

# The Argus

First Issue Published July 1, 1954

No. 450  
NOVEMBER 23, 2012



## FESTIVAL OR NIGHTMARE?



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 and academism.

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Printed by HONG DESIGN | Tel: 464-5167 Fax: 464-5168

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## Cover Story

What is your opinion on "Ju-jeom" or pubs that are hosted by students on the campus? The school decided to ban the opening of ju-jeom on campus in September, and this has led to a dispute between the school, students and the General Student Council (GSC). Read and find out what happened and how the prevailing diverse range of views are.

### In-depth on Campus

Students are no longer allowed to open ju-jeom on campus as the school made a declaration aiming to improve the drinking culture which included the prohibition of ju-jeom on campus. Following the declaration, the General Student Council (GSC) insisted that it was a unilateral decision. The University claims that they had given sufficient notification to the GSC before they made the declaration. The GSC opposed the school's declaration reiterating that the school is infringing their autonomous rights. Who is telling the truth? Let us find out with The Argus. How about you?

### How about You?

This topic, the banning of ju-jeom, is a hot potato on the campus, but what are the students' actual views on this? The Argus spoke to some students to find out their opinions. Find out what other students think about this hot issue.


# Open Your Eyes Wide, or You Will be Trapped

A leak of hydrochloric acid fumes occurred at a chemical factory in the city of Gumi, North Gyeongsang Province, on Sept. 27. In an explosion following the leak, five workers were killed and 16 others were injured. The fumes itself is very harmful to humans and about 500 residents were exposed to great danger. However, there was not any mention on the seriousness of the leak. Instead, the media simply reported the decreased pollution level of the fumes.

On the next day, the media reported that there is a suspicion that a presidential candidate, Ahn Cheolsoo, plagiarized in his academic papers. Seoul National University, where the candidate wrote his theses, said the university has not confirmed the matter -- the university stated on Nov. 16 the papers are not plagiarized which raised the suspicion. Although the matter was unconfirmed, the media exaggerated the suspicion through frequent reports. With news repeatedly showing the suspicion, it became the big issue among people during the Korean Thanksgiving Day. While everyone focused on the candidate, the victims of the Gumi leak could not get much attention.

It was 10 days after the leak that the government announced measures to help the victims. Despite the late reaction of the government, the media only focused on the Ahn's papers. Why did the media hesitate to criticize the government for the late investigation on the leak? Questions arose that the government ordered the media to hide the details of the leak and divert people's attention by exaggerating the suspicion of plagiarized paper.

What media provide us, are they always straight facts? From these two cases, we can see possibility of media reporting partial information. The media has infringed the people's right to know and the unconfirmed information from the media has led to confusion among people.

It has been only several months since the strike for media independence has called off. With the government and government-related people controlling the media, reporters working for the media had been facing problems reporting impartially and honestly. Even though the strike was called off, the doubt still lingers in our minds. The two cases mentioned above may also reflect the doubt. It is said that the role of the intellectual, including university students, is to keep watching the current affairs. Seeing the media intentionally reporting biased information and leaving out unfavorable incidents, we need to take a critical look at reports, acknowledging we can be deceived. 

*Kang Young-joon*  
**Editor-in-Chief**



**Correction:** The editorial of last issue contains an uncertain expression which might lead to a misinterpretation. Jan-Hunrich Bieritz, an exchange student from Germany, sent a correction of the statement "In Germany, the Czech Republic and other countries, sex offenders can be physically castrated." According to him, the constitution of Germany does not allow a physical castration against individual's will. Criminals are not physically castrated without their written consent. They also have to be older than 25 and be informed about all consequences and possible adverse effects in advance.



# Dual-Degree Program with SUNY Oswego Under Discussion

**H**UFS President Park Chul signed a Memorandum of Understanding with on Oct. 10 president of State University of New York (SUNY), Oswego, Deborah Stanley, to implement a dual-degree program 10 at HUFS Historical Archives in Seoul Campus.

According to the contract, the 2+2 double degree program will be established to enable students to study for two years at HUFS and two years at the SUNY. Students who enroll in the program can receive two degrees from the two universities. The presidents of both universities conducted discussions to promote the relationship between the universities and put together a superior student exchange program.

But the International Affairs Team (IAT) of HUFS maintains that there are a few

important procedures to complete before the program will be fully operational. "To run this program, both universities will have to approve the subjects and curricula after deciding how they fit the needs of their respective students. Also, both universities need to determine the qualifications the students must meet to be accepted into the program. So the exact date of completion has not yet been determined," said Kang Ha-rim, assistant manager of IAT.

HUFS has already operated many exchange and dispatch student programs with other foreign universities, including SUNY. When this double-degree program goes into effect, students will then have another opportunity to study abroad.

"That we can broaden our choices to select



▲ In signing the MOU, HUFS President Park Chul and Deborah Stanley, the president of SUNY Oswego, promise to put together a superior student exchange program.

exchange student programs is just great. But I hope the University helps students study abroad without great burdens," said Park Kyoung-hyeon, a student from the Department of English Interpretation and Translation.

**By Kim Eun-young**

# Exchange Program Signed with Azerbaijan

**H**UFS President Park Chul attended the Baku International Humanitarian Forum from Oct. 2 to 8 at the invitation of the Azerbaijani government.

Park signed an international exchange agreement on Oct. 5 with the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy (ADA) for fostering experts on the Central Asian and Caucasus regions. Providing American education systems and conducting lectures in English, ADA is recognized as one of the most outstanding schools in Azerbaijan. ADA was established five years ago.

On the next day, Park attended a scholarship interchange signing ceremony at Baku State University (BSU).


With the enthusiastic attention of 300 faculty members from BSU and seven broadcasters, HUFS and BSU both agreed on a scholarship and student interchange program between the Korean Department of BSU and the Turkish-Azerbaijani Department of HUFS.

On that same day, he also visited Azerbaijan University of Languages (AUL) and agreed to promote student exchanges and scholar cooperation. In 2007, HUFS and AUL signed a contract that allows both universities to exchange two students every year.

Co-hosted by the Azerbaijani and Russian governments, BIHF gathered presidents of 11 countries, 15 Nobel Prize winners,



▲ HUFS President Park Chul(R) shake hands with the President of the Baku National University.

and many figures such as university deans, scholars, and journalists from around world. 

**By Kim Ji-hyeock**

# Honorary Alumnus Awards Scholarship to Students with High Grades

Five students, who gained high grades in spite of their needy circumstances, received a scholarship by an alumnus donor named Lee Deok-seon, president of Allied Technology Group (ATG), a company which manages computer security.

HUFS held a ceremony for the donor and recipients on Oct. 8 at a conference room in the Main Building. The scholarship and conference hall were both named for the donor. "I hope that students can learn to dedicate themselves to the community. To do this, students have to find a balance between their studies and other activities, such as considering others or seeking

justice. These types of people are the most globally competent," said Lee.


Attendees who celebrated the ceremony are as follows: Lee, Lee's wife, College of English Dean Park Jung-woon and Chief Secretary Hong Soon-hyeock.

Lee Deok-seon, in total, donated US\$13 million toward HUFS development fund. Among the total amount, US\$10 million will be used for this scholarship. The recipients have had a meeting with Lee at a dinner annually.

Lee entered HUFS as a German major in 1958. However, in 1968, he dropped out of school and immigrated to the United States. He eventually established ATG in



▲ Scholarship holders stand behind Lee Deok-seon(C) and other officers.

1986, which has become a major company in the northeastern part of the U.S. The firm earns about US\$100 million a year. Lee received an honorary HUFS diploma in 1999. 

By Kim Ji-hyeock

# WFCF Takes Citizens to Another World



▲ One of the student teams performs Polish folk dance.

HUFS successfully held the World Folk Culture Festival (WFCF) in Seoul on Oct. 6, gathering many citizens and students from HUFS and other universities.

Hosted by the General Student Council, of Global Campus the WFCF was open to everyone, including local citizens, in Yeouido Park, western Seoul.


This 22nd WFCF provided visitors two programs comprised of various cultural contents from around the globe. "The World Culture Street," one of the programs, gave the people a chance to enjoy face-painting, on-site language courses, and the playing of traditional instruments during the daytime. Every activity that visitors could enjoy was planned by HUFSans from various departments.

The second program was held at the floating-stage on the Han River that runs through Seoul, entertaining the audience with exotic music and dances that were performed by some 230 students from 18 HUFS clubs.

"This event, the WFCF, is something to be proud of. Many citizens, HUFSans and other people can have a good time here," said Lee Hyeon-hwan, vice president of the

Global Campus, in the opening ceremony on behalf of HUFS President Park Chul.

Following this congratulatory message, Kwon Soon-han, head of the HUFS Alumni Association said, "The history of the WFCF goes back almost 40 years. In the past, many people were introduced to various countries' cultures through this event. I hope it will continue for a long time."

The WFCF is organized by the student council of the Global Campus. "We have prepared for this event for almost a year. Each department participating in this event created user content and uploaded it on online. We even held an application contest, to draw the engineering college students' interest," reported a member of the promotional committee. 

By Kim Ji-hyeock

# Korean Economic Specialist Talks to HUFSans

**Y**oon Yong-ro, 24th president of the Korea Exchange Bank, gave a lecture to the students of the College of English on Oct. 10. More than 200 students had a chance to listen to him at Ae-kyung Hall in the Graduate School of International and Area Studies. During the lecture, he gave the students food for thought about current world issues and the Korean economy. In addition, he advised students on their futures and showed his love for HUFS.

Yoon entered HUFS in 1974, majoring on English. After graduation, he passed the 21st Higher Civil Service Examination. He has held many important positions such as working for the Blue House and become the 21st president of the Industrial Bank of Korea.

To begin the lecture, he described how recent economic recessions are not special. He said they come around periodically due to different economic policies. However, the recessions are longer in duration these days due to interrelated problems.

