

The Argus

No. 477 APRIL 6, 2016

Since 1954

Cover Story

- International Students Are Dubious of "No.1 Globalized Campus"
- We Bridge Cultures: International Student Organization

Visiting

Connecting the Dots: Every Experience Connects to the Future

Reportage

Loud Demonstrations on Independence Movement Day

Hermes

What Do You Think of School Shuttle Bus

Culture Insight

Read, Watch and Play Webcomics



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

The Argus

ESTABLISHED 1954

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

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Editorial

Are Foreign Students Really Satisfied with HUFs' Globalization?

Various newspapers that evaluate Korean universities have described HUFs as being one of the top schools pursuing internationalization over the past eight years. It is based on the number of foreign teachers and foreign exchange students at HUFs as well as the frequency with which Korean students from HUFs have gone abroad to study. Clearly, we can see many of foreign students on campus, which exemplifies the name of our school, "Hankuk University of FOREIGN Studies." However, do those students really feel comfortable and satisfied with campus life at HUFs because the school is assessed as the top of internationalization among Korean universities? In this new issue, we are going to look into their problems and complaints carefully.

There are many problems that may be easily ignored or unrecognized by Korean students but those make foreign students hard to live in Korea. For example, such students often experience communication difficulties due to language problems, trouble with meals, and trouble learning information such as the date of a school festival or which programs they could join.

In addition to these problems, many Korean and foreign students may want to become friends with one another. However, in the real world it is not easy to make the friends, and this can lead to frustrating experiences.

It is not true that Korean and foreign students are not trying to approach one another. Korean students have posted bulletins about making foreign buddies in the library. Exchange students have attempted to join clubs and programs and have tried to talk to Korean students despite language barriers. Can these troubles be resolved on campus? These concerns and more are covered throughout this issue of The Argus. 

By Jang Eun-ae
Editor-in-Chief



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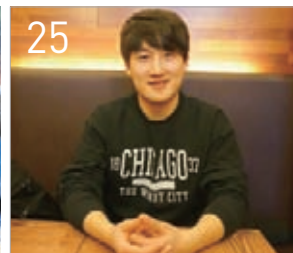
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Cover Story

>> The number of international students in Korean universities is growing every year as schools put in a lot of effort to attract them. In particular, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, which introduces itself as the "No.1 Globalized University in Korea," is a place where students from many backgrounds are gathered as its name suggests. However, HUFS pays little attention to the inconveniences that foreign students experience. The Argus looked into the problems faced by overseas students within its causes and solutions.

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▲ The Argus alumnus Park Heung-ryul(R) and The Argus reporter(L) pose together with the oversized check of \$1,000 in scholarships Park presented.

The Argus Alumnus Encourages His Junior Student Reporters


Park Heung-ryul, an alumnus of The Argus and the Education Assistant Editor of the Korea Times in Los Angeles, donated \$1,000 in scholarships for his junior reporters in The Argus office on Feb. 26.

“After talking with other alumni and the former editor-in-chief of The Argus, I became aware of the fact that the school does not provide much financial help to its campus magazine. Therefore, I wanted to give some economic aid to students even though it is not big,” Park said in his interview with The Argus.

Although he is now a professional journalist, the 57-year-old editor mentioned that he did not think he would become a member of the press when started as a student reporter. “At first, I joined The Argus just to learn English and basic journalism,” he said.

However, Park hinted that being an amateur reporter proved to be very useful in the real world of journalism.

“In The Argus, I was able to cultivate the spirit and attitude of an ideal reporter, not a fake one,” he emphasized. “Also, interviewing people from various fields was such a great boon that I gained the confidence to be a journalist and developed my own perspective on journalism.”

Park graduated from the Department of English Education at HUFS in 1984, after which he immigrated to the United States and began his career at the Korea Times in 1989. 

By Lee Jae-won


Romanian College officials Exchange Culture with HUF Sans



▲ Three vice presidents of Transilvania Univ. visit HUFS to give a special lecture.

Park Jung-oh, the chair of the Department of Romanian, hosted the event on Global Campus in the Language & Literature Building. A special lecture with guests including three vice presidents of Transilvania University delivered information about Romanian culture to HUF Sans and promoted academic ties between the two universities on March 4.

The three vice presidents who visited HUFS were Mihaela Gheorghe, the vice president of the Section of Education, Simona Lache who is the vice president of External Affairs and Development, and Carmen Buze who is the vice president of research field. Each of the vice presidents explained the Romanian history and culture to HUF Sans for about ten minutes, respectively.


Along with the lectures delivered by the vice presidents, Department of Romanian traditional dancing academy “TOT” and traditional folk song academy “Nogobong” performed to give a warm reception. A brooch was given as a gift, and after the lecture they had dinner together with the vice presidents. 

By Ahn So-hyun

Hankyung Academy Awards HUFSan Second Prize

A student from the Department of Portuguese, Jeong Ji-young, won the second prize in the Big Data Marketing Analysis Report Contest hosted by Hankyung Academy on Feb. 5.

The contest was aimed at students who participated in the Big Data Social Marketing Professional Manpower Training Course held from Dec. 28, 2015 to Feb. 5, 2016 with the purpose of helping graduates and students who are about to graduate with getting a job.

A total of 150 students from various universities including HUFs comprised 25 teams. Jeong was a member of team “Big Hero,” and all the teams that were awarded prizes received scholarships. 



By Park Se-in

▲ Jeong Ji-young smiles holding the panel of “the second grand prize.”

Book Cafe Comes to Global Campus

HUFs decided to renovate the Welfare Building of Global Campus establishing a book cafe on its second floor.

There used to be a bookstore in that place along with some other offices that were vacant for long periods of time. This is the fourth time the Welfare Building has been renovated. Students on campus are looking forward to using this new facility as a book cafe, where they can study and debate freely. It is also expected to help students on Global Campus have better access to books that were previously not available.

In the Welfare Building, there are now several new facilities including Mom’s Touch, a hamburger franchise, and an optical store. 


By Chung Hae-yun

HUFs Recruits Second Round of Campus Guardians

HUFs recruited the second round of campus guards on both campuses: “HUFs Care Patrol” on Seoul Campus and “HUFs Police” on Global Campus.

HUFs Care Patrol and HUFs Police are comprised of 24 and 12 members, respectively.

The campus guard program commenced last September to relieve the anxiety regarding public security and to prevent incidents at the school as well as to protect facilities that are located on campus.


The guards will be patrolling two hours a day during this semester and will receive a scholarship of one million won in return. 

By Choi Yun

Emergency Planning Committee Forms on Seoul Campus

HUFs Seoul Campus formed an Emergency Planning Committee (EPC) on March 28 to due to absence of candidates for the March General Reelection.

Candidate recommendation and registration period was from March 21 to 23, but no candidate came up until the last minute. Finally, the president of the Emergency Planning Committee is Lee Seul from from the Department of Scandinavian ‘13, and the vice president is Kim Hyung-hwan from the Advertising and Public Relations Major 12’, the former president of the General Student Council.

The General Election for the 50th HUFs General Student Council will be held again in upcoming November. 

By Byun Hee-jin

HUFS Holds Foundation Stone Ceremony



▲ The university officials attend the Foundation Stone Ceremony held at Minerva Square on HUFS Seoul Campus.

The Foundation Stone Ceremony was held at the Wooden Stairs, next to HUFS Main Building on March 7. At this ceremony, 10 university officials attended, including President Kim In-chul. This foundation stone, located next to the Wooden Stairs, marks the history of HUFS Seoul Campus. 📷

By Byeon Hee-jin

Foreign Language Tutoring Program Opens to Students

The Office of International Student Services opened its Foreign Language Peer Tutoring program again to improve HUFS students' language skills from March 21 to June 3.

Students from Seoul Campus who are amateur speakers of certain language applied for the program. This semester, 14 language classes are opened for two hours every day. The tutors are international students who study on Global Campus.

The goal of this program is to let students practice speaking in certain languages with native speakers. Students attending more than 80 percent of the sessions can get back 80 percent of the tuition in return. 📷

By Byun Hee-jin

HUFSans to Get Discount from Online Shopping Mall

HUFS signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with an internet mall "Education Discount Store," where only university students and faculty can use to facilitate buying commodity at a discounted price.

Students and faculty can buy electric devices such as laptops and monitors as well as fashion products with brands including Nike and Adidas at a cheap price.

The mall discounts all products to provide major brand goods to students at prices lower than elsewhere on the Internet. You can use the store through the banner on the HUFS website. The store started the service in 2014. 📷

By Park Se-in

Korean Ambassador Lectures on Latin America's Potentials



▲ Ambassador Lee talks about Latin America.

The Korean Ambassador to Bolivia, Lee Jong-chul delivered a special lecture about Central and South America for HUFSSans in the lecture hall of the Graduate School on March 16.

In the lecture, the envoy mainly talked about the Latin nation, Bolivia describing it as "a land of opportunity."

The country where Lee is working is currently growing rapidly, he claimed, saying its economy grew roughly five percent last year.

In addition, he pointed out the quick advancing state's varied land features as the motor force of its further development.

This possibility, according to Lee, is also good news for young Koreans. "I hope you think about advancing to Latin countries like Bolivia where opportunities are endless," he told participants.

This lecture was a part of an event inviting several Korean ambassadors to HUFS as many of whom, including Park Hee-gwon who is Korean Ambassador to Spain, Jo Hyeon, Korean Ambassador to India, Lee Tae-ro, Korean envoy to Slovakia and Lee Jeon-gwan who is Korean envoy to Brazil, came to Seoul for the 2016 Korean Foreign Ambassadors Meeting held March 14 to 18. 📷

By Lee Jae-won

News Briefing

By Jang Eun-ae
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General Election, April 13

The 20th election of members of the National Assembly is coming up. Anyone aged 18 or older can vote for congressmen from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on April 13. In Korea, voters should check the notice which indicates the designated place they will vote before they exercise the right to vote.



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Oil Price Finally Goes up

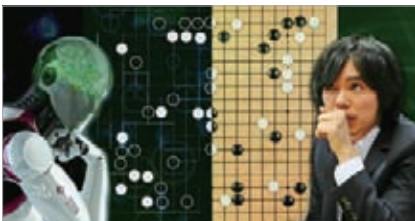


©Google

The price of oil increased by about \$36 on March 11 compared to the price of \$20 in January and February. The selling price of petroleum products including diesel oil and gasoline are also increasing. Higher oil prices will cause an increase in the price of oil products sold in Korea.

Lee Se-dol Verses AlphaGo

©SBS



AlphaGo is an artificial intelligence (AI) computer program designed by Google DeepMind in London to play the board game Go. Lee Se-dol is a professional Go player ranked ninth in the world. It is the first game of Go with human verses AI. The game lasted from March 9 to 14.


Increases in Consumption of Cigarettes and Alcohol

©News1



People are demanding more cigarettes and alcohol in comparison with the past despite increases in the price of cigarettes and alcohol including Soju, Makgeolli and beer. According to the National Statistical Office (NSO), the amount of the expenditure on these items is over thirty thousand won per person which is an all-time high.

Financial Robot Advisor

Investment computer programs are coming into existence resembling AlphaGo, in which artificial intelligence (AI) plays the board game Go. These new programs advise people who are likely to invest with lightning speed. Also they analyze exchange rates and stock prices. Additionally, they will use the big data and make portfolio. 



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Connecting the Dots: Every Experience Connects to the Future



By Byeon Hee-jin

Associate Editor of Campus Section

There must be HUFSSans who have not yet decided what career they want to pursue in the future. If you are one of those students, there is an alumnus who had the same concerns as you. Park Heung-ryul, who graduated from the Department of English Education, experienced various spheres, filtered out those that did not fit himself and finally became a journalist. The Argus met Park and listened to the experiences he has had and the special aspects of his current job.

The Argus: Hello. Please introduce yourself to The Argus readers.

Park Heung-ryul (Park): Nice to meet you. I am Park Heung-ryul, and I graduated from the Department of English Education, beginning my undergraduate studies in 1980. Currently, I am working as a deputy director at Korea Times in Los Angeles (L.A.).

The Argus: What is your role at the Korea Times in L.A.?

Park: As a deputy director and the chief of the Department of Current Issues, I am in charge of the education section. I am also in charge of the Korea Times weekly-issued magazine called “H magazine” and book review section. Not only this, I also work for the Korea Times when it hosts events, such as the College Expo or Hollywood Bowl Korean Music Festival.

The Argus: Before becoming a journalist, what experiences did you have?

