

The Argus

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Since 1954



What Keeps This Watchdog's Eyes Closed?



Cover Story

Freedom of the Press vs. Defamation: Which One Is Right?

Culture Trip

Yearning for a Definition of Youth at YOUTH

Dating on Sunday

EPC for Two Years in a Row, What Changes Will They Bring?

Eye of The Argus

Claw Machine Centers, a Cultural Trend?



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

The Argus

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- *President and Publisher* Prof. Kim In-chul
- *Executive Editor* Prof. Choi Yo-sop
- *Editor-in-Chief* Lee Jae-won (H-3)
- *Editorial Consultant* Byeon Hee-jin (JLC-3)
- *Associate Editor* Lee Sei-yeon (DEL-2)
- *Guest Reporter* Shim Kyu-han (EC-2)
- *Copy Readers*

Prof. Brandon Walcutt

Prof. Merrilee Brinegar

Prof. Michael Heinz

107, Imun-ro, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Korea
(Postal Code 02450)

Tel: (02) 2173-2508 Fax: 2173-2509

81, Oedae-ro, Mohyeon-myeon, Cheoin-gu Yongin, Gyeonggi
Province, Korea

(Postal Code 17035) Tel: (031) 330-4113

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Editorial

The Well-trained Dog


“Will the editor-in-chief or the school president cancel my story?” As a staff reporter of The Argus, I had this question in mind when I wrote a story that criticizes the school. Not only I, but many other journalists probably have been faced with this fear.

Actually, journalists from all over the world can criticize the powerful when it is necessary because freedom of the press is guaranteed to us by law. If so, why do we worry as if there is no freedom of the press? A journalist for a small American newspaper mentioned his experience as a reporter for a major newspaper in Washington D.C. “I wrote an article, but my editor refused to publish it because he thought it might ‘offend’ a large corporation that spends a lot of money advertising in the paper,” he said. “So, the press is free under the law. But is it really free? I do not think so.”

The editor censored the journalist’s article. I always hoped nobody would censor my story. As I became the Editor-in-Chief of this magazine, however, I unfortunately went through the situations that I wanted to avoid. Do you want to know who censored The Argus? It was me!

When we published articles against the school’s actions, I wondered whether or not I should change some expressions that might make the school feel “uncomfortable” even though they did not ask me to do so. Of course we did not lose our passion for criticizing the university; looking back, I regret censoring myself.

George Orwell wrote, “Circus dogs jump when the trainer cracks his whip, but the really well-trained dog is the one that [acts] when there is no whip.” Self-censorship, as seen in my case, is far more effective than official censorship, as shown in the Washington journalist’s experience. The latter takes a trainer to let journalists follow his guideline. But with the former, the journalists act without the trainer’s guidance. Under this self-censorship, the reporters never write stories that “anger” their editors or media outlets. Then they think there is no censorship. But it is not true.

On May 9, the nation’s new president was elected after former President Park Geun-hye’s impeachment. As you already know, most national press had not properly criticized the government before Park’s corruption scandal occurred. Did the government censor their articles? No. The press acted “when there was no whip.” From now on, the press must perform their basic role to watch those in power. The Argus will also strive to be really free. The well-trained dogs must not exist anymore. 

Lee J.W

Lee Jae-won
Editor-in-Chief



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>> Freedom of the press means that the press including newspapers, magazines, and also the Internet can freely express their ideas and opinions. But sometimes this freedom happens to collide with the problem of defaming someone's reputation. Which one is more important between freedom of the press and protection of someone's fame? To solve this difficult question, The Argus has explored into a recent example—the Sankei Newspaper of Japan's report on impeached President Park Geun-hye's mysterious seven hours—showing how we should react to situations in which these two rights come into conflict with each other.

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▲ Participants and university authorities including HUFS President Kim In-chul (third from right) smile in the anniversary.

HUFS Celebrates 4.19 Revolution

HUFS commemorated the 57th anniversary of the 4.19 Revolution on April 18 to reflect on the revolution's meaning and pay a tribute to the deceased heroes of the movement.

In the event held at the Faculty Office Building, HUFS President Kim In-chul paid his respects to the fallen during the revolution, stating that they served as the wellspring from which South Korea sprung forth.


The chairman of the 4.19 Revolution Comrade Party, Yoo Je-bong emphasized that the ceremony is meaningful in that it celebrates the movement, which has proven to be a watershed moment in the nation's democratic development.

"We commend those who sacrificed their lives in the struggle against the tyranny and corruption of the dictatorial government of the past and gain inspiration from their struggle," said

Yoo. "Also, April 19, 1960 is the day when liberal democracy won its first victory in South Korean history."

The university also awarded two students scholarship certificates known as 4.19 Revolution Scholarships. The two selected HUFs are Shin Yoo-hyun (Business Administration '14) and Ji Yoo-jin (Dept. of Romanian '16).

After the ceremony, participants looked around at the monument for the 4.19 Revolution placed at the school, contemplating the significance of the democratic revolution.

The 4.19 Revolution occurred on April 19, 1960 in opposition to acts of election fraud committed by then-South Korean President Rhee Syngmyn who tried to continue his dictatorship. As a result of the revolution, the president resigned in the same year after 12 years of autocratic rule. 


Sexual Harassment at English College under Investigation

Student representatives of the College of English (CE) are currently in a process of figuring out details regarding sexual harassment issues at their college.

There was an unidentified online post on March 18 through the HUFS Bamboo Forest Facebook page saying that a considerable number of female students had been appalled by the regular sexual harassment received by CE students via Kakao Talk.

This issue was discussed at the annual student meeting on March 23. Following this meeting, two separate departmental professor meetings occurred on March 24 and 27 to further discuss the matter.

To resolve some of the damage, Lee Jae-chan, the student president of Dept. of English Literature and Culture Studies, who was deeply involved in this issue, resigned from his position on March 30. HUFS is now on its way to reach a decision on this matter.


Jeong Im-yong, chief of the electoral council for re-election of CE representatives said, "We, those in charge of the CE are attentive to this issue, are ready to deal with anything that might happen and are cooperating with the university." 

HUFS Signs the Linguistic Mentoring Agreement with Dongdaemun-gu

The president of HUFS, Kim In-chul, signed an agreement with the commissioner of Dongdaemun-gu in the Main Building of HUFS on March 20.

The agreement is for a program that supports free foreign language study for elementary and middle school students. Students can study English, Chinese or Japanese one-on-one with a foreigner.

The local government promised to build a library and make a space that not only students, but also residents can use. Construction of the space is supposed to be completed by September of 2018.

It is expected to be the first educational model program developed through an agreement between a public organization and a university. 




▲ HUFS President Kim In-chul (R) holds a certificate of the mentoring agreement with the head of the Dongdaemun-gu Office. (L)

EPC Established for Two Consecutive Years on Seoul Campus

The Emergency Planning Committee (EPC) of Seoul Campus got in charge of the student body for the second time in the university history on March 24. Baek Yu-jin and Nam Hang-yul became the president and vice president, respectively.


The EPC is formed when the election of General Student Council (GSC) members is thwarted due to a lack of candidates or too few votes. This year, there were not any candidates for the GSC president, so the EPC went over voting within their own ranks to choose Baek Yu-jin and Nam Hang-yul for the president and vice president.

According to the EPC president and vice president, the EPC plans to tackle issues such as course registration, alcohol presence at HUFS festivals and the creation of a positive environment until November, when the presidential election of GSC reopens. 

Student Booked without Detention for Water, Cola Attack

A student enrolled at HUFS was booked without detention for sprinkling water and cola on female students at various places on Seoul Campus on April 6.


A Dongdaemun police investigation is underway to determine his mental stability.

The witnesses and victimized students explained the situation through HUFS Bamboo Forest Facebook page. “While crossing the street at the main gate, a man suddenly sprinkled water on my face. I was so upset, but was relieved that it was not a dangerous substance,” reported a female student. 

IC Goes Over Recent Molestation Case

The Investigation Committee (IC) of the Seoul Campus is now investigating a sexual molestation case which took place on Nov. 22, 2016.

The former Emergency Planning Committee (EPC) of the Seoul Campus announced on its Facebook account, “Early exposure of information before a settlement is prohibited. A Disciplinary Committee will be held depending on the results of the inquiry, and we will notify appropriate parties if there are developments.”

