

The Argus

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Since 1954

Money Is Put Only into This Piggy Bank

Cover Story

- The PRIME Project Is Now of PRIME Importance to Universities
- What Happened to Your Department?

Youth Casting

Simple Twist on What You See

Feature

HUFS Alumni Association in Need of Attention

Brain Swap

Let's Talk about Our Appearance-oriented Society

Science and
Engineering Sectors



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

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Editorial

Does Education Exist for INDUSTRY?

The Program for Industrial needs-Matched Education (PRIME Project) is a project that is going to be implemented by the current Ministry of Education of Korea (MOE) starting in 2017. The project aims to fulfill the industrial needs as the demand for science, IT and engineering, which has been increasing. This means that the MOE is restructuring universities' standards such as the entrance quota, budgets and departments for new engineering jobs. These changes will be prevailed in the future. It will also subsidize universities which are designated for the PRIME Project with around 170 million dollars over three years.

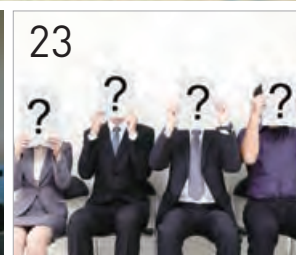
That subsidy is quite important to universities; however, there are severe conflicts in the processing of the project between the universities and students. The students argue the project is going to interfere with the nature of academic study, causing universities to fit the demands requested by the government. The universities dissemble many departments and establish a new one in the short term to be chosen as a recipient of the PRIME Project's funding.

The students attending these schools suffer adversities due to such unilateral actions. The departments they create newly due to the project may disappear suddenly before the students who are in those departments graduate. In addition, their curriculum is not structured at all since those are usually made up in a short period. Moreover, the evaluation indicators of universities suggested by the MOE stipulate that a university does not need to consider students' needs when it makes decisions.

The MOE officially announced that the PRIME Project will be 'for students,' but in reality, the students suffer damages of negative effects of the project, and their opinions are disregarded. If the PRIME Project is really 'for the students,' it should be rolled out over a longer period of time, preparing some countermeasures and being implemented in a way that deeply considers students' needs. 📖

By Jang Eun-ae
Editor-in-Chief

Jang



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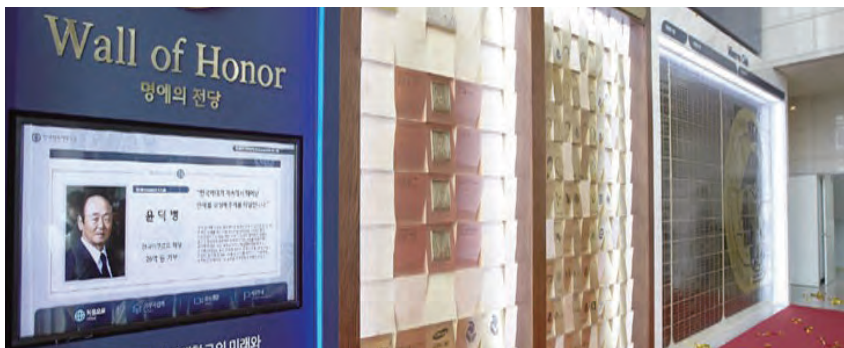
Cover Story

>> What if your major becomes unable to get enough financial support or even disappears due to the project the Ministry of Education pushes forward? This is actually occurring by the name of the "PRIME Project." This project is causing a few problems such as sudden rearrangement or closures of certain departments and absence of communication with students beforehand. The Argus covered the PRIME Project in-depth regarding the problems and the causes of this issue.

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▲ HUFS President Kim In-chul delivers welcome speech in front of the guests before unveiling the Wall of Honor.



▲ The Wall of Honor stands solemnly after the closing of the dedication ceremony.

HUFS Presents Its Token of Gratitude to Donors

Dedication ceremony for the Wall of Honor was held on the first floor lobby of the Main Building of Seoul Campus on April 20, to pay respect to the donators of HUFS.

An estimated number of 100 honored guests took part in the event to grace the special occasion. HUFS President Kim In-chul, Chairman of the HUFS Alumni Association Gwon Soon-han, and the Chairman of FILA Global Yoon Yoon-soo, participated along with a number of contributors.

Two HUFS alumni, KBS announcer Han Sang-heon and MBC announcer Cha Ye-rin, presided at the ceremony, carrying out all the formalities including the unveiling.

The donors and the participants enjoyed the meaningful affair, taking a look around the wall, and seeking their own inscribed names. A touch screen

was sensibly installed, to enable people to search for the registered members easily.

According to the Strategy and Public Relations Team of HUFS, the Wall of Honor was built with high quality materials such as birch, brass, and red copper, with the purpose of offering the visitors a decent and pleasant experience. The overall size of the wall is 11.6 meters in width, and 4.5 meters in height. A total number of 921 copperplates are attached, with the names of those who donated over 5 million won, accumulatively.

With such a large amount of effort invested, university officials are anticipating the structure to function both as a reminder of the contributors' charitable deeds, and a symbolic icon of HUFS. 📸

HUFS President Talks with HUFSSans



▲ HUFS President Kim In-chul poses for a picture with HUFS students.

President of HUFS, Kim In-chul, met with HUFSSans in the Centennial Hall of Global Campus on May 11.

The students who participated in the event had chance to speak with the president, Kim Hee-dong and other HUFS faculty members about their school life. Topics ranged from the hardships of employment to requests for the renovation of the main entrance of the Global Campus.

President Kim listened to student opinions regarding the school, and talked about the school's future plans for development.

The president also encouraged the attendees to take pride in HUFS, and to fulfill the potential that each and every student of HUFS has.

Students voiced their opinions regarding the inconveniences on campus. Many of them wanted the school to construct smoking areas, and others wanted the school to bolster the safety features in the parking lots and roads in the campus area. 📸

“Daedongje” Lightens Both Campuses

“Daedongje,” which means spring festival in Korean, was held at Seoul Campus from May 23 to 24 and Global Campus from May 24 to 26.

Many departments and “dongaris,” which means college clubs, held their own entertaining programs. Students could enjoy various snack bars or mini-restaurants.

The most popular section was special stages. Pop singer Lee Hi and pop group AKMU performed as special guests on Seoul Campus and on Global Campus, pop singer Crush, and pop groups Norazo and 4-Minute had their shows. 📸



©The Argus

▲ HUFSans operate their booths during HUF festival.

HUFS and Hansung University Work Together to Provide Chinese Education

HUFS’ Gongza Academy teaching Chinese to students and The Hansung Institute of Language Education signed MOU for combined efforts on Chinese education in the conference room of the Future Building on April 25.

On behalf of each university, Kim Seung-cheon, Park Heung-soo, director of the Hansung Institute of Language Education, director of Gongza Academy and China-based director of Gongza Academy Miao Chun-mei made presence.

The agreement addresses establishment of a “Confucius Institute” to build amicable relationships and promote educational progress. Also, it includes plans to support Chinese education-related projects and expand cultural exchange with China. 📸

HUFS Holds Underground Library Groundbreaking

The groundbreaking ceremony for the underground stack rooms for the smart library was held on April 20 in front of the library on Seoul Campus, after the celebration of HUFS’ 62nd anniversary.

Many school officials, students and alumni took part in the event to commemorate the moment.

The library on Seoul Campus is now changing into a new smart library to increase students’ convenience and improve the school facilities.

The construction of the underground stacks is the cornerstone of the project. School officials consider the reconstruction of the library so important since it helps the university’s reputation to improve. 📸

HUFSans Get Advice on Careers from Their Seniors

HUFS Career Development Center hosted the “Career Mentoring with the Currently Employed Alumni” program in Obama Hall of Seoul Campus, on May 13 to help young HUFSans who are having difficulties finding a proper job.

The program, previously held in 2015 under a different program name “Alumni’s Successful Employment Experience Sharing Concert,” provided students with chances to consult alumni who are already working out in the field.

This year, alumni from about 50 companies and institutions participated in the program. An estimated number of 800 students seized the invaluable opportunity, and drew a specific blueprint for the future. 📸

HUFSans Hike with Alumnus Um Hong-gil



▲ Mountaineer Um Hong-gil and undergraduate participants pose together in front of the placard.

HUFS Alpine Club hosted a mountain-climbing event with the mountaineer Um Hong-gil. Around 150 undergraduates participated in this climb to Mount Dobong on May 15. Known as the actual character behind the movie “Himalayas,” the HUFS graduate now assumes the position of Executive Director at the Um Hong Gil Human Foundation. 📷

Russian Debate Contest Held in Minerva Complex

The sixth Russian Debate Contest was held in Minerva Complex on May 13.

The contest was held as a memorial for “The Year of Movies,” hosted by the Institute of Russian Studies. The contest was divided into two tracks depending on the participants’ level. The finalists received prize money and also a chance for a short language training course in Russia.

The contest was held to give students opportunity to enhance linguistic skills. Qualifications for participation were given to national college and graduate students. 📷

Hungarian Assembly Speaker Talks with Hungarian Students

Laszlo Kover, the speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly, visited HUFS on May 9.