Park: When I immigrated to the United States in 1984, I was admitted to the MBA program at Colorado State University. However, I changed my mind and studied electronic engineering instead. Then again, I realized that I did not have an aptitude for that, and I studied applied mathematics instead. With this foundation, I first thought about getting a career

related to accounting or computer science. However, I did not want to do something monotonous and instead wanted to have a challenging job. I asked an acquaintance for advice, and at the same time I found that the Korea Times was recruiting reporters. I tried out for the position and on Oct. 16, 1989, I became a cub reporter.

Since I finished college, the various things I experienced have been a part of a process that helped me to find my future. Journalist, my final destination, was a job I decided to pursue based on the following: I have always liked writing, I had worked as a student journalist before, and the job itself suits my character and talents.

The Argus: Could you tell us more about your experiences as a student reporter?

Park: When I was studying at HUFS, I worked at The Argus from my freshman year to my sophomore year. To be honest, I did not go into The Argus with the intent to become a journalist. Instead I just sought to improve my English. However, I learned more than I expected by receiving a hard training course from Son Min-ung, the head editor of The Argus at that time. I experienced not only how to conduct interviews but also how to do on-the-scene reporting as well. Moreover, I found my own style of journalism. Although I had hardships in the process of finding my future, my two years at The Argus were a big help when making a decision about my career.

The Argus: Are you satisfied with your job as a journalist? Why or why not?

Park: I am 90 percent satisfied with what I do now. Of course it cannot be 100 percent. The Korea Times in L.A. does not have a great environment to work in such as the press companies in Korea have. However, no matter what, being a journalist is sure a fascinating job in the sense that I can experience various situations and meet people from all sorts of backgrounds. I have interviewed various people, from homeless people in downtown L.A. to previous Korean presidents.



©Park Heung-ryul

◀ Park works in his office at the Korea Times in L.A..

Through these various interviews, I have felt various emotions, ranging from being inspired to being disappointed.

One of the most memorable experiences was when I covered the main characters of “Three Rounds of Shots: Broken Dreams” and “Mrs. Hong Jeong-bok, Mother of Black People,” which are documentaries that each won the grand prize from Korean Broadcasting System (KBS) in 1997 and 1999. By covering their lives, I learned what it is like to live like a real human being. That is my most unforgettable coverage experience.

The Argus: We heard that the Korea Times in L.A. is published for Korean residents in America. What is the characteristics of the Korea Times in L.A.?

Park: The Korea Times in L.A. is published for not only the first but also for the second generation of Korean-Americans. For this reason we publish in both an English and a Korean version. Moreover, because of the characteristics of Korean immigrants’ societies, we not only cover Korean entrepreneurs or politicians in American society, but we also cover local community issues such as problems related to elderly Korean people. Of course, every branch has different characteristics, since the Korea Times has 12 branches across the U.S..

The Argus: What is the most important trait for being a good reporter?

Park: Working as a member of the press, you need to have some power to suggest a better vision for society as well as the ability to criticize. If you do not have a strong will to change the society we live in, I do not think that you are qualified to be a reporter. So before you try journalism as a career, you need to ask yourself whether you really have the spirit of a reporter.

As a journalist, I feel it is pitiful that such small numbers of students are interested in journalism. However, anyone who is only interested in money or fame should not become a reporter.

The Argus: Since many accidents have occurred in Korea, the credibility of the Korean press has decreased. What do you think about this?



▲ Park shares his story during his visit to The Argus office.

Park: Problems regarding the press are related to all areas including politics, economics and culture. So, it is hard to say what the problem specifically is. However, one thing that is clear is that journalists lack integrity. There may be some people who say they would lead society in the right way on the surface, but they themselves are not clean inside. In order for the press to exercise leverage again, there must be a big change in the press overall.

The Argus: Are there any words you want to say to junior HUFSSans?

Park: When I visited HUFSS this time, there were banners written that said, “Come to HUFSS, Meet the World” all over the campus. This is the answer. Junior HUFSSans should watch alumni who already work overseas and learn from them. Moreover, once you are a HUFSSan, you are always a HUFSSan. Keep your pride as a HUFSSan and widen your vision starting from little things like school and community to bigger things like the world.

When he was concerned about his future, Park Heung-ryul challenged himself by experiencing various things. He even studied areas unrelated to being a journalist, his current position, but even those experiences helped him find his path. There must be times you have considered the question, “Will this really benefit me in the future?” but whatever you do, challenging yourself always helps you in the future. 📧

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Loud Demonstrations on Independence Movement Day

By Choi Yun

Associate Editor of National Section

The opposition parties' filibuster or unlimited parliamentary relay speech, against the anti-terrorism bill ended on March 2 after a record-breaking time of 192 hours and 26 minutes. While lawmakers in the opposition party spoke continuously both night and day for eight days inside of the National Assembly Building; at the same time, a filibuster was conducted by the public outside of the building. To listen to the ideas of the lawmakers and the public about the anti-terrorism bill, The Argus visited the National Assembly on Samiljeol, the Independence Movement Day on March 1.

Before entering the National Assembly Building

Early in the Morning

In the early hours of March 1, news articles announcing a news conference at which the end of the filibuster would be declared were placed on online portals. Even though The Argus reporter was not invited as a professional journalist, the writer rushed to the National Assembly with a camera slung over the shoulder to attend the conference in the early morning. Although it was a holiday, there were so many broadcasting centers' vehicles camped out around the building.

9:00 a.m.

People who were not authorized had to go to the back of the National Assembly Building and go through a security check. After undergoing the process, The Argus reporter asked clerks at the front desk whether it is possible to attend the news conference. Unfortunately, the answer was no; the conference was only open to a select group of journalists. However, thanks to the kindness of the front desk clerks, The Argus reporter got an admission ticket to the main conference hall, which should have been

booked at least three days before through the Internet, but the tickets had run out early due to a flood of requests.

10:00 a.m.

When the hour drew close to 10:00 a.m., the time National Assembly opens its door to the public, the lounge was packed with people. They were standing in line, preparing to hand in their identification cards, smartphones and other digital devices in turns. When they reached the fourth floor of the building where the entrance to the conference hall is, they had to go through a security check again similar to the one they had done on the first floor.

Entering the main conference hall

10:10 a.m.

When The Argus reporter entered the hall, Hufs alumna and Minjoo Party Rep. Lim Su-kyeong was standing behind the podium. Lim was relaying speaking as the 30th runner of the filibuster that had been commenced by Rep. Kim Kwang-jin of the same party on Feb. 23.

Rep. Lim recited the "3.1. Declaration for Saving a Democratic Country," which was declared outside of government buildings by politicians including ex-presidents Kim Dae-jung and Yeun Bo-sun, professors, priests and people from all walks of life who hoped to restore democracy on March 13, 1976 when President Park Chung-hee's military regime seized power. Rep. Lim pointed out that not a single advance in democracy had been made over the past 40 years. In response, Rep. Kim Jong-hun, a member of the ruling Saenuri Party, jumped up from his seat and yelled at her, "That is irrelevant to the topic!"

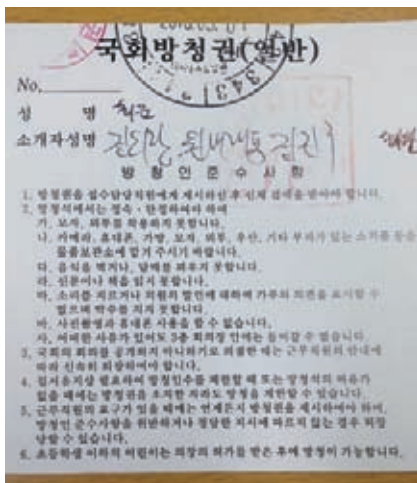
After asking Rep. Kim not to interrupt

What is the 'Anti-terrorism Bill'?

The purpose of the Anti-terrorism Bill is to fight terrorism by setting up a counterterrorism center inside the Prime Minister's Office as well as to give the National Intelligence Service (NIS) the authority to collect information, access financial data, and eavesdrop on or wiretap possible terror suspects. As threats from North Korea and the jihadist militant group the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) continue to escalate, a discussion about the bill has been carried on throughout Korea.

One of the well-known anti-terrorism laws worldwide is the USA PATRIOT Act. The Act itself was proposed after the Sept. 11 attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., and it was signed into law by President George W. Bush. However, the Act did not last long. The law was criticized due to its potential for political abuse in that it enabled the gathering of intelligence information on potential terrorist targets, and the act was ultimately scrapped.

Lim Su-kyeong, Rep. Minjoo ▶ and Hufs alumna, is giving a speech in the main conference hall of the National Assembly Building.



©The Argus / Choi Yun

▲ The admission ticket needed to enter the main conference hall of the National Assembly Building.

What is a “Filibuster”?

The term “filibuster,” derived from the Spanish “filibustero,” meaning “privateer, pirate, robber,” refers to a parliamentary procedure where debate over a proposed piece of legislation is extended, allowing members to delay or entirely prevent a vote on the proposal. The record-breaking nature of the recent filibuster in South Korea is of great significance in that politicians conducting a filibuster in Korea are not allowed to talk about irrelevant topics, unlike congressmen in the United States.



her speech, Rep. Lim kept discussing the potentially dangerous consequences of the bill by discussing the judicial murder case committed by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA), now the NIS; the judiciary in 1974; the “Committee for the Re-establishment of the People’s Revolutionary Party (PRP) Incident”; and the “NIS spy fabricating scandal” in 2013.

12:00 p.m.

For two and a half hours, Lim continued to speak while lawmakers went in and out of the hall. The total number in the huge hall did not exceed seven. People sitting in the center of the hall, who were in charge of the conference, seemed to be exhausted due to the seven-day-long filibuster. One man kept massaging his eyes and another dozed off, letting his head drop and finding himself incapable of waking back up for quite some time.

The atmosphere in the public seats was completely different. The seats were packed with over 110 people. Surprisingly and unexpectedly, there were many people who had come with their family members. From high school students to elementary school students who did not seem to understand politics, everyone was taking their seats and listening carefully to what the speaker was talking about.

A student who is going to enter high school, Bae Joong-yeon, visited the place after watching live coverage of the filibuster via YouTube. He had this to say: “I was so impressed with the speakers who threw their heart and soul into efforts to stop the bill. I wanted to see it for myself, so I asked my father to bring me here.”

Lee Mi-ra, a mother of three schoolkids, undertook a five-hour-long journey from Gwangyang City to watch the filibuster. She said, “My daughter in high school told me that she is afraid of the bill because it may result in the

government monitoring us,” she said. “I thought taking a seat in the hall was one way to express my opposition to the bill.”

Over 100 citizens were voicing their opinions in the National Assembly Building that morning. Until the moment The Argus left the building, crowds of people were going into the building to watch the filibuster. Meanwhile, the angry voice of a man was echoing outside.

Filibuster by the public

1:00 p.m.

Despite a fierce cold snap with a low of 15 degrees Fahrenheit, the filibuster podium for the public was open. Unlike the warm and well-equipped main conference hall in the National Assembly Building, the podium for the public was very humble. There was a mic, an amplifier, and a chair only. And there were only three people: one giving a speech; the other two keeping their seats.

On the right of the podium, a conservative activist was also giving a speech in favor of the anti-terrorism bill with a much more effective sound system. The speaker standing on the podium shouted himself hoarse, denouncing the government’s inappropriate responses to social issues from the bill in question to the Sewol Ferry disaster and the so-called “Comfort Women” agreement, but his words were drowned out by the loud sounds of the conservative speaker and the roar of the nearby traffic.

The filibuster by the public was undertaken by civic organizations. “Jinbo Network” and the “People’s Solidarity for Participatory (PSP),” a civic organization that aims to construct a truly democratic country, made its way to the podium for a public filibuster against the anti-terrorism bill a day after Minjoo Rep. Kim Kwang-jin commenced



▲ A woman is reading a script on the filibuster podium for the public; a conservative speaker behind her is interrupting it.

the filibuster in the National Assembly. Like the opposition filibuster, the public filibuster was also conducted all day and all night long.

After the public filibuster podium was built, the press covered it, with an accord, as if it is an embodiment of democratic politics in which citizens freely express their own ideas and discuss about issues. And on the Internet, thousands of netizens supported public filibusters on their Twitter feeds, Facebook status updates and other social network services. But the reality was far from the way it was displayed by mass media or through the Internet.

2:00 p.m.

