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Is TOEIC everything? Genuine meaning of university is blind



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The Argus

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Messages from the tragic incident left for Koreans

“

People believe that success means a large income and becoming wealthy. This is a growing tendency in Korea what is called a materialistic and acquisitive-orientation society.

”

Recently, a catastrophe with a gunman occurred at Virginia Tech.. To our surprise, this perpetrator turned out to be a Korean, so that shocked South Koreans, Americans and the whole world. Koreans are worrying about the image of Korea. Above all, this tragic incident will affect immigrants and students studying abroad in America. Koreans now are feeling sense of collective guilt. However, despite our fears, Americans comforted us, trying to see the Virginia Tech. tragedy as a personal matter. There are many points of view why this incident occurred.

Koreans are very keen on English and education. Every year, Koreans trying to get an edge by studying in America increases. Currently, three thousand Koreans are studying in the U.S.. Ambitious Korean parents force their children to go abroad, insisting that it is inevitable for a success in life. Studying abroad causes families to be separated, this creates so called wild-goose families. Due to the present situations, about two third of figures in black-ink gained international trade flowed out year after year. These events spur issues that should be contemplated.

A wild goose family means that it is broken up due to educating their children. Now, there are too many wild goose fathers in Korea. They are suffering loneliness and overworking in order to support their children's education and living expenses abroad. Recently, one wild goose father breathed his last at home alone because of excessive labor. His wife and children were in abroad at that time.

Moreover, their children who are the 1.5 generation (1.5G); it refers to people who immigrate to a new country before their early teens, have high possibilities to be exposed to risk under going confusion of who they really are. They are under stress due to conflicts with racial and cultural differences. In addition, young students studying in America, living separated from their father or mother, may not have clear goals if they did not want to go abroad to study. They are standing in front of the cliff which is either ruining them or forcing them to excel.

Why is Korea in this current situation? The world is globalizing, with growing integration of economies and societies around the world, so Korea too joins in this trend of the times. In Korea society, hierarchies and success-orientations are widespread. People believe that success means a large income and becoming wealthy. This is a growing tendency in Korea what is called a materialism and acquisitive-orientation society. Accordingly, the Korean people consider that being receiving an American education and being granted a degree as their success.

Korea has several top priorities. Korea has the highest suicide rate and the lowest happiness index of any OECD country. Also, Koreans are the most stressed people among ten countries surveyed according to poll AP-Ipsos. Constantly, Koreans compete with each other and get stressed in their daily lives. We should come to think of about the true meaning of real happiness and success in life. I thought that this tragic incident, the Virginia Tech. massacre, will be a good warning to the Korean people in various ways.

Editor in Chief
Anna

For canceling FTA, conclusion with U.S.

Last April 14, the candlelight cultural gathering took place in front of the Sejong Center for cancel due to the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Heo Se-uk's recovery. Heo Se-uk burnt himself to "Protest against the FTA" on April 1. However, Heo Se-uk passed away on April 15. The Korean Alliance against the Korea-U.S. FTA organized this candlelight event. This meeting has taken place every week since July 13, 2006. The meeting was the last cultural festival carried out in front of the Sejong Center. From next week, the meeting will be held at Beomjonggak, every Friday.

Kim Jong-il, the head official for the Solidarity for Peace and Reunification of Korea, said, "President Roh Moo-hyun insists on making an FTA to join advanced countries. But this view ignores the economy of common people."

Hong Eun-gwang, vice-chairman of the

Committee "Gwanak-gu" in the Korean Democratic Party, had time to remember the life of Heo Se-uk who was also a member of the committee "Gwanak-gu." He said, "I have interviewed Heo Se-uk to get information for making a treaty when I was in graduate school, in 2002. He made a living delivering rice wine by bike, in Bongcheon-dong in the past. He was an earnest worker. But he was a common working class person. Then he changed his life in order to attract opportunity. It was an assembly to oppose the removal houses in Bongcheon-dong. He fought for the public power in neighborhood. He then perceived the power of solidarity. So he was convinced of what real life is. He lived as he thought, according to his own principles. It was painful to hear that Heo Se-uk had set himself on fire. I wish he would recover soon."