After discussing recessions, he talked about Korea's elderly society. Korea has the fastest decreasing population. Due to the rapid population decline, by the year 2900, there will be only one person left on the Korean Peninsula. He also pointed out that 1.4 people will be required to support one senior citizen in the year 2050. Next, different countries have different types of welfare systems. Italians get pensions when they are over 55 years old while Germans have to work until 65 to get a pension. He said there should be new strategies for the welfare system in Korea regarding pensions and scholarships since the government lacks the money to provide for everything.

Yoon Yong-ro also discussed the bipolarity and changes in the Korean economy. Korea is a great country which can be termed a seventh 2050 country.



▲ Yoon Yong-ro, the president of Korea Exchange Bank, gives a lecture to students.


This means that it is the seventh country with a GDP of US \$20,000 and possesses a population of 50 million people. Only a couple of European countries, the U.S., and Japan are on that list. Additionally, he stressed the importance of knowing what is going on around the world since Korea is very dependent on the world economy. Yoon further pointed out that if competition was between the haves and have-nots in the past, it is now between the younger and the older generations.

Even though the contents were difficult, students easily understood the lecture as he gave plenty of good, humorous examples. Hong Sang-won, a student majoring in English Linguistics, said, "It was great that we could get a chance to meet such a successful alumnus and feel the wisdom of his age and experience. In addition, I also appreciate his effort to be friendly with the younger students and wish to have such a love for school and the passion for work like he has."

In addition, Yoon highlighted the importance of being positive, passionate

and diligent for the younger students. Those three mental states are what led him to be what he is now. He also emphasized that the time as a university student is precious and students can really use it to prepare for going out into society.

Yoon followed by saying that there are three types of people: those who do not know what is going on, know what is going on, and know what is going on and try to prepare for the consequences. The skill to know what is happening and being able to prepare for the future can be learned and therefore, students should pay careful attention to their surroundings.

In conclusion, Yoon said, "There will be a big difference between those who worked hard and those who did not. Even if you face difficulties, it will all pass by. Also, it is you who makes your own future. With positivity and passion, you can overcome anything." 

By Jo He-rim



# Groundbreaking Ceremony for New Main



▲ The ceremony is attended by many honored guests, including HUFS President Park Chul, the chairman of the Dongwon Education Association, Lee Nam-joo, the chairman of the HUFS Alumni Association, Kwon Sun-han, the chairman of HUFS Alumni Association of America, Lee Duk-sun, Vice President of Global Campus, Lee Hyun-hwan, Vice President of External Affairs and Development, Jung Kyung-won, Vice President of Industry-University Cooperation, Lee Sang-hyeop, and the president of the General Student Council of the Global Campus, Lee Hyun-sung.



# Building Held on Global Campus



© Strategy and Public Relations Team


HUFS had a groundbreaking ceremony celebrating the construction of the New Main Building on Oct. 9, on Global Campus.

HUFS President Park Chul celebrated the ceremony by saying, “This new building will make the Global Campus more convenient than it is now. I hope it helps HUFS secure its place as the top global university in Korea by narrowing the development gap between Seoul and Global campuses.”

Expected to be completed by June 2014, the New Main Building will be eleven stories high, and will have a gym, a conference hall, a seminar room with 200 seats, and a multimedia room. In front of the building will be a sports field covered with artificial turf.

The board of directors passed a construction plan on May 17, upon which the University had kept pushing effort to build the new main building.

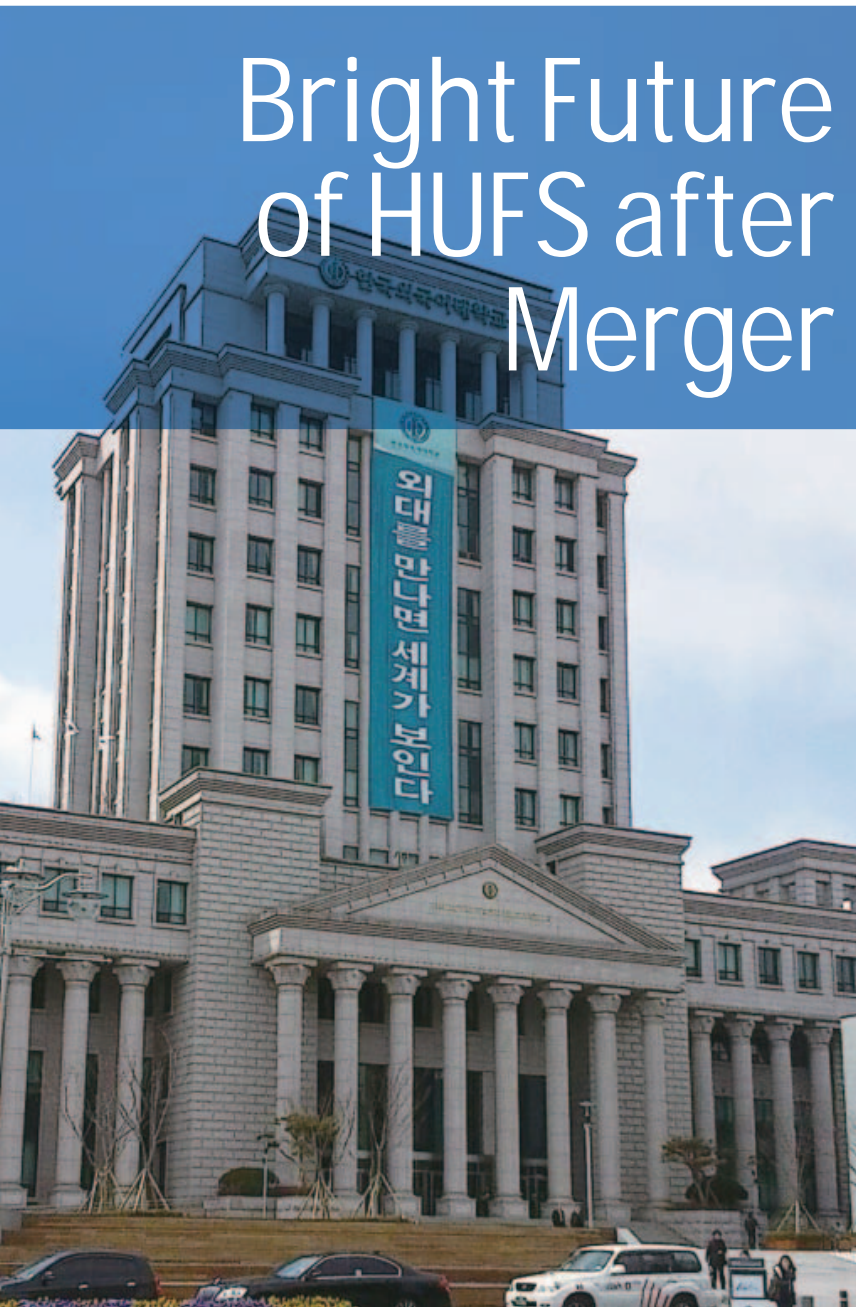
“The new main building will be useful to many students at Global Campus who are not going to face many difficulties when using the old facilities any longer,” said an official from the construction Planning Team of Global Campus.

The ceremony was attended by many honored guests, including HUFS President Park Chul, the chairman of the Dongwon Education Association, Lee Nam-joo, the chairman of the HUFS Alumni Association, Kwon Sun-han, the chairman of HUFS Alumni Association of America, Lee Duk-sun, Vice President of Global Campus, Lee Hyun-hwan, Vice President of External Affairs and Development, Jung Kyung-won, Vice President of Industry-University Cooperation, Lee Sang-hyeop, and the president of the General Student Council of the Global Campus, Lee Hyun-sung. 

**By Kang Young-joon**



# Bright Future of HUFS after Merger



**By Jo He-rim and Kim Ji-hyeock**

*Reporter of Campus Section, Reporter of National Section*

In March 2011, the government pre-announced legislation which would initiate a new clause enforcing the merger and of campuses at universities with branch campuses. Three months later, the legislation was passed at the state affairs conference. The intention of the government was to reduce the number of universities in Korea by campuses.

After those announcements, Sungkyunkwan University followed the legislation first. Chung-Ang University and Kyung Hee University also

decided to merge their campuses. Those universities have judged the merger will be a chance for them to develop. HUFS has also been planning the merger of Global campus and Seoul campus for a long time. Finally on Nov. 2, 2012, the government has had accepted its request to merge the two campuses, Seoul and Global. However, this plan had been rejected several times by the government due to problems including the overlap of majors on Seoul and Global campuses; Department of English Interpretation and Translation on Seoul campus and Division of English Interpretation and Translation on Global campus, and Economics Division on Seoul and Global campuses.

To solve the problem, officers of HUFS tried to gain agreements between the faculties of both campuses. At last, they decided to change the names of some departments. Three departments in College of English will be restructured, as Division of English. Department of International Business and Economics Division are to be reorganized into a Division of International Finance in College of International Finance. Those policies are to avoid the overlap of departments between the two campuses. The school also intends to establish Seoul Campus as a school specializing in linguistics and literature and Global Campus will specialize in interpretation and regional studies.

However, the process of the merger is not proceeding smoothly. Most students were not informed of the merger. They did not know what merits and demerits follow that decision. Some criticized that students' opinions were not fully reflected. The school claims that the president of General Student Council had also participated in a university senate. This could not placate the students who face their academic department's dissolution. The poor communication between the school and the students and indifferent attitude of school has caused disappointment among many students.

To give exact information on the merger, dean of Planning and Coordination, Kim Hak-tae, sent an email to HUFSSans. According to the email, if the school did not get an approval of merging, HUFS would be excluded from most of the large scale university evaluation. And to make it clear that students of merged departments do not get any disadvantages, the school has planned to hold a steering committee for merger of Seoul and Global campuses, which consists of school faculty and students representatives from the two campuses.