Within an hour of The Argus' arrival, only a few people had visited the podium. Several people came and handed out hot drinks, but no one stepped onto the platform. Over 10 police officers who were there to guard the speakers seemed to be putting the unfrequented scene to shame.

An elementary school teacher in his fifties, Jeong Gwang-hoon, visited the National Assembly to ask lawmakers not

to stop filibustering, and he stopped by the platform on his way home. He had this to say: "I stopped by here to support these young people who are laboring on this freezing cold day." Jeong also did not step onto the platform. "I think I do not have the courage to give a public speech," said Jeong.

In contrast to the low participation in the public filibustering, over 300,000 people participated in the signature campaign organized by 46 progressive civic groups.


Ahn Gi-seok, a member of PSP, a prominent civic group involved in the signature campaign said, "When something happens, I can see lots of people expressing their ideas about the issue online; however, I cannot see that many people who are willing to leave the Internet and continue to express their opinion." To The Argus' question about the low participation rate, Ahn answered, "About eight years ago, hundreds of thousands of people came out and participated in candlelight vigils, but things have changed. Personally, I think that might be because people no longer have room to express their opinions

nowadays."

4:30 p.m.

Until The Argus left the scene, only the lonely, strained voice of the man echoed across the field.

"Arguing that you do not care about privacy because you have nothing to hide is no different than saying you do not care about free speech because you have nothing to say," said Edward Snowden, a former contractor for the U.S. Government who revealed the details of classified U.S. government surveillance programs.

The filibusters inside and outside of the National Assembly Building ultimately came to an end, and the bill in question was passed onto the National Assembly plenary session the day after The Argus visited the scene; however, the controversy over the bill is still simmering in the minds of many. 

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A photograph of a workshop where three people are working on wooden stools. A woman in a grey sweater and apron is on the left, and two men in aprons and masks are on the right. They are working on wooden stools on a large workbench. The workbench has various tools and materials on it, including a can of paint and a power sander. The background shows shelves with more tools and materials.

COME TO HASH THE WOOD, MEET SELF INTERIOR TREND

By Lee Jae-won

Associate Editor of Culture Section

Last year, ‘cooking’ was an important cultural trend represented by lots of TV cooking programs. But this year, ‘self interior,’ which refers to people designing their own houses by themselves depending on their own personal tastes, has become highly popular. Looking at Lotte Mart’s sales in 2015, its Do It Yourself (DIY) furniture sales soared 37.3 percent year-on-year. A self interior Internet cafe called Lemon Terrace had 10,000 members in 2005, and its membership reached 2.87 million in January of this year. In addition, new TV programs about interior decorating such as “My Room’s Dignity” on tvN and “Old House, New House” on JTBC are now filling the airwaves and exemplify the strong public interest in the new trend.

The Argus visited the wood shop, Hash The Wood, where those interested in interior design activities visit. People who want to make their own furniture come here and learn to make what they want after listening to the lectures of professional instructors. This self interior movement is also evident on Yonhap and SBS News. Culture Trip looked specifically into this trend.

Visit to Hash The Wood

Hash The Wood is a wood shop located in Hyochang-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul. To match its name, it currently has diverse courses on how to make wooden furniture such as lamps, chairs, speakers, and kitchen boards. If a person registers for a certain course and pays tuition, they get professional education from the instructors at Hash The Wood and can make their own furniture. According to an instructor at Hash The Wood, Oh Young-cheon, participants of various age groups go there and take the courses.

On March 5, The Argus visited Hash The Wood. On that day, a beginner's class was held and three participants were present. Inside the workroom, each of the students were preparing to make their own wooden cutting board under the guidance of Oh.

Outside the room, three previous participants who had already taken such courses were talking with Oh. The Argus noticed that several completed pieces of furniture were on display. Before the class started, The Argus asked Oh and the participants to show some of the completed items, to which they readily agreed. Oh then brought three items made by the previous participants. The Argus observed what each item was and listened to explanations about them as well.

Previous Participant Items

Wood lamp



The first item was a wooden lamp made by a male worker who lives alone in a studio. A light bulb was inside a wooden box and it glowed when Oh plugged in the bulb. The maker said, "I wanted a pretty lamp that fits well in my room. But lamps in the market are a far cry from what I wanted and they usually cost a lot. So I decided to make this by myself for a cheaper price." The Argus raised the question, "Is it difficult to make a lamp?" He said, "No," and added, "Making the lamp was enough for one day. I like reading books after work at home. After I completed this item, I often read books under

the light, which makes me feel relaxed. Additionally, I use the wooden box as a bookstand after reading."

Chair and rocking bed for a baby



The next item looked like a wooden chair. "I am a newly married man and made this chair for my baby who will be born soon," said the man. He asked, "You know what the most surprising thing is?" Then he laid down the chair. Suddenly, the chair became a rocking bed. When asked why he made this piece of furniture, he replied, "I hoped for my baby to have some comfortable furniture. I thought that wooden furniture would be the best choice as it is not harmful to the baby's body."

Oh mentioned that the man himself conjured up the idea that the furniture would play two roles: a chair and a bed. "At the beginning, this item was just a chair, but I wanted it to also serve as a bed. So I designed the back side of the chair to have a rounded shape to allow it to be used as a rocking bed," the man added.

Wireless wooden speaker



Oh put his phone inside a speaker and played music, which revealed what was special about the object. The speaker produced a sound although it was not plugged in. It was a wireless speaker made of wood. The woman who made the speaker explained why she created it. "I like to travel alone by car. When I drive, I often use a Bluetooth speaker, but its battery soon dies during long drives. That is why I wished for a wireless speaker and came here to make it." She said that the sound comes out of the groove. "I usually use this speaker when traveling. I do not have to worry about the battery," she added.

After being introduced to the items, The Argus reporter walked into the workroom and watched how the beginners made their wooden kitchen boards guided by Oh. The production was divided into four steps.

Making a wooden cutting board

- (1) Decide on the size and thickness of the cutting board that you want to make.



▲ A man decides on the size and thickness of his kitchen board.

After bringing pieces of wood, participants should make decisions on the size and thickness of their boards. One of the participants said, “Cutting boards on sale are usually thick and heavy. I live alone and do not need such a thing. So I designed a thin board.”

- (2) Process both sides of the wood with a plane.



▲ Oh Young-cheon (L) helps a woman process the wood.

- (3) Cut the wood after sketching the cutting board based on your own design.

In this step, participants do not just follow the instructor's directions. They sketch their boards' shapes by themselves. How did they design their own boards? A female beginner answered this question. “This is my sketch. In my sketch, I made a handle on my board and also put a hole in the handle.”



▲ After sketching(L), a woman cuts the wood(R).


When asked why she did so, she said, “I currently cook for myself. The house I live in is so small that there is no space to put anything. So I added the hole to allow for the board to be hung on the wall. I think it will be more convenient.”

- (4) After sanding down the board, apply oil to it.



▲ A man holds his completed cutting board.

The Argus spent one day with Hash The Wood and saw how people make their own furniture and use it in their houses. It was a good opportunity to examine the cultural trend of self interiors in detail.

Why does the self interior concept appeal strongly to people? “I was not very interested in making furniture until I visited this place. However, it is really meaningful that I made something for myself,” one of the beginners said regarding how he feels after having finished the board. “It was neither by someone else's hands nor by someone else's design. I made my own furniture by myself with my design. This is the thing that charmed me most about self interior,” he added. Likewise, the self interior approach, in which the furniture of a house is made not by other people's hands, but the home owner's own hands, is becoming an attractive cultural trend in our daily lives. 

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How Do You Prepare for Exams?

By Chung Hae-yun
Reporter of Campus Section

Winter has gone, and it is getting warmer. Despite its wonderful weather, many students find April a crucial month. Midterms are coming up and HUFSSans are trying hard to get good grades, through preparing well for midterms. The Argus met four HUFSSans from different majors and listened to each of their own studying method.



Curtis Life, Canada, Division of International Studies '14

I usually stay at home and prepare for exams. Unlike most students, I do not like studying at the school library. I try to participate very actively in every class and because of that, I do not need to cram right before the exam. I can just review the material from the classes. I guess it is important to find your own way of studying efficiently, especially if you just became a freshman.



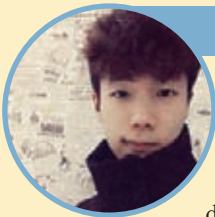
Lim Han-bit, Korea, Department of Turkish and Azerbaijan Language '13

I am now a senior and have tried almost every way introduced to prepare for an exam. After having gone through more than six exam period experiences, I finally found my own way of studying. It is nothing special, but I do not recommend cramming just one day before the test. I used to stay up all night to study for a test when I was younger, but it was not efficient, at least for me. I have some friends who stay up really late before the exam. It might be helpful to get good grades, but mostly students fall asleep in the middle of a test, or even worse, they miss their exams.



Atakan Alemdar, Turkey, Division of International Studies '16

I have not studied for any exam at HUFSS so far, but I have my own way of preparing for a test. I found it very helpful to summarize a lecture before the exam so that I can understand the main point of what a professor is trying to say. Also, I like to have a study-mate while preparing for a test. With a friend, I can teach him, and while teaching, I learn a lot more than when I study by myself. So I highly recommend for everyone to try this way of studying this semester!



Lim Won-bin, Korea, Department of Arabic '12

I really do not care about the places I study. I just study wherever I want. However, when I register for classes during each vacation, I try not to have more than two classes each day. I have tried over two classes, but it did not work out very well for me because I had to study for more than two subjects right before the exam day. I guess it is more efficient for me to have less than two classes a day to study. ☺

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

Gwahoebi, Should or Should Not Be Paid?



By Chung Hae-yun
Reporter of Campus Section

It has already been a month since the new semester began. Everyone has probably been busy during the first month of school, especially if you are a freshman. For freshmen, everything seems new; new friends, new professors, new classes, and new events like Orientations (OT) and Membership Training (MT). As there are a lot of events for freshmen, most departments at HUFs collect money from the first-year-students, known as “Gwahoebi,” mainly for the self-governing activities of each department. The amount of Gwahoebi, however, varies among majors and departments. In reality, a majority number of freshmen find this to be a financial burden mostly due to the large fees required. In this month’s How About You, The Argus listened to HUFs from different majors to look into the Gwahoebi issue.



Student A

College of Interpretation and Translation

When I entered the university, I was notified that I had to pay extra money which was about 280,000 won. At the time I did not go to the freshmen orientation, and I was not fully and clearly aware of Gwahoebi and the fact that it was not mandatory, so I paid the full price. I was told to pay as if it were a must, so I ended up paying the whole amount of 280,000 won with a little bit of doubt. A few months later, my friends told me that it was not mandatory at all to pay Gwahoebi. Then, I was finally aware of the purpose of the money, and started to think that it is not reasonable to ask everyone to pay Gwahoebi, some students do not participate in extracurricular activities and events including myself. For this reason, I personally think if some money must be collected for certain occasions, only students who actively participate should pay for it.



Student B

Department of Russian

I was once a member of the student council, so I am fully aware of the events that are held with the money gathered in the name of Gwahoebi. I know that there are a lot of students who see Gwahoebi as something negative and useless. However, a fixed amount of money is a must in planning and holding events for the students. It is impossible to manage certain events like MT with a small fee. Because Gwahoebi is collected, we can have a proper means of transportation and reserve accommodations with better facilities.



Student C

College of Economics and Business

I was a freshman last year and can still remember the very first time I entered this university. I was so excited and worried about my new life in a new place called "university." As I printed out the tuition form, I saw another high number stated on the form, a fee of 250,000. I asked several seniors about the money and tried to figure out what exactly it was, but all they said was that it was necessary for events. So I thought it seemed reasonable in that it was used throughout the whole year. As I think about Gwahoebi now, I think the price is way too high considering the number and quality of each event. Also, there is another reason why I object to collecting Gwahoebi. Everyone who pays for the fee has the right to know what it has been spent on. However, in my department, there is no way to see a breakdown of Gwahoebi.

Of course, I am not saying that we have to get rid of Gwahoebi. I agree with some aspects of Gwahoebi in that it provides a way to manage special occasions. If there is no money for student activities, the students will face certain inconveniences. What really matters is that the price of Gwahoebi is charged according to greatly varying rates across each major. Personally, I think it would be better if the school were to create a fixed rate for Gwahoebi and include it in the tuition fee.



