

The Argus

No. 490 NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Since 1954



Reportage

An Invisible Existence in Daerim

Cover Story

A Look into the Elementary Teacher Appointment Disaster

In-depth on Campus

Does HUFs Help You to Meet the World?

Culture Insight

Talk, Share, and Get Informed with Images



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

The Argus

ESTABLISHED 1954

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

- *President and Publisher* Prof. Kim In-chul
- *Executive Editor* Prof. Choi Yo-sop
- *Editor-in-Chief* Lee Sei-yon (ELG-2)
- *Editorial Consultants* Lee Jae-won (H-3)
- *Staff Reporters* Park Ji-yong (MI-2)
Cho Jae-won (BAD-1)
Jeon Nu-ri (G-1)
Moon Chae-un (R-1)
You Seo-yeon (IME-1)
- *Cub Reporters* Baek Oh-byung (ELG-1)
Choi In-young (ELC-1)
Han Byeong-ji (AIT-1)
Kim Jin-ha (ELG-1)
Seo Eun-sol (ELC-1)
- *Copy Readers*
Prof. Merrilee Brinegar
Prof. Michael Heinz
Prof. Todd Jobbitt

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

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

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

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

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

Editorial

One for Peace, All for Peace

Never has the Korean Peninsula been more at risk throughout Korean history. The North pours ceaseless efforts into reinforcing its nuclear weaponry. The U.S. refuses to resort to the usual peace talks to safeguard world security. Instead, Washington steers toward counterattacking the military threats from Pyongyang with equivalent action. The roles have been reversed. As the face of the former peacekeeper has turned aggressive, the communist regime should seek negotiation, or push ahead with its plan. Nations on the sidelines sit on the edges of their seats in fear. The word 'peace' seems to have been phased out of the world's vocabulary.

Under political and social unrest, people under duress attempt to pinpoint the thematic roles in the unscripted narrative, mainly the agent and the patient. Their attention centers on pinning down who performs the action and who suffers the subsequent damage. Such identification paves way to a misleading problem-solving mechanism by placing full-scale blame on the agent. However, the world we live in cannot be defined with clarity as in language. In reality, consequences of an action do not arise from one single cause, but from multiple causes intertwined with one another.

A recent example proves the limitation of language to accurately translate the world into words and sentences. In August, around 100 days before the recruitment in November, the Korean government revealed its plan to hire a significantly smaller number of elementary school teachers. As a result, university students studying elementary education voiced their outrage for the loss of job security. Here, neither the administration nor the students are at fault. The last-minute decision is derived from the long-standing social problem in the nation: low birthrate. The inflexible system of teacher's colleges that admitted prospective teachers to provide relevant education wreaked havoc by leaving the fledglings on their own to suddenly find alternative career paths.

This problem-stricken world requires our utmost attention than any time in modern history. Inside the inter-workings of the problems at hand, a multitude of players are at play. Therefore, all players should shoulder the responsibility and together they hold the key to upholding peace entitled to all entities in the world. 🌍

이세연

Lee Sei-yon
Editor-in-Chief



CONTENTS



Cover Story

>> The Elementary school teacher appointment disaster is not an issue to be thought lightly of. With the government's sudden proclamation of personnel reduction, hundreds of students of teachers' college now face uncertain future. The on-going clash between the government and the students of teachers' college involves various factors that worked in dissonance. To closely look at how this event advanced this far, The Argus investigated the intertwined components and looked for necessary solutions.

- 02 • **News Desk**
- 05 • **News Briefing**
- 06 • **Reportage**
An Invisible Existence in Daerim
- 10 • **Photo Essay**
What Is in Your Jongmyo?
- 12 • **Cover Story**
A Look into the Elementary Teacher Appointment Disaster
- 18 • **Brain Swap**
Does HUFS Do Enough for Exchange Students?
- 20 • **Road Casting**
What Are Your Goals Before 2018?
- 21 • **In-depth on Campus**
Does HUFS Help You to Meet the World?
- 25 • **Rendez-vous**
People Who Share the Joy of Writing
- 28 • **Culture Insight**
Talk, Share, and Get Informed with Images
- 32 • **HUFSan's Voice**
Culture Clash at HUFS
- 34 • **Review**
Three Kinds of Lies: Lies, Damned Lies, and Statistics
- 36 • **Opinion / Cartoon**



▲ HUFSans gather to voice outrage toward Ko.

HUFSans Call for Resignation of KBS CEO

HUFS students and the Union of Mediaworkers journalists, composed of HUFS graduates, demanded that the current KBS CEO and alumnus, Ko Dae-young, step down.

The journalists opened a press conference in front of the Main Building, Seoul Campus on Sep. 26, which was into its fourth week of protest since the members of The National Union of Media workers started the strike.

HUFSans voiced the opinion that Ko, a HUFS graduate of Dept. of English Linguistics, is not a source of pride, but of a 'shameful alumnus.'

The students proclaimed, "CEO Ko must be impeached as he oppressed the freedom of press and broadcasted favorable reports about the past conservative ruling party."

"Do not further disgrace the honor of the school and step down as soon as

possible" they urged.

On the controversy surrounding the current president of the English College Jeon Byung-Soo further asserted that, "The media's essential function is keeping check, monitoring and being critical of power but CEO Ko caused retrograding in democracy."

Last year in June, the HUFS Alumni association awarded Ko Dae-young as a "Honorable Alumnus of 2016."

HUFSans and the Union of Mediaworkers journalists concluded the press conference by chanting a slogan, "Step down Media's corrupt member Ko." 📢

By Baek Oh-byung
yariguri44@hufs.ac.kr

Ban Ki-moon Visits HUFS



©HUFSNEWS

The former Secretary General of UN, Ban Ki-moon, gave a special lecture on "UN and Global Leadership in 21st Century" in Seoul Campus on Sept. 19.

In line with his global reputation, nearly 300 people including faculty members and students of HUFS participated in the event.

During his lecture, Ban Ki-moon put an emphasis on gaining knowledge and wisdom and how both elements should be well-balanced with each other. He also illustrated the significant role of leaders through his own example: leaders should not wield their power abusively, but should use it for their members and have consideration for others.

Ban Ki-moon also added some words concerning the current tensions between two Koreas. He mentioned the importance of alleviating current conflicts between South Korea and North Korea, and that every citizen should make concerted efforts to better the relationship between two Koreas.

Many students expressed their opinion on the lecture as "a meaningful interaction with the atmosphere very lively and harmonious." 📢

By Kim Jin-ha
jkhufs@hufs.ac.kr

HUFS Holds 27th World Folk Culture Festival

©Han Byeong-ji / The Argus



▲ One of the teams performs traditional Arabic folk dance at the outdoor theater.

HUFS held a World Folk Culture Festival (WFCF) at the outdoor theater, Global Campus on Sept. 27.

This year, 13 departments showcased folk dances and songs from around the world. HUFSSans showed their class majors' culture in WFCF, a nonprofit and public festival in which students are the subject of the performance.

The host of the festival Kim Ji-woo (Dept. of Arabic Interpretation and Translation) said "I participated in WFCF as a member of the Arabic dance team last year. I learned how meaningful this festival is, so it is an honor for me to introduce the performers in WFCF." 📷

By Han Byeong-ji

bj_1222@hufs.ac.kr

Dept. of Russian To Hold Biennial Art Festival

The Department of Russian will hold the 17th Russian Art Festival on Dec. 2.

The department announced that its aim is to let people experience Russia and contribute to spreading its culture.

First part begins at 5 p.m. in the Humanities Building and the second part at 7 p.m. in the Cyber Building.

The ceremony includes a renowned play in Russian and other various events such as a prize lottery and a catering service.

"This year commemorates the 17th Russian festival. In line with its long history, our department will strive to deliver quality performances," said members of the student council. 📷

By Kim Jin-ha
jkhufs@hufs.ac.kr

HUFS Selected as 2017 KOR, CHI Youth Exchange Organization

HUFS has been selected as an organization to help support the project of 2017 Korea, China Youth Exchange by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family.

This project started this year to promote friendship and understanding among youths from Korea and China, elevating cooperation between two nations.

About 100 HUFSSans, including Chinese students, will attend various events such as visiting historical sites from Nov. 4 to 11.

The chief of International Communication Agency (ICA), Oh Jong-jin said, "I hope this could be a chance for students from both nations to broaden their networking." 📷

By Seo Eun-sol
sespag@hufs.ac.kr

HUFS Paves Way for Internship in Hong Kong

HUFS' Center for Career and Employment has formed an agreement with KCCHK (The Korean Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong) to arrange a college student working holiday internship program.

This program provides the chance for about 50 students annually to have internships in firms located in Hong Kong and helps them adjust to life there.

Kim Tae-sung, director of the Department for Human Resources Development said, "I hope many HUFSSans will be able to have helpful and valuable experiences while interning at firms in Hong Kong." 📷

By Choi In-young
sarahchoi98@hufs.ac.kr

HUFSans Hike with Climber Um Hong-gil



▲ Participants who climbed with the mountaineer and HUFS alumnus Um Hong-gil pose for a picture.

HUFSAC and the Um Hong-gil Human Foundation hosted a mountain climbing event with Um Hong-gil on Sept. 16, held at Dobong Mountain. This mountain hiking was planned to talk about and introduce mountain culture to those who attended.

About 50 HUFSans and HUFSAC members attended this climb. Um Hong-gil talked about his hiking experiences around the world and the dreams and challenges of students.

Um Hong-gil, the actual model of the film *Himalayas*' character, graduated from the Department of Chinese. He was appointed as a chair-professor of HUFS this year. 📷

By Han Byeong-ji
bj_1222@hufs.ac.kr

Television Producer Kim Tae-ho Gives Speech

On Sep. 20, Kim Tae-ho, producer of a long-running popular Korean TV program entitled "Infinite Challenge," visited HUFS to give a speech.

He analyzed TV product trends as both "observation and sympathy." Further, he picked sympathy and reading trends as artistic producer's abilities.

Kim said, "Sincerity in art and acting responsibly towards fixed members was my secret method."

In the process of making a program, he minimized casting and had enough time with fixed members to produce ideas. 📷

By Seo Eun-sol
sespag@hufs.ac.kr

HUFS Commemorates Donors to Smart Library

A special event to report on the construction of the Smart Library and thank its donors took place at Lotte Hotel on Sep. 12.

Up to 100 people including primary donors and HUFS alumni participated in the event led by Kang Young-eun, a current MBC announcer and the alumna of French Department.

"It is important for many alumni to have affection toward HUFS and give supports" stressed Yoon Yoon-Su, the chairman of the commission. 📷

By Kim Jin-ha
jkhufs@hufs.ac.kr

HUFSans Invite Congressman Yoo



▲ Yoo Seung-min shares his words during the College of English Night.

The College of English at HUFS successfully hosted a lecture from Yoo Seung-min, a congressman of the Bareun Party, on Sept. 27.

The event was held during the festival "College of English Night." Many students, including those from other majors at HUFS, attended the lecture, held at Grass Square.

Congressman Yoo shared his determination to "continue along the path to reform conservative politics, and to make the newly founded Bareun Party, despite its insecurity and hardships, a success."

He also urged everyone to take more interest in politics, and analyze each candidate thoroughly before supporting, and voting for them.

After his lecture, Congressman Yoo answered questions from the billboard where students wrote what they wanted to ask him. The host and Congressman Yoo took more questions than was originally planned, due to enthusiastic participation of the student attendees.

Yoo Seung-min was a candidate for the 19th presidential elections. He has served four terms as a congressman. 📷

By Choi In-young
sarahchoi98@hufs.ac.kr

News Briefing

By Lee Sei-yeon
Editor-in-Chief
disciple@hufs.ac.kr

Gunned Down Las Vegas

©GETTY IMAGES



On Oct. 3, Stephen Craig Paddock, a retired

accountant, smuggled an arsenal into a hotel in Las Vegas and mowed down concert-goers from a 32nd story window. The deadliest disaster in modern U.S. history came to an end when the shooter committed suicide.