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## Q&A on Merger

### 1. What is the reason for HUFS to continue with the campus merger?

School: HUFS consists of two campuses, one in Seoul and another in Yongin and is virtually one university. However, the campuses were legally accepted as two totally different universities and had suffered from many disadvantages. Competing universities, Sungkyunkwan University, Chung-ang University and Kyung-hee University had already earned the approval for merging their branch school. As a result of this the three school's competitiveness and the academic level of newly entering freshmen have been raised considerably. By merging, HUFS is also expecting to get better results in various university evaluations including the national assessment of universities and other university evaluation carried out by the press and this will lead to an increase in its student's employment rate. However, if we did not get approval for merging, the two campuses will be evaluated separately as medium small size universities and HUFS will be excluded from most of the large scale university evaluations. There is a possibility of failing from the University Evaluation from Korean Council for University Education in 2013.

### 2. What are advantages of HUFS campuses merging?

School: If HUFS stays with the current campus system, it cannot be recognized as a large scale university (enrolled students over 10,000) despite the fact that the total of students in two campuses is over 15,000. What is more, because Seoul Campus only had a college of liberal arts and social science it would be difficult for it retain university rather than college status. The merging will result, in the long term, in higher status and social awareness of HUFS and will attract excellent freshmen and an increase in the employment

rate of HUFS students.

### 3. Could there be additional restructuring of academic departments after the merge?

School: The merger is now accepted and further restructure and revision of academic departments is not needed.

### 4. After the merger, does that mean students from one campus and transfer to the other campus?

School: Student transfer is not permitted. There is no change in the academic affairs management in which students attend classes on the campus they are enrolled to and graduate from. It is just that the two campuses of HUFS will be legally recognized as a unified school.

### 5. There is concern that the rights to take quality classes for Seoul campus students could be infringed if the double major for Global campus students is expanded.

School: The controversial Double major system between the two campuses will disappear after the new intake enrolls in 2014. In other words, in the one unified university, it will be impossible for students to study one more year to obtain two graduation certificates. If the students wish to have two certificates, they would have to take the transfer exam just like other school students and attend two more years of school. The double major system on one campus will be retained.

### 6. After the merger, will it not say which campus the student has graduated from?

School: Even now, the HUFS certification of graduation only states the student's relevant

academic college and major and not the campus. It will not change after the merger.

### 7. What happens to the students majoring in those restructured academic departments like the college of English?

School: The merger will be applied to the freshmen from 2014 so the current enrolled students and freshmen expected to enter HUFS in 2013 will not be influenced in their current academic departments and system. Through the merger, the College of English, which includes Department of English Linguistics, English Literature and English Interpretation and Translation, will be reorganized as Department of English from 2014.

### 8. Does the merger only benefit Global Campus and lead to downward standardization of HUFS?

School: Through the merger, Seoul Campus will gain prestige as a university with diverse fields of studies and in long term, the special fields of study from each campus will gain positive reputations and raise their social awareness. This can be proven through the examples of other universities which merged already. Consequently the level of HUFS will rise.

### 9. There are universities such as Sogang University which operates even though it is small. Isn't it only an excuse to say HUFS merged to increase the size of the school?

School: It is true that there are schools like Sogang University. However, if we can gain the prestige as a large-scale university through merger, the benefits gained from it are huge. If Sogang University had a branch campus, they would also not hesitate to push ahead with a merger. ☞





**Jung He-min**

Department of Political Science and Diplomacy '12

When it comes to autumn, I think of “Autumn Leaves” by the Eddie Higgins Trio. It is a famous jazz song that I have liked since I was young. This song has been played by numerous musicians, and it is still my favorite. It has no lyrics, but uses the sounds of the piano, cello, and drums in harmony to create a moderate and soft atmosphere. If you like lyrical and romantic melodies, it will suit your preference.



## What Singer or Album Reminds You of Autumn?

**Lee Jin-yong**

Department of German '12

For a suitable song to listen to in autumn, “To Drink Coffee” by R&B, Soul group Urban Zakapa is just right. The melody is calm with the guitar in the background and very compatible with coffee and autumn. The song is a trio with the harmonious blend of two men and a woman’s voice. You will never get tired of this song, and it is perfect to have as background music when you are reading.



**Yu Seung-wan**

Department of English Linguistics '12



The song I am recommend that you listen to during Autumn is "With You," by Monni. Autumn can be a season of loneliness. This song by Monni sings of traveling far away with a lover. I think the lover can refer to either the singer's old love, or a new crush, and the trip might be either a journey of goodbye, or one of winning over the new love. Depending on a person's situation, it can be a longing love song for an old flame, or maybe one for a new romance. The lyrics and the melody go well together and it really has the feel of traveling in autumn. If you like the song, try the other songs on the album, "This Moment."

**Kim Dong-hoo**

Department of Environmental Science' 08

I contemplate especially in fall. Then I often listen to the song, "Study of Memory" by "Jeonramhoei." The song became famous through the movie "Architecture Introduction." When I listened to it first time, I really loved this song, so I thought about its message. And I realized that it means hard times in the past should become meaningful and happy recollections, not just painful memories. In addition, the mellow melody helps me sink into fall. So I am enjoying this song these days.

**Lee Chae-lin**

Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science' 11



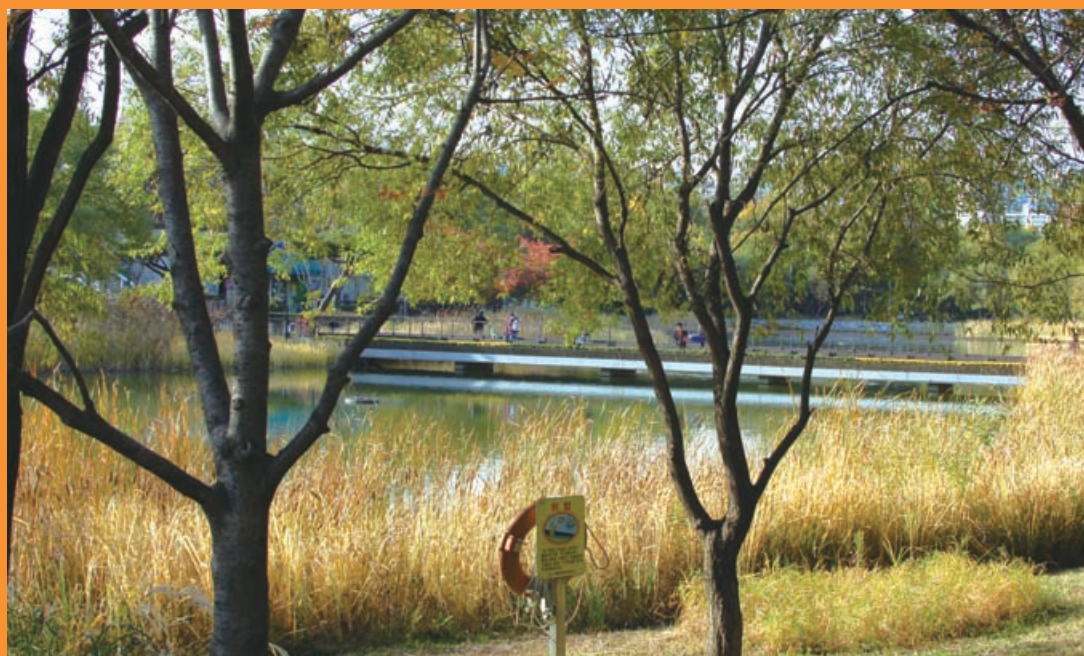
Nowadays, I love to listen to the music of Autumn Vacation. Of course, the name of the group reminds us of fall. Moreover, the main vocalist's lithe voice and calm melody harmonizes very well with this beautiful season. I recommend you to walk down a path under the maples listening to their music. Among all of their songs, "Breath Excessive" is the best song that you should listen to!

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









# Painting Autumn Scenery on Canvas

**By Park Hyun-chul**  
*Editorial Consultant*

According to research by the Korean Research Institute of Climate Change Countermeasure Strategies, the climate of Korea will evolve into a subtropical climate as a result of extreme climatic change. The Korean climate features four seasons a year and is a mild climate. However, we will not enjoy this mild climate any longer if extreme climate change continues.

Enjoy the autumn scenery before autumn ceases! 🍁

All Photos by Park Hyun-chul





©Choi Eun-young

# Amazing Whisper from Sand

By Kim Eun-young  
Reporter of Culture Section

In her workroom, a sand director art is busy preparing various ingredients to use in the talent donation class. After she had a performance last September to console the women who suffered as comfort women for the Japanese army, she increased her other activities to use her works not only for creating but also for the public. Her name is Choi Eun-young, a sand art director. In this rendezvous, The Argus met Choi to learn about sand art, and listen to her talk about the life as a sand art director.

## **Argus: What is sand art?**

**Choi Eun-young(Choi):** Sand art consists of many types but in Korea, sand art is generally performed on a lightbox, a container with lightbulbs and a pane of frosted glass on the top. If a director scatters sand on the lightbox, she or he makes a story through the sand. It is different from other sand drawing in that it does not stop but continues by the artist connecting many scenes together to tell a story. So a camera above the lightbox films it. But this is only one part of sand art. For example, in the Middle East, it is popular to draw a picture on the sand in the glass.



**Argus: Do you make a story by yourself? Then how do you come up with your ideas?**

**Choi:** Yes, I make a story by myself. The change of scenes is an important and attractive feature of this art. I point out that story telling is more important than drawing. But drawing is important too. Story telling was very hard for me at first. One of the best ways that I trained was to make changes from simple shapes or words. For example, when I draw the number 1, I connect its long shape to a neck of giraffe. In this process I make other scenes and link them, and this is how a story is created.

**Argus: Why did you decide to become a sand art director?**

**Choi:** Actually, I did not have a dream to be a sand artist. But I had interests in relevant fields because my major was graphic art. In 2002, I saw a sand art performance for the first time that was the first sand art performance in Korea, I know. At that time, I just thought it was a very surprising art. Shortly after that, I had a health problem so I had to quit the company I was working at. During my break, I started sand art just as a hobby and posted videos on the Internet. One of them became the talk of the portal, and many companies suggested that I make their advertising videos and the media contacted me for interviews. From there, I deeply considered the direction of my life. This work was really fantastic and I loved it, but it was a huge challenge for me to change my job and become a sand artist, work that was not known to people in Korea at all.