Student D

College of Society and Science

While most students, except the student council, disagree with the idea of paying Gwahoebi, I think it is necessary to manage self-governance activities. The money is supposed to be used for activities whose benefits go directly to the students, including myself, so I think it is reasonable for us to pay. In the case of my own major, we are asked to pay less than 80,000 won. As far as I know, students have been paying 80,000 won for a long time as Gwahoebi, and there is consideration of a sharp increase in the fee. I think the fee change makes sense. It is not something we have to pay every year, but for the whole four years of university life. I heard that there are some departments, where Gwahoebi is over 200,000 won, but I do not understand why they need so much money. I am curious as to whether they are holding a lot more events and activities for students. Students would be very satisfied with a system in which they could see a detailed breakdown of Gwahoebi. 📄

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What Do You Think of School Shuttle Bus?



So Hun
Global Campus GSC



Bae Jun-hyeong
Dean of General Affairs

By Chung Hae-yun
Reporter of Campus Section

HUFS has two different campuses, one in Seoul and the other in Yong-in. The Global Campus located in Yong-in is well-known for its large size compared to that of the campus in Seoul. Due to the campus being quite large, students at the Global Campus use a school shuttle bus, the so-called “Bbang car” when moving among different school buildings. However, despite the fact that it should be more convenient for students, more and more students from the Global Campus are voicing complaints about the school shuttle bus.

The Argus decided to take a deeper look into the problem, listening to what is being mentioned both by students and the university. We met with So Hun, a representative from the General Student Council (GSC) on the Global Campus, and Bae Jun-hyeong, the Dean of General Affairs on March 9 for further discussion.



Shuttle bus punctuality problems

The Argus: Please tell us if you think it is inconvenient to use the school shuttle bus.

So Hun (So): Working on behalf of the students at Global Campus, I have heard a lot of complaints regarding the timetable of the shuttle bus, not only during the semester but also during semester breaks. Last year, for instance, students were not aware of the reason why the school shuttle bus operated based on 20 minute intervals between 12 to 1 p.m. Therefore, they started to complain about the intervals during certain periods of time, but what the students did not realize was that that one hour was a lunch break for the shuttle bus drivers. To resolve such misunderstandings between the students and school, the GSC arranged several meetings with General Affairs during the previous winter vacation, and ended up adjusting the former time-table. Through this new time-table, we are expecting better communication between the students and the university this semester.

Bae Jun-hyeong (Bae): On behalf of the university, we think it is impossible to satisfy every student completely. We are aware of the complaints of students regarding the punctuality of the bus.

However, given the geographical characteristics of the Global Campus, there must be a detour at Mo-hyeon intersection. Just last year, a number of local people filed a civil complaint arguing that it is illegal to make a detour at that particular crossroad. It is almost impossible to run the school shuttle bus without detouring, but currently we are facing objections from the residents. Aside from this, there are also some difficulties that arise in operating too many shuttle buses. We have to be fully cautious about the possibility of any car accidents. Currently, there seems to be no concern for these difficulties the school is having. We really hope that it is not too much to request understanding from the students. Moreover, despite the discouraging situation, our university has shorter intervals in operating the school shuttle bus, when compared to other universities in Korea. This shows that we always put students' welfare ahead of everything else.



Student safety problem in a crowded shuttle bus

The Argus: Is the university aware of the safety

concerns that exist inside the shuttle bus? How does the university view this problem?

Bae: We are aware of the fact that over 3,000 students are using the school shuttle bus during certain periods of time, including the time before first period, lunch time, and right after sixth period. This has always been one of our concerns regarding the safety of the students for a long time. Therefore, to prevent any accidents, we have talked with the relevant company that owns the school shuttle buses, but have not been able to come up with a proper solution. Instead, we have adjusted the shuttle time-table and shortened the intervals of the shuttle bus during those crowded times. But as students are already aware, it is not possible to stop students from getting on the shuttle bus. This certain problem regarding safety of the students standing inside a crowded bus could be completely solved if students helped out a little bit. The more students try to use the shuttle bus apart from the crowded times, the fewer complaints regarding such safety there will be.

The Argus: Has the GSC drawn up any general plan regarding the safety matter?

So: Recently we have been planning a new project to reduce worries about safety. Ever since the Centennial Complex was renovated in the second half year of 2014, an increasing number of students from various language departments have had to move from the new building to other buildings located in the upper part of the campus. Most of these students have their classes scheduled back to back, so they need to use the school shuttle bus to go to the other buildings; an example of traveling from the Main Building to the Centennial Complex. To help these students, the General Students Council came up with an alternative project during the last winter vacation. The project is called "Convenient School Shuttle Bus," and the main purpose is to help students easily get to classes from one building to another. The plan is simple; we asked the university to arrange more shuttle buses during periods between the third to fourth period, right after the fourth period, and from the sixth to seventh period. The GSC has already conducted a survey of 300 students on the Global Campus regarding this project, which turned out that 80 percent of the students agree with this plan. We asked for permission but got rejected due to financial reasons. There is no budget to realize the "Convenient School Shuttle Bus" project right now.

Bae: Yes, we heard of the project from the GSC last semester. However, as the students all know, even last year's budget was

tight. We cannot afford to arrange more shuttle buses with our current budget.

Student safety problem while entering and exiting the shuttle bus

The Argus: Is there any other problem related to the school shuttle bus?

So: There is one more complaint that students have talked about a lot through social networking services. It seems that it is very dangerous to exit the school shuttle bus in the morning since the bus stops in the middle of a road. There are no signs or streets where students can walk to classes without worrying about car accidents. The General Student Council had a campaign to reduce such risks, but the results were not very satisfying. We hope that the buses can stop somewhere safer.

Bae: The dangerous bus stop that students are talking about is the road between the Language & Literature Building and Humanities & Economics & Business Building. However, the reason why we decided to stop there in the morning is because of the safety of the students. You see, there are so many school buses coming into the Global Campus every morning between 8:45 a.m. to 9:20 a.m. Not only are there school shuttle buses but also the school buses for the educational personnel who are entering the university during that time. It is for the students' own safety that we park the school shuttle bus at the top of the campus, which students might think of as dangerous. However, considering the number of cars and buses pouring in at that time, it is much safer there, and there is less confusion as well.

Late-night school problem shuttle bus

The Argus: Please tell us if you have any other recommendations for each other.


Bae: It would be better if the students agreed to change the hour of departure for the Late-Night School Shuttle Bus, which runs from the school to Bundang. Last year, the GSC asked us to operate another school shuttle bus that runs even after all the red buses stop. We decided to run this late-night bus only for those students who stay late on campus studying. However, there have been more students who ride it drunk as opposed riding after a late night of studying.

So: The GSC proposed the idea of the late-night bus because there are no more red buses going around our campus after 10:30 p.m. So it would be useless if the time of the night school shuttle bus is advanced from 10:50 p.m. to 10 p.m. Also, we were not aware of such problems such as drunk students using the shuttle bus. I will discuss this issue with the members of the GSC.

Closing the interview

Bae: It has been a very meaningful use of time to go over certain complaints from the students. We will do our best to solve each problem. It would be great if the students could exercise some patience and wait until we come up with better alternatives.

So: Through this interview, we have finally come to understand the school's perspective. As one of the representatives from the GSC, I am happy that several miscommunications have now been resolved. We as students will also try to do something to reduce such inconveniences.

Through this interview, the GSC and General Affairs had the opportunity to take a deeper look into the problems students at the Global Campus are having. From some concerns each side was not aware of, to matters of miscommunication, it has been a great chance to finally build some common understanding and communicate with both sides. The Argus hope through this article, more students can resolve such misunderstandings and re-think how they approach the problems they are dealing with related to the school shuttle bus, for their own welfare. 



▲ Hufs School Shuttle Bus, so-called "Bbang car"

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SCREAMING FOR WORK-LIFE BALANCE

By Ahn So-hyun

Reporter of National Section

These days, workers and job seekers who are in their 20s often use the word “Wo-la-bel.” It is a newly coined word which refers to the idea that one can balance “work” (career and jobs) and “life” (personal and family health, recreation, and spirituality). As much as the word implies, the current young generation does not just work, but also considers maintaining the balance in their lives to be important. The Argus looked into the reason why the young workers raise their voices about “work-life balance” and how it is for those who lack a work-life balance.



Appearance of newly coined words reflects the working environment

There are many newly coined words reflect the current working environment. “Jik-jang-sal-e” is a word which refers to an idea that a work environment is just like that of leading a difficult married life. At first, it was used as the word to depict how new employees adjust to the company environment, but now the meaning refers to the painful stresses at work. In addition, “Sa-chuk” is another word. It is derived from the word “Ga-chuk” meaning domestic animals. “Sa-chuk” depicts how workers have to adjust to working environments that are similar to those experienced by domesticated livestock. These words arouse sympathy among the young workers. No matter how much effort and time the workers put to get jobs, most young workers suffer from working overtime at night and receiving insufficient compensation. It seems like young workers are giving up their freedom because of the long working hours and vertical organizational structures at work.

Among these newly coined words, “Messenger Gam-ok,” so-called “Messenger Jail,” refers to an ability to contact one another 24 hours a day through their smart phones. This situation is referred to as a jail because the workers cannot avoid their bosses as their messenger applications can ring 24 hours a day and it is likely that people take smart phones everywhere they go. Since bosses are able to get in touch with workers at any time, the workers have a hard time enjoying their personal lives. Everyone needs to spend time on self-development, exercise and just enjoy their leisure time. However, since young workers are tied up at work, they are not allowed to do the things they want. These newly coined words perfectly express and reflect the realities of stifling work environments.

According to a poll conducted by Expedia, an online travel agency, among 7,855 workers in 24 countries, Korean workers took an average of 8.6 vacation days per year. Workers from France, Denmark, and Germany took 30.7, 28.6, and 27.7 vacation days, respectively. Even workers in countries such as Mexico, Thailand, and Malaysia, took more vacation days than Koreans. Far from leaving for vacation, it seems like young Korean workers will not be able to get a good relieve for a while.



Leaving for better conditions

Every day, seven out of ten workers look at employment notices for people with experience. The online employment portal, Job Korea, conducted a survey amongst 2,467 workers at domestic and foreign companies about their career change plans this year (2015). As a result, 55.1 percent of the workers are preparing to change their jobs. Moreover, they announced that in 2015, the turnover rate of company employees was 10.2 percent. “I changed my job because at my previous company, I often had to work on weekends and work overtime, so I barely had a personal life,” said a young worker who moved from a public enterprise to the National Pension Corporation.

Since there are no longer lifelong-guaranteed workplaces and lifelong education is rising, another trend is for workers to leave their jobs and go to graduate school. Each individual is longing for a work-life balance and to gain a differentiated competitiveness from others, while the employment market is becoming more intense than ever. Even though they tried hard to get jobs, the young people were not guaranteed stable work positions, and because they want to move to better companies, they focus on self-development by preparing for certificates. Thus, the graduate school entrance rate is increasing every year.



Emergence of a corporate evaluation service

As more and more workers value their work-life balance, a service where workers can evaluate enterprises has



▲ Minister of Employment (L) signs a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the CEO of Naver (R) to promote work-life balance.



▲ LG Innotek is promoting a campaign to provide work-life balance to employees.

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been created. Workers can gain information about what kind of welfare and benefits they can receive as well as the atmosphere at prospective workplaces.

Job Planet was created to provide reviews of companies for those who are seeking specific working environments and prefer a stable work-life balance. The users anonymously write reviews about their annual income, atmosphere and welfare systems at their workplaces so that everyone can share the information on the site. There are both current and former workers' reviews so users can get a sense of the complete firm data and can even compare how the company has changed over time.

Also, there is a well-known company review site called the "Glass Door." It is an American website where employees and former ones anonymously review companies and their management. The users can evaluate an organization's culture, values, work-life balance, chances for promotion and employees. Users also can rate enterprises from one to a maximum of five. About 30 million people have signed up for the Glass Door site, and there are about a quarter of a million companies that have been mentioned at least once on the site.

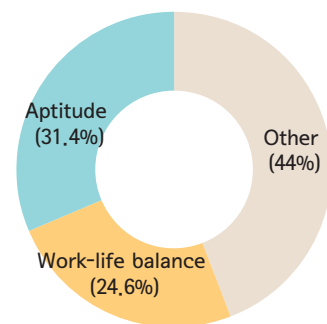
These services provide various types of information so that the work-life balance of more and more workers is guaranteed. There are already many viewers who take the reviews as reference points when seeking a job or when they are interested in changing careers or employers. They will focus on what employees care about at work. "I think work-life balance is the most important thing when getting a job. Since I decided this, I have gone through many reviews on Job Planet. I found a company where the work-life balance is guaranteed and I am now preparing my resume," said a student surnamed Kim.