Sunday night's shooting rampage claimed 59 lives and injured more than 500. There were no reports of Korean casualties in the Las Vegas massacre, but eight travelers have not been accounted for, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said last month.

I Can Bring Peace



Amid heightened tensions over nuclear activities from North Korea and Iran, the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), a group of mostly young activists working for denuclearization.

The decision sends a clear message to all nuclear-armed states, especially to the U.S. who have been refusing negotiations and instead downplaying North Korea's aggressive development of nuclear weapons.



©Sara Shepard/Lawrence Journal-World

'What Were You Wearing?'

A recent art installation at the University of Kansas challenged the myth that a person's revealing clothing triggers sexual violence, justifying the notion that the victim also deserves partial blame as well as the perpetrators.

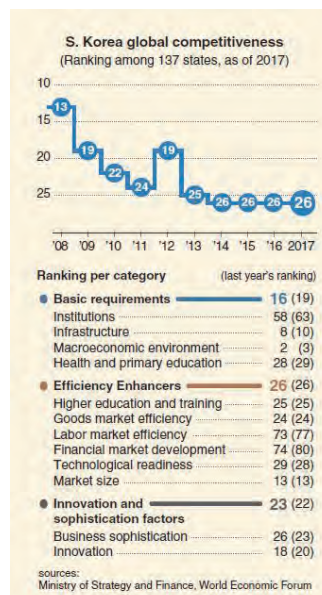
The exhibition displayed 18 outfits of 18 rape survivors. They were no different to what we wear in everyday life, proving that the victim did nothing to invite the sexual assaults to invite the sexual assaults.

S. Korea Plateaus at World's No. 26

The global competitiveness of South Korea remains at 26th for four consecutive years, according to the annual report released in October by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

The lagging number resulted from the two markedly low scores in financial market development and labor market efficiency, which were placed at No. 74 and 73 respectively among 137 subject countries.

In particular, the percentage of labor participation by those aged between 15 to 24 was near the bottom with only 10 subjects from behind Korea.



I Love You



Seoul citizens most want to hear "I love you" according to a survey conducted by the Seoul Foundation of Women & Family. It was found that "I love you" is also what people want to say the most to others. A

©SEOUL FOUNDATION OF WOMEN & FAMILY

An Invisible Existence in Daerim

By Moon Chae-un

Reporter of National Section

Did you know that there is an unofficial Chinatown in Seoul, with many Chinese migrants mingling in Korean society? That is Daerim-dong in Yeongdeungpo District, Seoul. However, there is still room for debate over the existence of the area because of the mounting tensions between Korea and China caused by the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system. Concerns regarding North Korean nuclear threats are also a big part of that. Marking the 25th year of diplomatic ties with China this year, The Argus visited Daerim-dong, which was given the name of “Little China in Seoul.”





▲ This picture shows the map of Daerim-dong taken at the Daerim 2-dong precinct.

What is Daerim-dong?

Daerim-dong is Seoul's unofficial Chinatown, along with one official Chinatown in the port city of Incheon, Korea, where the first Chinese neighborhood dates back to 1884. Recently, however, Chinese migrants seeking higher wages and a better life have settled in Daerim-dong. Korean-Chinese residents named Daerim-dong “Chinese Dongpo Town,” with “dongpo” implying Korean ethnicity.

How Daerim-dong came to be

Chinese-dominated neighborhoods were originally in Garibong-dong and Guro-dong. There used to be huge factories in these two areas back in the 1960s-1990s, and slums filled with poor people and laborers who worked at the Guro industrial complex were not a rare sight.

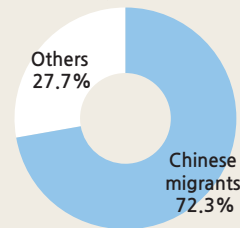


The very first step to Daerim-dong

The Argus arrived at Daerim Station at nine in the morning. Heading out of exit number 12 of Daerim Station along subway lines number two and seven, the reporter encountered an endless line of restaurants and stores with signboards all in Chinese characters; some of them were written both in Korean and Chinese. With the simplified Chinese letterings, a row of traditional red lanterns was seen, making the reporter feel as if she were strolling down a street in China. The streets were filled with the fragrance of Chinese spices. Everything in Daerim-dong was created in a way that was close to what would typically be seen in China.

People who were busy getting ready for the day to start could be spotted with ease on the street – a mixture of vendors, residents, and outsiders who came to visit Daerim-dong. Among the vendors who were busy opening their

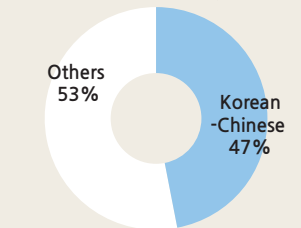
Distribution of Foreigners Living in Seoul



▲ Among Chinese migrants 142,168 are Korean-Chinese and 56,605 are from China.

©The Korea Immigration Service, Ministry of Justice

Proportion of Chinese Migrants in Daerim-dong



▲ Most Korean-Chinese and native Chinese live predominantly in Yeongdeungpo District in Seoul, at a total of 37,380. There are 10,101 foreigners living in Daerim-dong.

©Daerim 2-dong Office

Garibong-dong and Guro-dong became areas with dense populations of mainland Chinese immigrants at the end of the 1990s after China and South Korea opened diplomatic relations. They were mainly Korean-Chinese, who are known as Joseon-jok in Korea. Returning to the land of their ancestors was something they took into account, but potential economic opportunity was the main point of attraction that kept them living in this area.

As redevelopment was undertaken in those two areas, migrant Chinese residents moved to Daerim-dong. Once a quiet residential area, Daerim-dong sprang to life with the influx of Chinese migrants. Convenient transportation also played an important role for them to choose Daerim-dong as their home.

stores, The Argus met Mr. Zhao, a Yanbian native, who runs a mom-and-pop store. He came to Korea in 2003 for a job and has a special bond with Daerim-dong for about 14 years. “In the past, college graduates and people with good jobs were willing to give up their careers to come to South Korea for jobs, and I was one of them. staying in cheap basement apartments while receiving comparatively higher wages than those of China, allowed me to open up a store of my own here at last,” said Zhao. According to him, almost every Chinese and Korean-Chinese tried their best to find their spot in Korea.

Nearly 40 percent of the commercial stores in Daerim-dong are run by ethnic Korean-Chinese or Chinese, and two out of five children attending elementary school are from such families, according to Daerim 2-dong Office. Currency exchange offices, employment agencies, and travel agencies were everywhere. The reporter moved onto Daerim Jungang

Reportage

Market to go deeper and find out the real appeal of Daerim-dong.

Glimpse of the Daerim Jungang Market

The strongest Chinese vibes resonated at the Daerim Jungang Market. The market really was a slice of “China in Seoul,” as the streets were lined with restaurants and stores all with simplified Chinese signboards. Most are restaurants catering to Chinese workers and shops selling imported foodstuffs from China. Most of the passersby here spoke Mandarin, and hearing someone speak in Korean came as a brief moment of serendipity. “This is my first time to come here in Daerim-dong and I was surprised about the fact that this place mirrors the real market in China. I never thought I would find a place like this in Korea,” said a Korean visitor who lives in Seoul.

A slew of outdoor vendors were selling various kinds of Chinese snacks and dishes. “In China, we usually eat bread for breakfast, or just make it simple by buying something in the market,” said Ms. Jin, a Korean-Chinese vendor. In the stalls were a lightly salted fried doughnut stick *youtiao*, twisted bread stick *mahwa*, traditional Chinese bread *baozi*, Chinese crepés *jianbing*, and Chinese dumplings *xianbing*. Tea eggs bubbling in soy sauce in rice cookers were sold next to some stalls with them. They are popular with Chinese nationals who live and work here, one of the largest Chinese-dominated areas in the South Korean capital. Not only are they easily accessible, but they are also a taste of home.

Though one country, China has allowed for many different types of Chinese cuisine to develop. Grocery stores had a wide but rare range of Chinese items stacked on their shelves, such as spices, snacks, liquor and instant noodles. The market was filled with scallions, and cilantro that cannot be easily found in the markets in Korea. Chinese-style sausages *ssangchang*, and dog meat, considered a delicacy in some parts of China were also available.

Mooncakes, often eaten during the Mid-Autumn festival, were on one side of a stall. From almond to strawberry and pineapple, they varied in flavor. There was “chapssal soondae” in the back, Korean sausage stuffed with sticky rice. “You should try this,” said a Korean-Chinese vendor who runs a business here. Chapssal soondae was slightly different from that of the traditional Korean version. The pig blood and sticky rice inside were substitutes for the more commonly found cellophane noodles. The vendor said this kind of sundae reminds her of a certain memory she had in mainland China.

Restaurants in the market sold authentic Chinese food. Even though some of the signs were written in Korean, there was no Korean food. It was lunch time when The Argus finished wandering around the market, and the streets started to become packed with people who came to grab a bite to eat. After leaving the market, there was a small hair salon in which both the hairdresser and customers seemed to enjoy their time together on the weekend – their laughter filled the air.



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ The Daerim Jungang Market, often dubbed a ‘Small China in Seoul,’ has a wide range of Chinese products for sale, from spices and noodles to liquor.



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ Different flavors of mooncakes are on sale. Above are melon, peach, and jujube flavored mooncakes from the left.



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ Not only peaks of chicken but also internal organs, which are not seen much in Korea, are waiting for people to be sold.



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ Two Chinese residents of Daerim are buying *ssangchang*, a type of delicious sausage of China from one of the vendors.



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ The placard says “Abiding by the law will get you off to a good start during your life in Korea.”



©Moon Chae-un/The Argus

▲ The sign says “Driver’s license” in Chinese on signs, which shows that there is a large number of Chinese migrants in this area.



©Midnight Runners

▲ Above is a poster of the movie “Midnight Runners.”



Into the lives of Chinese-Koreans

Residents from China created their own community ever since they came to Korea, which caused an emotional clash between Koreans and Chinese. Middle-aged men were drinking alcohol with friends and chattering loudly in the middle of the day. This is apparently a common practice in China, but is not commonly seen here in South Korea.

Some foreigner-dominant places are often seen as a place where crime occurs on a frequent basis. Daerim-dong, in particular, was labelled a ghetto by Korean media and deemed rowdy and uncouth. Xenophobia has also grown since the high-profile coverage of at least three cases of Korean-Chinese men killing and dismembering their victims. Therefore, Daerim-dong and its people have been the first to suffer whenever something happens related to China.

Recently, Chinese living in Korea asked for a public apology over the movie, “Midnight Runners (2017),” which they claim mischaracterized them as “poor, vicious criminals.” “I felt discomfort about the way the Chinese were depicted in the film,” said a 28-year-old Chinese visitor who would only give his surname, Quan. The story is about two police trainees who witness a Chinese gang kidnapping children for organ trafficking. In the film, the Daerim District, a neighborhood predominately populated by Chinese, is portrayed as a dangerous area where even police have lost control. The criminal is a Korean-Chinese man who works at a sheep BBQ restaurant, and skewers are changed into weapons out of nowhere. “Chinese have been unfairly treated even though we have contributed much to Korea’s economy and culture. I remember once being asked if I had ever taken a shower when I first moved to Seoul three years ago.” He was surprised that people in South Korea know so little about the developments and living standards in China.

A 50-year-old Korean-Chinese vendor, surnamed Chen, who has experienced both cultures, admitted that there exists a fair amount of difference between the two cultures. “The thing is, Koreans look at us differently. They think we are hot-tempered and not cultured. It is such a pity that the Korean media, who needs to work harder to promote a multicultural society, exaggerates the reality of the situation,” said Chen.