Lee Seul, president of the former EPC and a member of the IC, mentioned, “The committee is comprised of the university vice president, the chief of Gender Sexuality Issues, a gender counselor, respective male and female members of the Office of Academic Affairs, Faculties and HUFSAans.” 

HUFS Holds Its 36th World Cup



©Jean Nu-ri/The Argus

▲ Players from the College of English and the Dept. of International Economics & Law play the final match of the HUFS World Cup.

The 36th HUFS World Cup began on March 27 and ended on April 6. Thirty-one teams were divided into four groups and played the game. The score of the final match was tied so the game went into overtime. Ultimately, the College of English won by a score of 3 to 2. Besides the top two, the Dept. of Economics and the Dept. of French scored well. 📖

HUFS Fosters Use of Its English Name

HUFS is planning to put the ‘HUFS’ name more often as globalization has become important. The bottom line is that HUFS will not change its name from ‘Hankuk Oe Dae’ to HUFS, nor will it use HUFS as its official name.

There was an online article about this on March 31 by the Hankook Ilbo. However, the reported information that HUFS is going to change its name turned out to be misreported.

Im Dae-geun, director of Public Relations, said, “As globalization has opened up more markets for us, we aim to prompt the use of our acronym, not only here in Korea, but also abroad.” 📖

Smart Library to Open in 2018

The construction of the HUFS smart library with a high-tech system is scheduled for completion by Sept. 2018.

According to the Construction Planning Team, discussion of the library’s interior design, including some arrangements and floor plans, will be completed by mid-May. The one year of work on the building is expected to begin this summer. During this process, the main library of the Seoul Campus will be relocated to the basement of the Cyber Building. 📖

Supreme Court Library President Lectures on Software Age



©Cho Jae-won/The Argus

▲ Kang Min-koo, the president of Supreme Court Library Korea makes an opening speech prior to his lecture.

The president of the Supreme Court library, Kang Min-koo, gave a lecture on the ideal approach towards the Law Department’s upcoming changes on March 31 at the Seoul Campus. The lecture was for students and teachers to stay aware of our rapidly changing society and to suggest the actions they may take in such an environment.

The president said that in the coming years, Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology will be dominant and that our society will become more software-oriented.

He warned the audience that “obsession over familiarity can result in falling behind,” noting that it is important to become comfortable with technology in order to adjust to this software era.

To show how much technology has advanced, the lecturer introduced a voice recognition note taking service, Evernote, and underscored the unchanging importance of writing in the forthcoming era.

“We need to stay conscious of the new wave of change, and have inquisitive minds to innovate,” said Kang. 📖

Our First Challenge as Adults

By Park Beom-ju, Jeon Nu-ri

Cub Reporters

Life as a university student is very busy. Despite this, many students work part-time. The Argus wondered what kind of part-time jobs HUFSans hold and what the good and bad points of working as a part-timer are. Four HUFSans shared their own experiences with The Argus.



Oh Se-jeong, Korea, Dept. of Mongolian '17

Now, I am doing a part-time job at the family restaurant that is close to my house. When I make some mistakes and cause harm to my clients, I feel stressed. Sometimes I feel that my clientes do not respect me. And I work on the weekend, so there are some limitations on my daily life. I cannot hang out with my friends and cannot spend time for myself when I want to. Lately, however, when I get a salary I feel it is worthwhile. On this payday, I ate out with my family and I paid for the wonderful dinner!



Lee Suk-kyeong, Korea, Turkish and Azerbaijani '15

Cafes and academies are the places where I worked my part-time jobs. I worked as an assistant in an academy. There, I made many kinds of friends and experienced how society works. However, every coin has two sides. I had some difficulties when I worked. I had to manage my eating time. I even heard, "Thirty minutes is not enough time to eat?" It was so stressful that I did not want to go there. But with the students, I enjoyed what I did. When I went there again after I quit my job, I was surprised! They all remembered and welcomed me.



Kim So-yeon, Korea, Business Administration Division '15

My part time jobs were all related to English. I did private lessons, and I taught students at an academy. I loved to do private lessons because the time I spent with my students was lovely and sharing my knowledge was great. However, going to the place we studied was so tough. It was time consuming and expensive. But because of my job, I got to know about money. Different from what I thought, earning money on my own is hard and tough. I hope I can do other kinds of part-time jobs like cleaning the windows at Lotte World.



Gwak Ji-hyeon, Korea, Division of International Studies '16

I work part-time at a restaurant named "Roll & Pasta." It is a fusion version of the restaurant called "Gimbap Heaven." The most difficult and hardest part is dealing with rude customers. Some discourteous customers treat me like a servant. Some speak carelessly and make me deal with tiny things, just because I am a part-timer. However, since I work at a gimbap restaurant, I am able to make gimbap very well. I feel truly awesome when customers say the food was sincerely delicious upon leaving the restaurant. 🍱

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



By Lee Jae-won
Editor-in-Chief
gh10117@hufs.ac.kr

Review: The 19th Presidential Election of South Korea

For The Argus readers, we publish a comparison table on the strong and weak points of the major candidates for the May 9 presidential election. Even if you see this table after the election, it might help you understand how these candidates were strong and weak in becoming the new president. 🇰🇷

	Party	Strong points	Weak points
 Moon Jae-in	Democratic Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most stable support ratings among candidates Impression that his qualities have been already verified in the 2012 presidential election 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doubts about his ability to accommodate non-liberal voters Conservatives' worries about his sense of national security (ex) refusal to call N.K. 'main enemy'
 Ahn Cheol-soo	People's Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience as an anti-virus company's CEO, helpful to prepare for the fourth industrial revolution Possibility for most anti-Moon alliances to support Ahn to stop Moon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambiguous political stances Has not proven his ability to steer the country's affairs
 Hong Joon-pyo	Liberty Korea Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Image as a strong conservative Career an ex-South Gyeongsang governor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-progress trial over his bribery charge Controversies over words and past events (ex) help his friend to rape a woman using a pig stimulant
 Yoo Seong-min	Bareun Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise an economist Image as a flexible conservative, acceptable to non-conservatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservative rival has higher support, resulting in his low approval ratings Pressure by his party for candidacy merger
 Sim Sang-jeung	Justice Party	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special position as a progressive candidate The most progressive position about rights for sexual minorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low approval ratings Image as an obstinate politician



FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

VS.

DEFAMATION

: WHICH ONE IS RIGHT?

By Lee Jae-won
Editor-in-Chief

“What caused this situation in South Korea is the press which did not perform their role,” said Choi Seung-ho, a producer of the Korean news outlet, NewsTapa when the massive corruption scandal involving former President Park Geun-hye broke out.

The main role of journalism is to watch those in power and prevent them from abusing their power. Producer Choi would say the press, which does not criticize those in positions of power, especially in the government, has made it easier for them to abuse their power. Then why did the press fail to level criticism against the government?

Reporters Without Borders, an international journalism group, figured out the answer to this question, mentioning, “Criminal defamation is the main cause for the media’s self-censorship by which one is able to be sentenced to seven years at most in prison.” Fundamentally, the press can enjoy freedom of the press by our constitution in which the press has to freely publish different ideas and opinions. However, since the media coverage may be defamatory in some regard when they criticize the administration, the media hesitates to condemn the government because they fear the possibility of being punished with a defamation suit.

On May 9, the new president of South Korea was elected after Park’s impeachment. Contending with the new government, the press must do their best to perform their role. The Argus has come to the conclusion that we need to know about how we should judge whether a report is regarded as defamation when there is the collision between freedom of the press and defamation. In this way, we can try to prevent the same situation like now from recurring, letting the press fulfill their obligation. A recent key example showing this clash is the Japanese newspaper Sankei’s report on the seven hours impeached President Park was missing.



▲ Former President Park says, "Is it really difficult to find students even though they wear life jackets?" at the National Emergency Management Agency.

Sankei's report on Park's unknown whereabouts

Collecting then-chief secretary of former President Park, Kim Ki-choon's words at the National Assembly's planning committee on July 7, 2014, Park acknowledged the situation of the Sewol ferry disaster at 9:19 a.m. on the day of the disaster and received a written report about the facts of the accident at 10 a.m. At 5:10 p.m., only then did Park appear at the National Emergency Management Agency. Until then, she neither received any face-to-face reports nor held emergency meetings, but only received reports via telephone, fax or documents. While the national disaster occurred, the president did not officially appear for seven hours.