Kim Eun-young / The Argus

▲ Choi tells the readers not to give up their dreams.

But I believed in myself. "I am young now," I said to myself. Today, I am continuing my job as a sand artist.

**Argus: On September, you did a performance for the comfort women of the Japanese army. How did you participate in this work? And what did you gain from this performance?**


**Choi:** I have always had great interest in social problems and I have participated in many NGO programs. In the process of this, I made contact with the director of the comfort women performance, and I accepted it unquestioningly. When I prepared the work, I looked at some pictures that the old women described as scenes from their childhood when they were taken by the Japanese army. Many years have passed, but they are left with their miserable memories, and this moved me greatly. I wanted to comfort the women sincerely, though I do not know that I have really done that yet. The work that I made for the performance is the best piece from the works that I have ever made.

time, they did not open to me so readily so it was difficult to teach them at first. But by letting them touch the sand on their own, they enjoyed this work and started asking me about it. Now we are good friends and I am very happy that I can open their minds and help them through the work that I love. I will continue with these activities.

**Argus: What is your goal now?**

**Choi:** I want to draw pictures with the sand for as long as I am healthy, and in doing so, I want to have my own exhibition. Maybe it will be filled with many videos that play the story of sand which is different from any other exhibition. Also, I want to go abroad to perform in front of foreigners. At the academy where I lecture, I want to train more people to learn sand art and become great artists in this field.

**Argus: What do you recommend to people who dream of doing this work with sand?**

**Choi:** If you want to be a sand art director, just challenge yourself continually and do not give up. Of course, this field is not so popular and because of this, so many people who dream of this work may be afraid of it. When I started working with sand, I had many concerns about whether I could succeed or not. But I was not scared, because I knew I would not fail. Why? I do my work again and again and that is the real meaning of success. So I want those who want to do this to keep trying constantly. 

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©Choi Eun-young

▲ Above work tells the suffering of comfort women by the Japanese army.

**Argus: After the performance, you also donated your talent to children. How was that?**

**Choi:** The program is called, "Thank You," which is a project of \*MBC and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism. It aims to show and convey our talents to children who are in difficult situations, giving them opportunities to learn these crafts. When I met the children for the first



◀ Choi makes a sand art for The Argus.

\*MBC: Munhwa Broadcasting Corp., headquarters in Seoul





# Extending Voting Hours, for Whom?

**By Park Hyun-chul**  
*Editorial Consultant*


In South Korea, the low voter turnout has become the main problem most highly industrialized countries face. The voting rate for the past five presidential elections dropped from 89.2 percent in 1987 when direct voting was revived, to 63 percent in 2007. Also the voter rate in general elections has dropped, with the voter rate only 46.1 percent in 2008. To solve the problem of declining voter turnout, the main opposition Democratic United Party (DUP) has pushed to change the election law extending voting hours from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., while the ruling Saenuri Party remains lukewarm about the idea.

Whether to extend voting hours is really a question that should be approached from the viewpoint of how to provide people with a greater opportunity to vote, rather than from political calculations. Political pundits, meanwhile, said, “the DUP, which generally enjoys stronger support among young people, believes that extending the voting hours will allow the party to win more votes.” On the other hand, Saenuri’s hopeful Park Geun-hye’s election camp thinks such a move would be disadvantageous to the 60-year-old five term lawmaker’s chances of winning the election. While the national assembly has heated debates about extending the voting hours, will the longer voting hours help increase the voting turnout, especially among the irregular employees and college students?

A research carried out by The Korean Political Science Association, the nationwide academic organization of scholars who are interested in political science, international relations, and other related disciplines, founded 1953 in Busan, on actual reasons for voting patterns among non-regular workers found that 12.1 percent of irregular workers said that the lack of voting time led to their low turnout. Most of them rarely favored the proposed longer voting hours to boost the voting rate.

Also, though the labor standard law and public official election law guarantee the right for workers to vote, most temporary workers are not given off-work time to vote. According to the research, since most employers rarely permit time-off for temporary workers, 43.3 percent of irregular-employed workers do not vote.

Obviously, longer voting hours is not the only solution for boosting the voting turnout. The irregular-workers do not need extended ballot time but improved labor conditions giving them more opportunity to vote. With their poor labor conditions scarcely guaranteeing the right to vote, non-regular workers do not see improved labor conditions occurring through voting.

Democracy guards and respects the rights of the individual by enabling them to vote for their representative. Nothing is more important than expanding a citizen’s constitutional right to engage in democracy. To improve labor conditions for the irregular-employed workers, it is necessary to enhance their right to vote for the candidate who makes most effort to improve labor condition. The National Assembly should find the effective policy for boosting the voting rate rather than making political trouble. 



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**By Jo He-rim**

*Reporter of Campus Section*

HUFS has been suffering from the noise caused by “Ju-jeom,” the pubs run by students inside the school campus for a long time. While there have been many opinions and complaints expressed regarding this problem, the school announced a declaration for improving the drinking culture on Sept. 24. Firstly, to create an academic atmosphere, ju-jeom are prohibited on the campus. Secondly, great efforts are to be made to change and improve the bad drinking habits of the school members. Lastly, an academic atmosphere conducive for studies and education will be nurtured by preventing noise from such events and activities. This declaration has been issued under the name of the academic board and all the deans. The purpose of the declaration was to prevent accidents from excessive drinking and violence and to create a healthy university life. After the declaration, opinions flew around. The media reported the school’s declaration to stop ju-jeom, and voices in “Hufslife,” on the school’s community website, were divided for and against. The General Student Council of Seoul Campus (GSC) reacted against the school’s action calling it a suppression of autonomous rights.

On Oct. 5, a ju-jeom was opened in the school’s Red Square, 10 days after the declaration prohibiting ju-jeom. “Mac-bak,” a music “dongari” or club, was the host, holding it to show that healthy ju-jeom are possible. The school cut the electricity in the Open-Air Theater and the underground parking lot so the dongari had to get the electricity from the GlobeeDorm. The next day, the chief of the dongari was submitted to the disciplinary committee.

The GSC held a press conference in front of the wooden staircase next to the Minerva Complex, and there were opposition rallies and signature-seeking campaigns. What is happening in HUFS? Why are these disputes arising after the banning of ju-jeom has been decided? The Argus went to find out.

## Different stances on the ban



Jo He-rim / The Argus

▲ The General Student Council holds a rally at the wooden staircase.

### The General Student Council's position on the ban

The GSC asserts that the ban was declared unilaterally and therefore it is unjust. The GSC members were aware of the noise and trash problems caused by ju-jeom, studying possible solutions to the problem. They stress the fact that the students who are directly involved were excluded from discussions regarding the ban. A mail from the school was sent to all the students on Oct. 12, and it stated how they had been asking the GSC for an improvement scheme for a long time.

However, according to some members of the GSC, the school's claim for a request for such a scheme is not true. They say it is actually the Central Steering Committee (CSC), a group including all the student representatives of departments, dormitories, and libraries, which had expressed its concern on this matter to the school. There the school said they would not ban ju-jeom but then they proposed the declaration without further discussion. The president of GSC, Chung Sang-hyuk, said, "We had difficulty addressing the problem of the ju-jeom prohibition in the annual student meeting that was held on Sept. 26, in the Open-Air Theater because the school had not informed the GSC of its intentions beforehand." The GSC was planning to limit those club-atmosphere ju-jeom and restrict the opening of ju-jeom in front of the dormitories and the library.

Another claim from the GSC is that the school is taking no notice of the practical demands of the students. For example, students suffer from a lack of classrooms, too many students on courses and an insufficient number of courses for double majors. What is more, the ju-jeom is an autonomous student activity, so the school does not have the right to forcefully control it. The problems caused by ju-jeom should be solved and improved by the students. The CSC emergency meeting on the Oct. 8 stated that "The school has ignored the self-regulating efforts of students to bring about improvements and is threatening the students' autonomous activities." What is more, the school festival or "Daedongje," which was planned for Oct. 10 to 12, was cancelled. The GSC argues that it is because the school is not providing for the school festival expenditure.

According to the GSC, the one-sided declaration by the school also reflects on how the school views students as potential criminals with no self-control. They had also proposed a way to create improved ju-jeom on Oct. 18. Firstly, ju-jeom would not to be allowed in front of the library and the dormitory. Secondly, trash and noise should be voluntarily reduced. Lastly, inappropriate club ju-jeom would be rejected with the objective of creating a healthy ju-jeom culture.

### School's position on the ban

The school has a counterargument to the GSC. The school has long perceived the problem of ju-jeom and the declaration to ban ju-jeom was not an autocratic decision. A large number of problems with noise and sanitation occurred in the first semester of 2012 and the school demanded the GSC take action to bring about improvements. Even recently they claim, the dean of Student Affairs had asked the president of GSC for an improvement scheme in meetings that took place on Oct. 3, 5, 8 and 12.

Having been unsuccessful in reducing the problems caused



Jo He-rim / The Argus

▲ Complaint notes from the General Student Council are stuck on the walls outside the office of the dean of Student Affairs.



by ju-jeom, the school sent an email on Oct. 12. It states that the declaration is “an unavoidable decision” as it needs to protect the right to learn for the many students who have been enduring the problems. “The matter of ju-jeom was the main agenda of the student affairs meeting on Sept. 24, and 48 members including the HUFs president and all the deans agreed upon the declaration,” said the dean of Student Affairs.

Another problem the school sees is that ju-jeom culture is changing and the damage is more serious than before. Ju-jeom turn on loud music using amplifiers and students dance and sing out loud. The music does not stop until pretty much early morning. They even bring psychedelic party lamps into the school and the hosting students advertise their dance club themes. The school feels that these ju-jeom cannot be allowed on the school campus and that they are too frequent.