The president of HUFS, Kim In-chul, greeted him and they had a meeting before Kover went on to speak with the students of Department of Hungarian.

HUFS is a meaningful stop for foreign leaders like Kover, as it is home to many departments that deal with the study of foreign cultures and languages. The Department of Hungarian in HUFS is the only institution that deals with the study of the Hungarian language and culture in Korea. 📷

Foreign Students Exchange Cultures at Culture Expo



▲ Participants pose, holding their flags at expo.

The Center for Korean Language and Culture held a Culture Expo for foreign students participating in regular courses at the graduate school sport field on April 29.

In this expo, foreign students from 24 countries introduced and exchanged various cultures.

The event was composed of visiting booths, performances, an awards ceremony and a parade. Including “samulnori” which is a traditional percussion quartet, students showed off various performances.

Eight countries including Turkey, Uganda and Poland participated in the performance wearing their traditional clothes. Poland won the first prize and the second prize went to China.

Students also made various traditional dishes. Hong Kong got the first prize and Vietnam got the second prize in the booth competition.

Meanwhile, nearly 800 students from about 60 countries study Korean at the center for Korean Language and Culture, which is an affiliated institution of HUFS. Foreigners are able to learn Korean traditional culture and language by taking various courses. The Culture Expo is held every spring. 📷

Misogynistic Murder

Mr. Kim who is a suspect in a murder case stabbed to death a woman in her 20s. It occurred in a restroom located in Gangnam at about 1 a.m. on May 17. He argued that he killed the woman because he had been usually ignored by women even though he never knew the female victim. Many people condole the women by putting chrysanthemums or sticking Post-it notes at Gangnam station.



©Yonhapnews

How Many Pets Are Abandoned

According to a report done by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the number of abandoned pets has reached about 8 thousand with 224 dogs being abandoned each day. There are 10 thousand abandoned pets in Gyeonggi Province, 8 thousand in Seoul and 5 thousand in Busan.



©Ohmynews

Oxy Made Fatal Humidifier Disinfectant



©Kookminilbo

SK Chemicals Co., Ltd had developed and sold a humidifier disinfectant in 1994 and Oxy created a product containing PHMG which is a kind of toxic substance. Since then, there were many casualties from

a lung disease that resulted from PHMG, a substance in Oxy's product. A lawsuit is being brought against Oxy in Korea.

Change Policy to Develop New Industry Sector




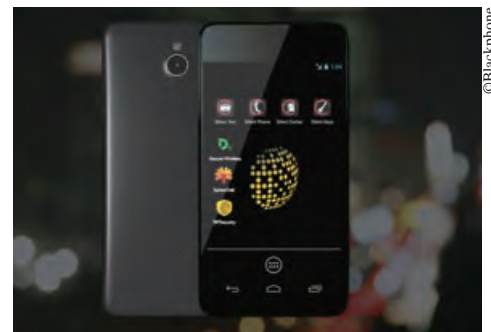
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President Park Geun-hye confirmed regulatory reforms for new industry field including Internet of Things (IoT), drone and autonomous vehicles on May 18. The government decided to implement a regulatory

policy which removes all regulations to develop the industry fields.

No Wiretapping, No Hacking Phone

According to Sentinel Korea, a company of global business risk consultant, Black Phone, which tightens up security by preventing wiretapping or hacking, will be released in Korea in June. Black Phone encrypts all information, including text messages, data transmission or telephone conversations. 



©Blackphone



©The Argus / Byeon Hee-jin

Simple Twist on What You See

By Byeon Hee-jin
Associate Editor of Campus Section

When you visit places that have a large floating population, you can see many overflowing garbage bins, making the roadside messier. This occurs because there is objectively a lot of trash on roadsides and street cleaners are unable to verify which and when the trash bins are full. There is someone who took action on this problem. The Argus met Kwon Soon-beom, the CEO of the “Ecubelabs,” and heard the stories about his invention.



Ecubelabs

- Founded in 2011
- Currently has 25 employees
- Has Clean Cube, Clean Cap and Clean City Networks(CCN) as their products
- Won “2014 Korea Green Business Award” from the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy



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

Kwon Soon-beom (Kwon): Hi. I am 29-year-old Kwon Soon-beom, the CEO of the Ecubelabs. “Ecubelabs” is a company that suggests solutions to effectively deal with urban environment problems by using solar energy to compact garbage and send information about how much is loaded in the garbage bins to the staff.



The Argus: How did you start this business?

Kwon: I founded Ecubelabs in 2011. At first, I started it as a project with my three other friends for fun. When I was a college student, I once worked as an intern in “Social Consulting Group,” a volunteer organization that social enterprises can consult. Once, I was hanging out with my fellow interns and saw trash scattered all over the roadside. That moment, I came up with a simple idea that it may be solvable by compressing the garbage just as we do at home, by using solar energy. It was not a grandiose invention, but my friends and I started the project for both fun and as a socially meaningful activity. It turned out successfully, founding Ecubelabs as well.



▲ The simulation of how the compressor inside the “Clean Cube” works.



The Argus: How do the “Clean Cube” and “Clean Cap” work?

Kwon: The principle is very simple. There is a solar energy panel, and the panel helps charge the battery of the Clean Cube. Inside the Clean Cube, there is a compressor that looks like a punch ball and a sensor. The sensor automatically operates periodically, and when the sensor is covered with garbage, it



▲ The smartphone application of CCN shows how full the garbage bins are.

starts to press the trash.

Clean Cube also gets information regarding how much the trash can be loaded by the time compressor went down and came back. Clean Cap delivers the information, and the information is provided to the users by Clean City Networks (CCN), which works on both Ecubelabs website and smartphone application.



The Argus: In what ways do your products help solve the urban environmental problems?

Kwon: Clean Cube can load eight times more than regular trash cans and so it takes much more time for it to get full. As a result, the frequency of street cleaners picking up the refuse will lessen and raise efficiency. Moreover, by the information accessible by CCN, the traffic line of garbage trucks shortens and reduces CO2 gases those trucks make.



The Argus: Where are your products installed?

Kwon: At the end of 2012, they were installed on the campuses of Seoul National University, Yonsei University, Korea University and Dongguk University, which was the very first installation. Recently, we signed a contract with Seoul City and installed them in crowded places such as Hongdae, Insa-dong, Gwanghwamun and Myeong-dong. Moreover, most of the parks in Seoul City will have Clean Cube by this year. Not only is Clean Cube in Seoul, but it is installed in Jeju Island and Daegu Dongseong-ro as well.

Clean Cap is not launched worldwide yet, but a lot of other countries such as England, Norway, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, and Singapore have installed Clean Cube, and the United States and Canada are under way as well. We have signed contracts worldwide since we participate in exhibitions about 10-15 times a year.



The Argus: Did you have any hardships when inventing or installing your products?

Kwon: Yes. When I was about to launch my product in Korea, I faced an institutional limitation. In order to sell, we had to adjust based on government regulations, but that process takes about one and a half year. However, we were unable to wait that amount of time financially. That is why we started to participate in foreign expos.

In addition, because Clean Cube was an unprecedented product, no one wanted to try it at first. In this kind of situation, most of the companies use a strategy of installing their products without a fee to prove the quality, but we were not even financially able to do that. As a result, we sent Hanwha Chemical a proposal saying that this could be a win-win chance for both of us. Surprisingly, this proposal was accepted and they bought one hundred million won worth of our products and installed them on the campuses of Seoul National University, Korea University and Yonsei University. Since this was the very first installment, we could get real feedback as well and so we could develop it into higher quality.



The Argus: We have heard that Ecubelabs keeps improving the product performances. What do you focus on when you develop the products?

Kwon: Original and significant technologies are not the only one needed in this area. I think this industry has been isolated from modern technology. Thus, I focus on inventing hardware that is easy to approach and low in cost and effectively converge on the needed parts. This removes all the ineffectiveness emerged from the present situation.



The Argus: Are there any other things that Ecubelabs has suggested as a solution besides urban environmental problems?

Kwon: Six months ago, Ecubelabs installed Clean Cube and Clean Cap at Bukchon Hanok Village. Since it is very crowded and has many tourist attractions, there was a lot of illegal parking. This not only infringes on residents' rights, but also hinders fire engines in emergency situations. Thus, with Seoul City, we carried forward a project by slightly changing the sensors we use on Clean Cap and installed them in no-parking areas. When a car stops for a certain amount of time, the sensor regards it as an illegal parking and the information goes to police station.



The Argus: What are other parts that you want to develop?

Kwon: Presently, we are dealing with residential waste.



©Facebook / Ecubelabs

▲ Employees at Ecubelabs

Going forward, I would like to invent a product that deals with industrial waste. It has “waste” in common, but the handling method is quite different when it comes to industrial waste. Clean Cube focuses on “loadage,” but products for industrial garbage should focus on chemical parts such as toxicity, not the loadage. We are currently working on this.



