied, that is to say, they were not permitted to stay in Korea. There was nothing we could do for him except helping delay his deportation to his home country for reasons of his ill health -- he had diabetes. Despite our efforts, his family except him had to leave Korea. Unfortunately, they were sent to their home county. Worse yet, some of his family members ran into trouble like kidnapping and even rape by extreme fundamentalists. Upon being notified of their trouble, he decided to return home despite the fact that, once they became a refugee, people seldom go back to their home country in fear of reprisal. Although we all tried to dissuade him from returning home, we ended up buying him a plane ticket and he went. It's a story that took place last fall. We still do not hear anything from him. It's a tragedy. The Korean government should not take the refugee issues lightly.

**Argus: Some students dream to join the NGO. What is your advice for them?**

**Choi:** Many students do. When I talk with them, however, I feel they have vague notions like "I wanna be a part of the UN" or "I am interested in working a global environment." I want to advise them to think

hard about what really interests them. In other words, it is important to look for one special issue over which your beats. Then look deeper into the specifics of an issue like human rights and identify what you'd be really interested in -- children's rights, or women's rights, etc.

Secondly, from my experience, I want students who have a warm heart to be away from the actual scenes problems occur. That is, the real scenes are very cold with many limits. That's why they ask NGO activists to be rational. The warm-hearted people can't handle the cold reality calmly because of the passion. On the other hand, the rational people can remove the limits slowly and practically. I want the warm-hearted activists to stay indoors rather than outdoors as researchers or scholars.


**Argus: How about you?**

**Choi:** I'm going to study the refugee issues indoors(laugh).

**Argus: What is the ultimate goal of NANCEN?**

**Choi:** NANCEN's ultimate objective is to ensure that all refugees in Korea gain full independence by helping them develop their full potential.

**Argus: What do you mean by "developing their potential"?**

**Choi:** Actually, most refugees have a high level of education and about half of them have attended college. The reason why these educated people are expelled from their countries has mostly to do with antigovernment activities. Even though they have very weak social positions both in Korea and in their home countries, they are capable of being lawyers, doctors or accountants. This means that when the refugees go back to their countries, there is the possibility of them becoming high-ranking officials. 

[leeblanc@hufs.ac.kr](mailto:leeblanc@hufs.ac.kr)



NANCEN and the related refugees have a party commemorating the exile.







# You Can't be as Good as Me

**Lee Yeong-eun**

*Associate Editor of Culture Section*

**W**hy should I study when I am so stupid anyway? Does such a comment take you down your memory lane? Or do you sense familiarity when you hear “It’s such an easy question. Why can’t you do it?” Such remarks may reverberate with the childhood of Koreans. When we are school children, academic performance seems to define our worth.

Are we too quick to attach the label of failure onto the rejects?

Three best friends, Terry, Kok Pin and Boon Hock come from an academically inferior class in Singapore. Through their stories, the Singaporean hit ‘I NOT Stupid’ wishes to explore the segregation occurring in the educational system. Burdened with the labels of failure, the academically inferior students are not only provided with fewer opportunities to develop their potential further, but are often called names and berated for their perceived uselessness. However, their

school life meets a turnabout when a new teacher, Miss Lee, shows up in their lives. Encouraged by her idealistic belief that everyone has their own strength, the boys find the motivation to face the obstacles in their academic journey. The film seeks to address why Singaporeans favor academically stronger students while humiliating and putting down students who are not performing up to their expectations.

The most important message the movie actually tries to bring across is how the expectations of society affect the students themselves. It may be true that some students who are expected to perform well are motivated to perform better. However, for some students, this expectation may lead to pressure that might further exhaust students in their performance. So, is it possible for academically weaker students to perform well if people take the leap of faith to believe in them, and wish them to do well?

## Segregation through Streaming

As for Singapore’s educational

system, streaming to separate students into different learning groups has had certain merits. Definitely, by placing students with similar academic ability into the same class, the teacher can manage the progress of the students more or less at similar level. Surely, the implementation of streaming in different educational systems around the world emphasizes the confidence educators have in streaming.

However, the problem arises when society brings its biased viewpoint into the picture. When Miss Lee asked a hardened veteran how to better serve the needs of her academically weaker students, the answer she received was ‘Don’t bother! Focus on the better class.’ The fate of the students is already decided the moment they are grouped into their respective classes.

In my personal experience, having the good fortune to do well on my test placed me into the academically stronger class. My experience was enriching - I was provided with opportunities such as field trips, student exchanges and competitions. Yet, an educational system can be

impeccable in providing the best for one group to grow, but at the same time, can be negligent towards others. Friends from weaker classes recount how they often had to put up with accusations of theft and degrading comments by teachers. There is no level playing field for weaker students to progress.