This candlelight cultural festival also has a comedy event which satirizes the FTA, and a



Yu Byung-ho / The Argus

The citizens gather to make cancel FTA, conclusion with U.S..

dance composition, "Chumchul (the dance team which plays mainly in the assembly)." The atmosphere of the assembly is cheerful and easy to join. Though rain came at the end of the assembly, the citizens who participated in the assembly stayed united until the meeting ended.

By Yu Byung-ho

Joyful HUFS Life!

The Student Life Consultation Office launched a meeting event titled "Joyful HUFS Life!" last April 5, for foreign students at a lounge in the HUFS Faculty Office building. The event progressed under the theme of promoting relations between newcomers and undergraduate foreign students.

"This event was to guide newcomer foreign students about HUFS life and, importantly, to help each students to adapt themselves and find the specific education or training," said Jung Sun-young, counseling psychologist of the Student Life Consultation Office.

"Welcome to HUFS. I hope foreign students will actively participate in all HUFS curriculum, such as Korean classes, council programs so that they can settle down in Korea quickly. HUFS has made use of support networks comprised of relevant authorities and various overseas universities providing support for foreign students," said Park Chul, the president of HUFS, in his opening greeting.

Psychologists of Student Life Consultation



Jo Min-jeong / The Argus

Park Chul, the president of HUFS, is taking a opening greeting.

Office took a time to introduce diverse information about residency, tutoring programs, Korean and other language classes, medical services, jobs and legal advice. The event also featured experiences sharing among many foreigners including professor and students.

"I did not know there were so many foreign students in HUFS before. It was a good time for me to make new friends and get many useful tips in abroad life," Li Yi-le (KE-05), expressed her impressions.

According to the President, there are 864 foreign students in HUFS: 143 freshmen, 517 undergraduate, 204 in graduate school, and the event is held every semester.

By Jo Min-jeong

Proclamation for 53rd anniversary, "HUFS vision 2016"

Park Chul, the President of HUFS, held a ceremony to celebrate the 53rd anniversary and announced "HUFS vision 2016" on April 20 at International Center of HUFS Imun campus. To explain the project, he showed a video and stated "HUFS, as the most globalized university in Korea, we will do our best to create values and contribute to world peace."

At the rites of proclamation, goodwill envoys from 11 Ambassadorial missions in Korea including the U.S., China, Russia attended the celebrations. Besides that, about 250 people from alumnies, Lee Sung-hee, the president of Hyunma Industry and Hong Jaehyoung, an assemblyman of the Uri Party, showed up.

After the announcement of the project "HUFS vision 2016," a ceremony of awards was held. Prizes for superior teaching staff and long-serving employees were awarded.

By Kwon Eun-jung

“Yeosu World Expo 2012”, HUFs supports interpreting and translation

HUFs president Park Chul and the mayor of Yeosu O Hyun-sub made an agreement of exchange between HUFs and Yeosu city on April 6. It was demanded from Yeosu city for “Yeosu World Expo 2012.” This exchange agreement was about the service and support for interpretation and translation to complete the event successfully.

If Yeosu become the city for expo, HUFs will provide the interpretation and translation service for all languages.

The southern port city of Yeosu that is also making a second bid in order to host the World Expo after losing to Shanghai last time, had a site inspection by a Bureau International des Expositions (BIE)

delegation on April 11. Yeosu city paid the due in relation to the activities for the site checkup by a BIE delegation including not only presentation but arranging various special events for stimulating deep impressions to BIE delegation.

On April 11, the first day of BIE delegation’s visit, Yeosu city presented the event, called “A Street of BIE delegation.” In this event, they prepared the public relations officer for each one of BIE team member countries including Canada, Denmark, Hungary, Brazil, Russia, Spain and Rumania. For this, students at HUFs who are studying the related major or language gave a helping hand.