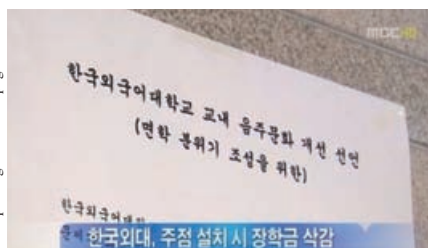
## Reasons for the chaotic situation

### Lack of preparation of the school

The school announced the prohibition of ju-jeom through a declaration but they had not prepared background information for the declaration. In other words, they did not detail the disciplinary actions that will be taken if students do not obey. In the school affairs meeting On Oct. 24, the agenda of ju-jeom was set. Because all of the members agreed with the prohibition of ju-jeom, it became a declaration. The next day, school walls were pasted with posters introducing the declaration. What is more, it was from the media that the students found out about the penalties for opening a ju-jeom. The news reported that the school is planning to cut back on the scholarship distribution to the hosts' colleges. However, this is not true. The school has not yet decided what they are planning as a disciplinary measure. “Nothing is certain regarding the penalties for opening up a ju-jeom. In the school rules, it is stated that if a student creates a disturbance after drinking, they are either suspended from school or placed under probation. Other disciplines should further be discussed,” said the dean of Student Affairs on Oct. 19.

### Details are not announced directly to students

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▲ MBC news reports on the ban by HUFs on ju-jeom and the cutback on scholarship by the university.

The fact that the students had to find out about the possibility of reducing scholarships as a penalty from the outside media and not from the school has also caused confusion. On Sept. 27, \*SBS and other media outlets reported HUFs's prohibition of ju-jeom and provided information such as the cutting back of scholarships and the submission of “Mac-Bak” to the disciplinary committee head. This also indicates a lack of communication between the school and the students. On Hufslife, a student posted a question, “How are they going to reduce the scholarships for individual colleges when there is a central dongari, or club host ju-jeom?” Indeed, inaccurate information is leading to confusion and questions.

### Passive attitude of communication

The school says that the officers have been aware of the problems caused by ju-jeom and asked the GSC for improvement schemes for a long time. However, they must also take responsibility for not actively trying to find a resolution to the problem. There was no proper meeting between school and the students, including both CSC

\*Seoul Broadcasting System, headquarters in Seoul

and GSC members. The demands and discussions that the school refers to are only between the dean of Student Affairs and the president of GSC. The Argus asked some other members of the GSC about the demands for an improvement scheme from the school on Oct. 16, but they did not know about it. “We are not fully aware of the contents of the meeting between the GSC president and the dean, but we know that the school has never really demanded a scheme,” said a member of GSC.

### **GSC attempts to arouse public opinion against school**

The only way for students to know what is really happening between the GSC and the school is through the papers and articles that the GSC provides. However, there is some information which is irrelevant.

On Oct. 8, in the emergency CSC meeting proposal, it began by stating that the school had announced the declaration on Sept. 24 and described it as “an act which goes beyond just prohibiting ju-jeom and drinking alcohol in school but is threatening student’s autonomous activities.” However, the declaration from the school does not prohibit drinking alcohol on the campus, although there were also controversies over whether it is appropriate to drink at the school or not.

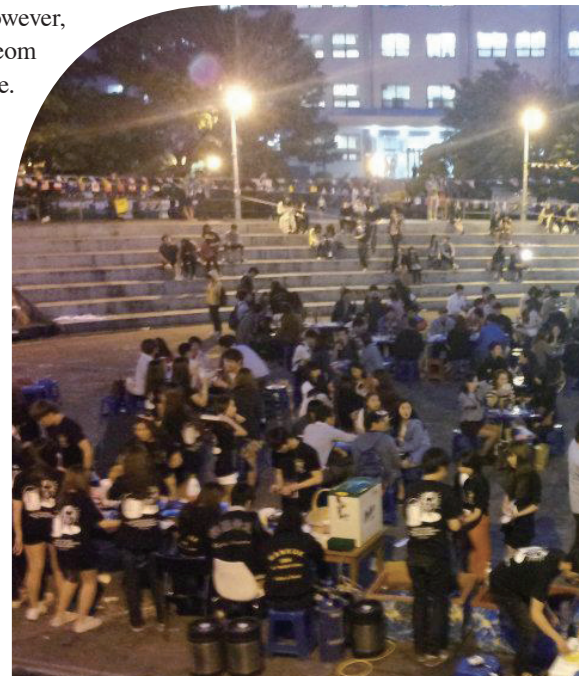
In the same CSC proposal, it also says that the school is not providing money for the GSC to prepare for the school festival, Daedongje. However, this is not relevant to the case of ju-jeom, but the school budget. It is true that the school has reduced the budget for GSC in the beginning without mentioning it to them and GSC spent a lot of money during the first semester leaving little for the second semester.

The plea from the GSC on Oct. 9 mentions the pre-announcement of legislation in the revised National Health Promotion Act from the Ministry of Health and Welfare. The revised plan includes the prohibition of drinking in public places such as university campuses. The GSC insists that the school has declared such a prohibition on the pretext of this revision even though it is not guaranteed that the law will come into effect. However, according to the dean of Student Affairs, the school’s decision is based solely on the damage ju-jeom have caused. It has been recognized as a problem for a long time so the school wanted to reduce the damage.

### **Substantive solution is not the priority**

The GSC is responsible for dealing with any inconveniences students suffer in school life and have to listen and find solutions and ways to improve campus life. However, because they focused so much on their right of autonomy, they have used ju-jeom as a way to express their rights. This has delayed improving the ju-jeom culture. The GSC did not reflect all 8000 students’ opinions and only propagated their stance to oppose the school. It was after some time had passed, on Oct 17 that the GSC started to give out surveys to students. On Oct. 19, they also conducted a hearing but because they set the date right before the mid-term exam and did not publicize it enough, there were not many students in attendance. On Hufslife, a student insisted that if other problems relating to autonomous rights are so important, the GSC should focus on those points instead of trying to make ju-jeom part of their propaganda. “The GSC keeps arguing that the biggest problem here is the fact that the school declared unilaterally. However, the GSC acts as if they are representing all students with their opinions,” said the student.

Even though the problem was apparent, the GSC was slow in reacting to the complaints. The school and students were both waiting for some solution to ju-jeom but it has only been recently that the GSC actually worked on the solutions and ways to reduce the damage. “The GSC was aware of this issue





but it is true that the discussion on practical measures fizzled out,” said an anonymous person working for the GSC. In the CSC, only two colleges insisted on apologizing to the students and presenting an improvement scheme. This shows that the real problems, the noise, trash and other inconveniences from ju-jeom are not their priority.



Jo He-rim / The Argus

▲ The GlobeeDorm shows an opposing stance on opening ju-jeom.

### A challenge for all to consider

Students should be the ones to voice their rights actively when there are problems. However, their passive attitudes and indifference toward student affairs lead to a lack of communication with the school. The GSC holds annual student meetings in the Open-Air Theater every semester. There should be more than certain percentage of students participating to make the agendas discussed in the meeting have legal effect. Indeed, for the annual student meeting agendas to have power, a tenth of about 8000 HUFsans, or about 800 students, should participate in the meeting. However, on the Sept. 26 meeting, only around 500 students came. Even amongst them, a lot of the students left after they had been counted.

In addition, students showed poor participation in the hearing which took place in the BRICs Culture Center on Oct. 19. The hearing was offered by the GSC for students to express their opinions and find solutions to the problems and damage from ju-jeom. Though the GSC did not give enough time to advertise that there was a hearing, still there were only around 30 participants. Even among the 30, there were only 10 students who do not work for the GSC. A freshman, majoring in English Education, who participated in the hearing said, “It seems that HUFsans do not care about anything that does not directly affect them. It is pitiful.” Freedom is followed by responsibility. Students do not seem to realize this. Those enjoying the ju-jeom should consider those who are not and show concern. A participant from the Department of English Interpretation and Translation said, “There was disgusting smell near the Open-Air Theater because people throw left over alcohol into the drain.”



The declaration to prohibit ju-jeom on the school campus and the GSC’s protest against it, are the results of a lack of communication and slow management. Both the school and the GSC should reflect different perspectives and opinions, meaning that they should really listen to all the students who are directly affected. Both bodies are aiming to benefit everyone in the school, so why find faults each other? Everyone should be able to continuously express their concerns and feelings on a school matter.

Responsibility cannot be separated from freedom. For a long time, complaints about ju-jeom and the inconvenience they caused increased but there was no real improvement in the situation. At the Oct. 19 hearing, a student maintained, “Both the school and the GSC have their faults but I think they should really think about the students’ opinions.” Creating an improved ju-jeom culture is up to the students themselves. After all, is it not a responsible and considerate approach for students to try to prevent harm being caused to someone? 🍷

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By Jo He-rim

Reporter of Campus Section

## Agree


[@https://www.konaeconomics.com](https://www.konaeconomics.com)

### Kim Se-jin, English Linguistics '11

Ju-jeom have recently been banned by the University. It is a matter for the students to control and find solutions to problems that may have occurred. I agree that there should have been some measures taken about the noise and trash problems but I do not think it is justifiable for the university to stop students from opening ju-jeom. They have been around for a long time and have become one of the ways for students to build closer relationships with each other. For some freshmen, it is also their first time to host an event and can make great memories for them. If there is profit made from ju-jeom, the money has always been spent for the academic departments and “Dongari,” or clubs. Those people who sing loud after drinking will do it regardless of where they drink. Indeed, it is up to the students to make the environment for themselves.