Concerning the uncertainty surrounding Park's missing hours, Gato Tatsya, a former Sankei Newspaper's Seoul Bureau Chief, published an article in August 2014 titled, "President Park missing on the day when the ferry sank... Who did she meet on the day?"

The article put forward the question of Park's affairs for those seven hours, quoting gossip and a column of Chosun Ilbo. He proceeded in his writing, adding his own comments to gossip and a rumor quoted from

Chosun Ilbo's column, saying, "President Park stayed with a person with whom she secretly had contact with on the day of the ferry accident." The debatable parts of his article are as below.

"According to an official in the securities industry, it [the rumor] is about President Park and a man." (...) "Park's 'secret contact' might refer to Chung [Chung Yoon-hoi]. But this story is not simple since Park is said to 'have a close relation not with Chung but with Choi [Choi Tae-min], Chung's father-in-law' according to a reliable source from the political world. (...) I do not know what this [the story concerning Park] is specifically. Nonetheless, I write this article with a restless feeling from the halls and surroundings of South Korean power."

Afterwards, some organizations including loveDokdo, accused Gato of libel against Park, after which he was questioned by the prosecution. However, a South Korean court finally ruled that Gato was not guilty.

While Sankei's report basically has freedom of the press, is Sankei's report really regarded as defamation? The Argus thinks that Sankei's report cannot be considered as defamation and it should rather be considered freedom of the press. Let us look at specific details on these questions below.

Freedom of the press and defamation

First of all, we have to be aware of the meanings of freedom of the press and the crime of defamation. Check how these two concepts are explained in legal terms below.

1. Freedom of the press

Freedom of the press is a fundamental right guaranteed by the South Korean Constitution. It means freedom to



©Chosun Ilbo

▶ Gato Tatsya appears for questioning by prosecutors.

express one's thoughts or opinions. Article 21, Clause 1 of the constitution says, "Every person has freedom of the press and publication." Clause 4 of the same article says, "The freedom of the press and publication should not injure others' fame or right, public order, or social ethics." In other words, the press basically has freedom of the press, but their right is secured only when they do not violate these three tenets.

The media report on Park's missing hours is related to "others' fame" among the above three conditions. Therefore, for the press report on the missing hours to be accepted as freedom of the press, they must be proved to not have defamed Park Geun-hye. This leads us to a discussion about what defamation is.

2. Defamation in legal terms

South Korea specifies defamation in criminal law. When a person publicly declares a fact, injuring someone's fame, it is considered defamation (Article 307, Clause 1 of criminal law). If the declared fact is false, the suspect shall get aggravated punishment (Article 307, Clause 2 of criminal law). In addition, if the suspect had an intention to condemn others, the suspect shall receive additional punishment depending on the authenticity of the declared fact (Article 309 of criminal law).

Shown below are the requirements for defamation. (Specific explanations for the requirements are attributed

to Lee Jae-sang's book, "Particulars of Criminal Law.")

(1) Whether making public (Article 307, Clause 1 and 2)

This requirement refers to an issue about spreading information to the majority. Defamation is established when one publicly declares a fact/falsehood, resulting in the majority's recognition of the fact/falsehood.

(2) Declaration of fact

For defamation by a press report to be accepted as defamation in a legal sense, there must be a statement of specific facts sufficient to reduce the victim's social apprehension.

Looking at the clauses of criminal law, the veracity of the stated facts does not affect the seriousness of the defamation case brought against someone. When the statements are true, they fall under Article 307, Clause 1, and when they are false, they fall under Article 307, Clause 2.

(3) Intention

Intention to damage someone's fame is required for defamation to exist. For this, intention includes willful negligence.

* Reason for precluding illegality by Article 310 of criminal law

Article 310 of criminal law deals with a special reason for precluding the illegality of defamation. It says that

▼ Families of Sewol ferry victims call for an investigation into Park's mysterious seven hours before her impeachment.





▲ The South Korean Constitutional Court denies lawmaker Jung's request for constitutional trial.

if you have sincere proof that the declared fact is for the public good, defamation as a crime is not established even when you damage someone's reputation.

Thus, a report becomes free from defamation if it is in the public interest, while still subject to a libel charge.

Freedom of the press and defamation regarding Park's mysterious 7 hours report

We have looked into what freedom of the press and defamation are and how they are enshrined in law.

Sankei's article on Park's missing seven hours has "spread information to the majority" (first requirement) and has "statements of specific facts sufficient to reduce the victim's social apprehension," quoted from the rumor (second requirement) while we do not know it also has an intention to damage Park's fame.

Now it is time for us to discuss whether Sankei's article could be regarded as freedom of the press or defamation. To develop this debate, we have to answer two issues: 1) Did the report on Park's being missing for seven hours damage Park's reputation? To the first question, the answer is "Yes." The report meets two requirements of defamation. And 2) if it did, is it in the public utility to disclose the details? Only when it is in the public utility, it has a reason for precluding illegality by Article 310.

The Argus would like to introduce a trial of the Korean Constitutional Court, which could be a clue for the second question.

A constitution trial proposed by Jung In-su
(Lawmaker of Gangwon provincial assembly)

A lawmaker of the third Gangwon provincial assembly, Jung In-su, as a part of his council activity, delivered his letter to a staff member at the North Korean Embassy for cooperation in several businesses, including sister relations, between the provincial assembly and the North Korean Gangwon provincial council. However, there were some excessive expressions of lament in the letter about the founder of North Korea, Kim Il-sung's death. The Kangwon Ilbo posted a total of 17 articles from April 9, 1995 to Sept. 6, saying that lawmaker Jung sent his letter of mourning on the deceased dictator's death and he is being questioned by the police and prosecution. In regard to this, Jung filed a libel suit against the newspaper, but the court exempted the suspect, dropping the charge against him. After having gone through two appeals against the judgment, Jung submitted a constitutional petition, but the Constitutional Court rejected his request for trial, ruling as follows.

"When interpreting or applying the positive law concerning media outlets' defamatory expressions,

in a situation of adjusting two conflicting rights: freedom of the press and protection of reputation, you should consider the circumstances. In other words, we need to set limits to freedom of the press after typically considering a proportionate relationship between two opposing rights depending on their details and ways of expression, integrating points including: whether the victim defamed by the concerned expression is a public or private person, whether the expression is about public interest or pure private interest, and whether the expression contributes to forming public opinion or public debate as a fact worthy of people's awareness as one containing publicness and sociality. We should draw a distinction between a public and a private person, and between a public and a private interest. Furthermore, as in this case, the restriction on defamatory expressions related to a public figure's public activity should be eased."

From the example above, the Constitutional Court mentioned that it is unlikely that a libel charge will be invoked because of a media's coverage of defamatory expressions if it deals with an issue of public interest about a public person.

Sankei's report on the impeached president's seven-hour absence is no different from the one from Kangwon Ilbo. Park Geun-hye was a public official (the president) at that time, and what Sankei calls into question is what the president did during her office hours. In addition, the public interest of the report, which is the reason for

precluding illegality, is also confirmed because people deserve to know about Park's unknown whereabouts for seven hours, which is connected to the controversy over the president's responsibility in a national catastrophic situation.

To sum up, even though the report on Park's mysterious hours contains defamatory expressions, we cannot prove it is libel. That is because the report argues not about a 'private person' Park Geun-hye but President Park's official duties; additionally, it meets the need of public interest, which is essential to be clear from libel charge according to criminal law.


The court's decision on Sankei's report

After the prosecution's investigation over Gato's libel charge, the Seoul Central District Court ruled that he was not guilty. The justice department clearly noted, "What Gato mentioned is definitely false" but ruled as follows.

"Even though its [Gato's article] criticism of the president's duty is based on a false rumor, we cannot say that defamation of President Park Geun-hye is directly established by this concerned news. [Gato's article] is seen to have hurt the honor of Park as a private person." That is, a 'public person' Park's reputation was not damaged while the 'private person' Park was injured.

"The president's activity on the day of the Sewol ferry disaster corresponds to an issue of public interest," the department added. "[Sankei's] way of using information related to a rumor is inappropriate; however, the details of the rumor themselves are relevant to the issue of public interest. Freedom of the press in reporting on this rumor should be widely recognized."