The Argus: How can young people be of help on social environmental problems?

Kwon: I am not quite sure because I also did not start this for social good but for fun. However, we can all start with a simple mindset. In fact, everything we feel uncomfortable or ineffective has social costs. If you keep this fact in mind and always keep your eyes on things in various aspects, I think that is the best thing we can do. However, it should not stop here. We have to have a macroscopic viewpoint in order to realistically resolve social problems.



The Argus: Is there anything you want to say to The Argus readers?

Kwon: I hope you can approach the world with a broader viewpoint. With broader aspects, I can assure you that you can find much more inconvenience permeating in our lives. Moreover, I hope you would put your ideas into practice.

When nobody tried to take an action on simple problem, Kwon Soon-beom had a little twist on what we can see in everyday life. He did not start it to be a “hero” but started it with small curiosity. Consequently, the outcome turned out to be successful both personally and socially. If you look back on things that people take for granted with a broader viewpoint, you might become the next person to find a new way to solve daily problems. 📧

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HUIF Alumni Association in Need of Attention

By Byun Hee-jin

Reporter of Campus Section

Last April, the HUIF Alumni Association created the Federation of Overseas Alumni by linking overseas alumni all over the world and had its first general meeting for them to connect and discuss their continued interest in HUIF. Also, celebrating HUIF's 62nd anniversary, it created the "Wall of Honor" on the first floor of the HUIF Seoul Campus Main Building, where names and faces of alumni who have donated for the university's development are carved.

However, the Alumni Association bears a lot of hardships and has limitations. For HUIFsans who will graduate and become one of the HUIF alumni in the future, The Argus looked into the hardships that the Alumni Association is going through and find appropriate solutions for them.



Current state of HUFS Alumni Association

As the name of our school is Hankuk University of “Foreign” Studies, there are many alumni who have spread not only in Korea but throughout the world. However, the association that connects alumni has a lot of hardships achieving its main role.

Cho Gyu-tae, the secretary general of the HUFS Alumni Association, said, “The current domestic and overseas Alumni Associations’ activities for networking between alumni are not organized well due to the lack of finances and systematization.”

At present, the Korean and overseas Alumni Association lack systematic organization since the network is weak. The Overseas Alumni Association is mostly organized by alumni who are playing important roles in each foreign society. However, those individuals are usually resident employees working temporarily in those countries. If the employees return to Korea, then the Alumni Association of that region would not be able to continue to network between alumni living in certain regions. Although key figures come back to Korea, the association members who still live in local areas should remain active in the alumni network. However, they have their personal business and activities, so it is impractical and difficult for them to continuously manage the association.

Since the network of the Alumni Association is not established well due to the lack of organization, its activity rate has become low. Therefore, HUFS may get low scores on the index of Korean universities’ growth done by Ministry of Education because not only is the sense of fellowship weakened but also support for school development is lowered.

Gwon Soon-han, a president of the HUFS Alumni Association, said, “The amount of the university’s development fund is being evaluated by the government, and it may be an area of competition among Korean universities. However, HUFS is poor at networking compared to other universities in Korea.”

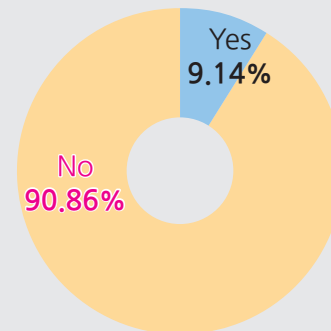
The HUFS Alumni Association holds various events to



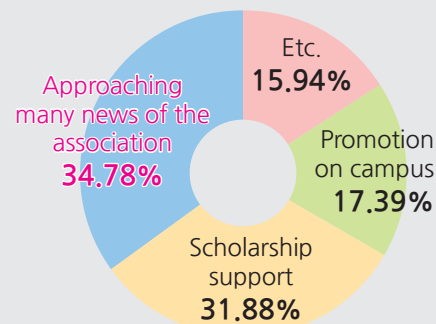
▲ HUFS alumni pose for photographs to celebrate the first general meeting of HUFS Overseas Alumni Association.

HUFSans' Overall Awareness of Alumnus Association

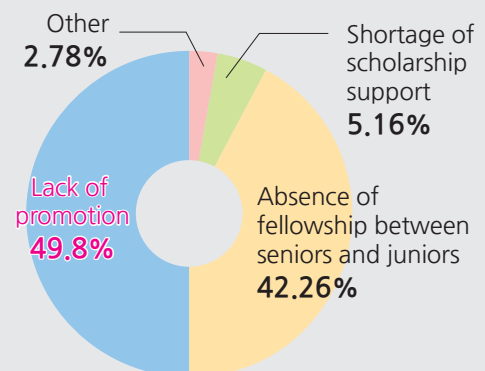
Do you think the HUFS Alumni Association is active?



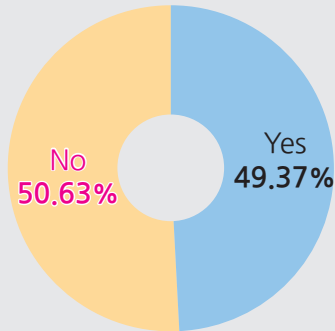
Why do you think the Alumni Association is active?
(Respondents who answered “Yes” to the Q. 1)



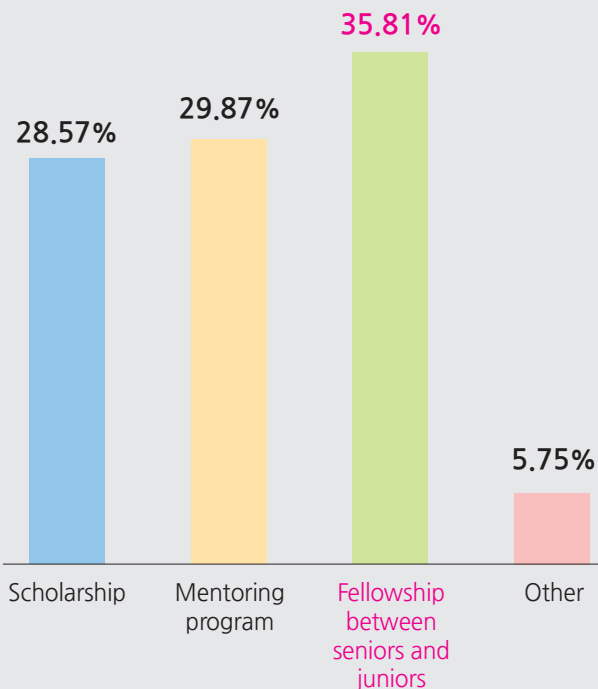
Why do you think the Alumni Association is NOT activated?
(Respondents who answered “No” to Q. 1)



Are you willing to participate in the Alumni Association's events and pay membership fees after graduating?



What kind of benefits do you want to get from the Alumni Association?



Online survey done by 558 HUFSSans from May 19 to 22

increase fellowship among alumni. Also, with the funds of the scholarship foundation of the Alumni Association, it gives scholarship to current HUFSS students and donates toward the school's development. Likewise, the Alumni Association gives financial support for enhancing education and HUFSS' development. However, as previously mentioned, it is hard to prepare funds and hold all sorts of events since the association is not organized well.



Hardships of the Alumni Association

Low interest of alumni

The overall interest of alumni toward the Alumni Association is very low. The HUFSS Alumni Association elects its executives by appointing Alumni who can actively work as a member of the association. Currently, there are 16 executives. However, it is hard to find alumni who can dedicate themselves fully to the Alumni Association's work. In addition, it holds events such as "Alumni's Night" or a "New Year's Party" every year planned for 600 people, but the number of alumni who actually come to the events is 300, which is only half of the planned number.

The alumni's low participation is directly related to the finance shortage. The Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization, or a service group. It manages its business through donations and membership fees, which are 30,000 won a year. However, there are not so many alumni who pay the fee, so the amount it collects is always quite low. If HUFSS' 120,000 alumni all paid the fee, then the association would be able to manage itself very well, but the number of alumni paying has lowered compared to the previous year. The fees collected this year were about 50 million won. With this amount, it is hard to run the organization, so the situation is pretty poor.

In the past, the Alumni Association fees had been collected from the freshmen as well, but now the Ministry of Education

2015 Donation Status of Universities in Seoul

(Unit: 1,000 won)

University	Amount of donations
Yonsei Univ.	50,924,770
Korea Univ.	36,869,425
Sogang Univ.	16,058,921
Sungkyunkwan Univ.	38,392,994
Hanyang Univ.	16,170,615
Chung-Ang Univ.	11,061,133
Kyung Hee Univ.	15,723,593
Ewha Womans Univ.	11,061,105
HUFSS	4,592,124

▲ Source from Daehak Allimi

Feature

has banned it. Also, it was mandatory for graduates to pay the Alumni Association fee in the past, but it became optional five years ago. Thus, expanding finance has become difficult, and activities for alumni had to be lowered.