Chinese and Korean-Chinese citizens are trying their hardest to improve the area’s image as a safe and lively one. According to the Daerim-dong precinct station, the crime rate had dropped 22 percent compared to the latter half of the last year. Efforts to promote the Daerim-dong area are made by residents through security surveillance and volunteer safety patrols. “I am sure that residents are currently working on revitalizing the neighborhood streets in Daerim-dong so everyone can live together harmoniously. Most people believe the misconception that Daerim-dong has higher crime rates than any other area,” said a policeman handling foreign residents.

Daerim-dong is a place where ‘people’ live. South Korea is the country they have chosen to live in, and will live until they die. People here start the morning and call it a day just like everybody else. The only difference with other areas is that it is the place where Chinese people live on their soil.

Korean residents often complain that an influx of foreigners will dampen property prices due to increased crime rates and negative perceptions of Chinese nationals. With a xenophobic attitude toward people, however, real multicultural society cannot be possible. Chinese neighbors are calling for a more open-minded, warm-hearted attitude from the Korean people. Understanding their situation may help us to create a harmonious society to live in. 🇰🇷

dalnimo@hufs.ac.kr



What Is in Your Jongmyo?

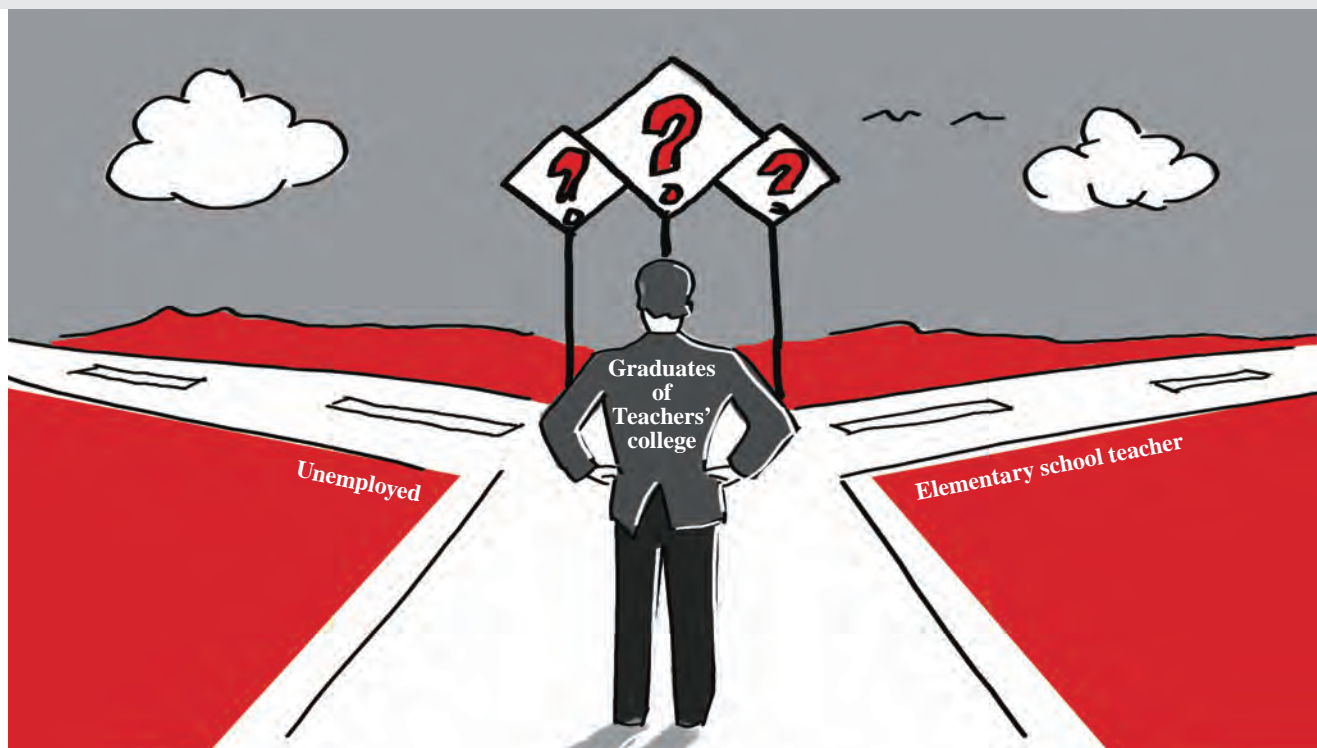
By Lee Jae-won
Editorial Consultant

Jongmyo is a royal Confucian shrine, which also functioned as a storage, designed to honor the deceased kings and queens of the Korean Joseon Dynasty (1392-1897).

As this year soon comes to an end, what you have done so far will become part of your history. Among numerous histories, some memorable events are going to be preserved in your own memory box. What do you think you will discover in your Jongmyo this year? 📷

gh10117@hufs.ac.kr

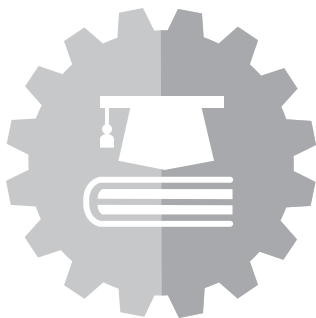




A Look into the Elementary Teacher Appointment Disaster

By Cho Jae-won, Moon Chae-un
Staff Reporters of National Section

On August 3, Korean government proclaimed a bold and unprecedented policy demanding elementary teacher personnel be reduced by 40 percent. The adjustment was an inevitable compromise to fix the ongoing imbalance between greater supply of elementary teachers and its diminishing demand. As a consequence, the graduates from teachers' college are now promised to face the employment instability. With the teacher certification exam upcoming in November, this news cannot be more concerning for the examinees. Unfortunate as it is, this chaos in elementary teacher employment involves various relations. To examine closely at who was involved in which way, The Argus looked into the current disproportion in elementary teacher employment.



According to the Ministry of Education, only graduates from teachers' college can gain the right to take the elementary teacher exam. There are currently 10 national teachers' colleges, and three private colleges that provide the required qualification. The elementary teacher exam is conducted in two stages, and once the examinees pass the exam, they are placed on a waiting list until their appointments to given district are announced. Right now there are many who have passed the exam but significantly few who are appointed. It is from this asymmetry that the greater number of applicants who have passed the exam are on the verge of losing their chances to become elementary teachers.



Problems **Hasty reduction in selection by the Ministry of Education**

From the ministry's standpoint, lowering down the number of elementary teachers would have meant the most effective measure to stop the elementary teacher catastrophe. From the graduates' perspective, not so much.

The elementary teacher selection cutback was foreseeable with low birth rate persisting for years. The question was when and by how much. For a long time, the past two administrations were not concerned with lowering the number of elementary teacher selection but increasing it. Now that the new administration has come into power, it seems that 'when' is justifiable. As for the 'how much,' on the other hand, the administration seems to have taken some harsh steps.

Based on what the Ministry of Education has announced, the number of elementary teacher selection, which has previously been at 6,022 people was downsized to just 3,432. This downsizing was most severely shown in Seoul.

In Seoul, there was 80 percent drop in appointment, making 846 to just 105. Another popular area, Gyeonggi Province also showed a steep drop, lowering the number of candidates to 868 from 1,712.

Considering that Seoul and Gyeonggi Province are the two most popular districts among the examinees, fierce competition along with the long wait until the actual appointment are likely. It is this situation that the graduates are showing their discontent over the policy.

"The elementary teacher selection problem has come to a current state due to the ministry's ignorance over teaching staffs' supply and demand policies. The ministry has failed to view this problem from a long-term perspective not to mention, their failure to listen to students' voices," asserted Park Jeong-eun, the president of National Teachers' College Union, on the behalf of the students.

On the whole, this policy is inconsiderate of graduates' circumstances. First, the announcement was made in August when the graduates are taking the exam in November. Second, the reduction was immoderate especially when the graduates have to bear the repercussions. The fact that the policy was carried out without any consensus from the people who were directly related proves that the reduction was done in haste.



Problems **Inflexible schools of education that kept the enrollment unchanged**

Along with the harshly reduced elementary teacher personnel, the teachers' colleges that have kept their enrollment unchanged are also partially responsible for the current situation as well.

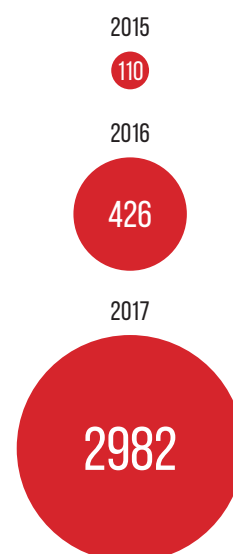
The number of enrollment has direct correlations with the future number of elementary teachers in Korea. The more undergraduates there are, the more elementary teachers there will be. Because of this, teachers' colleges have to be wavier of their undergraduates counts than any other universities. However, any form of active response to the lowering birth rate was not shown.

Decreasing birth rate in Korea is nothing new. The rate has been decreasing since 2001. Right now, the rate is at 1.24 babies per woman, a figure far below its replacement level fertility of 2.1. According to the demographic trends data announced in May by the National Statistical Office, there are currently 267,000 elementary students. Considering that there were 329,000 students in 2010, the drop is significant.

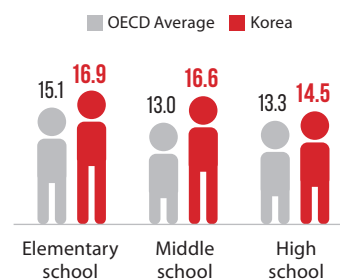
43%

The percentage of elementary school teacher personnel the government has declared to lower.

Elementary school teachers on the waiting list increases over time



Teacher per student ratio



©KBS



What is more concerning is teachers' colleges' timid response to such an alarming trend. According to the Korea High Education Research Institute, since 2012, the number of students at teachers' college was kept constant at 3,583. In 2015, the ministry even assured that they will not lower the number of teachers' college students given there are insufficient number of elementary school teachers.

Staffs at the schools of education would have been well aware of the necessity to cut the number of their undergraduates. Nonetheless, the number of students were unchanged.



Problems Criticisms toward students from schools of education

For the students of teachers' college, they not only have to face the more challenging employment situation but also endure public's unfavorable view towards them.

For a long time, with the help of government, enrollment meant an assured employment for the education college students. Now that getting employed in general became more challenging, the public thought unfair of this special treatment teachers' college students received. In their standpoint, the competition rate for elementary education exam was too low compared to that of secondary education exam. Ever since its commencement, competition rate for secondary education teacher exam was over 10 to 1 while elementary education teacher exam was kept at 2 or lower to 1. Thus, it is understandable that the public is less sympathetic about this issue.

Even more, Gangwon Province's three consecutive years of insufficient elementary school teachers fueled the public's anger. Regardless of students' intentions, in the eyes of public, the students appeared too full of themselves, only wanting the best from their already privileged state.

"We need 68 elementary teachers in Gangwon Province. However, there are only 26 who are appointed. Because of this, we have to hire temporary teachers for our district," said Ju Kyung-ja, principal of Heung-yang Elementary School, explaining dire teacher shortage Gangwon province is facing.

Furthermore, the schools of education students' radical claims during their protest became the target for public's denunciation as well. Kim Su-jin, a

senior from Ewha Women's University Elementary Teaching Department said, "We do not want to be the victims of your [government's] failed policies." Lots of other students demanded their assured employment as well chanting "Policy fail, and shifting responsibility kills us! Kills us! Kills us!" in front of the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education office.