In conclusion, the department ruled that Gato was not guilty. Why? Because his report on the rumor about Park is seen as a public person's issue of public interest. While not being considered defamation, the report also conforms to freedom of the press.

Now, we have found the final answer to our question. Reports suspected of libel should be regarded as freedom of the press if they deal with a 'public person's issue of public interest.' 



▲ Reporters take a photo of Gato who arrives at the press conference after he is ruled not guilty.

gh10117@hufs.ac.kr

To HUFSans: Are We Really Safe?

By Byeon Hee-jin
Editorial Consultant

The times of harsh weather have gone, and now students on campus are enjoying the warm weather. However, some safety issues are hindering this joyful time. Starting in April, the safety issue on the Seoul Campus has risen with the capture of two suspects. One of them poured water and coke on random female students and the other attacked a student. This all happened during the day time, when everyone generally feels safe. Anxiety is arising in a place where people should always feel safe. 🇰🇷

angelatheb@hufs.ac.kr





YEARNING FOR A DEFINITION OF YOUTH AT YOUTH

© Lee Sei-yon / The Argus

By Lee Sei-yon


Associate Editor of Culture Section

There is a special exhibition that closes at the end of this month on May 28. An art exhibition titled “YOUTH” is being held at the D Museum in Hannam-dong, Seoul. In line with its title, it displays the most representative works of 28 artists who have attracted world-wide attention with the dynamic energy that is unique to the younger generation. Their artworks represent the essence of what can be defined as the youth culture. What is more, in the first three weeks after its opening, the exhibition exceeded fifty thousand visitors and half of the visitors were in their twenties. This clearly exemplifies its success in embodying its youthful theme into the exhibit hall. Left with only one more month of exhibition, The Argus made a special visit to the YOUTH, and

examined how the cultural code shared among the youth was handled and the reaction of young visitors toward it.

Introduction to the exhibition “YOUTH”

From Feb. 9 to May 28, the D Museum will house the YOUTH exhibition, which demonstrates the core elements of the youth culture. This exhibition consists of two sections. In the first section, 240 pieces, including 200 photographs and 25 images, are exhibited to provide a glimpse into the multi-faceted emotions that coexist within the youth generation, such as a strong desire for deviance, freedom, rebellion and passion. The second section contains photographs and video works that convey the optimistic sensibility of the beautiful, heart-throbbing youth.



On the first floor (M1) lies section one: records of staggering youth and its deviations

As The Argus approached the museum, a mob of a formidable size queued up in front of the ticket box. The already-saturated row of waiting visitors elongated endlessly as more people arrived and lined up. Frightened by the ever-growing line, some people turned away in disappointment.

A. First Impression on youth's frustration

Upon entering the first section of the exhibition, chaos unfolded. Amidst the pitch-black space, black and white pictures of intimidating youths, at the peak of their adolescence, hung against barbed wire walls. The spaces between the artworks were decorated with small televisions broadcasting lively youth in action and skateboards—the symbol of their free-spirited personalities and deviant behaviors.

People widened their eyes as they stepped into the madhouse. After a few flickers of the eyes, they quickly pulled out their phones, framed their shots, and pressed the shutters. The series of photo-taking by nearly all the visitors in the room greatly contributed to making the madhouse even more mad. Out of all the sights, the one thing that captivated the audience the most was the yellow-colored neon signs that read, “Only you think I am gorgeous.” Directed at their parents, the straightforward and sarcastic messages seem to emit the rebellious nature of the young generation. People gathered around the neon signs and busily took photos like paparazzi in an unofficial photo zone.

B. Frustrated by the photo-obsessed youth

Walking along the wired passageway, motion pictures flashed by beneath the footsteps of visitors. The young spectators happily posed on the screen and faced the camera for their shots. Such frequent stops within the narrow corridor engendered a temporary yet continual traffic jam. Swept by the swarm of mad photographers, it was difficult to maintain the spontaneous speed needed to appreciate each artwork.

As the photo-holic generation took shots of the photogenic exhibition, The Argus wondered about their purposes for visiting the museum. The elderly often advised the young to take as many pictures as they can of the present. The youth today seem to obey that advice more faithfully than needed. The true meaning of photos does not lie in the quantity, but in capturing a memorable moment in life that would present a sense of reminiscence in the future. With that being said, are we taking qualitative—not quantitative—pictures in true remembrance of the must-remember moments?

C. Frustrated message of the exhibit

Reaching the middle of the first section, a series of long vertical bars besieged the visitors within a circular space. Two large screens projected two lively strips of videos. One of the videos showed young people playing a rhythmic piece of hip-hop music. Some young photographers put down their cameras and made small dance moves along with the groove.

At the end of the first floor, works were displayed on easel-like structures whose size was beyond that of a typical easel. Their radical size seemed to originate from the intention to express the extra-ordinary and out-of-the-box characteristics



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▲ A young woman on the right takes a photo of the artworks displayed on enormous easel-like structures.

of the youth.

The Argus asked a woman why she was taking pictures of the enormous easels. She answered that she does not have a reason. Then, The Argus encountered a middle-aged woman who looked at the young people with much interest. “The exhibition itself is wonderful, but what is more is the culture of the youth enjoying the exhibition. They are so immersed in taking photos of not just the displays, but also of themselves,” she replied.

It was profoundly unnerving to hover over the exhibition and fail to understand the message that the exhibition wanted to express. The Argus asked a female agent in her twenties about her opinion on the exhibition. She said she cannot empathize with it because it mainly deals with foreign youths and their youth culture. Fair enough, the foreign aspects do strike a difference between how youths behave on one continent and on another. Nonetheless, the first section seemed to imply that youth cannot be fundamentally explained without frustration, deviance and despair. That commonality can certainly be shared across countries. Unfortunately, it seemed that no one had received the message, yet.



On the second floor (M2) lies section two: heartfelt moments of beautiful youth

On the stairs leading up to the second floor, people continued to take pictures. In turn, a line formed in front of the staircase. Awaiting the photographers on the stairs, The Argus approached two females who were also waiting. Erika, a 20-year-old Japanese girl, commented that the exhibition is “fashionable.” She explained, “It is not just pictures hanging on the walls, but much more. I feel that the entire place the youthful spirit itself. The wide range of different displays greatly appeals to the styles and senses of young visitors.”

As such, some were possibly obsessed with leaving a visual proof driven by clear motivation. They were truly drawn by the explosive energy that the youth emit, not by the photogenic aspect of the place. It was undeniable that the first section portrayed the exclusive emotions that youth undergo: despair, desire to deviate and denial of their demeaning demeanors. As a result, visitors cannot help but take out their cameras in awe.

A. Youthful glee

The second floor unfolded into a completely disparate atmosphere as compared to the floor below; the room was brightly lit from the white wall paper. Artworks with a rich array of palettes colored the space with glee. Among them, the highlight was the grand spectacle located in the center. Over the course of five years, the artist carried out a long-term project by taking 200 photographs of gleeful youth in their twenties. Although the young people were without a single piece of clothing, they wore the happiest smiles on their faces. All of them beamed with joy as if life was perfect. On the other side of the wall were underwater shots of nude youth. Most acclaimed by male visitors, they swam in accordance with the waves, showing off the physical beauty of the youth.

The naked youths in the both sets of works were austere, assured, and gave off a cheerful energy. They seemed to express a pure sense of joy that does not come from having set a concrete direction in life. Rather, it is derived from enjoying the full measure of what being young allows for. They understood that youth in itself was the greatest blessing of life. Therefore, there could be no plausible reason not to be happy.

B. Definition of youth

Separated from the rest of the exhibition by a wall, a dimly lighted space showcased a video clip whose screen was projected against the wall. The two-minute video, directed



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▲ The youth pose in front of the wall covered with a colorful array of undressed youths.



by a French artist named Paul Franco, was composed of close-up clips of fragmented and discontinuous scenes which quickly flashed by, one after another. What stood out the most, other than its main characters and visual elements, were the subtitles at the bottom of the screen which translated the gentle narration.


“We live in a world where we are always short of time. Jumping. Rushing. It is a world where everything is moving so fast. So I want to focus on the essence ... we live in the present, which is more precious than anything else in the world... I think the energy that ‘hope’ gives off is vitally important. I think the innocence and recklessness of youth are the most important base elements of inspiration. Youth is open to everything and it is passionate. We have to go back to being pure as white.”