According to the 2015 Korean universities' donation report, HUFS is charting the lowest of the top 10 universities in Seoul. While donations for HUFS are about 4 billion won, those for Seoul National University, Yonsei University, Korea University, and Sungkyunkwan University are over 30 billion won. The enormous amount of donations for these four universities is due to the bigger number of alumni compared to HUFS' and their alumni's continuous interest toward their alma mater. In Sungkyunkwan and Chung-Ang University's case, the power of support from their own enterprises is quite strong.

Problems caused by shortage of funds

One of the problems caused by a lack of finances is university's development. It supports scholarships for 10 students each semester and raises fund for the development and welfare of its alma mater. However, if it has low funds, then students cannot enjoy these kinds of benefits. It matters when preparing for the Alumni Association events, too. Several events hosted by the association such as the general meeting and "Honorable HUFSSan Reward" help to strengthen fellowship between HUFS juniors and seniors and further school develop in the long term. However, it is hard to accomplish much with limited funds. In addition, to operate an organization, a great labor force is needed to do office work, promotions, and financial management. Unfortunately, the HUFS Alumni Association cannot hire additional manpower apart from its current executives due to lack of finances. The shortage of the labor force leads to insufficient promotions.

Lack of promotions

The HUFS Alumni Association promotes their events and what kind of businesses they do in order to let alumni know. It sends approximately 850 HUFS newsletters by e-mail and 12,000 Alumni journals by mail. However, it is still a small number considering HUFS total alumni is 120,000.

To promote to the 120,000 alumni, the association needs a list of graduates, but it only has 12,000 of them, which is merely 10 percent. Also, when contact information such as one's address is changed, then the promotions are delivered back to the office, so the database should be updated. Overall, they are in a difficult situation to promote properly. The contact lists of the graduates in each college and division, so it is possible to collect all the lists. In order to do this, manpower is needed. However, the promotions committee of the Alumni Association does not have a suitable number of members, so it is hard for them to work on updating the data.



▲ Blueprint of HUFS Alumnus' Hall




Outlook

For the Alumni Association to develop more, a lot of HUFSSans' interests toward their alma mater is needed. Once the network for the university's development has been created, plenty of activities between HUFSSans will be formed such as opportunities for the seniors to mentor their juniors and sharing foreign country's information. We can reap the benefits that only HUFSSans can gain through connecting HUFS graduates. This kind of network does not require a huge amount of money; it is possible when pride of being alumni has been instilled.

Cho Gyu-tae, the secretary general of the HUFS Alumni Association, said, "We should build up alumni and current students' alumni pride. If the Alumni Association's businesses are activated through various activities such as the Federation of Overseas Alumni or the general meeting, then the domestic and overseas networks would also be activated." He wishes for alumni to increase their pride in HUFS by directly and indirectly participating in the Alumni Association's events and keeping abreast of HUFS news.

Current HUFS students would feel a sense of belonging to the association if they got a scholarship from the Alumni Association, being thankful to their alumni. HUFS alumni would be able to feel the pride of their alma mater by joining in Alumni club activities such as hiking.

At present, HUFS Alumni Association is in a situation where it needs a lot of HUFSSans' participation and interest. Once the association becomes active, special opportunities for HUFSSans to help each other will be created. Also, if HUFS develops as the spirit of unity increases, it will raise not only HUFS' but HUFSSans' social status. 

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Story of the Man Who Really Loves HUFS



By Jang Eun-ae
Editor-in-Chief

Gwon Soon-han is a man who really loves HUFS as the president of the alumni association. He has struggled to operate the association for six years, having pride of being part of the HUFS alumni for the development of the alma mater and juniors' support. The Argus met him and heard his own story.



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▲ Gwon Soon-han is smiling at the camera.

The Argus: Hello, please introduce yourself.

Gwon Soon-han (Gwon): Hi, I have been the president of alumni association of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFSA) for six years. I majored in Spanish at HUFSA in the class of '63. I am also the president of "Soyee Commercial Company" dealing with medical instruments usually.

The Argus: How did you become the president of the HUFSA alumni association?

Gwon: I was the president of the Spanish alumni association for 10 years from 1994 to 2004. During that time, I tried to collect scholarships for my department's juniors and could give about 50 million won in scholarships to students. 50 million won in the 1990s was more valuable than it is today. So, I was praised by many people for my effort and I really felt rewarded. Therefore, again, I decided to be the president of the alumni association starting in 2011 as the one who always has pride for being a HUFSA alumni.

The Argus: Then, what is your goal as the president of the alumni?

Gwon: I have three goals as the president. First, a HUFSA alumni hall should be completed on my term. Second, we need to establish a network to connect alumni all over the world. This network can help alumni make contact with each other and help them take better care of the university and students easily. Third, one goal that is now being realized is creating an overseas joint alumni association on April 19. Finally, more membership fees should be collected by alumni, but it is very difficult to collect money.

The Argus: What is the greatest difficulty as the president of the alumni association?

Gwon: The biggest difficulty is collecting membership fees and scholarship donations. The membership fee is 300,000 won a year, but there are a few people who pay the money although there are many alumni who have become successful. The alumni association regularly holds some events such as general meetings and awards ceremonies to commemorate contributors or give scholarships to 20 students once a year. Also, the association should pay wages for employees, rental fees and operating expenses. Thus, help and attention from alumni is urgent to run the association. This membership fee is collected for our juniors and I think it is very important to cultivate juniors because those who receive advice or support from alumni continue to make more great juniors. This positive effect goes around and comes around circularly. Therefore, I want more alumni to be concerned about HUFSA students and HUFSA itself.

The Argus: Please have your say to your juniors.

Gwon: I really want to tell HUFSA students that you need to learn at least two or more languages aside from English because it is just a basic skill for foreign studies' students. Actually, speaking several languages is a great strength for students of our university. That is all that I want to say to them. 📧

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▲ Gwon Soon-han delivers his speech at Coex Convention Center.

What Are Your Plans for Summer Vacation?

The first semester is coming to an end. During vacation, unlike during the term, we will have a lot of time to do something fun or something productive through which we can develop ourselves. The Argus met four HUFSSans who are preparing for their great summer vacations.



Fabien, Germany, Exchange Student

I am an exchange student, and this is my last semester at HUFSS. I will go back to my home country, Germany, right away without having a trip in Korea. During the last vacation, I had an internship in a German school in Vietnam. However, in this summer vacation, I will spend my time in Germany and get a holiday job because I spent a large sum of money during this exchange.



Wafika, Brunei, Exchange Student

I was enrolled at HUFSS at the start of the school year, but I am studying here only for a semester, so I will be spending my summer in my home country, Brunei. During the summer, I plan on catching up with my family and friends and hope to celebrate Eid Ul Fitr which is the Muslim festival at the end of Ramadan with them.



Shin Hae-young, Dept. of French, '12

First and foremost, I want to experience something new. I am in my final year in school, so I hope to experience something that can help me with my future career. However, I have not thought about the field in which I want to intern yet since my past two summers in France were so busy. I also want to spend some time resting at somewhere warm.



Kim Da-in, Dept. of Spanish, '13

This summer I intend to take classes to make up for the insufficient credits for my second major, English Linguistics. Although seasonal classes are typically overwhelming with loads of assignments, it is inevitable since I had to drop out of a few classes and retake courses. In addition, I would like to work part-time and possibly go on a few trips around Korea if I save enough money. ☹

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



THE **PRIME** PROJECT IS NOW OF **PRIME** IMPORTANCE TO UNIVERSITIES

By Lee Jae-won, Byeon Hee-jin
Associate Editors

As of May 3, the sorrow and pleasure of universities nationwide has been mixed. The Ministry of Education (MOE) announced the 21 accepted universities out of 72 universities that applied for the “Program for Industry needs-Matched Education (PRIME) Project.” This is a project that the MOE pushed forward in order to adjust future personnel demand and requests for universities to reform departments and adjust standards. The selected universities will be financially supported by the government to the tune of 5 billion won a year for the next three years.

However, strong opposition to the PRIME Project was also captured in the struggle to be selected. Some say that universities unilaterally merged or established some departments by following the employment-centered guidelines of the MOE, in order to be chosen as one of the universities. In the June issue, The Argus will report in-depth about this hot potato controversy within the university community.

Background Information

In 2011, some universities tried to close some departments such as the Department of Home Economics at Chung-ang University and the Department of Literary Creation at Dongguk University because of low employment rates. Now, since the MOE started the PRIME Project, it seems like the government is officially letting universities make changes by the employment rate.

What is the “Program for Industry needs-Matched Education (PRIME) Project?”

-Definition

The project requests department reform and standards adjustments considering future personnel needs. The official name is the “Vitalization of Industry-linked Education Leading University Project.” It claims to support “education for needs.”

-Purpose

First, it decreases general entrance quotas because of low birthrates. According to the “2014-2024 Manpower Forecasts” the Ministry of Employment and Labor announced, if the entrance quota of 2014 is maintained, 160 thousand people will have no future. As a result, the MOE has requested that

2017 total number of student quota restrictions by the PRIME project

	Major	Number of quota (unit : persons)
Quota decreases	Humanities and Social Sciences	2,626
	Natural Science	1,479
	Engineering	427
	Physical Education and Art	819
Quota increases	Humanities and Social Sciences	126
	Natural Science	329
	Engineering	4,856
	Physical Education and Art	40

universities decrease their entrance quotas.