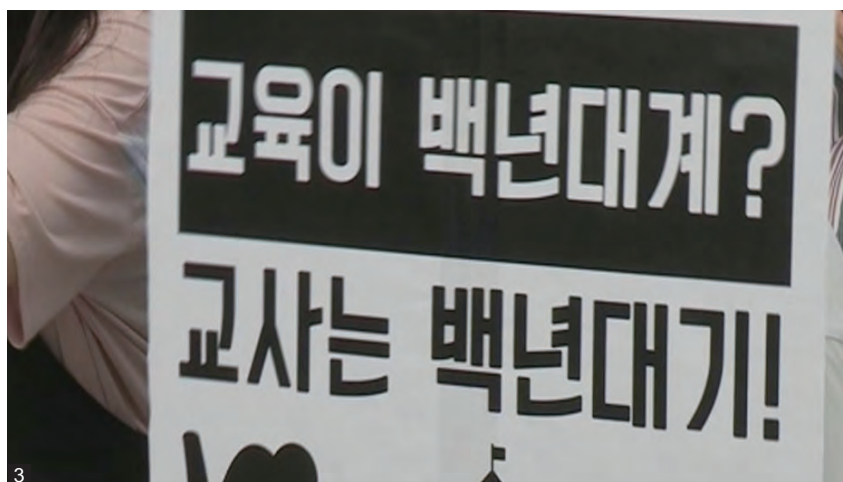
During the times when young population suffers from unemployment, their claims were viewed a little self-centered.



Causes Previous administration's uncontrolled job creation policy

The whole elementary teacher crisis was already anticipated from previous administrations' failed job creation policy. They were pumping out jobs when at the actual field the rooms for jobs were decreasing. The consequences were clear; the agenda was carried out deliberately despite the voices of concern. It was this stubbornness that facilitated the issue to advance this far.

In 2016, the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education increased the number of elementary school teacher selection to 960 from 600 under the government's orders. At that time there were already



- 1 The Korean School Teacher Union is initiating a '50,000 teacher petition movement' on August 17, in front of the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education.
- 2 5000 students from the National Teachers' College Union gathered at the Seoul station plaza on August 11 for an elementary teacher reduction protest.
- 3 A placard that says "Education policy, a far sighted policy? Elementary teacher candidates wait forever!" is shown in the picture.

signs of overflow, yet the government insisted on the expansion of elementary teacher personnel.

"Initially we were going to pick 656 people from the elementary teacher exam. The Ministry of Education, however, wanted more. They demanded the number be increased to at least a thousand. After some compromise, the number was ultimately adjusted down to 862. The number was already beyond the set limit and we [the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education] were in some way hesitant in resisting such pressure. Due to this this, I believe we too have some responsibility over current elementary school teacher catastrophe," said Han Sang-yoon, the section chief of the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education.

As shared by the section chief, the government has shown strong urges in raising the number of 'allowed' elementary teachers when the system could not actually sustain that many. What is worse, the agenda was pushed ahead without any detailed long-term plans.

Perhaps it was to appeal to the public with its populist ideals, or maybe they were truly unaware. Either ways, the after effect of this policy is certain. A longer waiting list that puts people who passed the exam in worry. This year, 958 examinees are waiting, hoping that they

get drafted the next year. What is guaranteed though is that few hundreds of them will have to wait another year as Seoul cannot accommodate all 958 elementary teachers in the upcoming year.

The dogmatic ways the government chose eventually backfired, and this time, the graduates had to take the damage.



Causes

Unfavorable circumstances for the school of education to lower students

Although the teachers' colleges were blamed for their inability to lower the number of students, in reality it is difficult for them to do so.

Restructuring and cutting back the number of students also mean decreasing the number of professors and other school personnel. No one wants to lose their jobs in the process of restructuring.

Lowering the number of students and inevitably firing professors would lead to another problem. The fired professors would not accept their unemployment and thus request the government to take responsibility for their losses.

This would cause problems for both students and professors. One way or another this problem involves a dilemma. In order to make the situation better, there should be an approach in increasing the school personnel not decreasing it.



Causes

Graduates of teachers' college, nowhere to go

The current criticisms the graduates are receiving are to a certain degree understandable. They were at a better position in employment, and their verbally aggressive protest was enough to irritate the mass. However, before heading on to censuring them, their situation should be taken into consideration.

First of all, the system of teachers' college only allows one possible career, an elementary school teacher. A distinguishing factor that differentiates teachers' college from other ordinary universities.

In the freshmen and sophomore years, undergraduates are required to take field learning, with little freedom in choices of courses.

Unlike department of education in other universities that have various other majors for their students, teachers' college lack double major system. Due to this, students from ordinary university can benefit from double major and choose other career paths, while students at college of education are stuck having to become an elementary school teacher.

Even worse, the graduates have no chance in working at corporations as well. According to Jeon So-ra, an elementary school teacher in Daejeon area, in the corporate application section, teachers' colleges are not registered at all.

It is from this lack of flexibility that the government guaranteed students at teachers' college employment and took responsibility over their future careers.

Systematically the students at schools of education are in the position where they are constraint to policy changes. Whenever a policy related to elementary education changes, they have to face all the suffering involved.

As stated by Kim Ha-jin, an ordinary university student, the graduates of school of education are victims at a blind spot.



Solutions

Implementation of re-training policy for the elementary teachers

As of now, after receiving many complaints from the students, the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education announced to increase the number of elementary teachers in Seoul. The increase will still be feeble and such slight increase is only a stopgap approach to this problem.

Right now, when teachers get hired, they stay for 20 to 30 years until retirement. Because of this, there is little inflow and outflow of teachers not to mention the old-fashioned classes elementary students are tied to.

In order to open more available spots for elementary teacher candidates, and offer better education for the elementary students, a policy that ensures the retraining of elementary school teachers should be enacted.

Professor Cho Yong-tae of the Graduate school of Public Health at Seoul National University said, "If teachers are allowed to leave school for up to two years and have the opportunity to learn the latest knowledge of the new environment, teachers can benefit by learning new teaching skills and the new graduates awaiting to be elementary teacher can fill in the gaps."

Catching two birds with one stone, by having the graduate school of teachers' college re-educate the teachers, the teachers' college will be able to enlarge their sizes and adjust the number of undergraduates without dismissing any professors.



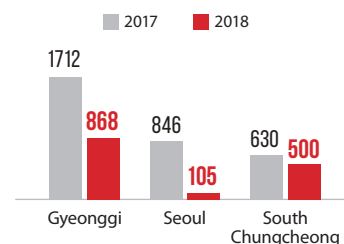
Solutions

Unification of teachers' college and the department of education in universities

Teachers' college lack variety in programs. However, this does not mean that the students need more diversity in curriculum.

"For students who enrolled in the teachers' college to become an elementary teacher, regardless of how many courses there are, they could not care less.

How many teachers are the government selecting now?



2015



6510

Selection



4395

Enrollment

2016



6075

Selection



3923

Enrollment

2017



5538

Selection



3892

Enrollment

2018



3321

Selection



4158

Enrollment

Increasing number of majors would simply mean more materials unrelated to becoming a teacher for the students,” said Kim Yong-lyun, professor of Education Department at HUFS.

As professor Kim said, the key approach is to provide students with better environment to become a teacher not something else. In order to do so, though difficult, unification of teachers’ college and other universities’ department of education is necessary.

First of all, the difference in competition rate between secondary teacher exam and elementary teacher exam is at large. In order to make things fair and square, the two exams should be merged so that all the students aiming to become a teacher are provided with a similar ground.

Right now, the location itself makes specific areas highly preferred for the teachers’ college graduates. The problem is, such polarity is the leading cause for the gap in quality of education. This only makes the unification of the exams all the more necessary. In the long run, evenly distributed competition rate achieved by melding two exams would increase the quality of teachers assigned in each location and fix unusually high competition rate in certain areas.

“It would be harder for teachers’ college to maintain their special position. They can no longer be guaranteed the privilege of having small competition among themselves,” asserted professor Kim.

Korea does not need separation in selecting educators. For the betterment of Korean education system, the unification is necessary.



“

In the corporate application section, teachers’ colleges are not registered at all

”



Solutions Lowering the teacher to student ratio

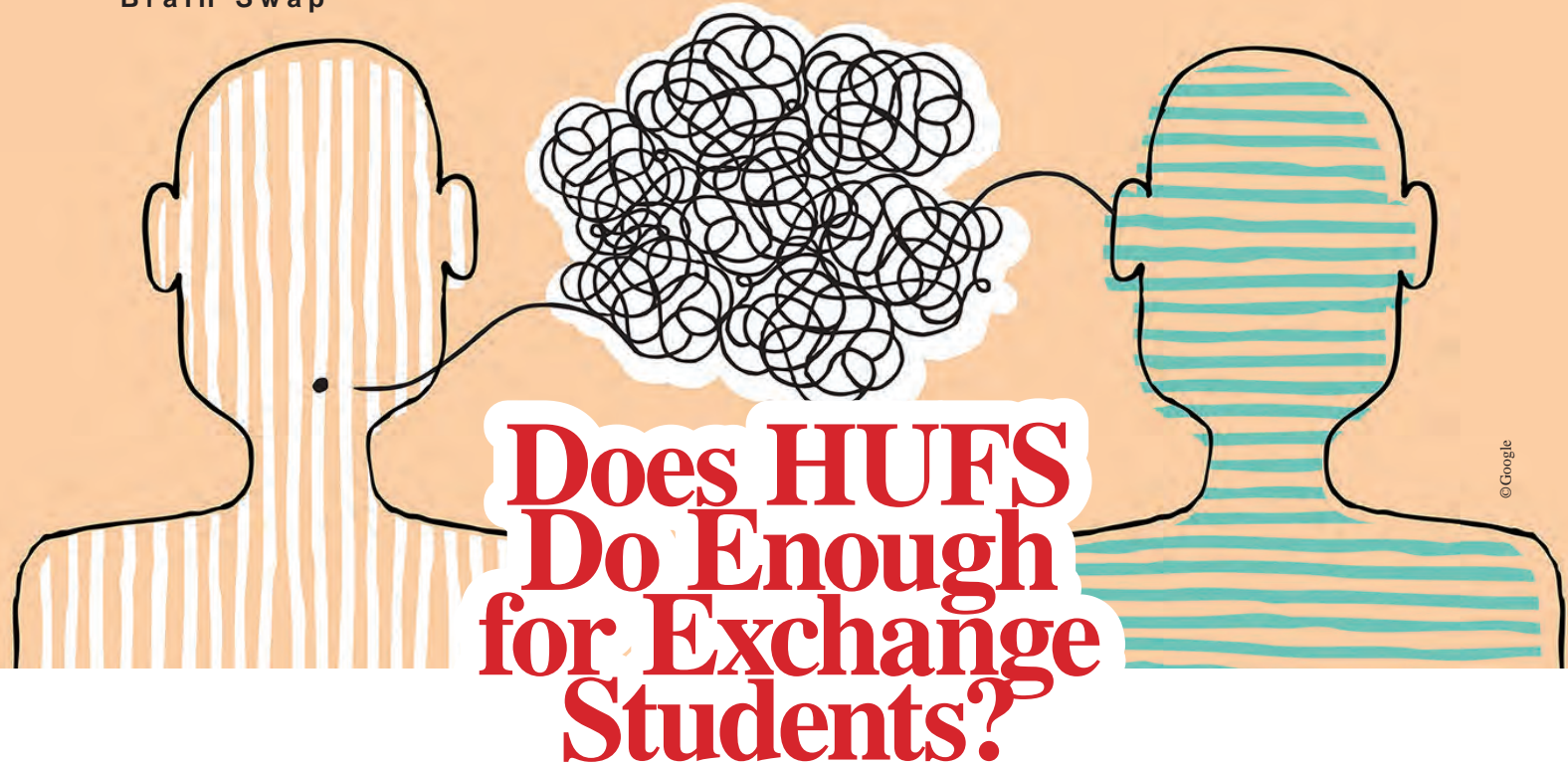
One fundamental approach to increasing the educators in elementary field is by lowering teacher to student ratio. As of now Korea’s teacher per student ratio is higher than it should be.

According to the OECD statistics in 2014, Korea’s students per teacher ratio was at 16.9, little over the OECD average of 15.1.