The Argus stood in front of the screen in silence, and re-watched the video a number of times. At last, every line segmented together and created meaning—the message that

The Argus had so yearned for. It became clear what the artists meant with their works. They did not merely portray the images of youth, but implied a common value that young people behold. Youth is not only magnificent by and for itself, but it contains youthful characteristics unique only to them. Henceforth, the youth are obliged to recognize this fact and exercise their youthful privileges to the fullest.

Looking around, some people filmed the video as if they were deeply impressed. Others marched toward the screen and posed facing the camera as if it were another visual display. Among the varied reactions, there stood a man whose eyes remained fixated on the screen. The 24-year-old man shared that the video made him to reflect on the definition of youth that he had given little regard to. In turn, The Argus asked how he would define youth, and he answered, “A perfect time for you to wander and meander for whatever might befall afterwards.”

At the exhibition, there were other hidden elements worthy of notice. One that most lingers in the mind was this inscription on the floor that read, “They are so anxious about the future, that they neglect the present, and thus live in neither the present nor the future.” This quote is an excerpt from the book “Like the Flowing River” written by an award-winning author Paulo Coelho. It once again reminds young people to set their sights on what is happening right now: their youth.

When we were little, we wished to become adults, but when we do, we worry about the far future. We grow blind to our current youth and turn our attention to the vague concerns about what might come later on. Sometimes we even sacrifice the present for a better future. Although the sacrifice itself is not wrong, we should enjoy the privilege of our youth right now before it expires. Let us not be afraid of the passing of time, but once and for all dedicate ourselves to our youth which is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Feel free to wander around without direction, rise from numerous failures and relish the joy of being a youth, because you are only young once. 

disciple@hufs.ac.kr



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EPC for Two Years in a Row, What Changes Will They Bring?

By Cho Jae-won, Park Ji-yong
Cub Reporters

For two years in a row, the Emergency Planning Committee (EPC) has become the student body representative on Seoul Campus. This year, there were no candidates for the General Student Council (GSC) president and the vice president. In order to discuss how the EPC became the student body representative, and what their objectives are, The Argus went to interview the EPC president Baek Yu-jin and the vice president Nam Han-gyul.

The Argus: Hello, could you please introduce yourselves?

Baek Yu-jin (Baek): Hi, I am Baek Yu-jin, a junior Politics Science and Diplomacy major. I am currently the 51st EPC president, and the president of the Department of Social Science.

Nam Han-gyul (Nam): Hi, I am Nam Han-gyul, a senior German Education major, and currently the 51st EPC vice president.

The Argus: What was your impression when you got elected as the EPC president and vice president?

Baek: I felt dazed at first as I did not expect myself to be the

president of the EPC. We choose the president by voting, and until the results are out, no one can really predict who the next president will be. Now I am less dazed, and feel a great sense of responsibility as the president of the EPC.

Nam: Just as the president said, no one knew who the president and vice president of the EPC would be. When I got elected, I was happy in some ways but also nervous at the same time. Now that I am elected, I will work harder than anyone so that the students will not feel disappointed with the EPC.



▲ Baek (L) and Nam (R) talk about their goals and explain about the EPC.

The Argus: Students are not familiar with the EPC. Can you please explain to the audience what the EPC is about?

Nam: First of all, the biggest difference between the GSC and EPC is that the GSC is formed by the votes from the student body while the EPC is not. But other than that, the authority that the EPC has, if you look at the student regulations, is not much different from that of the GSC. So you can say that we are basically doing what the GSC would do for the student body.

The Argus: Can you tell the audience when the EPC gets formed and about its conditions?

Baek: The typical case in which the EPC gets formed is when the GSC election founders. Other cases could be when there is a vacancy due to an accident or other personal issues.

The Argus: Can you explain when the GSC gets cancelled?

Nam: There are two elections held each year, in November and March. Until now, when the election founders in November for example, we had the system of having the EPC until March, at the next election. But now the regulation has changed, and even if the November election gets cancelled, the EPC does not get formed. It gets formed only when the March election gets cancelled, and the EPC stays until the November election.

The Argus: What are some immediate concerns that the EPC has right now?

Baek: I guess the main concern of the EPC would be the election of the HUFs president. On a separate note, I personally think the issue that lots of students feel frustrated about is the course registration system.

Nam: The election of the HUFs president would obviously be an important issue for us. In other universities, students get to participate in the university president election process whereas HUFs does not do that. Normally when we talk about the main agents in a university, they are school personnel

and students. But students not being able to participate in the university presidential election is ironic. On a different note, the university festival is in May, and we want to re-allow alcohol at our festival. Alcohol has been prohibited since 2012, and regarding the bringing back of alcohol to our school festival, we want to ask students about it and communicate with the school to come up with a conclusion.

The Argus: What is the goal you want to achieve as the president and vice president of the EPC?

Nam: I want to focus on bringing back the GSC in the November election. For those who want to participate in the GSC, we want to help them by advising and guiding them to really make sure they can settle.

The Argus: What is the biggest obstacle you are facing?

Baek: That everything is new is the biggest hardship I am facing lately since this is the first time, as the president of EPC. The other great burden is the tremendous amount of issues I have to deal with, being president of the Student Council in the College of Social Sciences.

Nam: We have a long list of upcoming events such as “Dae Dong Je” and “Nong Hwal.” We were appointed on March 24, and we have been rolling for two weeks since, and it is really challenging to get them all sorted out.

The Argus: HUFs may not have much attention on the GSC. What policies or plans do you have to raise their awareness?

Nam: We are well aware that most HUFs are not actively participating. “A league of their own,” I even heard. I personally and completely understand what they are talking about, reflecting on our demeanor in the past. Thus, I reckon we need a “Direct Democracy” system. The school regulations state that there are “Policy Votes” and “Total Student Votes,”



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▲ Baek (L) and Nam (R) talk about their outlines during the interview.

which are directly reflecting opinions from HUFSSans toward general issues; and yet we have never invoked them. It should be a successful way to raise their awareness and build mutual trust, if we put these systems into action and make HUFSSans feel more actively involved with us.

Baek: Every single issue is crucial in promoting welfare for HUFSSans, but issues taken seriously by the GSC, and those taken seriously by HUFSSans cannot always be identical. Agendas like rights to elect the president of HUFSS could be more crucial for the GSC while bettering course enrollment system is the biggest issue ‘smack-dabbing’ HUFSSans. Taking both kinds of issues into account at the same time would hopefully raise the level of participation from all members of HUFSS, and we might as well plan to put ourselves into the public eye by paying visits to classes for promotion and public relations.

The Argus: *We would like to hear a brief outline of your plans for this year.*


Nam: Simply put, sorting things out smoothly is the biggest goal. There have been a lot of unpleasant events lately on campus, sexual harassment, for instance; therefore, it would be better if we had a means to prevent such disorganizing events so that we could gain trust and build up the GSC next year.

Baek: There will be some HUFSSans who think the EPC will not be able to get much done in service of students. Nevertheless, we have successfully endeavored to do our public

work so far. The EPC will keep up its work and hopefully hand the reigns over to the next GSC.

The Argus: *Any messages to deliver to our readers and HUFSSans?*

Nam: We will make our positive changes and take a step forward. We implore you to pay us close attention. Criticism, compliments, and most basically, attention and participation are the keys for improvement. It is a fact that we get less attention since we are an EPC, and that indifference hurts our morale badly. It is an unprecedented case in which the EPC takes place for two consecutive years on Seoul Campus in its history, and this is the time we need students to take part as proud members of HUFSS, wielding their lawful rights. Just like what we learned throughout the impeachment of former South Korean president, constant observation and mutual feedback are crucial for gaining trust, and a better tomorrow.

Baek: We need to take more action to deal with public welfare since we are members of the Central Management Committee, but this is always about regular HUFSSans. We will make our best effort to familiarize ourselves with the process and reduce the psychological distance because no good policy writes itself. 

*aurastorm97@hufs.ac.kr
sandspectre7@hufs.ac.kr*



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Claw Machine Centers, a Cultural Trend?