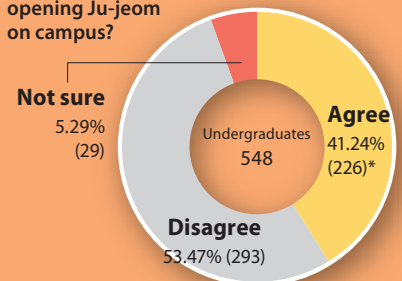
There needs to be some measures made by students considering the noise and trash. What should be done is that ju-jeom should be kept but the students should voluntarily place restrictions on ju-jeom. Like the General Student Council of Seoul Campus(GSC) providing guidelines for improvement, placing restrictions in front of the library and the dormitory can be a start. In addition, instead of prohibiting ju-jeom, the GSC should promote campaigns to raise awareness of how our ju-jeom culture should grow in a healthier way. Voluntary changes would lead to healthier and better ju-jeom. Therefore, ju-jeom should not be prohibited from the University campus.

### Ma Sung-min, Department of German '12

I oppose the University's decision to ban ju-jeom on campus. The campus is not private property and therefore, policies at the University need to be justified. Even though HUFS is a private university, the ideal of education is realized here and the authorities should not act as if this is their private property. The University cannot ignore the students or it would be distorting the value of the basic ideals and spirit of the university community. Even middle and high schools grant some rights to their students, only restricting others due to their students being minors. All the students who have entered HUFS should be considered as intellectuals who can rightfully, wisely, and collectively make good decisions regarding their activities. Restraining these rights is violating their legitimacy. The students have the right to resist a policy that excludes their opinions, meaning that it is justifiable for the students to go against the University's decision to prohibit ju-jeom. Violating legitimacy in deciding to ban ju-jeom can only be seen as violence. This case of the ju-jeom can be applied to other problems at the University in which the authorities ignore the voices of the students when deciding important university policy. The University needs to acknowledge that the reason why students go against the prohibition of ju-jeom is not simply because they cannot drink on the campus anymore. Even if it may be perceived as trivial, we the students should make sure the University does not suppress the students' rights. The GSC should be able to prevent that.

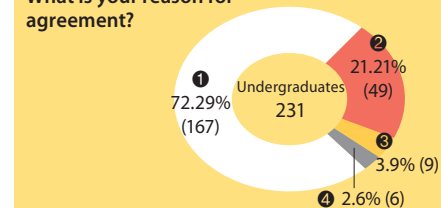
# JU-JEOM ON UNIVERSITY GOOD OR

Do you agree or disagree on opening Ju-jeom on campus?

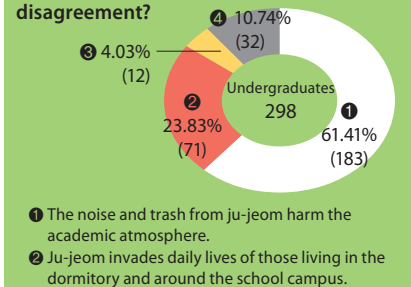


\*( ) is the number of respondents.

What is your reason for agreement?



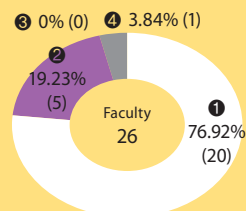
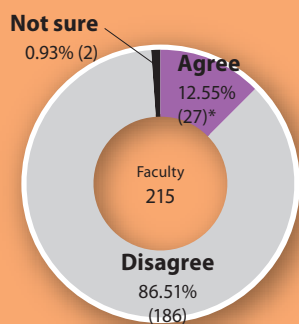
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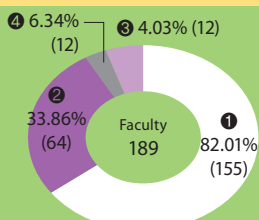


How about You?

# THE CAMPUS, BAD?



- ③ The earnings from ju-jeom can add to the budget of the student councils and "Dogari."  
④ Others



- ③ Ju-jeom can give negative image of HUFS to outsiders and nearby residents.  
④ Others

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## Disagree

### Yoon Tae-woo, English Literature '08

The British philosopher and political economist, John Stuart Mill, wrote in "On Liberty," "The only freedom which deserves the name is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs, or impede their efforts to obtain it." Indeed, freedom should only be allowed up to the extent in which it does not disturb the freedom of others. Ju-jeom has been causing many problems at HUFS. Last semester, it seems like ju-jeom opened almost every week with amplifiers blasting music all over campus. Those nights, the University was filled with people drinking and screaming. The next day, students could see beer cans and soju bottles rolling around on the ground and trash left all over the place. The noise and the mess from ju-jeom are very disturbing. Trying to study on campus gives students no choice but to compromise and be considerate of the others.

The GSC claims that the University has violated their rights. I partly agree with that since the University did not give much notice about its decision. However, the GSC should have acted to improve those inconvenient cases before the University decided to prohibit ju-jeom. The old saying, "To lock the stable door after the horse is stolen," describes the current situation of the GSC.

I feel that the University's decision to prohibit ju-jeom is the result of the partiers at the ju-jeom ignoring those students trying to sleep or study. Ju-jeom should not be allowed if they violate other students' rights to sleep and study.

### Lee Hyeon-woo, English Interpretation and Translation '07

Usually, the people agreeing with allowing ju-jeom on campus describe several positive points regarding ju-jeom. They are related to having good memories and building close relationships. Personally, I am not sure about those points -- but sure, there are some positive sides to ju-jeom. However, this is a university we are talking about here, a place that exists for education and studies. I strongly feel there are rights that, whatever happens, should be protected. Those in the library have the right to study in a quiet atmosphere. Those living in the dormitory have the right to sleep without being disturbed by loud noise. They have the right to rest to prepare for the next day. We cannot have an argument regarding these basic rights. The ju-jeom on campus have long been threatening these basic rights. In my opinion, even if there are not just a few but more than three-hundred benefits of ju-jeom, it does not matter. If they infringe on those basic rights, they should be stopped. This is a university, an educational institution. If people want to make memories of drinking alcohol, there are many other ways, like going to pubs off campus. 🍷

The Argus conducted the first extensive survey of undergraduates and school faculty on "Ju-jeom" or pubs on school campus from Oct. 30 to Nov. 5. The survey was distributed to the undergraduates in Seoul campus as the problem of ju-jeom is only controversial on Seoul campus.

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**Kim Eun-young**  
Reporter of Culture Section

Most plays shown in Daehakno, the central district of Korean plays and musicals in northern Seoul, are mostly romances or comedies. Audiences at these dramas often burst into laughter during the dialogue. But there is a fresh genre of play, which earnestly explores Korean society. “PHEDRA Syndrome,” created by Korean artists last year, is different in the way it describes a story through using body movement. It achieves its goal to completely integrate the play with the audience. The work was first staged last year and has been recognized for its cinematic quality. It was performed one more time this autumn.

On a weekday in October, Jeongbo little theater in Hehwa was filled with many people who came to see this special play. Four blinds on the stage are the only props, which represent a maze. Also on stage is a man with an electric guitar playing background music. With the peculiar title of the play, this strange scene increases the solemnity in the theater and the audience gazes the stage with expectation and fear.

Phedra is a character in Greek Mythology who is the queen of King Theseus. But unluckily, she loves her stepson and dies tragically. The play is composed of six stories from each letter of her name. It features an omnibus, which represents the overall great theme by combining several stories together, and in so doing, reveals the daily lives of contemporary people.

Yeom Sang-ae, the director of the play, said, “I wanted to represent the pathological situation of Korea. This society is like a bullring where the bulls must kill each other to survive. Outside the bullring, the audience witnesses this but does not regard it as related to their lives. I thought that tragedies are prevalent in Korea just like in the lives of Phedra.”

The play deals with stories of people who suffer from dark situations, featuring the social dramas of their circumstances. In all six of the stories, the main characters, sub characters, narrators, and observers all rotate from story to story and remarkably combine movement with acting. The blinds on the stage shape the scenes through projections. The projections reveal the ridiculousness of the stories. Besides the blinds, there is only the guitarist playing background music during the play. This completes the movement of the actors and the atmosphere of the play.

### PHEDRA Syndrome and Korea

The omnibus story composes a theme of each session from the letters of “PHEDRA.” Taken all together, the stories represent the minorities or the weak in Korean society. People may think that these stories are not relevant to their lives, but through the play they come to identify with these characters. The play strikes a responsive chord with the audience through their recognition of themselves in the characters.

### Public-ness

The character in the first story has undergone a tragedy losing her husband in car accident. Her acquaintances regard her as a suspect, though, because they doubt whether she has another guy and needs the compensation from the accident. The public talks about a person who stands at the center of the event in such a way that the audience



cannot confirm who is telling the truth. The public, though, is not interested in the truth. Their only concern is how they can dig up the event and criticize her fiercely. It is as connected “netizens” that the public busies itself to make the event an issue without regard to the process of truth.

### Hospitality

The main character in the second story receives a hospitable favor from society but the irony is that she receives this favor only when she dies. Her death will benefit her family, neighbors, nation, and ultimately all of society. Because so many groups in Korean society are linked to get benefits from someone’s death, such as insurance companies and funeral parlors. Just like in the bullring, when a bull dies, another space in society opens and there emerge advantages from the death. So the lines in the play, “Your sacred death will contribute to society,” can be simplified to, “Die, please.”

### Entrapment

The main character in the third story is a seventeen-year-old girl who has been sexually assaulted and is now pregnant. It is a grave misfortune for her, but people around her entrap her by gazing at her with shame in their eyes. This not only happens in the play but all too often is a sad reality for many young women nowadays. We treat people differently whose lives we regard as on the fringe, and in so doing, often ignore their rights. In social science, this is called “labeling theory.” The public in this story accepts and clings to the norms of the majority without question, which forces the minority or non-normal to suffer.

### Dramatization

How many times do you click “Like” on facebook? Do you really like what you are clicking? The fourth story examines the desire to be liked. A woman who is an acknowledged artist and has a great profile seems to be very happy. Everyone say to her “Great!” or “Like,” which echoes the reactions in facebook. But soon, this happiness for her turns into skepticism because she realizes that this “Like” is just ceremonial and superficial and that the people

around her are not genuinely interested in her. These dramatized responses depress her but she still wants to get them even though they are not real, just like we all do.