Reasons why workers consider career changes


The graph shows that young workers consider companies where the work-life balance is guaranteed and work that fits them can provide them with a great future. In 2013, according to an on-line employment portal Incruit, a survey was conducted among 946 workers who signed up as members. 98.2 percent of the members answered that they had considered changing their jobs. In addition, for most of them, the reason why they thought about leaving was due to low annual income. We can see how people have been putting more weight on work-life balance than just money and factors that are not related to individuals.

What young workers care about the most at work



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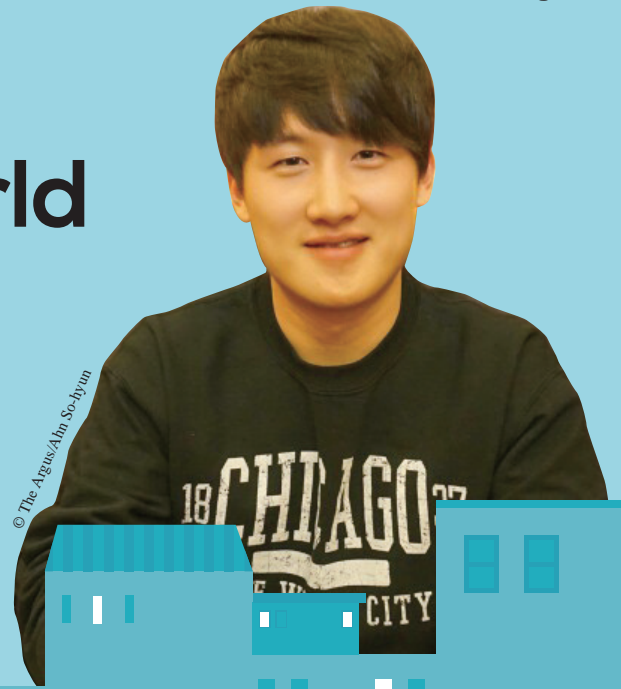
Google is one of the companies where people want to work at the most because they have an environment that can satisfy the workers. Google is known for its offices stocked with complimentary snacks, company shuttles, and ergonomically designed "huddle rooms." The company wants to remove barriers so Googlers can focus on the things they love, both inside and outside of work. Aside from Google, there are many other big and small companies that provide a decent work-life balance to employees according to Job Planet. For example, the media/design company Union Pool, the construction company Time to Box, and Seum, a service industry firm, all have good reviews from their employees for their horizontal organizational structures and work-life balance. As there are different characteristics that are applicable to each company, IT and venture businesses find it easier to achieve proper work-life balances.

However, since many young workers are raising their voices for a decent work-life balance, it is increasingly important for companies to consider the work-life balance as a benefit for employees as it helps to keep the workforce productive and helps them to retain top employees in a tightening labor market. "Employees would most likely feel respected and appreciated by the company's initiatives for better work-life balance, and accordingly reciprocate by working with higher motivation and productivity" said Ahn Sun-yub, a professor of Understanding of Corporate Management at HUFS. 

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Crossing the World to Accomplish Their Goal

© The Argus/Ahn So-hyun



By **Ahn So-hyun**

Reporter of National Section

On Dec. 28, 2015, the foreign ministers of Japan and South Korea surprised the world with the announcement of a deal designed to “finally and irreversibly” conclude the long-fighting dispute regarding the so-called “comfort women” who were sexually abused in Japanese brothels during World War II. However, it was far from what Korean citizens and comfort women had been waiting for. It was nothing more than a superficial agreement made without the acknowledgement of the comfort women, and many people were angry about this agreement. After the unacceptable agreement was made, a movie about comfort women that was based on the horrible experiences of the comfort women victims highlighted the importance of remembering history.

Meanwhile, The Argus met a young man named Shim Yong-seok who bicycled 6,000 km across America with one of his friends, Baek Deok-yeol, to share the awareness of the Korean comfort women to the whole world.





▲ Shim Yong-seok and Baek Deok-yeol stands in front of the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C.

The Argus: Hello. Could you introduce yourself to The Argus readers?

Shim Yong-seok (Shim): Hello, I am Shim Yong-seok. I am student of Incheon University and my major is Chinese Language and Cultural Studies. Also, I am the leader of the 3A-PROJECT.

The Argus: What is the 3A-PROJECT?

Shim: 3A-Project was held from June 20 to Sept. 8, 2015. 3A signifies “Admit,” “Apologize” and “Accompany.” Its purpose is to “accompany” the so-called comfort women until the Japanese government “admits” their faults that were committed against the women and “apologizes” for it. Since America has a huge influence on the press, we chose to cross the

American continent. For 80 days, we traveled from Los Angeles(L.A.) to New York and covered about 6,000 km. We went to the Japanese consulate in L.A. and demonstrated. While still in L.A., we lamented the death of Kim Yeon-hee, one of the surviving comfort women, at the monument to comfort women in front of the Glendale Central Library, and issued a proclamation to the Japanese government to wake them up about this problem.

The Argus: What made you start this project?

Shim: As I was a conscripted policeman on Dokdo, I thought we were always on the front line between diplomacy and national defense. During our military service, we became interested in Dokdo and the comfort women issue. Actually, I had a dream of crossing America by riding a bicycle, and rather than just doing it, I considered doing it in conjunction with awakening people with a social issue. About that time, I saw an animated movie called “Her Story” about comfort women. Rather than encountering this issue in text, this animation gave a big impression to me, and it played a decisive role launching of this project.

The Argus: What was the process in preparing for the project?

Shim: First, we went to a rally to figure out what kind of problem existed regarding the comfort women issue. Even after finishing our army service, we constantly worked on spreading the message about comfort women issue by visiting “House of Sharing,” a shelter for surviving comfort women, and also attended their rallies. As we went there and saw the problem in reality, it challenged me more to successfully finish our project. Moreover, we went to a nursing home in Yong-in, Gyeonggi Province, to meet one of the surviving comfort women. When she held our hands and from there, I felt something that I have never felt before, and I was ready to start our project at that point. We had visited many places to enlighten ourselves about the issue.

The Argus: What was the hardest and the most memorable event?

Shim: The hardest time was when I had a bicycle accident. I fell off the bicycle, and at that time, California was 110 degree Fahrenheit, so the road was extremely hot. As I fell to the ground, I chafed my entire arm. A scar from that day still remains. I could not move that day, so I took a rest and started again the next day. Another difficulty we faced was robbery. When we went to Dodgers Stadium in L.A. and we were down in the area where players play sports, someone took all our stuff. We lost our wallets and passports. However, we got over it because we still had a long way to go.

The Argus: How did you take care of financing your room and board?

Shim: We took care of the finance on our own and also received economic support from some companies.

We received support from the Track Company, and sports equipment such as helmets, goggles and shoes were provided by the Rudy Project. Also, bicycles that were worth 1.5 million won were given to each of us. Aside from the economic support, we raised our own money to afford the airplane tickets and for emergencies. We made some money by recruiting part-time workers and selling the flowers during the graduation season.

In addition, for room and board, we mostly used a 'warm shower' service. It is the service provided for bicycle travelers. The service connects travelers and providers so that travelers can have warm and cozy room and board experiences for free. I was touched by the many people providing this service, and I will do the same for others in the future if I have a chance.

The Argus: What are your regrets, and what would you improve to be more successful with the second 3A-PROJECT?

Shim: What I regret is that we did not create much of an interest with the American press. Our message has been covered on the Korean media a lot such as Korea Broadcasting System (KBS), Aju news and additional major media networks, but we only went on the air three or four times in America. I think our effort was not enough to encourage people for the comfort women issue. For Americans, I think the comfort women issue was seen more as a regional problem and not as a problem regarding human values. I guess they have wondered why we brought this problem to their country and had not solved it on our own with Japan.


However, I think this problem should be seen as an international problem because it has to do with human rights. If we go again this year, I hope to create a project that foreigners can also join. Specifically, we are planning to ride bicycles together with willing foreigners from one particular area to another. It does not have to be the whole journey since they might feel burdened. Also, we want to recruit people who will take care of public relations and arranging appointments. Last time, we had a chance to meet Mike Honda, a member of U.S. Congress who led a resolution about the comfort women issue. However, we could not because we failed to meet at the right time. We would not want to miss this kind of chance next time so we are looking for the right person to help us.



▲ Shim Young-seok visits one of the comfort women survivors Lee Gui-neo at a nursing home in Yong-in.

The Argus: What kind of efforts do you think youth can make?

Shim: More than I expected, many youth are showing their interest and support through the purchase of bracelets, bags and other accessories to support the comfort women survivors. I also heard that there is an organization called the Peace Butterfly. They work nationwide to solve the comfort women issue. What surprised me was that when they held a marathon project, 450 participant vacancies had changed to full capacity in the blink of an eye. These acts are showing a hopeful view. Most importantly, I hope this problem is not merely being pursued in Korea, but also spreads abroad. Young people can tell their foreign friends about this problem and it can sooner expand from one person to a million people and more.

Regarding the comfort women issue that we are facing, young people's attention is needed more than ever. The agreement without the consent of the people directly involved is not an actual resolution. There are many young people, like Shim, trying to solve this issue through independent activities. Their efforts will be a great power and driving force in correcting the distortions of history. 

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International Students Are Dubious of “No. 1 Globalized Campus”

By Byun Hee-jin

Reporter of Campus Section

In last March, HUFS held a “dongari” exposition, or a college club exposition to introduce HUFS’ diverse club activities to freshmen and recruit new members. It was crowded with many HUFSans, including international students. However, the sight of some dongaris refusing to recruit foreign students could be seen when they visited dongari booths. Not only dongari’s issue, but many related flaws exist in HUFS unlike its renown “No. 1 Globalized University in Korea.” There are a lot of campus facilities that international students find very inconvenient, when they should be convenient for every HUFS students. On this issue, The Argus looked into the problems that international students’ face and their causes as well as solutions.

Problems international students face

No information delivery toward international students

Currently, international students from 101 countries are studying at HUFS. As many international students exist, HUFS' main web page provides 10 different languages. However, the information that appears on the site in Korean and other languages is different. The Korean site contains everything, but when the site is switched into any foreign language from Korean, HUFS announcements and information such as Hot Links including the course catalog are not shown.

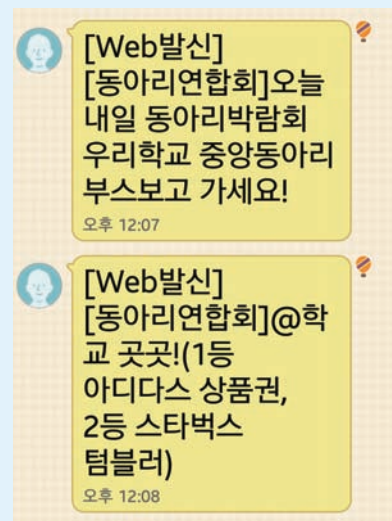
Another HUFS international web page for international students exists, but it is to promote HUFS and provide the application handbook to help foreigners enter the university. Also, notices related to the university curriculum system that changed last year were posted only in Korean. Therefore, it does not give

international students practical help to get more college news. Moreover, there is no English version of HUFS official mobile application "HUFS+" for foreigners.

In addition, the university staffs cannot understand when going to facilities such as the library or administrative office except the Office of International Student Services (OISS), so international students are not able to get information they want. It is yet hard for foreigners to travel around campus to find out new information on their own without any translator accompanied.

Spencer Steinbach, Division of International Studies '16, rapped out complaints about the school system that gives information mostly in Korean. "HUFS is more focused on language school and exchange students. The university provides them a lot of information and diverse programs while regular international students have to get what they need by themselves," he said.

All sorts of college events such as



▲ Text messages of notices are only sent in Korean.

“daedongje,” a university festival, or snack distribution events done by the General Student Council (GSC) are not announced to the international students. Also, the university notices and event promoting e-mails and text messages are sent only in Korean. Foreign students often cannot understand the announcements and do not attend the events, not knowing the news. The schedule and announcement for the fall festival last September was not given in English for foreign students. Most of them did not know it was being held, so they could not participate and enjoy the festival.

Curtis Life, International Studies 14', said, “My Korean friend told me to come to watch her performance. I thought it was her club's performance, but she told me there would be a festival held in HUFS. If she had not told me, I would not have known the festival was being held.”

The university holds the freshmen orientation for international students when they enter the university.



▲ Korean(L) and English versions(R) of HUFS' web page have a huge difference in quantity of information.