The process of increasing the elementary teachers would not be simple as it would mean hiring more teachers and dividing up more classes. However, the change is imperative to increase quality of education and guarantee more workplaces for the elementary teachers.

The elementary school teacher issue is like that of an elephant in a room. There is an obvious problem present, yet people avoid directly facing it. Perhaps this proves that the ongoing elementary personnel problem is not a simple one. Still, education is an expression of the nation’s future. It is not meant to be easy, and no matter how difficult it could be, it is crucial that we thoroughly check the problems and polish our way through. After all, we are the ones responsible for our kids, and our nation. 🇰🇷

aurastorm97@hufs.ac.kr
dalnimo@hufs.ac.kr



Zhang Jie
Shenzhen University



Salome Dettwiller
Zurich University of Applied Sciences



Junki Hanazawa
Josai International University



Rebecca Kirmis
Otto von Guericke University

*Rebecca did not want to be portrayed in this article.

By Park Ji-yong
Reporter of Campus Section

The Argus has sought careful insight into how globalized HUFs really is multiple times in regards to the inconveniences foreign students are facing every day. There have been improvements afterwards, but a lot of the inconveniences exchange students experience can still be heard. The Argus listened to four exchange students and drew a detailed picture of their daily and yet chronic inconveniences.

The Argus: What does your home university do for international students?

Junki: Josai International University put forth its best effort to pay close attention to its international students in an attempt to stay on the same par with its name value. There are many programs for the well-being of international students like

excursions with international members. It quite resembles services from the International Student Organization (ISO), but the Josai International University boasts an international group community, thereby building internationalers' total network. In addition, monthly conferences are held as well, to discuss and fix the problems that bother international students.

Rebecca: Otto von Guericke University does not offer as many programs for international students as HUFS does. They provide the initial orientation that mandates all international students to be present. It gives simple guidelines for the moral and behavioral code of Germany, and certain education courses to reduce the culture gap between Germany and the country of origin. I was quite amazed that HUFS had such good preparation when compared to what I saw in my university.

The Argus: What troubled you as an Exchange Student on campus?

Rebecca: In my experience, I found course registration so troublesome because the updates are quite late. Some classes got cancelled at the last-minute, so I had to change my whole schedule that I made in April. Some of my friends also got their initial schedule completely cancelled since a professor left the school. If the notifications were quick and precise enough, such course changes would not have been as troublesome as they did.

Also, HUFS should improve its English webpage, since important details are missing from the site. For instance, notifications provided on HUFS English homepage are only posted two or three times a year. Practically, no detail for undergraduates is provided on the main page.

Junki: I agree that some notifications that international students receive lack in terms of quantity. From what I have experienced so far, the amount of the notifications in English does not cover everything that internationalers experience in their daily lives, like detailed explanations in GlobeeDorm's penalty point system.

I had some troubles at GlobeeDorm once, because of the curfew and punishment point system. According to the system, a tenant gets a certain amount of punishment points when a tenant goes out of the dorm after midnight. I was aware of the system itself, but I ended up with points stacked up to punishment-warning level because I did not know enough details for which I got penalty points. I wish general regulations, including that of GlobeeDorm, would be given with enough details to International Students.

I hope HUFS takes a closer look into the notifications provided to international students and updates the notifications that are often overlooked. HUFS should ensure reliable information distribution from Office of International Student Services (OISS) to the exchange students so that everyone receives all the information.

Salome: The language barrier is one factor that has bothered me the most. HUFS lacks a little bit in "internationaler-convenience" in terms of having a bilingual system which makes it challenging for international students to adapt to the new school system and the campus, especially in the first few weeks. The language problem applies to all domains including the university's online systems, like Course Registration, Student Portal, and the E-class platform. HUFS must incorporate full English translations. For example, library reservation system is only in Korean.

I also had trouble with the guards at the entrance, because they cannot understand English at all. I hope HUFS consider employing some staffs who can speak basic English so that international students can receive help at the right place and time.

Jie: It would be better to provide more options in consideration of student with different cultural backgrounds. For instance, certain types of food should be made available for religious students. I have seen some Muslim students who are having a lot of trouble finding suitable food, since their food has to be strictly "Halal." The same is true for Hindi students, who must not consume beef.

The Argus: Do you think HUFS is a globalized school?

Junki: I agree that HUFS is quite globalized. Institutional support from HUFS from what I have seen so far was good enough to make most international students feel comfortable. I really appreciate the help from the ISO. I am so glad that there are platforms which provide priceless opportunities to meet people from all around the world.

Jie: I think HUFS is a globalized campus in my opinion. HUFS cares about international students and exchange students a lot. I am really grateful to the OISS for helping us out with so many problems. I would also like to give my thanks to the ISO for organizing so many great events.

Salome: I want to say partially yes, since studying at HUFS is a great opportunity for every student to meet people from other countries. However in order to do so, both Korean and international students have to make the first step and approach each other. 📧

sandspectre7@hufs.ac.kr

What Are Your Goals Before 2018?

By Kim Jin-ha
Cub Reporter

Every student has different values and goals that they pursue in life. However, referring to other students' goals is not only entertaining but can also be informative. The Argus met with four students and listened to their resolutions before 2017 comes to an end.



Chu Seung-ho, Dept. of English Linguistics '17

I want to practice singing and be good at it. Before entering university, I could not spend my time doing what I truly wanted to do because my high school life was mostly confined to studying books and math. Now, as a university student, I have great freedom which I could not even imagine back in those days. I want to use this time to broaden my experience. Specifically, I am planning to develop my singing skills as I have always been fond of listening to songs, but have not tried them at karaoke room.



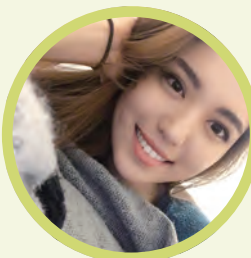
Choi Jae-ho, Dept. of Business '17

In South Korea, every man should serve the nation for two years in the military. What I wish to achieve before the end of 2017 and before I enter the military is to make friends. Friends here do not mean acquaintances or those you have shallow relationships with, but lifelong friends. It would be good if I fulfill this desire within my few months left.



You Ha-ram, Division of International Studies '17

There are a few goals I have in mind before the end of 2017. First of all, I would like to go on a diet and hopefully lose some weight. Also, I will try to make my school life more meaningful and enjoyable. I wish to build relationships with diverse people while getting closer to people I am already friendly with. In terms of academics, I am planning to delve into studying various subjects and prepare much harder for exams than I did in the past.



Kim Ser-vin, Division of International Studies '17

My primary goal in 2017 is to be close with more friends within my department. Back in last semester, I mostly hung out with friends I already knew from different universities, so I did not have much of a chance to interact with those in my own department. I think it was because of my inactive personality. This semester, I want to be more active and thereby, build rapport with more students from DIS that I did not know or was not friendly with. To realize this goal, I joined two clubs that would provide me a good opportunity. 🐼

jkhufs@hufs.ac.kr

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



© Shopyly

Does HUFS Help You to Meet the World?

By Park Ji-yong

Reporter of Campus Section

HUFS is known for its international background throughout Korea. For instance, the university has always topped Quacarelli Symmonds (QS) evaluations in Asia. However, according to multiple international students interviewees, its system does not fit its reputation. At the beginning of this semester, tuition for international students increased, without any multilateral debates, by 400,000 Korean won (US\$ 348.49). The Argus listened to international students and their complaints in order to make HUFS better for everyone.

According to Foreign Students and Trainees Management Regulations, foreign students are officially defined by three categories: International Students, Exchange Students, and Korean Language Trainees.

Categories	Defined as	Management services from
International Students	Who enrolled HUFS as a Full-degree undergraduate	Office of International Students Services (OISS)
Exchange Students	Who enrolled HUFS through an exchange program	OISS
Korean Language Trainees	Who enrolled HUFS as a student in the Center for Korean Language and Culture (CKLC)	CKLC



Problems that international students face

Unclear notification coverage and delivery

There is a huge information gap when it comes to accessibility, since the amount of information given in Korean is much more than the amount given in English.

A student also added, “In fact, the official notice of the increase was released after the payment period, which angered many international students.”

There have been improvements on essential notifications; they are now sent in English to Foreign Students in OISS.

However, Simon Soltes, vice president of GSA said, “There are still many parts of crucial information still given in Korean only, like webpages of College of Business, International Economics and Law to name a few. I have seen some cases in which a few international students did not receive the notifications.”

E-class also provides an English platform, but crucial notifications are still given in Korean only.

Daily inconveniences due to miscommunication

The majority of foreign students have experienced troubles with school administration offices due to poor communication in English, according to multiple interviewees. Most international students who were interviewed expressed their

discontent with the GlobeeDorm administration office, saying the office did not have any personnel fluent in English or other languages.

“Managers in the GlobeeDorm office and even security guards cannot speak English at all, when they actually have the most contact with foreign students.” said Simon.

Further, a few interviewees also said that they felt offended when they were stopped by guards and had to comply their orders without enough explanation.

Since they came from different backgrounds international students are not quite familiar with HUFS regulations as much as regular Korean students. Hence, enough explanation is necessary to avoid emotional offense.

“I was notified all of a sudden that my penalty points are too high to stay in my dorm; however, I was never told the reasons. I asked the guards why my points had piled up so high while I did not notice, but the guards could not explain things in English at all,” an interviewee said on condition of anonymity.

Jonathan also stressed international students’ troubles with the office’s insufficient explanations. According to him, there were many international students who wanted to extend their term of stay last semester, as did he. So, he went to the GlobeeDorm office. Jonathan stated, “I got into so much trouble communicating with them in English. Even the notification I finally got from them was wrong, so a number of students who wanted to stay had to be kicked out because of the wrong due date that they gave us. I really think this must be fixed.”

Not enough opportunities to ‘blend-in’

There were not enough chances to blend into Korean classes and student societies, according to most of interviewees. According to both of representatives of GSA, a lot of international students including students in the Center for Korean Language and Culture wish they could have a greater connection to Korean classes and students.

“I have heard a lot from foreign students that there should be more regular classes provided in English so that they can take classes with regular Korean students. HUFS is a language-specialized school, but I felt classes were so separated from Korean students,” said Mariam Kim, an international student studying Industrial Management Engineering at Global Campus. “I think the platform for interaction between foreign and Korean students is quite limited, so I wish there could be additional integrative programs or such,” she added.



Causes of the problems

Korean comprehension skills not guaranteed with TOPIK

Requiring TOPIK for undergraduates is as good as expecting them to have enough understanding skills for Korean language, especially when it comes to classes. However, since the test score is not required for every foreign student, the school still shares responsibility to make sure announcements are given in English as well.

Regrettably, there was no single line saying “notifications should also be provided in English,” in HUFS regulations, including Foreign Students and Trainees Management Regulations.

Article 2 of Chapter 2 of the regulation specifically states that CKLC and OISS are responsible for management services, saying “Both of the institutions should provide support for enrollment, daily life, safety, counseling, and academic affairs.” Thus, these two offices take charge of informing foreign students.

However, The Argus did not find any regulations which stated, “All public announcements should also be given in English.” from any other related regulations uploaded on the HUFS website.

The school's expectation for foreigners without TOPIK to understand Korean

HUFS' requirements for its foreign students does not cover Korean language fluency.

Further, Exchange Students and Korean Language Trainees are not required to submit Korean language fluency test results, and even some of the regular full-degree undergraduates are not required to either.

According to the International Affairs Team, if a major course provides classes in English in more than half of the

total amount of all of the lectures, the major course is referred to as ‘English Track’.

According to the HUFS General Guide for International Undergraduate Admission Academic Year Spring and Fall 2018, foreign national applicants for a regular full-degree are partially required to submit TOPIK results, level 3 at minimum. However, the guideline says that it is also possible for those who do not submit the TOPIK or who fail to meet requirements. “Those who have not submitted an official language proficiency score or do not meet the minimum requirements (TOPIK level 3 or TOEFL 80) can and have to take a language interview instead.”