Second, in order to resolve mismatches in terms of manpower, they have requested that changes be made structurally to reflect personnel demands. According to the “2014-2024 Manpower Forecasts for Each College Major,” labor supply is higher than its demand within social sciences and education but the opposite is the case as regards engineering and medicine.

Third, to create excellent personnel in certain fields such as the creative economy or within promising industries, the government has encouraged the development of “convergence majors.”

-Category and budget

By choosing 21 universities in total, the government is planning to support them with 201.2 billion won in 2016. Also, 600 billion won is going to be provided in support for the next three years. It is the biggest support project for education to date.

This project is divided into two categories; one is “societal demand leading colleges” and the other is “creation-based leading colleges.” In the case of the first category, nine selected colleges will get 15 billion won each.

What are the problems associated with PRIME?

1) Universities' department rearrangement issues & concerns as well as the abolition of new departments

The general planning of the PRIME Project was confirmed on Dec. 29, 2015; the application process for universities ended on March 31, 2016; and the final announcement of the chosen universities was made on May 3, 2016. Within just three months the decisions regarding the rearrangement and establishment of departments were fixed.

Two categories of the PRIME Project

Type	Leading university of societal needs (Big type)	Leading university of creation-based education (Small type)
Contents	-Reform of the university structure and student enrollment quota based on societal changes and industrial needs	-Reform for nurturing workers in specific fields such as the creative economy and promising industries
Feature	-Improvement of the university structure focused on students, careers, and employment -Introduction of hands-on curriculum and a buildup of student career management	-Nurturing future talented students in fields such as new technology and convergence -Introduction of a leading education model for majors tailored to society
Volume of support	-Total sum: 150 billion won for nine universities -Average of 15 billion won for each of the nine universities -Maximum of 30 billion won for one university (No university selected in this section)	-Total sum: 50 billion won for 11 universities -Average of 5 billion won for each of the 11 universities
Selected university examples (Student quota adjustment numbers)	Konkuk Univ. (521) Sookmyung Women's Univ. (250) Yeungnam Univ. (317)	Sungshin Women's Univ. (265) Ewha Womans Univ. (193)

-Rearrangement of departments

The guidelines that the MOE made demand that universities increase their entrance quotas for departments that have high employment competitiveness, on the other hand, it decrease quotas for those that do not. University headquarters followed the guidelines and carried out such rearrangements in order to be chosen as one of the universities that gets funded.

For example, according to the announcement that took place on Jan. 8, 2016, at Konkuk University is merging nine majors in the College of Animal Life Science and Life Environment Science into the “College of Convergence Life Science.” They also decided to combine the Department of Livestock and Food, Department of Bio-industry and Department of Food and Life Resources into the single “Food related specific Department” and reformed that into seven departments. Sungshin Women’s University also announced a department rearrangement on Feb. 26, 2016 via school media. They moved half of the quota from the Department of Food and Nutrition to the College of Engineering and established the Department of Food Engineering without the agreement of their students.

In the short-term view, this might simply look like a decrease in certain departments. However, if these decreases continue, this might lead to concerns that it infringes on students’ right to learn what they want. Regarding this concern, the General Student Council (GSC) of Ewha Womans University said, “A certain amount of students are needed in order for a class to be opened. As a result, if the quota decreases due to the PRIME Project, the classes that students can take will also decrease.” There is an actual incident that happened similar to this in the past. When Ewha Womans University established its Law School in 2009, the school promised to have lectures open

to the undergraduates in the Department of Law. However, it turned out that the number of open lectures decreased so much that students could not even take mandatory classes. The school is now allowing the students to listen to alternative classes so that they can graduate.

-Worries about new departments’ sudden closures

As the MOE chose the universities for the PRIME Project, these selected ones are about to begin making new departments which they promised the MOE they would make on their official applications. However, questions are arising about whether these newly-constructed departments will exist also in future.

Looking at universities’ official project plans submitted to the MOE, you can easily see many of them decided to create convergence majors, especially ones affiliated with Information and Communications Technology (ICT), in consideration of the recent boom in artificial intelligence.

Three PRIME project universities specifically show this trend. Konkuk University decided to create the Departments of Smart Operation Technology, and Smart ICT Convergence Technology. IT Technology and Digital Contents Technology majors will show up starting next year in Sookmyung Women’s University and Wonkwang University respectively.

These plans actually came from the MOE’s guidelines. “With the PRIME Project, the MOE will reinforce fields of study that are in high demand in the job market, solving the problem of job mismatches,” said the Education Minister Lee Joon-sik at a meeting with heads of college presidents in January 2016. However, two points that he emphasized– “high demand” and “job mismatch” – do not seem to be appropriate.

As mentioned on page 17, the report by the Ministry of Labor and Employment forecast found that engineering and medical major students would be in short supply. Therefore, the minister was pointing out in his statement that those departments need to be expanded. In reality, however, recent employment rates in the engineering field have dropped to a narrow range since 2011 according to a report by the Korean Education Development Institute. The rate started at 60.6 percent in 2010, changed to 66.7 percent in 2011, 66.3 percent in 2012, 65.6 percent in 2013, and 64.9 percent in 2014.

“The unemployment issue of college graduates is not attributable to job mismatches,” said an official at the Korea University Education Research Institute. “Employment is now difficult regardless of major. The lack of jobs is the biggest problem.”



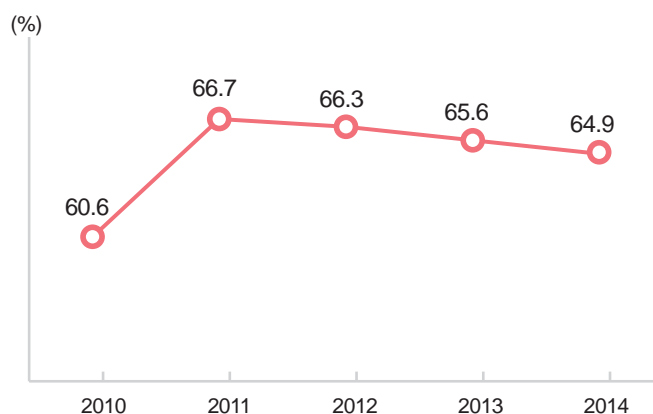
▲ President of the PRIME Project Evaluation Committee, Baek Sung-ki announces 21 accepted universities of the project on May 3.

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The Department of Bio-industrial Technologies at Konkuk University was established in 2013 with the purpose of fostering talented students possessing technical development and administrative abilities. However, the university finally abolished this department in early 2016, mentioning the “employment rate” is important for PRIME at the meeting with the students from that department. At Chungbuk National University and Dankook University, similar majors as the one at Konkuk University were founded to match the convergence trend but recently closed due to the stated reason of “low employment rates.”

With the employment rate in the engineering field falling, it is uncertain that such new technology-related majors will survive for a long time. It is possible that numerous departments may suddenly close if they are considered to be disadvantageous in terms of the “employment rate.”

Recent employment rates in the engineering field



2) Absence of communication with students

Several universities have pushed forward with the state-led college reform plans without holding sufficient discussions with students, as seen in two cases below.

The GSC of Ewha Womans University said its school has continuously proceeded with the project while excluding its students from the process. The GSC requested that the university provide it with its specific plans and consult with the students on PRIME. However, the university set its plan for PRIME with no participation from the students for about three months. As a result, Ewha Womans University was chosen for the project.

The GSC of Sungshin Women's University, another university selected for PRIME, also suffered from the same

communication problem. “The university pushed the project forward behind closed doors. Students, the direct party involved in this project, were not included in the process,”



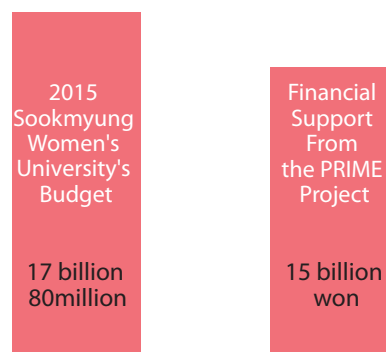
▲ GSCs of 10 universities hold a protest on April 20 to condemn the universities' one-sided push for the PRIME Project.

wrote the GSC in its official document on PRIME.

Why has this situation occurred?

1) Enormous support funds for the PRIME Project

One of the reasons why many universities nationwide have applied for this project is due to the significant amount financial funding offered. Universities lacking financially applied for the project without considering other aspects because the funds they will get for three years if chosen are quite high. The chosen nine universities in the big type will get 15 billion won each. In 2015, 11 out of 20 universities reduced their budget and those 20 universities' budget averages were about 26.4 billion



▲ Support funds from the PRIME project (R) account for more than two-thirds of last year's budget of Sookmyung Women's University (L).

won. In this situation, the support funds from the PRIME Project amount to more than half of the budgets of most of the universities. In the case of Sookmyung Women's University, their budget was about 17 billion won last year. They get more than two-thirds of their a year budget by being elected as one of the PRIME Project universities. Huh Seong-sil, the member of "University for Everyone," an organization of university students, said, "Schools have no choice but to embrace the project guidelines because they are in need of greater funding."