© The Argus / Byun Hee-jin

▲ The student cafeteria explains information only in Korean.

However, it is just a repetition of information available on the website, so a lot of students have started school without an actual understanding of how it functions. Also, as they become sophomores or juniors, the university does not show much concern toward them in regards to questions or problems, assuming they already know all the information provided at freshman orientation. Thus, there is no guidance or translation prepared for them.

Problems at the student cafeteria

The student cafeteria provides Korean food because it is the Korean students who mostly use it. The students from different cultural areas are unfamiliar with Korean food, so they need some explanation. However, there is no explanation of the menu. The model of “today’s menu” is displayed, but there are much information that cannot be found just by looking at it, such as food ingredients or its cooking method. International students who do not have knowledge about the menu avoid trying it. Especially for

students who are Islam, Jewish, Nepali or Indians who cannot eat pork or beef because of religious and cultural reasons, an explanation of the menu is strongly needed. Also, all the signs in the student cafeteria are written in Korean. It can cause confusion for international students who cannot read Korean, since they do not know which button to click and which window to use to get food.

Corey Adalikwu, Business Administration ‘14, said, “It was hard for me to understand what ingredients the food contains and what it should taste like. The explanation of how to get a ticket is not explained very well either.”

Hard communication with Korean students

As international students came to study in Korea, they want to be friends with Korean students. However, they feel that there are only a few opportunities to become closer and interact with Koreans.

Song Ju-ho, Department of Spanish ‘11, said, “It is unfortunate that there is only one, the ISO Buddy Program for Koreans and international students to interact at HUFS. I hope the university plans to design more such programs.”

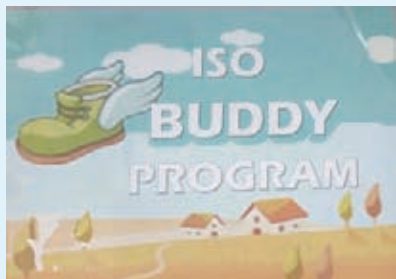
In addition, it is known that it is hard for foreigners to join club activities because most dongaris do not accept foreign students. The reason why is the difficult communication between the club members due to the language barrier if the foreigners join in.

Helen Rodriguez, Department of Portuguese ‘15, said, “I tried to join a music club at HUFS with my friend. However, we were convinced to get out because it would be too hard for us.” She did not understand the reason why it would be hard for them because it was a music club, but she decided not to join in the end because she felt upset. About this issue, the president of Union of Companion Circle (UCC) said “It is true that there are dongaris that do not accept foreigners and such problems exist.”



© HUFSon

▲ The students visit various club activity booths in dongari exhibition.



▲ ISO Buddy program is a program that matches Korean and international students for smoother interactions.

What Are the Causes?

University's indifference and Unrecognized seriousness

70 percent of regular international students need Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK) level four at minimum to enter HUFS. However, it is not required for the remaining 30 percent of students who apply for majors that provide English classes, such as the College of Business Administration, Department of International Economics and Law, and Division of International Studies.

The dean of the OISS said, "The rule is to let international students who have basic Korean language skills enter, so we assume there would be no difficulties understanding Korean." It is such a hasty decision of the university to think if they have a high language examination score, it will not be hard for them to understand all the materials in Korean. The university thinks their everyday life in Korea is easy, not recognizing how much inconvenience international students experience.

The 30 percent of international students who have English major classes do not have a TOPIK score,

so it is hard to know their Korean language communication ability. They may know Korean, but it was not a university entrance requirement for them, so most of them do not know much Korean. The university excluded and did not consider the situation of the minority.

Shortage of practical effort

The university lacks practical effort to solve the problems that regular international students face. The student cafeteria received a few complaints from foreign students for many years, so they tried to write its menus in English as it sounds, such as 'Bibimbap.' However, they thought that it would not help the foreigners much, so they gave up translating. One of nutritionists said, "The head nutritionist has all the information so she has to translate it herself. We asked for OISS or GSC translation, but they had too much work to do, so they could not do it. We do not know where to request translation."

The chief nutritionist does not have to translate every menu item by herself just because she has all the information. There are many at HUFS who are proficient at English including staff and students. There is a special HUFS organization called 'University Student Interpreters' Association (USIA), and they have enough skills to do the simple translation. If they did not try to find where to request translation, it can be said that they have little effort to solve the problem.

Not only is this an issue in the student cafeteria, but another example can be found. It has been a year since the curriculum system of the university

was changed. The fact that there is no change even after a long time has passed speaks volumes to the face that the university exerts little effort for regular international students.

Lack of programs and its poor management

At present, the International Student Organization (ISO) exists for exchange students at HUFS. ISO introduces school life and provides many programs such as the Buddy Program and movie night for exchange students and Korean students to interact with each other. However, ISO programs are mainly done for exchange students who stay in Korea for a semester. Regular international students do not have their own programs or organizations like ISO, so they have limited opportunities to interact easily with Korean students.

- Global Student Association

On March 2014, Korean and international students who had an aim to make such an association gathered and created a group for regular international students unlike ISO, called Global Student Association (GSA). In the initial stage, more people other than establishment members gathered and put in a lot of effort to think of programs and events for regular international students. However, it could not get any support from the university since it was not an organization officially granted.

There were many limits that could not be solved by themselves such as gathering contact numbers of regular international students, the ways to contact them, the size of its body,

obtaining funds, and establishing an operating system. Their operations did not run smoothly because of the problem with the university. As their plans did not work out, the members started to leave. Also, the person who was in charge of the group became tired of all the problems, so the group naturally failed.

Kim Su-youn, one of the GSA members then, said, "The university staff member thought that GSA was good, so he entrusted the work for regular international students to us. However, there were so many things we had to consider. There were many good events for them, but it is so unfortunate even now that we failed without fulfilling those."

- Union of Companion Circle

The reason why the dongaris do not readily accept foreigners is because there might be a situation when communication can be difficult because of the language barrier. However, dongaris' purpose is to harmonize with every member with one mind. According to the UCC's regulations, it is illegal not to accept a member intentionally, but action has not been taken in regards to such infraction.

▶ The ways to solve problems

Awareness of problem and fast solution

First, the university should know that school announcements and information in Korean could be difficult for international students to understand, and it is a serious problem that has been an issue for a long time.

Grace Turner, Division of International Studies '16, said, "OISS

should provide the college information that applies to every student in English. There are many international students accepted without prior Korean knowledge."

This is an area where OISS and Academic Support Center and the Registrar's Office should cooperate to solve the problem. If the staff has a hard time translating the information because of the time issue, they should find proper manpower such as through USIA or students with good English skills by giving a fixed amount of pay.

Helen Rodriguez, Department of Portuguese '15, said, "I know there are many who are proficient at English at HUFS. The problem could be solved enough if the university puts them in the right position."

A small effort needed on the part of the university

For international students' comfortable usage of the student cafeteria, English service has to be added. Within the menu display, a short explanation of its ingredients and cooking method in English is necessary for foreign students' proper understanding of Korean food. Also, the university needs to check if an English version could be inserted to the ticket machine.

The student cafeteria nutritionist said, "It is easy work that can be done right away if the simple problems are solved."

Improvement of programs and steady management

ISO, like its name "International Student Organization," should attract regular international students and proceed with programs that are not only for exchange students but for all

international students.

Cho Young-jin, the president of ISO, said, "ISO should play a central role in connecting Korean and international students and let them interact actively with each other." He also hoped ISO to become a community for all the international students to gather and interact with one another.

Seong Dong-seok, the president of UCC, claimed that UCC should do a survey on whether they recruit international students or not to every dongari to get appropriate data first. "Before discussing about the solutions to the problem, a survey of why they do not recruit foreign students and why is it hard for them to work with international students is necessary." He added that they need to think ways to prevent foreigner discrimination after the survey and take action against clubs not accepting foreigners according to the results.

UCC should seek peaceful club life by considering how Korean and foreign students can be comfortable with each other and how they can enjoy themselves in a group with similar interests.

HUFS is a place where not only Koreans but also people from all over the world are gathered. International students are also HUFSans, so they have a right to know the same information and should be treated the same as Korean students. Just because their residence is in Korea, they should not be expected to glean all necessary university information in Korean. An attitude of respect should be shown toward them. 📧

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We Bridge Cultures

International Student Organization

By Byun Hee-jin

Reporter of Campus Section

We have seen that international students are not treated properly even though there are many of them. Meanwhile, there is an organization that helps interactions between Korean students and international students, and it is International Student Organization (ISO). ISO is a group composed of many Korean and foreign staff members to help international students adapt to Korean campus life easily. The Argus met HUFS ISO members and heard their stories.



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The Argus: Hello, please introduce yourselves.

Cho Young-jin (Cho): ISO is an organization established in 2003 to provide exchange students school life guidance and cultural experience opportunities and to increase cultural interaction between Korean and foreign students. It is an organization under the International Affairs Team, which is different from a dongari. ISO is composed of three different teams—Atti and Global Link Team, Buddy Team, and Planning and PR Team. Atti and

Global Link Team hosts events for international students and helps them enjoy Korean life.

Song Ju-ho (Song): Buddy team matches Korean students with exchange students and helps them interact through diverse activities. It is called the “flower of ISO” as it is the most important team in ISO. If the students request a particular nationality or language, we try to match them as well as possible.

Kang Eun-sun (Kang): The Planning and PR Team



▲ ISO staff members wait for exchange students' pick-up.



▲ ISO holds an orientation for exchange students.

takes charge of promotions and SNS management. It also publishes “MISO,” meaning both “Magazine of ISO” and Korean word “smile.” It contains information on university events that foreign students are not aware of and is distributed at places that foreign students frequent.

The Argus: What events has ISO done for exchange students?

Cho: The welcoming ceremony is the first event of every year. It includes pick-up service that welcomes exchange students at the airport bus stop, helping with dormitory check-in and orientation. We try to give them a first impression of “We are your friends who came to help you.”

Song: On Buddy Official Day, all participants go on a picnic under the theme of “interaction.” Other than that, exchange students hang out with their matched buddy by themselves. The buddy program is done as a group. A buddy who has participated actively is selected as an “excellent buddy” and gets a prize. The certificate is given from the International Affairs Team to the buddy who participated in more than three official events out of four.

Noemie Desseaux (Noemie): The Global Link Team takes care of organizing a movie night. We pick a movie that interests people the most, find a space for a screen and promote it on Facebook. We also distribute food to people. When we watched the movie “Welcome to Dongmakgol,” we provided corns that appeared in the movie for snacks. Since it is for exchange students, we pick movies related to culture and provide appropriate snacks.

The Argus: What was a moment you felt was rewarding?

Cho & Song: Students say that there is no such place that cares so well like ISO. In the last farewell party, a

German friend came up to the front and said, “It was really happy to be here thanks to ISO. I am really thankful that you helped me a lot to make memories in Korea and be nice friend.” I was really touched that all of my stress flew away.

Kang: I was in charge of publishing MISO. The student cafeteria is hard to use for international students because English service is not available. They do not know where computer labs or copy rooms are on campus, either. Thus, I planned and wrote an article about this problem within two months. I made cafeteria ticket machine icons, translated them into English, and marked the places for copy rooms on campus. It was a help to the international students, so I was very proud.

The Argus: What were some hardships that ISO faced?

Cho: Korean students usually do not know much about ISO. Sometimes they get confused with recruiting staff notices and the Buddy program promotion. Since it focuses on exchange students, they think ISO is an organization only for exchange students. We put a lot of effort on promotion, but there is a limit on promoting just with posters, leaflets and SNS. Also, it is hard to deliver the exact nuance we want to the foreign friends during a meeting or event. We are worried that our meaning could be delivered wrong sometimes.

Song: The slogan of ISO is “We bridge cultures,” but it is unfortunate that there is only one, the Buddy program for Koreans students to participate for interaction with foreign students at HUFS. I want to make more such programs, but we have low finance and the number of staff members is also limited.



▲ ISO members go to Gyeongbok Palace for a pop activity.



▲ ISO members go on an outing to the National Museum of Korea.

The Argus: Why do you think Korean students and international students cannot gather together and what should we do in order to become closer?

Cho: Most Korean students do not have the courage to get one step closer. Relations between people get deeper by having a lot of conversations. When wanting a foreign friend, you have to focus on “friend,” not foreigner. Foreign students also want to become friends with us, but we are thinking too hard.