Furthermore, while Singaporeans encourage students with academic strength to develop their non-academic talents, they can be myopic to the talents of those who are academically weaker. In the movie, while Kok Pin may be a talented artist, his teachers and parents dismiss his sketches as a sign of laziness.

A talent that should be celebrated becomes ammunition to feed the false image of academically weaker students as failures. Every child should be encouraged to explore and develop his or her strength. It is a form of irrational discrimination to provide only one group of students with the opportunities to discover their holistic worth as well as to build their confidence.

Even in Korea, academically weaker students face such pressures constantly. When asked, my friends in the Korean educational system sheepishly admitted to being bullies of their academically weaker peers. It is not because they derive pleasure from bullying the academically weaker, but because by their criteria, the academically weaker are stupid and lower human beings compared to them. Some friends of mine, who were unfortunate enough to be labeled as academically inferior, also recount horrible experiences of being looked down on by both teachers and parents. To them, studying was meaningless because no one ever believed that they would ever amount to anything significant.



### Tragic Self-fulfilling Prophecy: Pygmalion Effect


Undeniably, labeling academically weaker students as inferior and lazy, could shatter their confidence. Besides denying them the courage to grow, I feel the most important damage is that the academically weaker students will internalize the low expectations of themselves and often fail accordingly.

Presented as the Pygmalion Effect by former Harvard Professor Rosenthal in 1968, students will perform the way you expect them to perform. Considering this, most students from the academically stronger class will proceed to better schools when they pass their final year examinations. However, weaker students are more likely to labor their way into poorer and less popular courses and schools. I believe that this is due less to academic superiority and more to a self-fulfilling prophecy. Students from the stronger class can be empowered by their teachers and parents' belief in them. They are driven to do well. However, students in the weaker class, by a twisted impulse to realize the expectations of them, have no will to prove others wrong. They basically fulfill the prophecy others set for them, to be inferior compared to the others

and ultimately give up on themselves.

Success breeds success. Encouraged by their initial accomplishments, it is of no surprise that students from the stronger classes continue to seek opportunities and excel. Meanwhile, the weaker students are happy to maintain their status quo. They do not see a point in doing well, since they are not expected to do well. This reinforces even further the image of infallibility that streaming has gained by accurately predicting the fate of students. However, this is purely an illusion? An illusion that exists only because we believe in it. In doing so, we empower one group of fortunate students, while we effectively extinguish the sparks inherent in students who fare worse in their examinations for whatever reasons.

### Children's Right: Equal Education

I believe that besides being entitled to receive an education, children should be entitled to receive one where there is no prejudice toward their abilities. They should be nurtured with the genuine belief that they are able to blossom. At the end of the show, encouraged by Miss Lee's consistent effort, both Terry and Boon Hock manage to excel in their final examinations and enter better schools. Meanwhile, Kok Pin is willing to draw again owing to Miss Lee's belief in his talent. Likewise, students who are unfairly labeled as failures by segregation in education should receive a similar quality of care and support from their educators. If not, the attempt to give the best to one group will simultaneously neglect the needs of others. 

Yeongeunlee@hufs.ac.kr



# HISTORIC CHINESE SAGE

## Ideal Antiwar Activist



By Jeong Jin-kyeong

Reporter of Theory & Critique Section

**T**he current era is one in which the physical and psychological distances separating societies are rapidly being diminished.

In this day and age, problems that arise in one part of the world affect people and regions everywhere. This is particularly the case with acts of war and extreme violence, which carry with them far-flung ramifications for the scope of humanity. This is evidenced by America's wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, or the global jihadist movement pursued by religious and quasi-political groups.

Given the current state of the world, The Argus will be taking a closer look at the anti-war and pacifist ideologies of the ancient Chinese philosopher Mo-tzu.

### The activist philosopher

Hundreds of years before the birth of Jesus Christ, a Chinese sage by the name of Mo-tzu propagated a theory of peace that continues to resonate to the present day. A recent book translated by Kee Sae-chun presents the ancient philosopher as the "Humanity's first peace activist."

According to his teachings, Mo-tzu flatly denies the role of war in promoting national growth. Professor Sin Yeong-bok of Sungkonghoe University writes in his book "Lecture" that Mo-tzu's ideology of peace "went against the conventional wisdom of his age," pointing to the enormous loss of life and damage to property brought about by incessant warfare. "In return for victory, one is faced by the tragedy of countless defeated nations."