2) Not including students in the PRIME evaluation

As mentioned above, several universities picked for PRIME applied for it without the inclusion of the students. The MOE's evaluation made this possible, given that university students were also not included.

In the PRIME evaluation, the MOE assigned certain points to the university's level of agreement amongst its members. However, the MOE did not specifically look into whether the university really reached agreement with its members, especially students.

"If the supreme decision-making body of each university was in agreement with PRIME, the MOE recognized the university as having reached a consensus," revealed the MOE in its

official position.

The GSC at Ewha Womans University disclosed in an interview with The Argus that student opposition to PRIME was very strong, and it delivered a strong letter of protest to the MOE. However, it was "useless" according to them. "Even though we took action, both the university and the MOE ignored students' opinions. None of our actions were effective," said the GSC. As proven in this case, in the MOE's evaluation, students were not a consideration.

How to solve this situation

1) MOE needs to respect the autonomy of universities

There are some voices within university communities that feel that the MOE should not artificially lead department reform for societal demands; rather it should be left to universities to make decisions about rearrangements.

Huh Seong-sil also said, "The MOE should not discriminatively support universities through this 'project' but should respect the autonomy of universities and just lead the reinforcement of public education."

2) Universities' communication and efforts

As selected universities implement the abolishing, combining, and creation of departments, several ripple effects are likely to occur. Student bodies of chosen universities say the universities strive to prevent problems that students might face and hold student hearings as well.

The GSC of Sungshin Women's University wrote in its document on PRIME, "We, the GSC, are now asking the school to open to us its specific final PRIME plan and modified curriculum for several departments. Also, we are demanding that the school accept student opinions to minimize their difficulties."

The PRIME Project led by the MOE is not without controversy. The project, which is the largest government subsidy program for Korean higher education institutions, definitely affects numerous university students. The Ministry of Education and especially universities must consider student opinions the most and work hard to reduce their future hardships. 📢

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The scoring scale and criteria in the agreement category of the PRIME evaluation

Evaluation category	Big type	Small type
4. Measures for dealing with fields in reduced quotas and agreement amongst its school members	6	6
4.1. Measures for dealing with fields in reduced quotas -Establish support plans for departments which will be abolished or downsized (1) -Secure students' right to study and contrive plans to support them (1) -Guarantee of faculty members' status and set up programs for their education and research (1)	3	3
4.2. Agreement amongst its school members -Reach an agreement with its school members and induce their participation about reform of the university structure and student enrollment quota *Agreement and participation of key players including students and faculty members, process compliance, legitimacy of process, bond of sympathy, transparency of agreement process	3	3

© Ministry of Education

▲ The MOE assigned three points to the university's level of agreement with its members in the "Basic Plan of the PRIME Project."

What Happened to Your Department

employment rate



© news.joins.com

By Lee Jae-won

Associate Editor of Culture Section

As mentioned in the previous article, the Ministry of Education announced which universities it has selected for the “Program for Industry needs-Matched Education (PRIME) Project” on May 3. As of now, those chosen universities have to begin merging, combining, and establishing departments.

The PRIME Project has drawn lots of attention since there was enormous support for it. Actually, department reforms for the employment rate led by the ministry or the university itself are not a first. What do the reforms really mean to those who are enrolled in departments that are going to change? Under the theme of the departmental reforms for the employment rate, The Argus met four students who faced or will face changes to their departments.



Hwang Seung-hyeon

Information and Communication Engineering major at Yeungnam Univ.

My university has been selected for the PRIME Project. The university is going to make a new convergence engineering major, combining existing departments. I find it good that the entrance quota in engineering-related majors has increased. The school is likely to purchase new laboratory equipment and improve scholarships and its facilities thanks to PRIME.

But I have also something to worry about. A few years ago, because of a project similar to PRIME, the school combined four departments into one major named the Department of Mechanical Engineering. After the project ended, however, the engineering major split into four departments again. I am worried about the same thing occurring with PRIME. Besides, it might lead to an oversupply of engineering-related majors if the school simply expands the number of those majors. Since many engineering students are still yet to be employed, I believe it is not so much the increasing number of engineering majors as the increasing number of jobs that counts.



Huh Seong-sil

Student president of the College of Education at Ewha Womans Univ.
Member of "University for Everyone" (Union of university students)

Ten years ago, Ewha Womans University let non-education major students complete a course in teaching. At that time, the school thought that the "societal demand" for teaching jobs would grow. Now, the university is reducing the fixed number of students in the College of Education. Counter to their expectation, the demand is not that high now. As seen from this example, the "societal demand" is not easy to predict. The Ministry of Education started the PRIME project citing "industry needs." But I still doubt that "industry needs" will be the same as time goes by.

Moreover, the project distorts the nature of education. The PRIME Project, designed to solve the job crisis, is not a fundamental solution. The project just makes several departments grow, aiming at companies' needs. It just simply matches the logic of capital. In the long run, college students will lose their voice to criticize companies as many of whom study in majors that companies prefer.



Student J

Dept. of Bio-industrial Technologies at Konkuk Univ.

On Jan. 5 of this year, the student president of my department sent a message in an online department chat room. It was to inform us that the school would hold a meeting with students about the abolishment of the department on Jan. 7. Since that time was during winter vacation, many of the students in my major did not participate in the meeting.

Actually, I was at the meeting. The school seemed to have already decided on the abolishment. At the meeting, school officials just answered students' questions rather than collecting their opinions. One student said, "Should you not at least apologize to students?" to an official. Then, he said, "Why do I have to say sorry to you?" The officials explained that it had to close my department as it was not useful for increasing the employment rate, which is important for the PRIME Project. However, my major has not produced graduates yet, so the employment rate of my department is impossible to compare with other majors. I still cannot understand the school's explanation.




Kim Da-heen

Dept. of Film at Konkuk Univ.

Konkuk University unilaterally notified students in 2015 that the departments of film and image would merge into one major from 2016. In 2015, the university mentioned two reasons for such a merger.

First, the employment rate of the film major is low. The film major in the College of Arts is not basically made for employment. The value of film and art is not in the employment rate. So why did the school establish this major if they will try to close it just because of the low employment rate? In addition, many film graduates are not counted toward the employment rate even though they get a job using their major. With the school's attempt to combine two different majors with the only standard being the "employment rate," it has admitted itself as a place seeking only "student employability."

Second, the university said no problems would happen after the consolidation. The film major is a technical one, impossible to easily combine with another department. Additionally, the school unveiled it would supplement professors after the two majors became a big one. However, Konkuk University at that time just tried to urgently push forward this issue without any specific plans for professors and education programs of a new major. 

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By Byun Hee-jin

Reporter of Campus Section

Not even a month is left until the summer break. Korean students have a tendency to take good care of the way they look by going on a diet or getting plastic surgery, during the vacation. Freshmen dream of being a so-called “lecture-beginning goddess,” and seniors who are in between jobs get “employment surgery” to give a good impression at the interview or on their resume picture.

Koreans are living in an era where appearance is just one more area for competition today. University students recognize appearance as an important way of raising their value. As a consequence, side effects such as the rising rate of getting plastic surgery or falling self-confidence are common in Korea. So how would countries other than Korea think about the appearance-oriented society? The Argus met HUFSSans from three different countries and heard their thoughts on it.



Curtis Life

Division of International Studies '14
Canada



Enrico Azzarello

Division of International Studies '13
Italy



Liu Hongyuan

Division of International Studies '16
China



Pervasive lookism in Korean culture



© Ban8

▲ The phrase "Oh! People with good looks do not have to study" is written on the pencilcase of Ban8.

Lookism has pervaded Korean culture, even on daily necessities. Stationery designing enterprise Ban8 sparked controversy by selling 10 kinds of products with words of appearance discrimination. There were phrases that incite appearance discrimination such as "You should study real hard with your look!" "Oh! People with good looks do not need to study." However, the enterprise said that it does not have any plans to stop merchandising unless problems are posed, since its products received a good response on many online communities.

The Argus: What are your thoughts on the rampant lookism in Korean society?

Curtis: I think that is awful. We never do that in Canada and if it does, it would receive heavy criticism. Korea tries to follow the trend of appearance which changes every year. I think Korea's appearance-oriented society squishes people's confidence. I noticed that Koreans are more honest about how bad others look, such as saying, "You gained weight," or "You look ugly today." I think Koreans have a mindset that it is helping them to look better by telling them what to fix, but it may hurt people's confidence. Canadians never say such things to friends. Instead, we compliment people to make them feel good.