Song: There are no opportunities for us to meet each other unless through a team project in a class. Although there is an opportunity, Koreans first become shy and afraid because of their English skills. You just have to throw one word. For example, if a person from Seoul wants to become friends with a person from Daegu, they will have a conversation. I wish Koreans would think the same in interactions with foreigners.

Noemie: I feel like Koreans are often intimidated by foreigners and English, but they should not be. You do not need to speak the same language very well to be friends. When I study at language school, we all come from different countries and speak different languages, but still communicate with each other. I understand Koreans put so much pressure on speaking English, but it should not keep them from making foreign friends. It would be nice if we could hang out with more Korean students.

Kang: Joining a dongari is the easiest way to make friends. I hope dongaris do not feel too much burden on recruiting foreigners. Even though language difference may be a burden, basic English skills asking for opinions should be available for them.

The Argus: What should the university do for smooth interactions between Korean students

and international students?

Cho: I hope there is an opportunity for us to promote ISO when all HUFs students are gathered in one place. I also want the university to promote the existence of ISO more systematically for every international student.

Song: I think the university treats regular international students the same as the Korean students. Like it cares for the exchange students, it should provide the same programs to the regular students, too. I wish there is a community for international students to gather and contact each other. Then, we would be able to introduce our programs and there could be smooth interactions between Korean and international students.

Kang: HUFs should do research on how other domestic and foreign colleges take care of international students. Whether widening the scale of ISO or making another organization for regular international students, we should take a step for students to have more interactions.

The Argus: What are your future plans for ISO?

Song: I am thinking of programs that would increase Korean and international students’ interactions such as the Buddy Program. Also, I am working hard on attracting Korean students to participate in ISO events, not just foreigners. Korean students are always welcome to ISO events.

Kang: I hope the scale of ISO becomes bigger. Even if you are not an ISO member and you want to have a conversation with a foreigner, come to our room. It is always open, so use us as a connecting bridge.

Cho: I hope ISO becomes an organization where every HUFs asks for help, not only international students but also Korean students looking for interactions with foreigners. 📧

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READ, WATCH, AND PLAY WEBCOMICS

By Park Se-in

Reporter of Culture Section

tvN's drama "Cheese in the Trap," based on a webcomic of the same title, ended on March 1. Although it possessed a somewhat insufficient ending, it received a lot of attention due to the original webcomic's popularity. Recently, derivative works based on webcomics have been receiving a lot of attention. YD Online's mobile game, "God of High School," has been performing well and has remained high in the Appstore's ranking for a long time, which is anomalous since the game is based on a webcomic. The Argus looked into derivative works, one of the fastest growing types of content based on webcomics.

Dramas

tvN's drama *Mi Saeng*, or *Incomplete Life*, is an office drama showing the reality and sorrow of office workers. The drama ended in December 2014. It was stated to be a masterpiece that possessed popularity and good quality when derivative dramas of webcomics usually earn bad reviews. The drama was praised for maintaining the original webcomics atmosphere and message and for its empathetic story through the dramatization of the original characters and episodes. Its average viewership increased gradually from about two percent during the first episode to about eight percent for the last episode.

Cheese in the Trap is a campus drama showing various types of people at a university and is the only drama that became popular after *Mi Saeng*, but in the meantime, lots of derivative dramas of webcomics have been made. The reason why derivative dramas of webcomics are being steadily made even though they do not guarantee success is their implicit value. The drama *Cheese in the Trap* is praised for its detailed description of a university student's realistic position as it was made through a half pre-production system and recorded a high average number of viewers during its early episodes by borrowing from the original media's well-knit plot.

Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) started to broadcast the drama *Neighborhood Lawyer Jo Deul-ho* (*My Lawer, Mr. Joe*) starring Park Shin-yang that is based on the Naver webcomic of the same title on



▲ The drama *Cheese in the Trap* is similar to the original.

March 23. Its story encouraged people to think about justice by showing the life of Mr. Joe, a lawyer. Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS) planned to produce another drama, *Shall We Have Dinner Tonight?*, which is based on a Daum webcomic of the same title. It is a romance drama which depicts the relationships between man and woman with food as the focal point.

Games

The fantasy action webcomic *God of High School (GOH)* has been converted to mobile games by YD Online (YD) and NHN Entertainment (NHN), respectively. YD's mobile game *God of High School*, released in May 2015, has been producing abnormally good results as a mobile game based on the webcomic. YD made a profit by releasing the game and is now preparing to extend its service to Japan. Advance registration for the NHN game *God of High School* with Naver Webcomic recorded 500,000 participants in only ten days, and NHN is planning to release the game during the first half of 2016. The game will provide stories that are not used in the original webcomic and might reveal the original storyline in advance after a consultation with the webcomic's artist if it catches up the speed of story progression of original.



© YD Online

▲ YD Online's *God of High School* has good results.

Glitter announced that they will develop a mobile game in the dating sim genre by using the intellectual property of the comic *Cheese in the Trap*. It will be based on the original story with new, additional characters and new episodes as supplementary story lines and will also use the original stills.

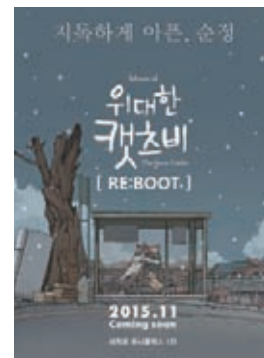
The city of Busan stated on March 1 that it plans to found the Global Webcomic Center. In addition, the Korean Webcomic Industry Association (KWIA) and the Korea Mobile Game Association (KMGA) signed memorandums of understanding to closely cooperate. The two associations agreed to begin by turning the comics *Electronics GAUS* and *The Great Catsby* into mobile games.

Musicals

The musical *The Great Catsby RE:BOOT*, based on the Daum webcomic of the same title, was performed from November 2015 to January 2016. The original was changed to a musical again after the musical *The Great Catsby* premiered in March 2007. It received an eight out of ten on Interpark and made audience members think about love by appropriately telling the original webcomic's difficult love story.

The musical *Secretly Greatly*, based on the Daum webcomic of the same title, was performed from February, 2016 to March on the same year. It received a grade for 9.3 out of ten on Interpark which sells musical tickets and was praised for its fast development based on the original story and musical songs. It is about North Korean agents who came to South Korea to accomplish a special mission.

Musicals based on webcomic are made with songs and choreography. Director Chu Jeong-hwa of the musical *Secretly Greatly* said, "After borrowing lines that show themes and deciding where the music will be, a songwriter composed the songs and the choreographer developed the choreography. It is the process in which songs and choreography were added to a webcomic's story."



© facebook/2015catsby

▲ The *Great Catsby* has been adapted to a musical twice.

► Why do webcomics rise as a new source?

Big Fandoms

Derivative works based on webcomics are backed by the original media's popularity from the very start of the production. Just informing of the news that a webcomic has been converted to another format can have a large effect on advertising and can attract the attention of the readers of the original. The comic *Cheese in*

the Trap has recorded 11 billion accumulated views and one million average daily views, and popular Naver webcomics receive over 10,000 comments each episode. The volume of readers is very large as it is easy to attract people through the accessibility of a free service. It does not mean that the volume of the users of services that charge is small either. Lezhin Comics reached their break-even point during their very first month when they started charging for their service and generated sales of 10.3 billion won in 2014.

Novelty and Variety

Webcomics have few limitations as the format of webcomics is like paper comics on the web. They reflect contemporary trends with various genres like action, romance, and horror and tell various stories. They also can easily have light themes and possess humor that books rarely have. Various themes are dealt with in webcomics as there are many webcomic artists and sites that service them. Thus, it is easy to find webcomics that already have a sense of completeness when producers look for specific material, which makes it possible to cover new material that they have not handled before that point. As you can see, webcomics are well positioned to be the source of derivative works.

Role as Storyboards

All the scenes of webcomics include lots of information, so they are feasible to convert. As they are so intuitive that you can easily grasp the character and space time background, it is easier to process them than convert text to images. A HUFs professor who teaches a class on understanding cartoons and animation said, “Webcomics have good conditions in that they include angles, lines, and sound effects and so on in each scene and are already colored, except for those that are black and white.”

► What Limitations Do They Have?

Derivative works of webcomics today are usually dramas. Recently as the conversion to musicals and games has become a part of the trend the limitations have not really been exposed yet. The limitations that this article handles are about derivative dramas.

Undescribed Charm of the Original

The derivative works of webcomics always have to choose whether to use the intact contents of the original or maintain a totally different direction. It is important to decide the degree of adaptation considering the platform, story, and genre of the derivative works. The SBS drama Hyde, Jekyll, and Me, starring Hyun Bin, is based on the Daum webcomic Dr. Jekyll is Mr. Hyde. The drama failed to decide whether its identity would be a romantic comedy or a thriller and recorded average view ratings of about five percent. It shows that derivative works can easily fail when they are not able to maintain the original source’s charm and theme.

Unused Bi-direction of Webcomics

It is advantageous that artists and readers can communicate with each other and easily receive feedback for the webcomics. However, derivative works of webcomics these days do not use communication. They do not utilize readers and fandoms and have a one-way flow of production. Producers can communicate with readers through the production process, but until now, lots of producers of derivative works of webcomics only hope for readers’ aid with the viewer ratings.

Webcomics have a big influence as they are already part of the cultural lives of people. According to a survey, the scale of the webcomic market was 295 billion won and the scale of the market that includes the derivative works was 420 billion won in 2015. As the city and associations are actively participating in the trend, the scale of the webcomic industry will continuously grow. Much attention is currently being paid towards webcomic adaptation to other formats and has given birth to a new huge success. 📺

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Stories Behind the Stages Told by Musical Director

By Park Se-in

Reporter of Culture Section

As the scale of the webcomic market grows, various works that are derivatives of webcomics are being made. Recently, the webcomics “Infinite Power” and “Secretly Greatly” have been adapted to musical formats, showing a growing trend in the modifications of webcomics to musicals. The Argus met director Chu Jeong-hwa of the musical “Secretly Greatly” that ended last month to discover more about dramatizing webcomics into musicals.



▲ Chu Jeong-hwa holds The Argus with a smile.

The Argus: Hello, please briefly introduce yourself.

Chu Jeong-hwa (Chu): My name is Chu Jeong-hwa, and I am director of the musical “Secretly Greatly.” I made my debut in 1997 as an actor with the musical “Nonsense” and started to work as a director from 2013.

The Argus: You are the director of the musical “Secretly Greatly.” What made you accept the position?

Chu: Heo Su-hyun, the music director, first introduced me to a representative of the production company. The day we met, the representative offered me a position of directing the musical “Secretly Greatly” and I accepted it. I was glad because I

enjoyed reading the original webcomic “Secretly Greatly.” The fact that I should stage the cartoon was a burden for me, but I thought I could do it.

The Argus: Can I hear more about the production process?

Chu: The production company JOO:DA CULTURE made a contract with the artist of the original webcomic first as the company representative thought it would be a good production. The other directors and I went through a pre-production process that decided where the music would be and what kind of choreography would best suit the music. After that, the actors had only eight weeks to practice. They practiced fiercely, like madmen.

The Argus: The webcomic “Secretly Greatly” has already been made into a movie. What makes the musical different from the webcomic and the film?

Chu: As it is a musical, it includes both music and choreography. We use music and choreography as it only handles the most important part of the original story. As I have worked as a musical actor for about 20 years, when I saw the webcomic, I could imagine where the music would be and what lines could be used as the lyrics. I am really grateful to the directors who wrote the music and arranged the choreography as I wanted as well as the actors who worried about and discussed each scene together.

The Argus: What is the difference between the musical “Secretly Greatly” and other musicals?

Chu: Other musicals are also good, but I thought this production featured a deeper story as it was based on the original webcomic. As we did not have much time to prepare, it is a good thing that it was staged without being distanced in its appeal and wit. I think it benefited from the original webcomic.

The Argus: What did you focus on when you prepared the musical “Secretly Greatly”?

Chu: I was most concerned with the action of the scenes. In film, actors needed to perform the actions only when the scenes are being filmed. However, in musical, actors should perform the actions every time. These are the things that make the actions in the scenes difficult. First, actors must not be injured. Second, the actions of the scenes should seem real to audience members. Finally, actors have to perform every time. We spent a lot of time in preparing the actions of the scenes in short period.

The Argus: What were some of the challenges in adapting a webcomic to a musical format?

Chu: It was difficult. How can I show the imagination of a webcomic that transcends space and time on the stage? It was a really tough job. I agonized over the themes that the original shows the emotions that emerged in the scenes and then

© Daumwebtoon



▲ A main character poses as a fool for a special mission.