In his text of the same name, Mo-tzu compares war to a doctor "who treats 10,000 patients, only four or five of whom actually recover from their ailments." As with the doctor, wars generate minimal gain while resulting in overwhelming suffering.

Mo-tzu's activities went beyond simply preaching. He was an activist, who engaged in the world around him. As one tale relates, when word reached Mo-tzu that a war was erupting between two neighboring states, he rushed to the battlefield to try and persuade the two rival armies from clashing. From Mo-tzu, war was simply the destruction of innocent life, and for generals unwilling to heed his teaching, the stalwart philosopher would lead a group of followers to engage in non-violent resistance of an invading army.

Mo-tzu's text relates how he once traveled from his home state of Song to the state of Chu, where he prevailed upon the king to give up his plans for an impending invasion and instead divert his war funds towards peaceful purposes.

In the midst of bloody wars that stained the country a deep

crimson, Mo-tzu's philosophy of Bi-jeon (anti-war) and Bi-gong (pacifism) represents one of the earliest anti-war movements in history and is a direct predecessor to the movements of today.

### Who is Mo-tzu and what is Mohism?

Mo-tzu (B.C 470? ~ 390?, China) was born a few years after Confucius' death and was raised during what is known as the Spring and Autumn Warring States period of China's history, when the Zhou dynasty's feudal society was swiftly collapsing under the weight of warring feudal lords. Like other thinkers of his age, Mo-tzu puts his mind toward resolving the conflicts of his tumultuous age.

Although originally a follower of Confucius in his youth, Mo-tzu came to see in the teaching an over-emphasis on external ritual, without any active engagement in real-world affairs. Mo-tzu came to see ritual as a waste of government funds and an ineffective means of preventing war. As such he left the teaching to found his own school, which became the basis of the scholarly movement known as Mohism.

Founded in the 5th Century BC, Mo-tzu's school taught the centrality of what he called "Universal Love," which when put into practice reflected a love without distinction. In contrast Confucian philosophy upheld the principle of "Benevolence," while maintaining a clear boundary between the love one held toward one's family and that for one's fellow countrymen.

Among Confucian scholars, Mencius in particular launched fierce attacks on Mo-tzu's teaching, describing anyone who did not uphold filial piety as the highest of virtues as a "beast who did not know his parents."

Mohism's emphasis on living a utilitarian and frugal life, as well as the priority it placed on scientific thought as opposed to superstition, also placed Mo-tzu and his followers on the fringes of society. After Confucianism was adopted as the state ideology during the Han Dynasty, Mohism went into rapid decline with followers eventually persecuted as members of a heretical sect.



### Can Mo-tzu's ideals be realized?

For the current age, world peace could not come at a better time. But the gulf separating such an ideal situation from the complex reality of modern day issues is vast.

In the film "Battle of Wits" (the original title was "Mohist Attack"), Chinese film star Andy Lau plays famed Mohist devotee Hyeok-ri, while Korean actor and Hufs graduate Ahn Seong-gi plays the role of a military general from the state of Zhao, which is preparing a force of 100,000 to invade the neighboring Liang state.

The film's plot revolves around efforts by Hyeok-ri to protect the state of Liang by creating a bulwark and series of traps for Zhao's army. His success wins him enormous popularity, drawing the ire of local officials who banish him from the country, whereupon the armies of Zhao, upon learning that the Mohist hero has left the country, launch a second attack. Hyeon-ri returns to a Liang in ruins, departing with several orphans in tow.

Defending Liang from the aggressions of Zhao, Hyeo-ri embodies his Mohist beliefs. In one scene, a woman from Liang asks whether he would run to the defense of Zhao if it came under attack. "Without question," is his reply. "I would do that without hesitation." To put the question in a more modern context, if Korea were to invade Japan, could a Korean Mohist come to the defense of Japan?

For most there are emotional limitations that prevent us from living up to our ideals. As with Mo-tzu's teaching, reality often prevents the realization of perfect peace.



### Towards a new era

As the long-established walls of Confucian doctrine that have held sway across East Asia are eroded by successive waves of Western influence, with its emphasis on individualism, capitalism, rationalism, etc., the teachings of Mo-tzu are again reemerging.

Western culture gained global preeminence primarily through military might, however, which has led to a certain perception of peace activists as fringe elements. "Today people praise war heroes but discriminate against peace activists as members of a cult," said Kee Sae-chun in his translated work.