Enrico: I think this is crazy. I see that lookism in Korea is a matter of social power. Usually, women are judged on their appearance much more than men in Korea I think. I have seen an interviewer asking Korean men "What is the ideal standard of girls for you?" All of them answered her "pretty look." In Korea, women should be pretty to be accepted by society. They care so much about their looks because they are scared of not being accepted. As a result, their final decision is usually to have plastic surgery. However, she would be criticized again after getting an operation because she lost her natural look. It is another depressing thing for me in Korea.

Hongyuan: I did not know about excessive lookism in Korean society. But, when I think that, it is horrible. Most people are not appearance-oriented in China. I understand the first impression or appearance is very important since it is a standard for judging one's whole image at first sight. However, it is more important to get along with and know the person.



Effects of appearance in social life



© Kookmin Ilbo

▲ The part-time job labor union protests in front of CGV at Myeong-dong.

Last March, the part-time job labor union conducted a survey targeting part-timers of CGV and Lotte Cinema. The survey results showed that 87 percent of part-timers suffered from appearance evaluation during work or when interviewed by the administrators.

Administrators' insulting remarks especially to female part-timers aroused controversy, saying things such as, "Put on makeup properly, or no one will want to see your face," "Who would want to give an order to you?" or "We are losing customers because you look bad."

The Argus: How much does appearance affect social life in your country?

Enrico: In Italy, people are not judged by your look, but how well they do on their performances or how smart he is. If you work at a cinema, you will not be judged on how pretty you are, but how well you can interact with people or how fast you are doing tasks.

Curtis: In Canada, people judge others on their intelligence, personality and attitude, not appearance. In Korea, when you want to be beautiful, you know exactly what you have to look like because there is a standard of appearance that society has set. However, Canada is a culturally and ethnically diverse country such that the beauty standard of people is all different. Each race has its own look and characteristics. There is more flexibility in beauty in our country than Korea, which also affects the way people judge you. People are attracted to the ones who have confidence in their own individuality.

Enrico: I have seen many Koreans trying to look similar to each other. In Italy, you can have your own particular look such as a huge tattoo or weird hairstyle. We prefer to look different, and it does not matter at all. I know people in Korea would probably look at you negatively if you do that. It does not make sense to me, judging someone on the way you look rather than their own skills.

Hongyuan: How you look is not a big matter in China. We do not judge people by their beauty. Chinese do not care about the looks of others. Rather, Chinese prefer people with honesty.



Importance of appearance in the workplace



© Han Kook Ilbo

There is a saying “Appearance is also a competition” when finding jobs in Korea. Jobseekers put a lot of effort into a picture for a resume to raise their competitiveness on appearance by editing the photo or getting “employment surgery.”

According to a survey done by the employment portal site “Saramin,” 84.2 percent of 273 human resources directors answered that the appearance of applicants influences their evaluation. It is revealed that 56.9 percent of directors deducted points or rejected applicants because of their appearance, and 33.7 percent added points or let applicants pass if their appearance was outstanding even if they had low qualifications for the job.

The Argus: *Even if it is not an occupation that requires an outstanding appearance, is it still an important element when getting a job?*

Curtis: No, not at all in Canada. In Korea, it is required to attach your picture to the resume, but any photographs are not required when applying for a job in Canada. Your look does not affect the way they conduct the interview. The interviewers do not remember what interviewees looked like. They ask questions based on what their skills are. Ugliness can never be the reason for not hiring in Canada.

Enrico: Totally the same case for Italy.

I ensure that you will never be judged by the way you look in Italy. In my country, a picture is not required before the interview either. Information such as who you are, what did you do, school grades, and work experiences is needed. Also, I went for the Italian Embassy interview with casual clothes on. The ambassador and other important people were evaluating me, but they did not care about my appearance.

Curtis: If somebody comments on your look and fires you because of your looks, then you can sue them in Canada and get a lot of money from the company. Appearance cannot be a fair reason to fire someone. The reason of firing should be based on their behavior, attitude, and lack of skill or effort.

Hongyuan: In China, a photograph should be attached to the resume, but it is just to identify the person to know whether the right person came to the interview. Chinese edit their picture for their own satisfaction, but we do not do it to look better for the interview. The most important thing for getting a job is his academic ability, or which university he graduated from.



Plastic Surgery



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It has become a custom in Korea for high school seniors to get plastic surgery for aesthetic reasons before they enter university. According to a survey done by the university students' magazine “Daehaknaeil” and Banobagi Plastic and Aesthetic Clinic, out of

459 students, 38.1 percent answered that they had gotten plastic surgery or cosmetic injections. Also, it was revealed that plastic surgery was usually done under external pressure. 23.9 percent of male respondents had plastic surgery at an acquaintance's suggestion, and 44.5 percent of female respondents had an operation to improve their self-confidence, envying others' appearance.

The Argus: *How does your country view plastic surgery?*

Curtis: Canadians look down on plastic surgery because it makes people look artificial. In Canada people usually do it out of necessity or if you have something wrong with you. For example, it is accepted if you got a burn on your face to recover it. However, getting plastic surgery just for aesthetic reasons is frowned upon and criticized by people because we believe that people should look naturally beautiful. You are never going to get your original and natural look back after getting plastic surgery. We encourage people to have their own independent look.

Enrico: Italian society in general does not prefer plastic surgery. I have never seen young Italians or my Italian friends wanting plastic surgery, but it is common in older people. They get Botox injections because they feel uncomfortable with their wrinkles. Still, people judge people because they got plastic surgery.

Hongyuan: Chinese people get plastic surgery if they want to be prettier and have more confidence in themselves. The main problem is that operations are not considered safe in China. If I was to plan on having plastic surgery, people around me would have negative reactions toward me, not supporting me doing it. 🙅

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Flowers Bloom, Never to Wither

By Park Ji-yeon
Editorial Consultant

Two stones with flower drawings stand on Kyodong Elementary School's wall, with the sun setting on the neighborhood.

The 110-year-old school is on Kyodong-do, an island located only two kilometers away from North Korea's mainland. This island is known as a place where "Korea's past is captured in the present." As a place restricted to civilians for a long time, most of its streets and villages have stayed the same as they were in the mid-20th century. ¹

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Banality of Evil and Oxy

By Kang Young-joon
Editorial Consultant

HANNAH ARENDT

EIN FILM VON
MARGARETHE VON TROTTA

The toxicity of a major brand's humidifier sterilizer has led to rising fears about chemical household products. A growing number of consumers are considering not purchasing those chemical household products manufactured by Oxy Reckitt Benckiser (Oxy), whose humidifier sterilizer Oxy Ssak Ssak is currently blamed for allegedly causing the deaths of over 103 people in Korea. (This situation led consumers to have distrust toward manufacturing companies and government agencies' ability to identify potentially harmful products and warn consumers about them.) However, did Oxy release the chemical product without thinking it might be harmful to consumers? In this review, I try to figure out why Oxy made a harmful humidifier sterilizer, based on a movie called "Hannah Arendt" and the concept of "banality of evil."



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Hannah Arendt

A man is walking down a street using a flashlight to shine on the street. Suddenly, a truck is driving toward him and a couple of strangers come out of a car and kidnap him. The kidnapped man is Adolf Eichmann who was a German Nazi SS-lieutenant colonel and one of the major organizers of the holocaust.

Hannah Arendt, who fled Germany during Adolf Hitler's rise to power, read an article saying

▲ Hannah Arendt (14 October 1906-4 December 1975) was a German-born American political theorist.

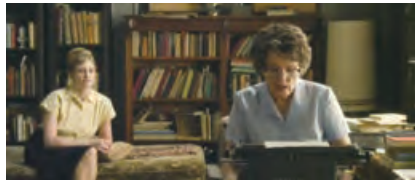
Eichmann was seized by Israeli secret agents and taken to Israel. She is curious whether a trial would take place in Israel or not and if so, she wants to attend the trial. She suggests to a magazine called "The New Yorker" that she write an article about his trial for the magazine. Finally she can, so she flies

to Israel and attends the trial. During the trial, she notices something unpredictable. She thought Eichmann would be a tough and strong man, but what she can see right now is a weak and sniffling man, who does not seem to be in charge of the Holocaust. She notes that he continually argues he is innocent by saying he just followed his commanders. She finds he just obeyed order well, and he would have never thought his actions would kill so many people. In Israel, she met many Jews and debated Eichmann's deed with them. However, nobody agrees with her opinion. They just say Eichmann should be hanged. Coming back to New York, she and her friends debate why Eichmann would do that and what made him do that. One of her friends, Hans Jonas, is strongly against her opinion. Despite many doubts, she writes down what she saw in the trial and tries to figure out why Eichmann would do that.

After the article came out, Hannah Arendt was criticized by many Jewish public figures wondering how come a Jew defended Eichmann, the massive murderer. Most Jewish people accuse her of defending Eichmann, and after the article is



▲ A couple of Israeli secret agents kidnap Adolf Eichmann who was a German Nazi SS-lieutenant colonel and one of the major organizers of the Holocaust.



▲ Arendt wants to attend the trial, so she suggests to a magazine called "The New Yorker" that she write an article about his trial for the magazine.