Thus, basically foreign students with a TOPIK level score would not have difficulty understanding Korean classes but the language barrier between foreign students without TOPIK and school administrators is inevitable, since the regulation does not mandate basic Korean language skills for every foreign national.

Insufficient diversity of cultural exchange programs

A number of interviewees expressed their concerns that the diversity of cultural exchange platforms is minimal. “Programs from the International Student Organization (ISO) are quite good, but I also wish there could be more programs that are open to those who could not volunteer during the given period,” said Mariam.

Currently, HUFS has several programs for foreign students and Koreans to get together: ISO and KR Buddy, a HUFS club for tourism in Korea - provides services like excursions, trips and cultural exchange. “I think nothing much else is available other than ISO. The organization takes great and professional care for exchange students thankfully, but I wish there could be more diversified programs like opening HUFS' clubs for foreign students,” she added.

	College / Department	Language proficiency requirements
Korean Track	All colleges and departments except English Track A and B	First-year students: TOPIK level 3 or above HUFS Korean Regular Course level 4
		Transfer students: above TOPIK level 4 HUFS Korean Regular Course level 4
English Track A (All lectures are given in English)	International Studies (Seoul Campus)	TOEFL iBT 80 (CBT550) or above IELTS 5.5 or above
English Track B	College of English (Seoul Campus) College of Business (Seoul Campus) International Economics and Law (Seoul Campus) Division of International Sports and Leisure (Global Campus)	Meet one of the two requirements listed above (Korean or English)

▲ Language requirements for international admissions

© HUFS General Guide for International Undergraduate Admission



▲ Crucial information is still given in Korean only, even on the English version of E-class.



Paths to improvement

Mandate notifications to be given in English

HUFS should mandate every notification regarding foreign students to be given in other languages.

Both GSA representatives stressed the importance of English guidelines for foreign students, especially International ones.

“Requirements for graduation and the credit system for International Students were provided in Korean only. I had a hard time understanding how to schedule myself in academics. Most of the International Students like me had to suffer from the same issue,” said Simon. “Thus, absolutely, we do think HUFS should amend its regulations to make sure more information is available in other languages.” Jonathan added.

Without proper notifications given in other languages, it is so obvious that International Students who take up a large part of HUFS total members cannot continue their academic years smoothly. Since foreign students absolutely are customers of education, it goes without saying that notices must be provided in English in a correct, timely manner as much as Korean ones are.

Allocation of English-fluent employees

HUFS should allocate personnel who can speak English fluently in every foreigner-related office, for the improvement of communication between offices and foreign students.

“I can hardly understand why there are no managers who are fluent in English in offices, while HUFS presents itself as the best language school in South Korea,” said Simon.

He also added “It is not that we want every official to be fluent in English or other languages. I want to emphasize that

there have been actual cases in which International Students could not continue his/her academic curricula because of miscommunications with school officials. This is not a thing that is supposed to happen in ‘The best language school in Korea’.”

Hence, HUFS must allocate multilingual employee in offices where they are closely-knit with foreign students, for the mutual betterment of foreigners and HUFS itself.

Integration programs for HUF Sans regardless of nationality

In many universities in England and other Commonwealth countries, where all races and a wider variety of nationals come together, there is an exemplary system called ‘a Foundation Course’.

Foreign students in the Foundation Course are required to take a vast array of linguistic and cultural training to help with their adaptation and blend-in. The course offers intensive/extensive knowledge about differences from their homelands, and skill developments for practical speaking and presentation. The biggest difference between the Foundation Course and HUFS’ current regulation is that of mandating foreign students to take pre-bachelor’s degree preparations, so that foreign national students will not have trouble blending into local communities.

Professor Lee Seung-yeon of Ewha Womans University, stressed the importance of such integration programs, saying “Foreign students, particularly Exchange Students, are quite prone to cultural stress which often leads to nervousness and alcoholism, for they are repetitively exposed to unfamiliar situations on a daily basis.” in a seminar held in Jeju island, 2015.

HUFS should adopt and benchmark the course to provide a vast range of support, so that the platform of cultural/language exchange is not limited to volunteers and diversification.

The Argus has always been keeping its eyes on foreign students, issuing an article about them every year. However, The Argus always finds old and new problems every time it takes a look at them. Both GSA presidents stressed their chronic inconveniences, demanding enough attention and action from school officials, in their interview. It is time that their problems be solved, for foreign students are becoming dubious of HUFS’ advertising slogan, “No.1 globalized campus in Korea.”

sandspectre7@hufs.ac.kr

People Who Share the Joy of Writing



By Jeon Nu-ri
Reporter of Culture Section

A daily and emotional writing mobile application developed by two students is much sought after these days. It was even selected as “The Most Beautiful App of 2016” by Google Korea. The app Sseum provides topics that people can write freely about. People nowadays enjoy communicating simply with pictures and they have fun sharing their lives with photos. In this respect, the writing app is quite unique. Sseum’s feature, that tranquilizes mind, has attracted people.

Sseum has achieved remarkable results in just two years. The average number of users per day has now reached 16,000. The two men who like to read and write granted people a personal space where they can feel free to write whatever they want. The Argus met these two college students who made texts gain ground through their writing app.

The Argus: Could you please introduce yourselves briefly?

Lee Yun-jae: Hello, we are the developers of the writing app Sseum. My name is Lee Yun-jae and I am 27 years old. I major in Design & Human Factors engineering and minor in Computer Engineering at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (UNIST).

Lee Ji-hyung: I am Lee Ji-hyung, 24 years old. My major is Computer Engineering and my minor is Industrial Design. I am now working on the app Sseum with Lee Yun-jae.

The Argus: Please introduce the app “Sseum.”

Sseum developers (Sseum): Sseum is an app that enables daily writing. We offer writing materials such as “seasons” and “entrust” every day at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Users can write anything related to the given words. People can decide on whether to make their writings public or not. Users can read other people’s stories and can also subscribe if they want to follow the writer’s work. However, there are no likes and comment features.

The Argus: Why did you become interested in developing apps?

Sseum: Ever since we were in high school, we had the dream of one day creating our very own app. We noticed that physical products and merchandise tend to have limits when they spread across society, but software, especially apps, have a relatively powerful ripple effect.

Apps can influence a lot of people through a small, virtual space called Play store and App store. We wanted to share our experiences and thoughts. To fulfill this, we thought an app would be a perfect fit.

The Argus: Why did you develop an app about writing of all things?

Sseum: To be honest, we had invented many other apps before Sseum became successful. After a few failures, we started to focus on things we like and what could be truly meaningful and useful for the people. Then, we came up with the idea of writing. Within the limits of our skills, developing a writing app seemed most appropriate to realize our common interest in the form of an app.

We felt the necessity of an app like Sseum. There are no spaces to write comfortably. Social media is too open and a notebook is a burden to carry all the time. Some even have difficulty choosing what to write about. We wanted to help those who have similar concerns.

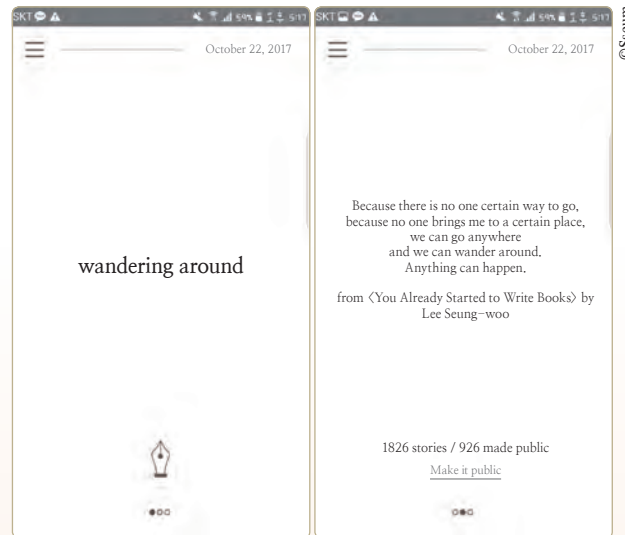
The Argus: What do you think is the charm of writing?

Sseum: Entry barriers to writing are comparatively low. Pictures and photos are not very easy things to deal with and they have certain limits when expressing sophisticated thoughts. However, in terms of writing, anyone can write and it is effective in conveying feelings. The depth of the expression is outstanding, too. We can write, revise and ruminate over the words we have written.

Writing is also a perfect form of communication. It is not instantaneous which allows it to be more complete. The reason we like books can be understood in the same context. By talking, people get to know what others think, but a speaker cannot fully deliver everything during a conversation. Meanwhile, books cover the limitations talking has, in that the writers can convey their message in the most refined and organized way.

The Argus: How did people react to Sseum?

Sseum: Many users are showing us warm and supportive



▲ The developers offer writing materials(L) with quotations(R) about them. By referring to the example, users can write freely about the given subject.

reactions. Although we cannot meet with every user to ask what they think about Sseum, we can feel their positive attitude toward us, through reviews posted on Play store or App store. Many people felt very good about writing down things that could not easily be said.

Some said that thanks to Sseum, time spent in writing became an important part of their daily routine. We are proud to see people using our app in the way that we intended. People often gently suggest improvements for our app. We always feel affection for Sseum in those regards and we do not want to let our users down.

The Argus: Were there any difficulties in developing Sseum?

Sseum: It was hard for us to study and work on the app at the same time. After taking classes, we met up at the cafe and we talked and worked for hours. It was the final exam period when we launched Sseum. To work with the app and study all night, we often fell asleep during our classes. The collision of two different egos was difficult. In the beginning, we were able to work as a pure creator, not a company operator. However, once we started to provide service, we had to work as businessmen. Although we have had some difficulties, we overcame them with our firm sense of duty and responsibility.

The Argus: At what moment did you feel rewarded?

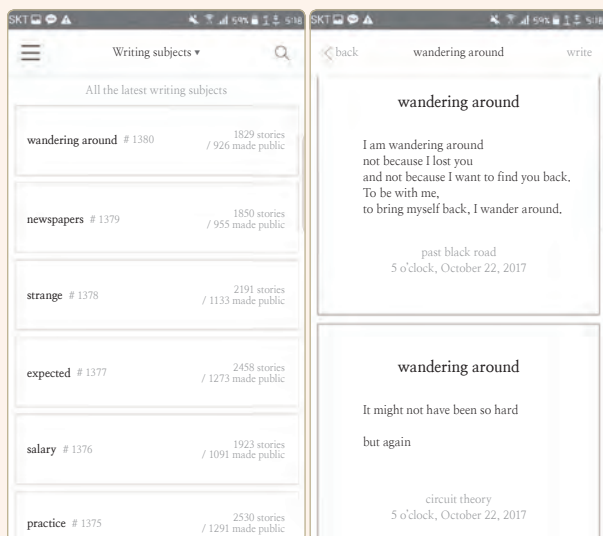
Sseum: We feel rewarded when we see people using our app. We think making an app is a performance that lets others experience certain feelings and events we have designed. We are thrilled when we find out that people are enjoying Sseum as we intended. Some make use of Sseum in greater ways than we anticipated.

The warm support of our users is absolutely rewarding. We met some active users the other day and they worried about our livelihood. They wondered whether it is a profitable business and they were even frightened about the possibility of Sseum disappearing. We exist thanks to such users.

The Argus: What is your plan for the future?

Sseum: As users, not developers of Sseum, we often admire some stories and want to let those writers know that someone really likes their writing. However, it is impossible. The function for communication was excluded at first because we wanted people to focus solely on the writing itself, not on factors such as likes and comments.

Nonetheless, we are now planning to make it possible by interpreting the meaning of interaction in our own way. We have provided a virtual space for free writing that did not previously exist in the meantime. Our goal is to become an indispensable companion when someone wants to write.