With conflicts heightening around the world, with a Korea that remains divided, perhaps Mohism can present an alternative to the strife-torn approach to global affairs that we are currently a part of. ☞

ssjss@hufs.ac.kr





# Piety and Justice

## Living with Nammyeong's Spirit of Sancheonje

By Jeong Jin-kyeong

Reporter of Teory&critique Section

It is widely considered that Confucianism, especially Neo-Confucianism has been stereotyped and impractical since the strivings and purges arose, because of the distortions of Japanese Imperialism. Though Neo-Confucian ideas have contributed to the morals, traditions, and practices of Korea, this has not always been the case, at least not entirely. Most people, though, don't know enough about Neo-Confucianism to realize this.

With the intention of holding up a mirror to the practical aspects of Neo-Confucianism, this reporter from The Argus paid a visit to Sancheonje near Mount Jiri. Sancheonje was established by Nammyeong Cho Shik with the intention of teaching practical ideas and ways of living.

After the Injo Restoration, by which a coup and usurpation banished Joseon's 15th king Goanghaegoon and the ruling government, the Bukin party, which supported Goanghaegoon and was comprised of Nammyeong's disciples, was exiled from civil positions by the new party, Seoin. For this

reason, Nammyeong's activism, though significant in the history of Korean Confucian philosophy, was isolated and those who followed him were tortured at first, and then marginalized ever since that time.

On this first visit to Sancheonje, climbing in the mountains was an exertion for me, but the snow covered mountains make the world quiet and feeling the cool breezes on Mt. Jiri made me feel like a well-versed ascetic, or so it now seems. Despite the difficulties and exhaustion of the hike, I found that Nammyeong Cho Shik's noble spirit in Sancheonje still survives and welcomes all travelers.

### What is Sancheonje?

Sancheonje was the dwelling place of the famous Confucian scholar, Nammyeong Cho Shik, during the middle of the Joseon Dynasty. It was built during the Middle Ages in the Choseon style in the time of Myeongjong's reign, in 1561. It was rebuilt during Soonjo's reign in 1818.

Sancheonje has been designated historical site No. 305 because of Nammyeong's scholarship and is located in the Cho Shik ruins in

Sicheon-myeon Sancheong-goon South Gyeongsang Province. The region is divided into the Sa-ri region and Won-ri region such that Sancheonje is in the Sa-ri region along with the memorial monument and headstone, Byeol Myo.

### Nammyeong and Sancheonje

Cho Shik was born in February of 1501 during the reign of Yeonsangoon and died in 1572 during the reign of Seonjo. Nammyeong was Cho Shik's pen name. From the time when he was a child, he was famous for his brilliance in Kyeongsangwoo-do Province (today's South Gyeongsang Province). In company with Toegye Yi Hwang, he led one of the two schools of Nammyeonghakpa in the Yeongnam area. From 1538 the government often tried to appoint him to various public offices, but he refused these appointments. Instead, he chose to train his disciples and sent appeals to the government for political reform.

Particularly, refusing the appointment to Danseonghyeongam, the Danseong appeal, which Nammyeong mailed to the government, criticized not only King Myeongjong's mother, Queen Moonjeong and her party, but also the administrative officers. It provoked



controversy throughout the nation because of his being critical of the king directly. So then he turned to study and became a scholar.

His profound knowledge was deep, but his fame was higher. Because of this, many scholars sought to study with Nammyeong. So, Nammyeong made the move to Jinju Deokcheondong, built Sancheonje in 1561, and stayed there the rest of his life. For those twelve years, he wrote and he taught his activism and things such as tactics and martial arts, and sent petitions charging corrupt minor officials with taking charge of tribute collection.

In accordance with Nammyeong's study, his disciplines, who were Oh Geon, Cheong In-hong, Ha Hang, Kim Woo-ong, Choi Yeong-kyeong, and Jeong Goo, among others, took decisive action in the Im Jin War with the Japanese in 1592 as resistance generals.

### Practical Neo-Confucianism

Neo-Confucianism was introduced to Korea by An Hyang in late Goryeo around 1290. Since the Joseon period began, Neo-Confucian scholarship was advanced by scholars such as Kim Jong-jik, Jeong Yeo-chang, and Cho Kwang-jo, among others. Nammyeong Cho Shik was active in this age as a Confucian scholar.

Living in the spirit of this age, Nammyeong explored the truth of Neo-Confucianism deeply. He not only boldly confronted the era's practical problems of military service and taxes but also saw

that Neo-Confucianism consumed too much scholarship while not inspiring much work. Nam Myeong remedied this by insisting that theory serve practice, emphasizing that facing reality is the only reason to study.

Since the core of Soo Gi Chi In Confucianism is "the salvation of the real world through self-discipline,"


Nammyeong's theory dealt with two concepts, self-discipline (Soogi) and the salvation of the real world (Chiin, the principle of ruling). The former is Piety (Gyeong) and the latter is Justice (Eui), which is extracted from the Joo Yeok, one of the three main books of Confucian Philosophy.