By Byeon Hee-jin
Editorial Consultant

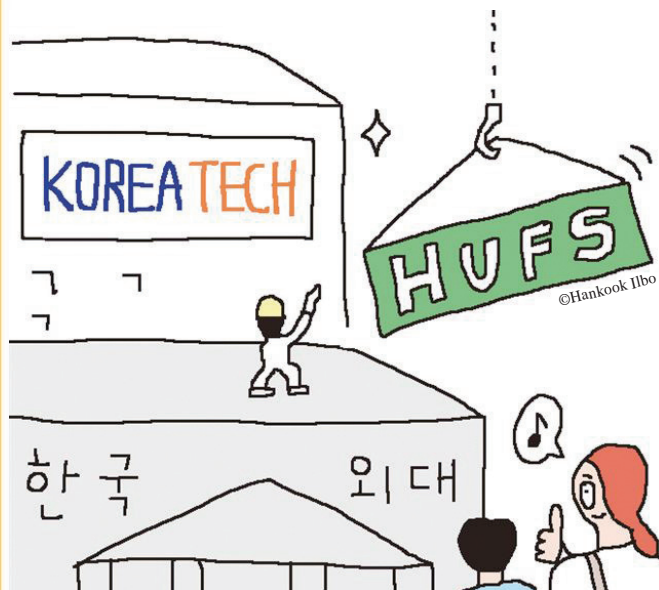
Starting last winter, it has become easy to see doll claw machine centers on almost every street corner. According to the Game Rating and Administration Committee (GRAC), these claw machine centers grew to about 1,500 this February. There are at least several of them around the Hufs Seoul Campus as well. Suddenly, they have become a part of the public culture. When you enter one of these centers, most of the time, there is hardly anyone who manages the centers there. This makes me anxious regarding a couple of issues.

First, I worry about teenagers. Teenagers cannot enter some places after 10 p.m. and claw machine centers are one of them. In addition to this regulation, the lights inside are brighter than usual and the centers possess many windows, which makes them easier for people passing by to see inside part of the center. Of course, these factors do help decrease adolescent delinquent behavior, but when I pass by these places, I feel that not many people actually care about who is inside. In addition, the fact that these cafes are unmanned may make these places easily become crime-ridden.

Second, the number of claw machine center suddenly exploded. Most of the owners run these establishments as profitable sidelines. Even as a sideline, they need considerable revenue in order to pay rent, run the machines and pay the rest of the expenses. The GRAC reported that the total number of these centers is around 1,500, which is 70 times more prevalent as compared to the number in 2015. This sudden big increase can do us more harm than the profit allows. Although the popularity has grown, I think the supply is now larger than the public demand. If the increased popularity suddenly shrinks like a boiling pot cooling down, I think it could lead to another social issue as many of the owners will be left with heavy debts.

Claw machine centers are a very good example of a niche market that meets the cultural demands of people. However, as this market grows, I have noticed some possible confines that can lead to latent societal problems such as the issues I mentioned above. Since it started with an interesting way to market products, I hope this market overcomes those possible confines and grows to become a cultural trend that everyone can enjoy, not just something that suddenly appears and disappears like a mirage. 

angelatheb@hufs.ac.kr



Déjà vu?

By Shim Kyu-han

Guest Reporter

Back on April Fool's Day, the Hankook Ilbo published an article that rattled many HUFSans and others alike. It stated that Hankuk University of Foreign Studies had decided to change the Korean wording of the school's name from the widely used and known title of '한국외국어대학교' to '흙스대', which is literally the Korean pronunciation of the school's English acronym, HUF S. The immediate response to the 'decision' was mostly negative, with ridicule of the name change being the most common response. The school had never announced or agreed to change the school's name, and that the article's statements were most definitely false. All in all, it was a very bizarre way to start the month of April. Now, there are a few takeaways that we can glean from this incident, but what surprised me was how this article had so many people scared in the first place. The school had never officially announced a name change, and yet so many people were bothered by it to the point that it

became a popular conversation topic for everyone on the school's campus for a few days after the article's publication. Of course, most of us were uncertain of the article's veracity, but the point is that we were uncertain, rather than skeptical. Perhaps the article was so widespread that it had already established its own authority as a credible source of information. Or maybe we were so taken aback by the name '흙스대' that we were forced to brace ourselves for potential confirmation from the school. But in all likelihood, it is probably because we have all seen this before; a 'been there, done that' case, if you will. The school seems to have a thing for name changes. Though an affinity for name changes can be seen all around the nation, our school has shown quite often that it is willing to engage in the act when deemed necessary. And though this cannot necessarily be seen as a bad thing, it can be frustrating at times, for reasons that I will provide in the two cases I will write about in this article.

The first case is the Department of English for International Conferences and Communication. Originally known as the Department of English

Interpretation and Translation, a series of events led to the department changing its name to the Department of English for International Conferences and Communication, or the EICC Department, in 2015. By changing its name, the department was essentially shifting away from solely focusing on interpretation and translation and broadening its curriculum to help students grow as English professionals in the fields of communication and international conferences. The decision to do so led to mixed reactions. On one side, the department's shift away from a traditional perspective of language learning to a more modern concept of practical language application was ahead of its time, innovative and deserved to be praised. On the other hand, as the Department of English Interpretation and Translation, or the EIT Department, it was known as one of the most prestigious academic institutions in not only the school but the nation. Therefore, changing the department's name so drastically carried the risk of losing some of its prestige and standing as a major powerhouse in Korean academia. Though the EICC

Department retained the same infrastructure and resources of the EIT Department, meaning that the valuable core of the department remains untouched, there was no denying that the sheer brand power of the name had great value in and of itself. Two years have passed since then, and admittedly, the time period is too short to make any conclusions. What is certain, however, is that the name 'Department of English for International Conferences and Communication' does not have the same brand power that the Department of English Interpretation and Translation once enjoyed. Though the core infrastructure of the EIT Department remains, and

though the common curriculum of the department has been refined and improved from its already impressive predecessor, the truth of the matter is that the EICC Department is simply not well known. Students of the department (including yours truly) are bombarded with questions like "What does EICC stand for?" and "What do you learn in the EICC department?" And though this is not a very fun thing to experience, one can truly understand where these questions come from. After all, the department's official name is written in English, and the department is unique to our school, meaning that those unfamiliar or unaffiliated with HUFS cannot infer much from the name. This is a serious issue.

One could argue that if the department itself stays true to its original objective and continues to offer high-quality education, the name itself will not matter.

It is what is on the inside that matters. However, this does not hide the fact that if the department continues to remain relatively obscure, it will be difficult for it to present itself as a major educational institution to students in the long run.

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Therefore, the school should ensure that the uniqueness of these two departments is known by the public, and especially students who wish to gain admission to one of them.

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Which brings me to another topic of discussion, the Department of English Linguistics. The Department of English Linguistics, along with the Department of English Interpretation and Translation, long stood as one of the representative departments of the school, and is still recognized as a major powerhouse in university English education. However, with the school announcing its decision to change the name of the department to the Department of English Linguistics and Language Technology, questions similar to the ones asked back in 2015 are inevitably rising again. Like the school's decision to change the name of the Department of English Interpretation

and Translation, the intentions are undeniably good. Rather than continuing to focus on the English language itself, the department will expand its focus to language technology. By integrating theoretical linguistics with practical language technology, the department is declaring itself to be a leader in the rethinking of the humanities in universities. However, the name of the department, much like the EIT Department, has intrinsic value based on the social reputation that it has built throughout the years. By changing the department's name, the school is taking the risk of the department losing its brand power. The parallels of this case to the previous one are astonishing, to say the least.

The conclusions that we can derive from these two examples are very similar. Though the intentions of the school should be applauded, the actual effectiveness of these name changes should be questioned. Though the curriculums of these departments are being improved, the fact that their original names are being abandoned is disappointing. The brand value of the EIT Department and the Department of English Linguistics cannot be ignored, and the fact that the EICC Department has failed to catch on should have us worried about the future of the ELLT Department. But the decisions have already been made, which means that the path the school needs to take from this point forward is obvious. The profiles of these two 'new' departments must be raised to the previous standards of their predecessors.