▲ Past writing subjects are categorized(L) and the users can read other people's stories(R).



▲ The developers of Sseum aim to make Sseum an indispensable companion for writing.

The Argus: What would you like to say to your readers?

Sseum: It may sound like a cliché, but life is not always fun. Almost every day is full of hardships, but occasionally there are moments of joy that give us the power to keep on going. We sometimes think of the paths we have not walked. There may be easier paths.

What we are doing right now is creating apps. There are no manuals in this field. Failed cases fade away and only successes remain. Sometimes, we do not know where we are or what we are doing.

However, when we get a positive response from the people who enjoy the fruit of our hard work, we gain the courage to walk on difficult paths again. We want this feeling of happiness. We hope readers do not miss the rewards and joy in life to continue hidden behind their hardships.

They have experienced the benefits of written words in communicating. To share that experience with others, they created a place called Sseum. When the reporter asked what writing means to them, Lee Yun-jae said, "What is writing? I cannot easily answer that." Finally, he replied that writing is difficult.

Writing is complicated for them too, but they made Sseum in the hope that others would have a good experience in writing, like they had. To help people get close to and be more familiar with writing, they are working hard. 📖

wjssnfl10@hufs.ac.kr

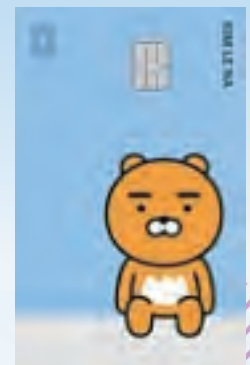


Talk, Share, and Get Informed with Images

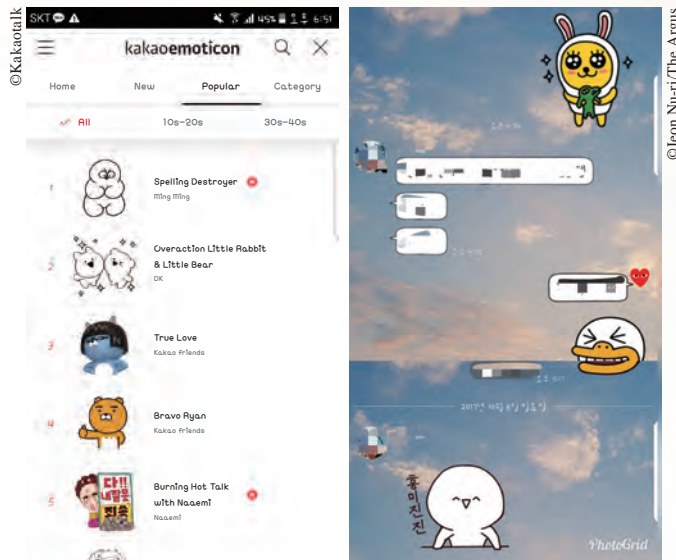
By Jeon Nu-ri
Reporter of Culture Section

Recently, there is a popular joke about a lion sustaining a company. It is related to a Kakao character named Ryan. He was behind the huge success of Kakaobank, an internet-based bank which gained 3.9 million clients in just two months. When requesting for a credit card, people could choose one of the four Kakao characters and 53.4 percent chose Ryan. It even has the nickname of “sales managing director” because it attracts many people with its appealing looks.

These days, people are moved by the charm of images. It is easy to find people who enjoy sharing and communicating through images rather than in written forms. The Argus looked into the cultural phenomena of people actively making use of images and looked for their causes.



▲ People are attracted to things with visual impressions. The credit card of Kakaobank is a good example.



▲ Mobile messengers provide emoticons(L) and people make use of them to interact with each other(R).

How people apply images to their lives

People talking with images

As images are more convenient than texts, people nowadays tend to express their feelings and convey their thoughts with emoticons.

Emoticon is not a new concept. In fact, their history is quite long. In the old days, when people texted or e-mailed, they used simple lines and figures like smiling faces to vividly express how they feel. In contrast, people now use moving emoticons on mobile chatting apps. The use of emoticons to replace the text itself has recently become noticeable. It is now unimaginable to think of people talking without images.

“It seems more effective to use one emoticon

than writing several words when I express my feelings. So I talk with emoticons,” said Cho yeon-young, a college student.

People sharing their lives with images

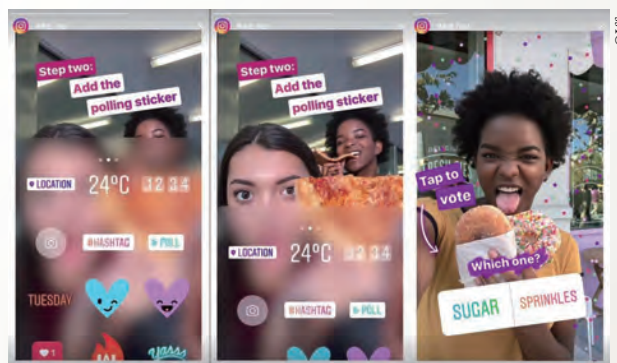
People who want to show their lives by sharing images on social platforms are becoming more prominent than the past. Such changes are being reflected through diversification of image-based platforms and addition of new functions.

One exemplification of this is Snapchat, a mobile messenger specialized for sharing photos and video clips. Its feature that people can only view contents sent by the other party only for a specified period of time attracted users.

Other social media are adding new functions to their apps. Instagram updated a new function called a story in 2016. Taking advantage of Snapchat, it allowed users to upload short videos and share them for 24 hours.

“I travelled to Taiwan and I wanted to share my experience with friends. Instagram stories came in handy in the sense that I was able to show what I did in real time,” said Choi Joo-hee, an undergraduate who uses Instagram often.

“I sometimes want to tell people how I spent the day, but it is annoying to write down all the things to explain it. With image-based social media, this has become very simple. Showing images is a way to share one’s life more colorfully,” said Kim So-yeon, a university student.



▲ Instagram story enables users to share their daily lives with short videos. People can write some letters and put stickers on the clip and viewers can leave comments.



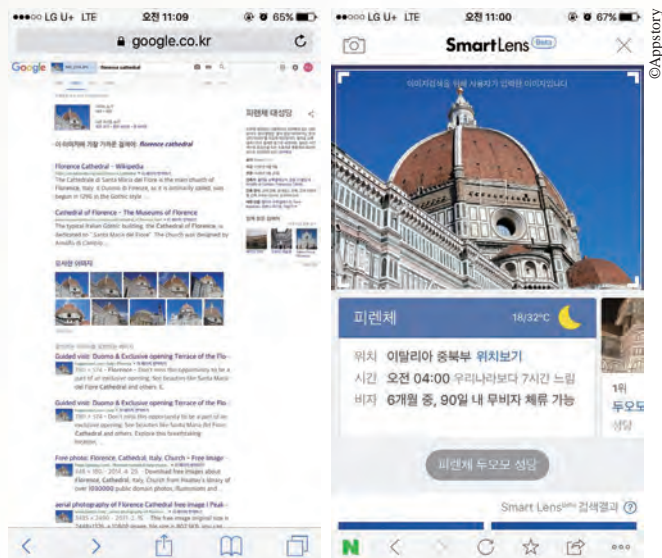
People getting information through images

Voice assisted searching was introduced several years ago to supplement the traditional method of text searching. Now, image search is available and its functions are expanding. More and more people are using image searches in their daily lives.

Google, the world's leading search engine, already introduced image searching years ago. Based on Google's huge database, people can find a lot more from a certain image – where the photo was taken, who took it, and what kind of camera was used. Image searching is constantly developing. It is a breakthrough especially for people who wonder about things that cannot be searched only with text.

"I used image search when I was curious about the brand of clothes a celebrity wore and it was really convenient," said Choi Joo-hee, a college student.

Kakao introduced flower searching last year and Korea's search portal Naver officially started its image searching system named Smart Lens in July. With Smart Lens people can now easily get information they need through images on their mobile phones.



▲ People get information by directly searching for images on Google(L) and Naver(R).

Why people use images

People began to communicate, share and search for information with images, rather than text. The reason is primarily the nature of the image itself. Images can attract more attention and express thoughts in more colorful ways than letters can. Taking advantage of this, some companies supplied image-based products to their customers. People used it, felt the convenience and as a result, its demand increased. Witnessing this phenomenon, for their own benefit, other companies started to offer similar or more advanced services. Consequently, more consumers were able to join the crowd of people who use images.

The efficiency of an image itself

Images can go beyond the limits letters have, and the characteristics of images are more efficient than those of writing, so people continuously make use of images.

Image searching is a game changer. In the past, when text was the main type of information, text-oriented search methods were enough to obtain the desired amount and quality of information. However, with the increase of various multimedia materials, searching only by text had its limits. Image searching provided the tools to overcome the hardships by directly letting users upload images in the search box.

In addition, images remain longer and stronger in memory than letters do and they easily grab people's attention. According to a thesis written by Kim Min-su, a professor of Visual Culture Studies, images have excellent functional properties that imprint the shape and style on our memory for a long time.



“Images come first in my mind with just one glance, so an image is more convenient to express my feelings instantly,” said Jung Kyo-yoon, a university student who often uses image-based platforms.

Increase in demand due to supply

Several companies in the market provided services utilizing images and made a profit off of it. Once customers used the services, the need for them increased because they have used them and figured out the advantages.

Before the launch of a certain product, people did not regard them necessary, but once a handful of companies started to supply their image-based products, people gradually became dependent to them. In this way, an item that did not even exist a few months before became a lucrative item for a business. The reason Kakao introduced an image searching system can be understood in this context. Messenger has nothing to do with getting information through images, but many people needed this kind of function. Thus, messengers too, have gained the image search.

Instagram also epitomizes this process. Before the advent of Instagram, most people were using Facebook, so they did not particularly feel the need for a new communication platform. Once people started to use Instagram, they were attracted to the fact that they could easily share their lives with images, rather than with words.

Using human psychology to imitate others

If a few companies provide products making use of images and get positive responses from customers, others want to make a profit by doing similar things. Customers too, tend to follow people’s behaviors when making decisions.

This inclination of people explains how actively the use of images has spread throughout our society. For example, someone who never used emoticons when chatting can change if the other side uses emoticons often. Plenty of people who join Instagram or Snapchat have done so to catch up with others.

“I did not use Instagram before, but one day, I realized that all my friends were interacting with each other posting images on Instagram. I wanted to share my life with my friends, so I joined,” said Shin Ga-hyeon, a college undergraduate.

Veblen, a sociologist and economist, explained people’s tendency to imitate others’ behaviors with mob psychology, which refers to just following the choices a large number of people made without any reasonable suspicion and proper information.

The bandwagon effect is similar. Rather than rationally asking themselves, “Why should I buy this?” people just buy something because everyone else bought it. 📺

A photo named “The Kiss” is famous for well-expressing people’s joy at the end of the war. In the picture, a navy man is hugging and kissing a nurse. Just by looking at the image, we can almost feel how happy they were at that moment. As such, people have been using images and photographs for a variety of purposes, and images helped us learn many things. If an image were centered on photos to record fleeting moments, the purpose of an image goes beyond that today. People interact with each other through images and they desire doing so as well. How people will utilize images will be watched with keen interest, and in the future, it seems the ability to make good use of images might be important.

wjssnfl10@hufs.ac.kr

Culture Clash at HUFS

By Salome Dettwiler

Guest Reporter

S pending a semester abroad is considered to be a great experience. But the further away the destination lays, the bigger the cultural difference. At HUFS, this is especially noticeable since students from all over the world gather in one place, each of them having different ideas and perceptions of Korean culture. In order to overcome the cultural gap, it is useful for not only foreign students but also Korean students to know the most commonly believed stereotypes about this country.

Common stereotypes about Korea

“Schools and universities in South Korea are extremely tough and students need to be diligent and study all the time.” This appears to have been a very common perception amongst foreign students at HUFS before coming to Korea. Other well-known stereotypes are school uniforms, attentive students and long hours of studying after school until late at night. When asked how these perceptions emerged, most foreigners refer to Korean movies and K-dramas.