▲ Arendt notes that Eichmann continually argues he is innocent by saying he just followed his commanders' orders.



▲ After the article came out, Hannah Arendt was criticized by many Jewish public figures.



▲ Arendt wants to reveal her "real" meaning of the article which most Jewish people could have known if they had read the article thoroughly.




▲ Many other people break off relations with Arendt, aside from a few friends and family members. She eventually had no one around her until she died.

controversial, she is asked to leave the college where she works. She rejects the resignation, but she wants to reveal her "real" meaning of the article which most Jewish people could have known if they read the article thoroughly. In her lecture, she says "this trial was about a new type of crime which did not previously exist. A court had to define Eichmann as a man on trial for his deeds. It was not a system or an ideology that was on trial, only a man. But Eichmann was a man who renounced all qualities of personhood, thus showing that great evil is committed by "nobodies" without motives or intentions." She never argued Eichmann was innocent, but said he just obeyed orders without thinking it would be catastrophic because he was "unable to think," which is she called the "banality of evil." After the lecture, her friend Hans came to her and said he thought she changed her mind, but she did not, so he breaks off relations with her. Many other people do as well, aside from a few friends and family members, she eventually has no one around her until she died.

Banality of evil

The concept of the banality of evil is introduced in Hannah Arendt's book named "Eichmann in Jerusalem." She came up with its concept when she was at Adolf Eichmann's trial and saw Eichmann continually argue he could not foresee the massacre his actions would bring but he just followed his boss's command. Her thesis is that "Eichmann was not a fanatic or sociopath, but an extremely average person who relied on cliched defenses rather than thinking for himself and was motivated by professional promotion rather than ideology.

Banality, in this sense, is not that Eichmann's actions were ordinary, or that there is a potential Eichmann in all of us, but that his actions were motivated by a sort of stupidity which was wholly unexceptional." She never denied that Eichmann was an anti-Semite, nor that he was fully responsible for his actions, but argued that these characteristics were secondary to his stupidity.

Oxy might have known about the toxicity of the humidifier sterilizer but they would not have had the intention to kill people. They just thought of the immediate benefits but did not think of the catastrophe their product would make, which actually took over 100 people's lives. They did because they were "unable to think." If they had been able to foresee that their product's toxicity would kill people, 100 people would not have to have died. Likewise, if someone fails to think, it might lead to a catastrophe, which can be prevented if someone is able to think. So, we should always try to think about what results our actions may yield, and try to avoid the banality of evil. 



© Amazon.com

▲ In Arendt's reporting of the 1961 Adolf Eichmann trial for The New Yorker, which evolved into Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil (1963), she coined the phrase "the banality of evil" to describe the phenomenon of Eichmann.

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As the Humanities Fall Apart, So Does Korea's Education

By Park Ji-yeon

Editorial Consultant

When former President Lee Myung-bak emphasized South Korea's role in Northeast Asia, several departments related to Northeast Asia studies sprang up on universities. Similarly, when President Park Geun-hye stressed fusion at the beginning of her term, college students witnessed the establishment of several departments of fusion studies.


However, to make the debuts of such departments possible, many departments within the humanities had to either cut down student numbers or shut down completely to make space for the new majors.

Humanities majors are facing yet another cutback, due to the Ministry of Education's (MOE) new project this time. The so-called PRIME Project will increase the quotas for colleges of science and engineering while downsizing -once more- the departments in the humanities.

The MOE says the goal of the large-scale PRIME Project is to meet societal needs in the job market which is apparently concentrated on science and engineering. However, the ministry is forgetting the ultimate goal of universities: to fulfill students' genuine curiosity in various fields through professional education. Rather, the MOE seems to have mistaken itself for the Ministry of Employment and Labor, as it pushes universities to be the final piece in the troubled job-market puzzle. There are voices saying that the MOE should hand over the job-market task to the appropriate organization and take a step away from the education of humanities majors.

Nevertheless, the humanities have already long lost their standing due to not only the MOE policies, but also because of the former and incumbent president's preference for certain majors, as noted previously. Because it is mostly the "useless" humanities departments that face cutbacks on campus, the humanities have been losing their place within South Korean society as well. It has been several years since people started noticing "the fall of the humanities."

Another problem with the continuous department closings is that there have been no conversations or prior settlements reached between college administrations and students in most cases. In other words, students who planned to pursue their interests in the humanities face an abrupt notice that their major no longer exists in the middle of the semester. When considering the fact that students are one of the most important members of a campus, such unilateral communication sounds unreal, but that is how South Korean universities work.

Overall, South Korean colleges and the government should consider a more agreeable and sensible move when dealing with the humanities. Most of all, they should first give the humanities a place to stand on campus as it should be, instead of only "priming" the skills that company employers want from students. 

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The World Keeps Coming Back to Korea

Entering “2016-2018 Visit Korea Year,” the Korean government is expecting a number of foreign tourists. Thanks to the amazing popularity of Hallyu, lots of tourists were attracted to Korea. In fact, foreign tourists are easily found near Myeong-dong or Dongdaemun station.

However, there is a question posed over and over: would they visit Korea again? Only 35 percent of foreign tourists answered “Yes” to this question while the result of Japan was over 80 percent. This shows that their visit to Korea had left unpleasant memories such as overcharging and unkindness.

As an effort to improve satisfaction of Korean tourism through both quantitative and qualitative growth, the Visit Korea Committee is running the “K-smile Campaign” with the help of 200 National Smile Teams. When finding the National Smile Team, tourists can ask for help, and Koreans can participate in the Ksmile campaign by simply making a promise to be kind to foreigners. To make the world come back to Korea, one small smile can change the path of the Korean tourism industry with K-smile Campaign.

Lee Mi-yeon

Dept. of International Economics and Law '14

The Argus: My Genuine English Teacher

One of the most beneficial features of The Argus, as a devoted reader, is improving my English abilities. The Argus is a superior magazine as not only a medium for reporting the campus news but also an excellent textbook to study English. Personally, I did my best to memorize the entire articles by reading it repeatedly.

Thanks to refined and concise sentences of The Argus, I could enhance my English skill through the process, especially reading, writing and speaking. In addition, I could get a lot of campus issues and pay attention to them. Ultimately, I could raise a sense of sovereignty as a HUFSan. I am sure that The Argus, as a magazine published by undergraduate students, is the best English magazine. I can verify this through the history of The Argus and the abundant articles. As one of the devoted readers of The Argus, I hope to see more of its splendid work in the future.

Lee Sang-woo

Dept. of Arabic '15

- 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.

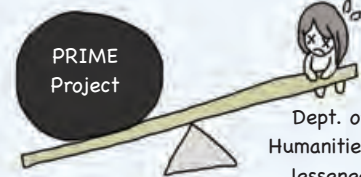
The Sorrow as a Humanities Student

When I passed the college entrance exam, I was happy because I can study what I want.



Finally...!!

However, I realized that the importance of what I want to study is getting smaller in the current society.



"I feel I am disappearing. Is this right?"



fmr

Park Ji-hyun

Dept. of English Linguistics '10

The Argus Editorial Epilogue of Spring Semester

Editor-in-Chief



Jang Eun-ae

A long marathon is over. The Argusians have run together to create new issues every month enthusiastically. All of The Argus issues were made possible through our sweat, tears and efforts. I really want to say thank you to my reporters and people who helped create The Argus. If it had not been for them, I could not have done it.

Editorial Consultants



Kang Young-joon

It has been three years and a half since I joined The Argus as a cub-reporter. I have been feeling satisfied when I see someone reading our magazine even though it is really hard to work as a campus reporter. So I would like to have more readers for our efforts not to be wasted.



Park Ji-yeon

This issue marks my last issue as a student Argusian. I have looked into countless issues in society and on campus during the last four years; I was lucky to work for The Argus! I hope The Argus keeps the spirit. :)

Associate Editors



Byeon Hee-jin

This semester, we have gone through tough times. However, just like the saying “United we stand, divided we fall,” we made it to the June issue through the Argusians’ teamwork! I want to give a big applause for all Argusians, including myself.



Lee Jae-won

I remember saying “Run away!” to juniors of The Argus as a staff reporter at the end of last year. It was also to myself. Now, however, I am still an Argusian. Thank you to all my colleagues and myself who did not finally run away.

Staff Reporter



Byun Hee-jin

Being a journalist is very tough. Sometimes, you suffer from finding a suitable item, writing an article you do not want, and getting correct information from the interviewee. Every editorial conference was a forum of debate where I could learn logic and neutrality. I am proud of myself that I have successfully written meaningful articles throughout the semester.

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The Argus Issues During Spring Semester



Thank you for having interest in The Argus every month and joining quizzes. This is the last issue of the spring semester. We will come back in September. See you!

HOW TO ENTER

1. Read The Argus articles.
2. Solve the puzzle.
3. Send the puzzle through Kakaotalk or a facebook message.
4. Win 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 6월호의 당첨자가 되어보세요!





The Argus

www.theargus.org