The best way to accomplish this is for the department and the school to step up its efforts to promote the EICC Department and the upcoming ELLT Department. No matter how well built the curriculums of these two departments are, it will not matter if students and the general public are unaware of what the department itself represents. The prestige and reputation of academic institutions are built on the strength and potential of the high school graduates that gain admission, which is why it is very important that these students are informed of the uniqueness of the departments, what the

departments have to offer, and what career paths that the respective curriculums provide. One way to do this is to take a few pages from the Language & Diplomacy (LD) Division, as well as the Language & Trade (LT) Division. Created in 2014 and 2015 respectively, the school actively promoted the many benefits and strengths of these departments, and as a result, the popularity and standing of the LD Division and the LT Division are arguably among the highest in the school. Similarly, the EICC Department and ELLT Department must be considered newly created departments, at least in terms of promotion. Actively promoting them will be the most effective way to convey to students and the general public the strengths of the department, and the many benefits that they have to offer.

Furthermore, efforts must be made by the school to clearly differentiate the EICC Department from the Global Campus' School of English for Interpretation and Translation. Though both departments deal with English interpretation and translation, they offer two diverse sets of curricula that are very different in nature. For one, the School of English for Interpretation and Translation is further divided into four sets of specializations from which students can choose, meaning that variety in educational experience and learning are the focal points here. Despite this, those unaffiliated with HUFs are not well aware of the differences between these two departments. This is not good for either side, as they cannot properly establish their standing as leaders in their respective fields. Therefore, the school should ensure that the uniqueness of these two departments is known by the public, and especially students who wish to gain admission to one of them. 

brskh184@hufs.ac.kr

Northeast Asia

Sees Escalating Arms Race

- Main Job for New South Korean Leader Is to Keep Balance



By Jun Ji-hye
Staff Reporter
Politics Desk of The Korea Times

The arms race in Northeast Asia is escalating amid growing tensions over challenging issues such as North Korea's nuclear ambitions, the deployment of a U.S. anti-missile system to South Korea and territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

The United States began triggering the arms race this year as the Donald Trump administration, which pushes a "peace by strength" policy, appropriated \$603 billion on Feb. 27 for defense spending for the 2018 fiscal year.

Announcing the budget increase in its proposal—by about 10 percent year-on-year—the White House said Washington will strengthen its naval forces, apparently wary of disputes with China in the South China Sea.

China has rapidly developed military facilities on many of its man-made islands in the South China

Sea to solidify its territorial claims, while the U.S. Navy is increasingly conducting freedom of navigation operations to challenge such claims.

The U.S. began intervening in Northeast Asian affairs after the 1950-53 Korean War, deploying its troops to South Korea and Japan. With China's drastic growth as an economic power, competition between the G2 nations—the U.S. and China—has been heating up.

The Kim Jong-un regime that has shown no sign of giving up its nuclear arsenal also has given the Trump government ample reason for increasing the defense budget.

In the lead-up to the U.S. presidential election, Trump pledged to increase the number of naval warships to 350 from 272 and modernize the country's nuclear weapons. All these pledges require huge budgets.

China, which has many important views that differ from the U.S. as well as Japan, said on March 4 that its defense budget for this year increased by about 7 percent. The country did not elaborate on the details, but the budget was estimated to reach about 1.21 trillion yuan (\$175 billion), given its budget last year.

It was the first time the budget had exceeded 1 trillion yuan, but the actual figure is presumed to be more, considering there traditionally has been a “hidden budget.”

China has expressed strong opposition to the deployment of the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in South Korea and to the possible deployment in Japan.

South Korea and the United States continue to assure that the missile defense system, to be deployed to the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) this year, is designed only to defend against North Korean missiles. But China claims the battery's X-band radar could spy on its military capabilities, saying this would severely hurt its security interests and the strategic balance in the Northeast Asian region.

China cited similar reasons for opposing the possible deployment to Japan.

The People's Daily, the official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party, also claimed that Tokyo intends to use the system to beef up the power of its Self-Defense Force, not like Seoul's case, in which U.S. soldiers will operate the battery. The newspaper added Japan is attempting to strengthen ties with the Trump administration by deploying THAAD.

In a bid to show off its military power, China sent its first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, to the western Pacific late last year. It is also striving to develop stealth fighters—J-20s and J-31s.

On March 27, Japan's House of Councilors passed a budget bill that included 5.1 trillion yen (\$46 billion) for the defense

spending, which increased by about 71 billion yen. The country said it needed to better deter North Korea's nuclear and missile program threats.

The country's territorial disputes with Beijing over the Senkaku Islands, known as Diaoyudao in China, also gave Tokyo some reasons for building up its military.

Tokyo has been spending a large amount of money upgrading its Aegis destroyers and Patriot anti-missile systems. It is also hinting at introducing THAAD on its soil.

Japan decided to buy 42 F-35 stealth fighters in 2011 and delivery is continuing. The F-35 was devised as a little brother to the F-22 to provide overseas customers with a less-costly stealth fighter.

For its part, South Korea has produced its own three-pronged defense system—the Kill Chain preemptive strike system, the Korean Air and Missile Defense (KAMD) and the Korea Massive Punishment and Retaliation (KMPR) plan—to respond to North Korean threats.

Kill Chain would see a preemptive strike against Pyongyang's nuclear and missile facilities if Seoul is faced with an imminent threat, while the KAMD would trace and shoot down North Korean ballistic missiles heading for South Korea. The KMPR would be used to punish and retaliate against North Korea if it strikes South Korea. The government said such systems will be deployed in the 2020s.


The South Korean Navy will also have three more Aegis destroyers and nine 3,000-ton submarines.

The cutthroat competition between powerful nations in strengthening their militaries will continue unless North Korea gives up its nuclear ambition or a major breakthrough is made in countries' territorial disputes. This means Seoul could be swept away by the rapidly changing situations in the region.

Corey Wallace, a security analyst at Berlin's Freie University, told CNN that South Korea would expose its weakness if there was a war in the region as Seoul has appeared to fail to cooperate well with Tokyo in defense and intelligence areas.

Seoul has also suffered a leadership vacuum since December—despite mounting military tension on the Korean Peninsula—when former President Park Geun-hye was impeached over a high-profile corruption scandal.


The arms race will continue for now.

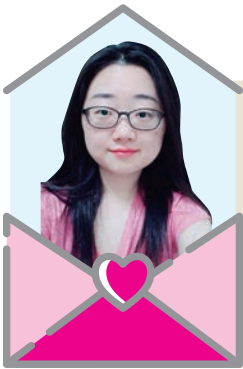
But whoever is elected president in the May 9 election needs to maintain balance and build trust with neighboring countries as a priority. 

jyh@ktimes.com

The Argus Greet New Cub Reporters

By Lee Jae-won
Editor-in-Chief

This spring semester, The Argus welcomed eight cub reporters coming from a variety of majors, backgrounds, and expectations. One month has elapsed since their admission. So far, they have engaged in weekly training sessions and interviewing and writing articles for this May issue. The Argus asked why they applied to The Argus and what they hope to accomplish through The Argus. 



Yoo Seo-yeon

I applied for The Argus cub reporter hoping to write an article, which is a more active kind of writing because I have to cover a case directly through interview or field investigation. Also I think constant practice to organize logical paragraphs through reading articles or materials written in English will help me a lot especially to grow my writing skills in English. I expect to have a valuable time as one of The Argus members and I will participate in all of The Argus activities sincerely and perform my duty responsibly.

Cho Jae-won

Ever since I subscribed to TIME magazine and read articles about world news, I have always had a thought of wanting to write something that is not for homework. When I found out that there is an English newspaper at HUFS called The Argus, I signed up right away. Now that I am a cub reporter at The Argus, I want to write articles that cast light upon HUFSans' complaints and the problems of HUFS to further help school community improve and become more transparent. In the coming years, I want to polish my English writing skills and publish meaningful articles.

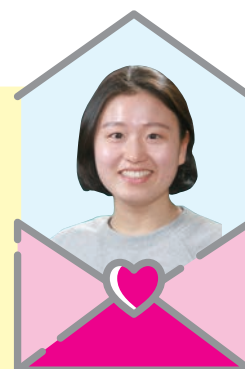


Park Ji-yong

The Argus gave me a chance to join the best English-based on-campus journalism institute. This means a lot since the national/international situations are dramatically shifting. I applied for The Argus to take on tremendous responsibilities to represent HUFS and its people, on behalf of the people aspiring for better tomorrow. I take a lot of pride in doing something substantial and just, and I would be delighted to dedicate myself to the cause of social justice.