### Rejection

The main character in the fifth story is homosexual. It is difficult for him but he finally confesses his preference with great dash but the response from people is callousness. They do not accept him and criticize him cruelly. In this situation, there is nothing he can do except to say, “I am sorry.” Like him, many who are homosexual in this society are rejected because they do not have the same sexual orientation as the majority. Another kind of entrapment and discrimination, this story reveals those parts of our lives that do not embrace the circumstances of others.

### Anonymity

The final story wraps up the play by depicting anonymity, symbolizing those of us in the audience, as well as all who make up the public. The final character points to all the characters before him and laughs at their lives. The other characters then rage at him and shout, “Do not equate me with the others!” An argument begins between the characters and the anonymous character observing the argument says, “You are not qualified to argue because you cannot understand yourselves.” In the end, anonymity represents nothing at all. The audience comes to regard the six characters on the stage as pitiful but also ridicules them.

### Self-examination

Celebrities who suffer from rumors and suicide, people who want to communicate through Social Networking Service but in the end feel only skepticism, minorities who are not recognized by society... These examples show that the play isn’t a fantasy but is indeed our own stories. Though the audience is rarely familiar with the play’s genre, it responds to all six stories. Viewers strongly respond to the conflicts and mismatches played out and each member of the audience identifies with a role of one or more of the characters and considers society from that new point-of-view. And this process of self-examination is a difference of the existing plays which are accustomed to us. At the same time, it is a value of this play.

Choi Ji-eun, an art therapist who helped to form the overall structure of the play, added about the distinguished feature of it. “Maybe lots of people feel repulsion about this profound play which involves a performance art. But ironically, they can absorb to the play with this device more. They can share each story and feel cathartic because they are living Korean society of today. Self-examination of oneself and society and furthermore finding a way to communicate with others, it is the biggest meaning of this play, I think.” A



▲ The play is different from others because of a feature of performance art.

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# Of the Young, By the Young, For the Young



Head of the Youth Community Union,  
**Han Ji-hye**

**By Kim Ji-hyeock**  
*Reporter of National Section*

**H**an Ji-hye is the head of Youth Community Union (YCU). Once upon a time, she was in debt for 26 million won. She worked as a part-time employee to pay back her loans at 600,000 won every month. She met some of her seniors trying to work on youth problems such as jobs and tuition fees. Inspired about this work, she decided to dedicate her efforts to helping solve these problems for young people. She worked as a founding member of the YCU.

## **Argus: What got you interested in the YCU?**

**Han:** More than half of the teenagers think that they have to go to a university. It is kind of a settled idea. But in reality, university students' burdens are so huge that some students have to work part-time jobs, thus taking time off from their studies, and this is what they have to solve. Everyone thinks the student is completely responsible for her or his problem.

At the same time, the society makes unreasonable demands on them. People

say, "Have an interest in political matters, do not be a selfish person." These demands result from ignorance about young people. We thought that we needed to let the people know about our problems and help us fix these circumstances.

## **Argus: What distinguishes the YCU from other labor unions?**

**Han:** The YCU is the first labor union centered on young people. Before we came along, the labor unions in Korea, except for the Korean Women's Trade Union, were

organizations of workers based on specific companies. So at first, many regarded us as a meaningless organization. Some even claimed that we were making unreasonable demands. But nowadays many people think that we are doing good work, and some people give us valuable ideas that have helped us a lot.

We are not based on any specific company and I think this makes the YCU more active. We are not bound to a company or a region. We even deal with unemployed people's problems.



**Argus: What are the major activities of the YCU?**

**Han:** We always provide labor consultants to the people who need help and we also have had a monthly special lecture from early 2009 to early 2012. We choose the topic of each lecture considering what young people want and need to know and invite special lecturers for the audience. The range of our topics is broad. From financial matters to military service, we choose anything that could be helpful to our attendance. At our latest lecture, the speaker explained how we can get involved and participate in the society politically. At our lectures, about 20 to 50 people always show up.

**Argus: Could you tell us about a few of the successes among your activities?**

**Han:** The very first activity we started was a research project on the actual conditions of the minimum wage paid by convenience stores. A lot of students, including teenagers, work part-time at convenience stores. We found out that about 70 percent of over 500 convenience stores violate the standard for minimum wage. Inspired by us, the Ministry of Employment and Labor (MOEL) carried out a monitoring system.

Next, we ran a campaign where we insisted that the 30-minute delivery system of pizza be abolished. At that time many part-time workers at pizzerias

suffered under this system and we helped get it abolished. This campaign also moved MOEL to be more active with the contracting agreements of pizzerias.

Another example is that, last year, major cafes did not pay extra pay for holidays, which is specified in the law. We negotiated with Caffe Bene to give the unpaid holiday pay to the workers totaling 50 million won.

**Argus: Could you tell us about some of your specific memories of these activities?**

**Han:** When we started, we used our own money for the YCU. It was very difficult to maintain this organization financially and mentally. Many people were hostile to us. But now, our situation has changed. About 600 union members pay membership fees, and almost 300 people donate to us regularly. People also support our activities.

I remember a person who asked us to help him with unpaid work. Although he faced many difficulties, he did not give up, and finally got his pay. "If I give up, other people who need help in receiving money owed them could not get it. So I had to endure these hardships," he said. It was a wonderful boost for us.

**Argus: The YCU has done many things in the last two years. Do you think your activities affect society?**

**Han:** As I mentioned before, we realize that there are some people who are better off now than before because of our work. When we see these things we feel that our activities change the society for the better. There are still too many things that have to be changed, though. But we have experience now in getting the government to act and are hopeful that there will be more changes in the future.

**Argus: Many people do not know much about the YCU. Do you have any plans to inform the public about the YCU?**

**Han:** We are always thinking about that. But every time we do, we realize that we have to focus on what we are doing now.



▲ Members of the YCU pose for a photo during a campaign to improve the condition on minimum wages.

If we put great effort into these projects, people will naturally come to know us.

**Argus: What will the YCU concentrate on next?**

**Han:** Nowadays, we are carrying on with two big projects and many others. First, we are asking young people about their residential problems, and also about insurance for part-time workers. We are also working on the standardization of resumes without the discrimination against low educational background.

Also, we are planning to have conferences with the presidential candidates. In those conferences, we will ask them to help solve some of the problems of young people.

**Argus: Most members of the YCU are directly involved with the problems of young people. Do you have any messages for these young people who wish to speak of their own agonies?**

**Han:** It is so hard to speak of their own problems because it might cause them shame. But if nobody speaks up then our society will not change. You will not be able to get support from the society. We want you to remember our slogan, "If you are in pain, then say you are in pain." Do not hide your hurt, and share your agony.

▲



▲ Members of the YCU are aligned with a banner celebrating Labor Day.

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# PRCB Paves New Road with Passion

By Kim Eun-young  
*Reporter of Culture Section*

It was late at night but there remained many researchers to continue their work in College of Natural Sciences. This is the Protein Research Center for Bio-Industry (PRCB). It is another aspect of HUFs, which is famous for a high level of language education teaching 45 foreign languages. At Global Campus, the biotechnology business is leading a research of protein. Not just conducting research, they also share this with local businesses to promote the regional economy. So The Argus visited the PRCB.



## What is the PRCB?

Gyeonggi Province, which has 37 percent of the biotechnical companies of Korea, has an important role in deciding the development of biotechnology in Korea. But this business became risky as multinational corporations came with Free Trade Agreement between Korea and the United States. To cope with this situation, the local society decided to boost the industry. According to its survey, it needed to develop medicine of high functional protein to promote local business.

To do this work successfully, the PRCB was founded in July 2007 to investigate and research high functional protein and help technological development of venture business in Korea. Since this field is the fundamental technology that Gyeonggi Province selected, it has been supporting the center at the University. Also, Gyeonggi Province designated this center as the Gyeonggi Regional Research Corporation. This center has been working with 11 companies in Gyeonggi Province accompanying three assignments. The assignments have three stages: to develop industrial protein and infection controlling protein, and to proceed with special programs. It has planned to conduct this work for nine years, and now the programs will be ended by 2015.



## The Contributions of the PRCB

### 1. For local business

The PRCB supports commercialization of local business by developing new materials of protein and application technology. It also educates people in this business, conveying related information and technology to them. As the center develops antibiotics for livestock and provides them to the region, the livestock industry is an important business for Gyeonggi Province. So far, 37 companies and 231 people have participated in the research and have achieved 32 results from the three assignments. Also there have been technical transfers twice, one commercialization that resulted in 39 applications and 10 patents.

### 2. For HUFS

In the natural science field, good devices are the materials to aid study because they proceed with experiments. As HUFS features language education, support for natural science and engineering has been relatively lacking. But after this research was started, much support from local business increased. Since products of the

studies turned out better than expected, so support grew even more. As a result, the center got 19 pieces of equipment which can change into about 1,28 billion won. This support means the center can provide infrastructure for the University and for the students to conduct research with superb facilities. Since 2007, more than 50 papers have been written and more than 40 Masters and PhD's awarded. Also, it was rare that students pass from undergraduate studies to graduate school at College of Natural Science of HUFS. But after the research business achieved the success it has, the number of students has increased who want to go to graduate school at HUFS. And they are able to study at the center. In the long term, the PRCB contributes significantly to the development of the natural sciences at HUFS.

### The PRCB, where win-win works for local business and for HUFS


The PRCB has conducted its studies for six years. The three stage assignment has three more years remaining and it continues to make contributions both to the region and to the university. But Professor Ha hyun-joon, representative of the PRCB and professor of Department of Chemistry in HUFS, said the assignment is not the only goal of the PRCB. It will keep assignments on and be a stimulant for students. He said, "In the first place, we have built-in goals to complete the plan within nine years. But after the next three years, we will continue another assignment and conduct more research collaborating with Gyeonggi Province because we realize there is a positive influence for each other to maintain this project. For example, during the past six years, the research environment of our university has been vastly improved and is a driving force for our students to study hard."