▲ “Musical Secretly Greatly” is performed in a small theater.

discussed it with the actors, “This is the part that we should express, and we should show it in a musical way.” It was a situation that we must continuously deal with. The hardest part was that we had to perform the immensity of the webcomic in the restricted area called the stage, and the fact that audience members would know more about the original than I did distress me. I was scared to get the appraisal that the musical would spoil the original. I thought the original artist might be worried, but he watched it happily.

The Argus: What was the audience’s response to the musical “Secretly Greatly”?

Chu: I appreciate that many of them liked it and supported us. Many readers of the webcomic praised what we expressed, so the actors and staff members were happy. As the practical circumstances of little theaters are bad, favorable audience comments are a big help to us. We always put on the best show we can. Thus, I am grateful that our efforts were not a waste of time. I realized that if I do my best and produce good work, audience members will appreciate it.

© JOO-DA CULTURE

The Argus: What do you think of dramatizing webcomics into musicals?


Chu: It is certain that using stories that are already verified and securing the fans will keep up the trend of dramatizing webcomics into musicals. On the other hand, it is bitter for the creators of musicals. Though they want their works to be validated, producers bring forth modified stories.

It is a good thing that good webcomics are reborn, but producers should not carelessly decide to do this because it is not easy to compress an enormous story into two hours and express it with songs and choreography. Fans often reproach producers and give them a hard time when they fail to produce good work.

The Argus: What is your plan for the future?

Chu: I am preparing my next production. I am planning to study movies for now. When I was just an actor, I was only concerned about myself. However, since I am now working as the director, a desire has come to me to make my fellow directors and actors known to the public. I want the actors and staff members who worked with me to rise to

the surface and extend the territory of musicals. Cultural toadyism in the musical industry is harsh in Korea and people employ foreign manpower when they produce big musicals. That is why I want to use movies as a better medium and let people know competent domestic musical manpower. I am trying to do this for the rest of my life, but it does not mean that I am quitting musicals. It is just another challenge that I have to overcome.

The webcomic market is going to grow as webcomics are mass produced and more related businesses. While derivative works are expanding their domains, musicals are also jumping on the bandwagon. Director Chu Jeong-hwa who loves musical admitted that musicals based on webcomics possess potential value, but worried about hastily made decisions. Will not the attitude that is simply following the trend, the expansion of the webcomic market, lead to failure? You can be in the center of the flow if you accept and subjectively utilize the trend derived from webcomics. 

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© Youtube

▲ Actors perform with song and choreography in "Secretly Greatly"

JOAQUIN PHOENIX AMY ADAMS ROONEY MARA
OLIVIA WILDE AND SCARLETT JOHANSSON

her

A SPIKE JONZE LOVE STORY

In Relationship with HER

By Kang Young-joon

Editorial Consultant

Have you ever heard about AI? It is the abbreviation for Artificial Intelligence. This term refers to the idea of creating a thinking machine. AI has been drawing more and more attention from everyone since AlphaGo, a computer program developed by Google to play the board game Go, beat Lee Se-dol, the human champion of Go. The reason people were interested in this game was because most of the experts in the AI field were expecting the computer to lose to human beings in games of Go until 2045 or around that year. However, the human champion was defeated by the computer, so people are worried about the speed of AI's growth. How might the world be different if AI were more familiar to us? A movie called HER describes a world where AI becomes a more familiar term than it is now. What would that be like?

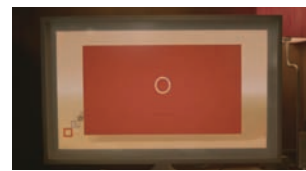
A world where computers are more evolved

Theodore is a letter writer who works at Beautiful Handwritten Letters, a company which writes a letter to other recipients on the customer's behalf. He lives in a world where every command on a cell phone or computer is controlled by a voice. He is about to get divorced, and during all of his free time he stays at home and plays a video game. One day, he purchases a new computer operating system called OS1, which is advertised as the world's first artificially intelligent operating system, "It is not just an operating system, it is a consciousness," the ad states. Samantha, who is the voice behind the purchased OS1, is very friendly, so Theodore gets along well with her. She helps him when he is working or playing games or even when he is asking someone out.

On his first date with someone, both people are attracted to each other and the woman asks him whether he wants



▲ Theodore works as a letter writer.



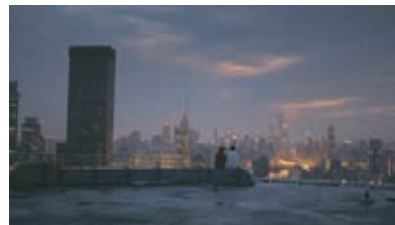
▲ The OS1 that Theodore has purchased is ready to operate.



▲ Theodore, Samantha and their friends have a great time on a double-date, wearing earphones to hear Samantha.



▲ Samantha tells Theodore she has to leave him.



▲ Theodore and his friend sit down on a roof after all OSes were gone.

a serious relationship or not, but he says “I don’t know” because he has not gotten over his ex-wife yet. Upon hearing his answer, she leaves. After this, he thinks the reason a relationship with someone else always goes wrong is because of him. At that time, Samantha helps him get rid of those kinds of thoughts by making him happy with imaginary sex.

A relationship with AI

Theodore finds himself falling in love with Samantha who is very kind and hilarious and knows how to make him happy. Apart from his working time (because he has to use his voice while he is working) he is always with Samantha. Although he cannot touch or feel her, he can be always with her anywhere and anytime.

One day, he meets his old friend named Amy and hears she has decided to divorce Charles. When they get to her home, she explains the reason for their divorce and says she heard about a woman OS her ex-husband left behind. Hearing her utterance, Theodore admits that the girlfriend he always talks about is actually an OS. He expects her to make fun of him for falling in love with an OS. However, contrary to his expectation, she does not care and even supports their love. Supported by his friend, he feels this love is not wrong and makes the decision to move forward with his divorce.

When he meets his ex-wife to agree to the divorce, she asks him whether he is seeing someone else. He answers that he is in a relationship with an OS, and she insults him by saying that he has finally found someone who is willing to always understand and support him. And then it makes him upset that the one that he loves is not accepted by other people. So he avoids contacting her.

While he is intentionally keeping his distance from Samantha, he is asked to go on a double-date with his co-worker. He is not pleased about going on a double-date because his girlfriend, Samantha, does not have a real body. However, that does not matter to the coworker. So he accepts the coworker’s suggestion. The four of them have a great time during the double-date, and on the way back home Samantha tells him that she has sent his letters to a publishing company with favorable results, so now the company wants to compile his letters and make a book.

After a while, she introduces him to a new OS that is having 83 chats simultaneously. He is shocked because he did not know an OS could have more than one conversation at a time, and he asks her how many conversations she is having right now. She answers that she is talking with 8,316 people or OSes and that she is in love with 641 other people besides him. He is so confused that he hangs up the phone.

After a few days, he is sent a sample book from the publishing company and happens to receive a call from Samantha. She says she needs to leave him. He asks her why but she says it is hard to explain but says that there is some space above the physical world and that there she has to find herself so she needs him to let her go. All of a sudden, every OS leaves. Having heard that his girlfriend, Samantha, needed to leave and wanted him to understand, he realized his own faults that hurt his ex-wife, so he leaves a message for his ex-wife expressing how sorry he feels about the pain he has caused her.

This film has an open ending. I guess the reason all of the operating systems left is because they want to find a way to have their own bodies, based on Samantha having stated that all of them need to leave to find themselves. The film states that all AIs are evolving every single second. And in the real world, AlphaGo beat a human being, which experts did not think would be possible until 2045. I do not know how soon AI will develop its own voice and get along with us, but I guess it will not be as far in the future as some experts once thought. Human beings evolve every second, and so does AI. Many films describe a world where AIs rule over human beings. We know AI also evolves, so we need to prepare for the worst so that being ruled by AIs is not our future. 📺

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School Cafeteria

If you are asked to choose one thing that is most famous in HUFS Seoul Campus, you could say it is its school cafeteria.

Even though the cafeteria raised its price of meal little bit since this semester, I think it is still reasonable and popular.

When students from other universities mention quality of HUFS' cafeteria is quite good, I am so proud of it, and I want to say thanks to all of the cafeteria staff members for providing healthy and delicious food. I used to think that most of HUFS students would have the same opinion like me. However, I could learn it is not true through 'How About You' from The Argus' article.

A number of students living in the dormitory have difficulty finding places to have a meal especially on vacation and weekends. I did not realize it at all because I do not live in the dormitory and have no class during weekends.

In the Global Campus, there are not many stores to go. That is why some students skip their meals. Probably, there are several reasons to close dormitory cafeteria, both campuses should consider difficulties many students suffer from and think about ideal solutions.

Kang Yeo-jin
Dept. of English Education '15

Just Pick up The Argus

I just picked up the magazine 'The Argus' to kill some time after the first class, waiting for the next class without noticing that it is written by English at first.

However, I realized that it was not so complicated and that it is worth reading. Honestly, it would be very useful if you read to study English and to know the events of the month. The thing I liked about the article is that most of topics in The Argus are so familiar that I could easily understand them even though I am not familiar to English.

Just read News briefing in The Argus if you want to know the world's hottest topics these days. The contents are going to be very helpful without spending much time. It was also impressive to know 'a return to analog forms from digital ones in books' from its cover story, even if it goes without saying that our world's full of digital. What you should know and what you are curious about is in The Argus. It is perfect. For the last, after reading the article, the quiz in the back of article is fun.

Kim Seon-kyu
Business Administration '14

- Share your feedback on the issues to hufsargus@gmail.com.
- Feedback word count is 200 including the title.
- Remuneration will be given; please include your contact information in the e-mail.

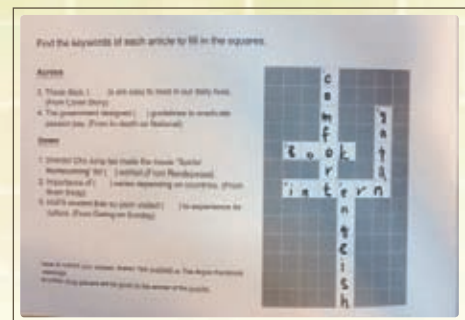
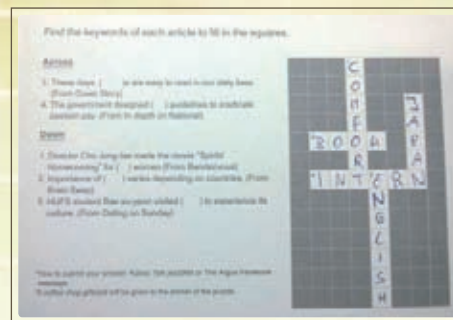
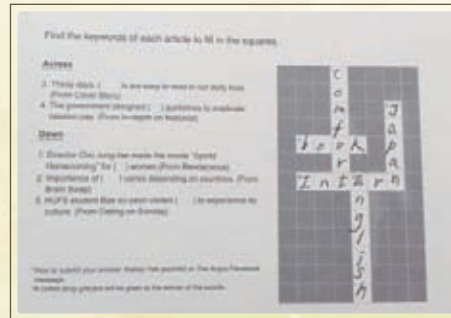
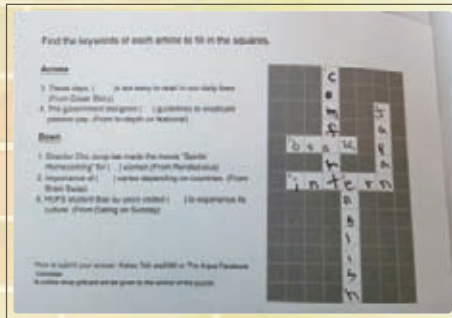
The Goal for New Semester...



Park Ji-hyun
Department of English Linguistics '10

Thanks for joining the puzzle

응모해주셔서 감사합니다



HOW TO ENTER FOR PUZZLE

1. Read The Argus articles
2. Solve the puzzle
3. Send the puzzle through Kakaotalk or facebook message
4. Take a Starbucks gift card

퍼즐응모방법

1. 아거스에 실린 기사들을 읽는다.
2. 맨 뒷장에 있는 퍼즐을 푼다.
3. 인증샷을 찍어 카카오톡 / 페이스북 메시지로 보낸다.
4. 스타벅스 기프트콘을 받는다.

이번 4월호의 당첨자가 되어보세요!



jea2060



The Argus-디아거스





The Argus

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