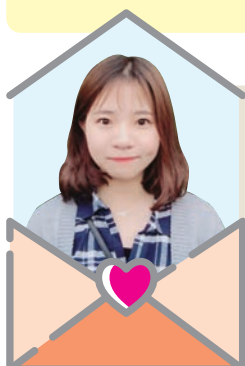
Moon Chae-un

Ever since I was little, communicating with others has been a big part of my life. And I have always wanted to improve my writing skills in order to connect with people more effectively. That is why I believe being a part of The Argus will open doors to the world around us, and will offer some intelligent and empowered thinking, as well as improve my English. Those are obviously what I love most about working here. I am so excited about everything to come here at The Argus!



Jeon Nu-ri

I applied for The Argus because I wanted to do something very meaningful. Being a part of The Argus, I hope I can convey the important news of HUFS and I can improve my English skills. With The Argus, I want to grow up by meeting many people and thinking about various issues. Being a reporter of The Argus seems a little bit hard but I am sure that it will be worthful. I will be loyal and devoted to The Argus so that I can be a competent journalist.



Ryu Soo-yeon

The reason why I applied for The Argus is because my dream is to be a reporter. In addition, writing articles means providing information to people, and I wanted to help students in doing so. Of course I know I should try harder because my English ability is much worse than other students. But I look forward to its improvement through work at The Argus. Lastly, I want to work together and make something with many good seniors and colleagues at The Argus.



Yoon Sun-ha

I used to read The Argus and found out that The Argus to be one of the media that talks about HUFS and our students. And it has a special meaning in that all HUFS students including foreigners feel free to read it. So I desired to join The Argus, with the thought that I can hear the voices of HUFSans and even change something by telling the truth through articles. Also, The Argus can be valuable opportunity for me to get guidance from seniors and develop myself. Although I am immature in everything now, I will make an effort with the goal of writing the best articles. I am really excited now.



Park Beom-ju

Being a journalist in The Argus was my first wish when I entered HUFS. The black poster that was written by a senior reminded me that I hoped to enter The Argus. I thought it was tough to be a member, and it is a challenge to me yet. However, I would be proud to deliver our college's news, and share some meaning with my fellow students through the pains that our members undertook to write an article. I will be the hardest working journalist trying to share our precious story.



What Matters Right Now

The presidential election and North Korea provocations preoccupy our minds. Our future is uncertain and it is natural to worry. But how many of us, I wonder, worry about what really matters? As of writing this, Earth Day is right around the corner. Earth Day is set to be a bad-air day, ironically. Fine dust, along with several other environmental issues, seems to have been overlooked by the Korean public. This is a cause for alarm. Our domestic and international political situation is certainly important, but they are not excuses to push our thoughts about the environment into the deep recesses of our minds. Global climate change is real and it is happening fast. The last year has been the hottest year in recorded history - this year is set to break the record. Some say we are beyond the point of return, but shouldn't we at least try to take care of our Earth? If we let our environment go to waste, we will not have the Earth on which we can worry about our next president or decide how to deal with N.K. We need to act for the environment and we must act right now.

*Park Chang-hwan
Dept. of German '17*

We Have Responsibilities

It has been over one month since the former President Park Geun-hye was impeached. She did not perform her duty as the country's leader, remaining lots of doubts on the ferry disaster, and her corruption scandal.

Meanwhile, the salvage work on sunken ferry of Sewol is ongoing. I saw the article in which the belongings of students were discovered inside the hull. The moment I saw the picture of the students' things - crumpled bills for their allowance and some school materials - I could not help suppressing my anger. During that time, President Park had not recognized the gravity of the incident and did not take swift actions.

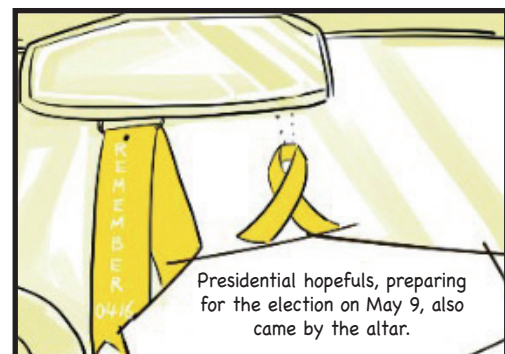
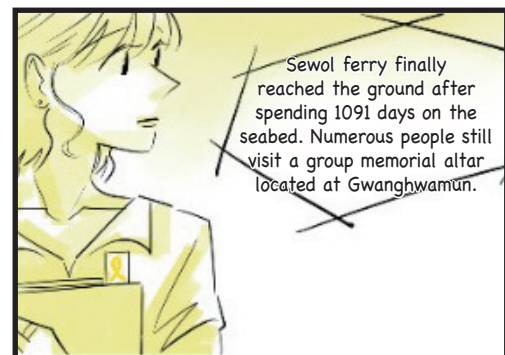
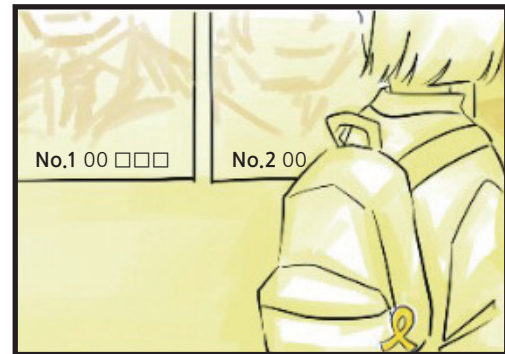
Her irresponsibility made students' dreams and futures sink in the cold water.

In the present, the new presidential election has become important to our country. Some people think that their votes do not matter. But I think it is completely wrong. We have to be more prudent than ever. We also have responsibilities to cast our votes as citizens. The same disaster should not happen again.

*Yoon Sun-ha
Dept. of Persian '16*

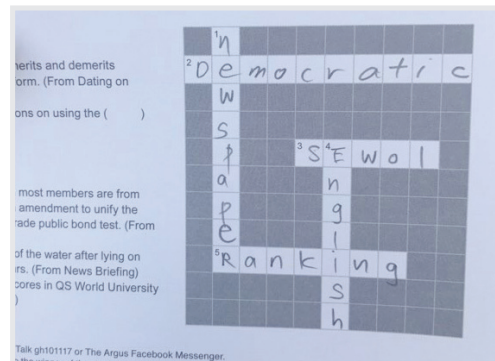
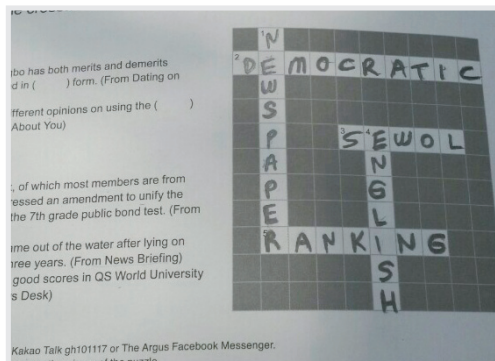
- Share your feedback on the issues to hufsargus@gmail.com.
- Feedback word count is 200 including the title.
- Remuneration will be given; please include your contact information in the e-mail.

Remember 0416



By Kim Yu-min
Dept. of Vietnamese '14

Would you like something to drink? Then complete the puzzle!



The winners of this month are Choi Ye-jin (Media Communication Division '15) and Melek Kaya (Exchange student). Congratulations!

How to participate

1. Read the latest issue of The Argus.
(The Argus is usually published in the second week of every month.)
2. Solve the puzzle.
3. Send your answers through Kakao Talk or The Argus Facebook Messenger.
Please include your name and your contact information with the answers.
4. Win a Starbucks gift card and enjoy your drink!
5. Hurry up or you will miss your chance.

응모하는 방법

1. 가장 최근에 발행된 아거스 잡지를 읽는다.(아거스는 매달 둘째 주에 발행됩니다.)
2. 맨 뒷장의 퍼즐을 푼다.
3. 인증샷을 찍어 카카오톡 / 아거스 페이스북 메시지로 보낸다.
보낼 때, 본인 이름과 연락처를 적어주세요.
4. 스타벅스 기프트카드를 받고 음료를 즐기다!
5. 매번 퍼즐 응모가 많으므로 서두르세요!



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한국외대 영자신문사 The Argus 99기 수습기자 합격을 축하 드립니다!

» 99기 수습기자 명단 «

전누리 (독일어 17)

박지용 (말레이·인도네시아어 16)

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조재원 (경영 17)

문채운 (노어 17)



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