Piety is concerned with the inner person in the Song Dynasty and cultivating an understanding and generous heart. Inscribing the words of Justice and Piety on windows and walls, Nam Myeong chose to highlight these ideas. He thought of Piety as a tool that always awakens the mind by paying attention to evil thoughts and getting rid of them. Justice is concerned with the world outside the body, where Piety is fulfillment within, and in this way, the two are connected. Nammyeong's Justice is strict and fair and springs forth from Piety.

For Nammyeong, Piety and Justice are joined in a person carrying out right actions with a right mind. It is revealed in the "Gyeongjeui sword," Nammyeong's sword embodied in ideas and expressed in words that lead a person to right action. Nammyeong's

ideas have influenced succeeding generations, such as the leaders of the resistance who were inspired by his ideas in the Hideyoshi invasion, so the realist school of Confucian ideas of the Silhak scholars exist in late Joseon, and even up to now.

### Gone with the Wind from Sancheonje

Nammyeong's age in the mid-Joseon period is characterized by transition. Although the Hunkupa party tried to maintain supremacy, the Sarimpa party also tried to gain power. Subsequently, Sarimpa took political power, but Sarimpa split in two and an age of strife began. In this situation, to study was a luxury, indulgence, and was necessary to concentrate on the problems of people and society. Nammyeong Cho Shik and his disciplines chose to pay attention to issues that affected people who were neglected by those in power. This trend continues right up to the present day. Dosan Ahn Chang-ho's ideas of commitment and former President Kim Dae-jung's "Impractical conscience is on the side of evil," are in substantial agreement with Nammyeong's idea of scolding when Mal (talk) is more than Mal (horse). Nammyeong's idea of Justice and Piety, "When do you behave? Tomorrow? In the distant future?" still echos down through the ages. The humble seeker from The Argus proceeded from Sancheonje to the real world with the wind and Nammyeong's spirit at his back, and continues to hear his rebuke. 

ssjss@hufs.ac.kr







## Real Globalization of HUFS


**D**o you remember the first day when you entered HUFS? I was so nervous about just being a university student. Besides, I had to start learning Serbian, which was extremely different from Korean and which led me to encounter another culture while in university.

At first it was hard for me to adjust to university life while trying to grasp a European language at the same time. Like students of all languages, Korean learners of Serbian, one of several Slavic languages, have tremendous difficulty. Despite this, I was lucky to receive assistance from many respectable professors, senior students and kind friends in learning the language.

The Serbian language department has relatively few students compared with other majors, which allows for more comfortable and family-like atmosphere, making it easier for me to learn Serbian more quickly and efficiently. Indeed, without such kindhearted and pleasant friends, I would have grown bored during my last few semesters. The cooperation and help of

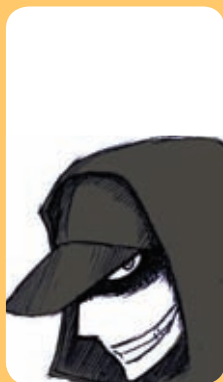
my friends was a great source of enjoyment to me throughout many activities at university.

During my last two semesters, I took my first basic steps toward reaching an advanced level in my study of the Serbian language. Difficulties will likely be there in the semesters ahead, but I want to study on in silence hoping for a better future. In spite of its difficulty, I do not regret my choice of major. Instead, I am resolved to pursue self-training to become a specialist in Eastern Europe.

I read a recent article about Park Chul who was re-elected as HUFS president. In the article, I felt his strong will to make HUFS a more global and prestigious university. I agree with that goal, but I think that simply teaching language does not qualify as globalization. There must be more to a society than teaching its language. Thus, President Park should consider not only target languages but also know how to use them effectively in their respective societies. 

**Park Seung-ju**

*(Dept. of South Slavic Studies - 09)*



**Lee Jong-ho**

Cartoonist  
of The Argus





*The Argus is waiting for  
passionate cub-reporters the 85th*



Qualification\_ 10 Freshman Written Examination\_ March 29 Interview\_ March 30  
E-mail\_ [theargus@hanmail.net](mailto:theargus@hanmail.net) Contact Details\_ (Editor-in-Chief) 010-9947-7486  
(Seoul bureau) 02-2173-2508 (Yongin bureau) 031-330-4113

\* To issue the application form, visit GlobeeDorm 402(Seoul), or Student Hall 211(Yongin)



Celebrating Freshman admission,  
the most challenging environment there is.  
You can catch the opportunity in The Argus.  
We are waiting for you,  
**cub-reporter.**