To the question as to what first comes to their mind when hearing South Korea, most people replied with “North Korea.” They imagine South Koreans being worried about the potential outbreak of a war and that they therefore do not like their northern neighbors.

What is mentioned second most frequently: technology and modernization. South Korea is seen as extremely advanced and modern with robots being used in daily life matters such as in the household or at work. Further mentions included a strong economy due to the country’s progressiveness in innovations.

Additionally, people are believed to dress very fashionably, but are thought to still be very traditional in terms of cultural aspects such as family structures and the social status of women.

Last but not least, it is a common belief that rice is the number one ingredient for survival in Korea. “I had the stereotype about Koreans that they like rice very much and that they literally make everything edible from it,” said an exchange student Aseel Ahbara from Libya.

Expectations versus reality

After spending only a few months in Seoul, exchange students are far from being considered experts on South Korea. Yet, they agree that some of the common stereotypes have already proved to be true to a great extent — rice is literally everywhere to be found.

As for other common perceptions, they turned out to be surprisingly different. April Ann Collare, an American exchange student at HUFs said “My family was afraid of me going to another country by myself. But I find that South Korea is safer than most places in the United States.”

This can be explained due to the low crime rate and the exceptional friendliness of Koreans towards foreigners who often help on their own accord. As a consequence, Koreans seem to give people the feeling of being some of the friendliest and most helpful people ever met. Of course, this cannot be generalized to every Korean, but it happened often enough to foreign students that it left an impression.

Regarding the Korean education system as it is being experienced at HUFs, it seems to meet general expectations of being very strict. European students in particular point out that the system is very different than what they are used to in their own country.

The differences in the systems are displayed in many ways: classroom facilities which resemble schoolrooms more than university lecture halls, and as German exchange student Lara Spallek said: “Mandatory attendance and roll calls make me feel like a teenager back in high school.” In English spoken courses it was observed that there appeared to be a lack of interest and participation among the students, as long as the professor did not enforce it.

Overall, the impression is that the content of the lessons is less complex and therefore less demanding, although the amount of assignments is no joke and exceeds the workload some foreign students are used to having at their home

universities by far.

Another aspect of the Korean education system is the relative grading system. Fortunately for many exchange students, they have the privilege of being excluded from it. Therefore, they do not have to compete with regular students when it comes to grades. This does have the advantage, that it does not endanger friendship and serves as a positive foundation between foreign and Korean students.

In one case there was a professor who greeted the class in the first week of the semester: “Hello everyone, I would like to remind you that everyone in this classroom is going to be your opponent during exam time. Only a few of you will get top grades, so work hard.”

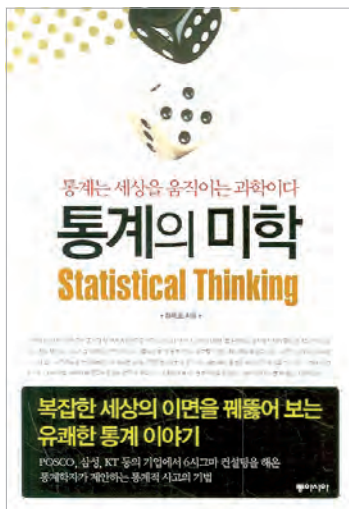
Competitive thinking to such an extent is often perceived critically by foreign students. Especially since there is a strong contrast between what they hear from other students: “You will get good grades anyways because you are an exchange student and no professor will let you fail his class.”

Of course it is widely accepted in the meantime as a cultural difference, and it reflects the stereotype of Korean universities being extremely tough. The pressure Korean students feel is noticeable even to foreigners.

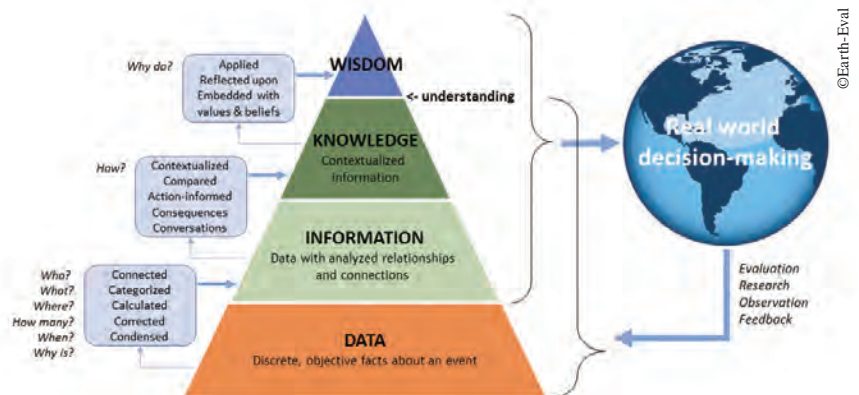
How to narrow the cultural gap

Having stereotypes is not necessarily a bad thing as long as they do not turn into prejudices. Despite the internet being a useful platform to learn about other cultures, nothing brings people closer to each other than communicating their expectations, which are often based on stereotypes. Through this we become more acquainted to the foreign culture and can experience a reality free from prejudices. This will foster exchange between the cultures further, which leads to wider acceptance and narrows the cultural gap. 🇰🇷

Three Kinds of Lies: Lies, Damned Lies, and Statistics



©Kyobobook



©Earth-Eval

By You Seo-yeon

Reporter of National Section

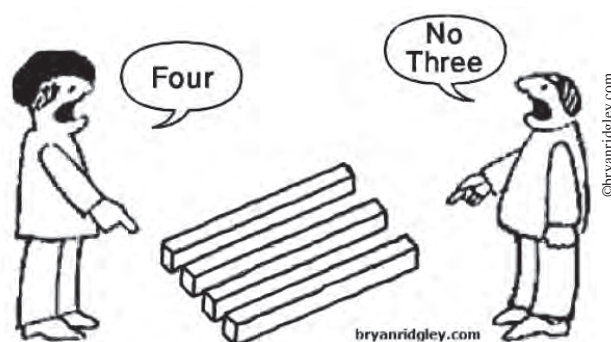
All arguments from all spheres of society are at odds as interests broaden and become more complicated. To demonstrate our objectivity and veracity, we utilize statistics, which is a branch of mathematics dealing with the collection, analysis, interpretation, and organization of data. Applying statistics, the information of social groups is expressed in numbers, but we often make partial conclusions only with one-sided information controlled to one's advantage. Benjamin Disraeli, a British statesman, once said that there are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics, which can be understood in the same context.

The author, a specialist who has utilized statistics in various industries for decades, aims for readers to reach the state of thinking statistically. The ability to process and analyze data, which is referred to as statistical literacy, is crucial in the current era where data and information are exploding like floods. The suggestions to grow statistical literacy are as follows.

First of all, the writer recommends that we become familiar with principles such as how to collect, organize, and interpret data and its relevant terms. Getting used to the principles and terminology is like meeting a new world, but if you are not comfortable, you will avoid and reject statistics. By understanding the basic knowledge of statistics, you will have an easier time reaching the ultimate goal of statistical thinking.

Second, approach the object from multiple angles. Statistical thinking is based on dividing the object because it has a different value to different people in real life. If the accumulated data has the same value regardless of the consumer, it will lose its own value. Then, what do we have to do to grasp all of the fragments? We need to understand the diverse relations among each factor. Causality that is tangled up within certain issues raises confusion and makes it difficult to judge the validity of each position. On the other hand, precise analysis of causality influences significantly on making accurate and convincing decisions. That is, the proper variables or optimal conditions can be found by tracking the causation.


However, if you ignore or underestimate causality and keep making predictions and judgements rashly, you will face a direct crisis. This can be found in the case of the elementary teacher appointment disaster, which is covered in the cover story. In this case, the origin of confusion lies in the previous governments' predictions with distance from reality. As one of their jobs is creating policies for the youth, the former government increased the number of people who enter universities of education and who passed the elementary teacher recruitment examination, without regarding the falling birth rate. It is unnatural to misjudge the situation that the number of people in queue cannot but decline as long as the birth rate and population of students rise or educational shake-up happens. Then, why was this possible? It is possible because opposite outcomes can come out from the same data depending on our perspective, position, or approaching method.



In consequence, uncertainties must follow in prediction even though we access data as carefully as possible. Particularly, South Korea has more unstable uncertainties due to the quick democratization and extremely competitive social atmosphere, which has created multiple variables and a gap between each social group: government, parties, corporations, civic organizations, family members, etc. Let me give an example of this from the cover story. While the total supply of elementary teachers is easily predictable due to the fixed quota of certain universities, demand is up to the state of politics. Actually, national finances determined for education varies widely with the pledges of the government.

Having been published 10 years ago, the exact case that fits in recent phenomenon could not be found. However, the reason I could point out an intrinsic message from the certification examination issue was because statistical thinking is applicable to a case especially to social issues. In addition, most of the contents of the book consisted of a variety of example cases so that it was beneficial to develop how to think and process statistically.

Although we learned the subjects of probabilities and statistics in school, there are few of us who actually accept statistics in daily life or utilize its knowledge. The literacy of statistics required for the general population does not mesh with theoretical and mathematical logic since the complexity of realistic social phenomenon cannot be covered only with mathematical assumptions.

We often say that you can see as much as you know in the case of enjoying cultural properties or works of art, and it seems to be applicable when you observe social phenomena as well. Your viewpoint of the world can be expanded if you fully understand the basic mechanism of the statistics. 

ruiyan0412@hufs.ac.kr

Heart for the Right of the Disabled

An interview with Jang Hye-yeong, who now runs the project “Grown-up” impressed me a lot. The recent conflict over the construction of a special needs school in Gangseo-gu told me that people with disabilities tend to live in a world that is largely made for the able-bodied. Not to mention we are the ones who make them feel isolated from people who do not have disabilities. What came to my mind so far is that it is our common response to fear or to ridicule people who appear to be different from us. People with special needs, however, have the same rights as everybody else and want dignity and respect from every individual.

The “Grown-up” project got me thinking about courage. The courage to talk about differences. I believe in the power of her works, and that it will affect society in a good way, including her sister Hye-jeong. It is a must for Korean society to have a way for everyone to mingle with social minorities. Her courage will influence people to stop focusing too much on the disabilities others have and start focusing on the kind of person he or she is. I hope I can live in a society where people are open and patient with the differences of others.

Kim Gwon-ji

Dept. of Central Asia Studies '17

Why YOLO?

The pervious cover story dealt with YOLO, a way of living a life people nowadays desire. It looked into the reasons behind people’s liking of YOLO and why society is hindered from pursuing such a way of life. The article begins by introducing the influence of media contents such as books and television programs.

The most interesting part of the article was when it started to talk about a book named “I Decided to Live as Myself” by Kim Su-hyun. As a reader who greatly enjoys her books, I liked how the reporter explained the influence of the books. Moreover, the touch on how the content of Kim’s book reflects the public trend was impressive as well. I also sympathized with the student from the Department of Russian who said “I feel like I’m losing myself nowadays with all the work I have to do.”

Finally, I want to praise the reporter for well delivering the impact of visual data nowadays on social trends. The bar data “Why YOLO is spreading in Korea” was brilliant too in clearly conveying the main idea of the article: let’s live a YOLO style life.

Park Jin-woo

Dept. of International Law and Economics '17

- 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.

You can do it, Go for it!



By Kim Yu-min

Dept. of Vietnamese '14



Ways to contribute

— OPINION

Write what you think about The Argus, or about HUFS.

— REPORT

Write what you want The Argus to report about on campus.



The Argus will remunerate the submissions with Starbucks gift cards.



How to submit

- 1) Send an email to hufsargus@gamil.com
- 2) Send a Facebook message to Hufs Argus



한국외국어대학교
HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES



The Argus

www.theargus.org