He also added that this is a great



▲ PRCB has various kinds of facilities.

benefit for students who major in the natural sciences and engineering at HUFS. "Though the natural sciences and engineering are not in so great a position at the university now, I feel that my students have infinite potential and possibilities. So I hope they realize it and participate in their studies more passionately. Of course, this applies to all the HUFSans."

At the PRCB, there is a passion to meet with students who will conduct research with their own potential and pride. And there is an attribution to share the results with a local community. The new aspect of HUFS is shining. So the expectation for this center that will be a mecca of research for biotechnology industry protein in Korea and moreover to develop to the world is strong. 

### The research activities of PRCB

#### 1. The results of research development

- a. The analysis of a new characteristic of lipase and a development of great strain
- b. Excavation of derivatives of infection controlling peptide and establishment of analysis method of structure

#### 2. The great products

- a. Solid NMR Probe : The lab developed it autonomously for Buysell and a sample for Bilayers
- b. Antibionis peptide: The marketability of a new drug is expected to be about 2 billion dollars.



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▲ Professor Ha says to HUFSans to believe their possibilities.

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# Renovating House of English



**James Life**

*Professor, Department of  
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The House of English is a very proud house of language that extends over a thousand years as a distinct entity. The original building was not very impressive in relation to the other more establish language homes but from this modest beginning, the House of English has now become a formidable presence. The foundation of this building is primarily of regional German and Latin stock mixed in a somewhat chaotic fashion and because the foundation is not uniform or sound, cracks are beginning to show in the structure itself. If English wishes to be considered, or continue, as

an international language boarding house, it is time to renovate some of the existing flaws that are become increasingly obvious. To succeed a few issues need to be considered: ownership and structure, flaws in the language code, and methodology in the instruction of the language.

## « Ownership and structure

Who owns English? The actual ownership is a little unclear. Five hundred years ago the answer was easy, the people of the British Isles, but since the British began exporting their developing culture and language beyond the English Channel the House of English has taken on a more international flare. The House of English originally housed one growing family but in its modern form it has become more of a rooming house including a more international clientele in a more cooperative style of ownership. Other languages have also developed an international role but at present no other language has expanded to the extent that English has. No one group has proprietorship over English; it is truly a communal language and must be to have the distinction as an international/universal language.

Language is organic and not static in nature. Traditional rules of grammar

define the limits of possibility in a language but they are far too general and inflexible in nature. A living language grows beyond the original definitions that defined its earlier state. Language needs to be considered in the current environment of its application to determine what interaction in communication is most clear and appropriate. Traditional grammar represents a good starting point for the novice but does not define what is probable in application and a living language exists in the practical world of possibility with individual design and modification.

International ownership and the organic nature of language give us a hint in understanding the general nature of the language. There are aspects of English that can be considered common and understood between groups usually in the more formalized aspects of the language. But the House of English is also a conglomeration of many different aspects of English and incorporates regional dialects reflecting the culture and other languages of the region. These differences tend to appear most clearly in sounds, vocabulary, and the informal grammatical structure of the language. Applied language is not a singular fixed structure but is a matrix of variables that determine the most



appropriate form of expression at any given instance within a communication. How well as the House of English adapted to this international role or is it time to consider renovating the House of English before our tenants look elsewhere for accommodation?

### « Flaws in the Language Code

There are many flaws in all language codes including English; for example, the inconsistencies and limitations in the alphabet we use. Many believe that reform should come in the standardizing of spelling and the sounds associated with spelling but this does not take into consideration regional differences in the sounds of English or accommodate the different sounds of borrowed words. In order to represent the many sounds possible in spoken language with the written word, the flaw that needs to be corrected first is the alphabet itself. Can the written code be corrected to accommodate changing sounds within the language? I believe the answer is yes.

The use of International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) system is an attempt to do this. IPA symbols relate to phonetic sounds and the system tends to generalize sounds that are regional or not native-sounds to the language. The system also has a bias to Latin-based language sounds and representation although this is slowly changing. The IPA system may be considered a start but not an end. To effectively renovate the alphabet, the code should be intuitive and more universal in the representation of sounds, mark where sounds are usually regionally modified, and illustrate where individual sounds form sound combination and natural pauses. This example represents only one of several major flaws in the structure and content of the language code that will need to be addressed so

that the English language can be better understood and acquired by non-native speakers.

Methodology in instruction ? There will always be regional and group differences in English. Regional or standardized English may be taught but the full complexities of all Englishes cannot. Therefore an effective approach would address common features and view the logic of how regional and group differences develop such as common areas of sound variation, vocabulary development, and modified grammatical structure. This necessitates changes in the way English is taught and revision of support materials. Textbooks and other audio-visual support are more relevant when developed in partnership with the regional English recognizing that proprietorship is international among all English speaking countries.

Another challenge for language instructors is the translation of vocabulary between other languages and English. Often there is a general misunderstanding of how vocabulary relates to the given situation and the relationship between base vocabularies. The flaw may be in the impression that the meaning of vocabulary can be isolated to single or multi-word vocabulary. This may be true for basic information but general meaning and understanding within a communication comes from the co-text/context relationships and must be considered for clear translation between languages.

### « Conclusion

Will English become a true universal language? ? probably not. Traditional English speaking countries are unlikely to support the needed changes to the language or the equal recognition of regional English. Language has too close a relationship

with politics and universal change is dependant on a consensus among the many major users of English. There is also a viable alternative to a universal language. This option is not another language but rather an alternative way of communication. Instead of language translation being done by individual minds, much of this function can be done digitally or through more visual communication with the use of understood symbols, icons, and common situational patterns. If English fails as a universal language that does not mean it will fail as a regional or alternate regional language. This can be seen in the way that India has embraced Indo-English and how Eastern Asia is adopting an Asian-English as an alternate regional language for business.

What will happen to the House of English? Will there be a renewed vitality to create a true language boarding house for the world? Will the estate be divided into a franchise of individual regional homes? Will a new communication boarding residence draw away the present tenants? Will the House of English fade into obscurity losing its uniqueness in a suburb of other homes of language and communication? Will it become a flop house for drifters who have lost their regional cultures and pride? Will it decay with the passage of time through the lack of maintenance and commitment, remaining only as a memory in fading minds?

At the gate there is a sign swinging in the wind -- Welcome to the House of English \*(mi casa essu casa).

\* The Spanish phrase, *mi casa essu casa*," means "My home is your home"

# Since It Is Useless, It Is Useful




**By Jang Ho-joon**  
*Editorial Consultant*

**A**lthough people have considered the crisis of university humanities majors as a tedious issue influe, it broke out repeatedly with some new characteristics. Overall, the issue revolves around the tendency to avoid fundamental majors such as the humanities and pure science when students choose their college majors. Currently, the most popular majors with Korean high school students are medical and pharmacy science on the natural sciences track and economics and business administration on the liberal arts track.

The situation does not appear different overseas. Forbes, a well-known American business magazine, issued an article which introduced the 10 worst college majors on Oct. 11. Fields such as the humanities, liberal arts and social sciences are included on the list because of the associated low demand and low earnings. Some could ask, “How does this become a problem? Is it not certain that a good major should be determined by what you can get with it in your society?” Apart from the problem of conserving the diversity of studies, the issues above show how studying basic science is undermined in many societies. In fact, the trend is a result of neglecting how the fields we study are constructed based on fundamental structures.

It also tells how the value of studies is classified under the principle of capitalism, which is based on the maximization of efficiency and profit. Recently, another strange phenomenon which follows the trend above has prevailed in Korea. Many books and CEOs began to emphasize the importance of studying the humanities to achieve success in diverse fields. Most of them seemed to have been inspired by Steve Jobs, a businessman who urged the convergence of technology and the humanities. Several bestselling books repeatedly tell why we should learn the humanities to be a leader or succeed in business. People believe that they can advance in diverse fields after reading the classics according to those books, but soon realize that they are just using the lessons from those classics in other fields. It leads them to consider the humanities as a tool of other industries. As scholars pointed out, the humanities mentioned by Steve Jobs just refer to another name of business administration and technology which analyze human traits.

Business, which begins to embrace the analysis of human traits, does not need the humanities like literature, history and philosophy. It is possible to think that the new-born humanities force universities to merge departments and government to reduce budgets for those studying liberal arts. The essence of humanities, however, does not lie on getting support or being used for other fields. It exists to refute the things considered apparent in the world. A critic said, “Usefulness oppresses human beings. The humanities are useless, so they do not oppress them. They tell how oppression negatively affects people.” It is a mere delusion that the humanities should be used for the development of other fields through easy lessons, which stops deep introspection and interrupts continuous communication. 

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## Is It Being SMART or SILLY?

In recent years, the number of Koreans using smartphones has grown to over 30 million individuals. Considering the time since the phones were released, the smartphone usage has explosively increased. Although these small machines promise us a lot of fun and convenience, they can bring us an indifference to our environment. We frequently see flowers, trees and even the blue sky on our phones; however, these are only digitized images and not reality. This issue also occurs with human relationships. This means that although people are smart regarding technology, they are silly in terms of their environment. The picture from the Photo Essay “Is It Being SMART or SILLY?” in the September issue of The Argus throws us a question by contrasting children with an adult. In the picture, there are innocent children who are not using smart phones, looking at the summer greenery and chattering like sparrows. The adult, however, is concentrating on his smart phone in silence. I hope that the readers of The Argus are liberated from the slavery of smart phones and can take pictures of the autumn, not by camera, but with their own eyes and mind. 📷

*Park Vit-narae  
Department of Spanish 11'*

## We Should Enjoy Reading Books

It was pretty interesting to read several ways to enjoy reading books. I thought I have read more books than others. But after reading the article I realized I should have “enjoyed” them. Then I pondered why people are eager for enjoying books. We might already notice that digital things surrounding us cannot quench our thirst to communicate and know each other. We can get closer to the writers by reading their books, because they compact their own ideas in the books. But it would have been better if there were some introductions about programs that libraries in Korea host! Thank you, The Argus, anyway! I had so much fun with the article! 📖

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The Argus

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