Members in the inspection team said that



The president of HUFs, Park Chul, concluded a treaty with The Mayor of Yeosu.

they were particularly impressed by the great enthusiasm shown from the proposed venues.

By Tae Yu-mi

HUFs proclaims “Clean Campus”

Various kinds of posters on HUFs campus will disappear. HUFs president Park Chul and the president of University News Network (UNN), Lee In-one, contracted an agreement of “Clean Campus Campaign” at HUFs campus on April 20. Before the agreement, on April 17, they had an event for the opening of the “Clean Campus” office at the Student’ Center 109-1. Opening of the office for the campaign is a first in Korea.

According to this contract, UNN is ready to establish LCD Media Boards and In-Ki (Internet Kiosk) facilities on roads and 10 buildings of campus. In addition, to build up the foundation of a digitalized campus without haphazard posters and placards, the campaign committee will propel the setting up LCD electric bulletin boards, stands for digital newspapers, etc. “Clean Zone” where various posters are controlled by unified management will be set up and in the area students will be able to use high-tech facilities. Such machines will offer information on campus life, culture of students and reports on educational matters. At the “Clean Campus” office for the campaign, dispatched officials by UNN; responsible officials, programmers, designers, technical experts for repair and the like, will thoroughly manage the system for five years. Zang Bung-ik, Dean of Student Affairs, said, “It is expected that many students may benefit by assimilation between our HUFs’ internet site and the system of “Clean Campus.” I hope that the campaign will contribute to students’ consciousness about campus culture.”

HUFs is the third case of the campaign following Chung-Ang University and Han-Yang University. With the campaign, students and staff are expecting HUFs to leap to become the top campus on the digital field and clean campus culture.

By Mun Hyeon-gyeong

Promotion of opening the “Love Asian Center”

HUFs encourages the construction of “Asia Culture Interchange Center” (ACIC) at Jagok-dong, Gangnam-gu in Seoul, near the Seoul Airport. It will be the space for cultural exchange among Asians and promote the globalization of HUFs. On March 28, HUFs said, a proposal for establishing ACIC in the land owned by the HUFs educational foundation was submitted to the government.

HUFs offers the space of 20,000 *pyeong* in Jagok-dong, a greenbelt zone yet, to Seoul. The proposal includes the details about building a culture center, an exhibition hall, a gymnasium, an educational facility, etc. here at a charge of Seoul City. If the proposal is accepted, ACIC will enhance Korean education and experience of traditional culture, support leisure activities through the gymnasium, and function cultural exchange through the culture center and the exhibition hall.

The center will be operated and managed by HUFs and Seoul City together. The center will also include the counseling center of human rights for immigrant laborers who are in the unfair treatment or poor labor environment in Korea. The counseling service will be offered for free to them.

Officials from HUFs said Seoul City agrees to the necessity and the purpose, but could not hide agonized look to this center because the buildings will be built in the greenbelt zone. Nevertheless, they said HUFs can go ahead and accomplish this plan. Also, the city mentioned that HUFs is the most well qualified university for the public work and welfare for Asians.

By Tae Yu-mi

Student's self-governing association

By **Jo Min-jeong**
Reporter of *The Argus*

The student's self-governing association is a student government, by the students, for the students, and it shall not perish from the school. The General Student's Council (GSC) is directly responsible for the student's self-governing association and has many assisting affiliated organizations running the entire association: Library Student's Council, Women Student's Council, Student-Governed Library, HUFSMEDIA and Art and Literature Student's Council. All of those exist to promote students' access to education, welfare and opportunities for students.

Recently, those organizations have difficulty maintaining their services due to lack of financial backing. The capital has been raised from both students and the school, but most of the financial resources are from student's council fees - 8,000 won, which was funded to help the organization. However, the total amount of fee is not fixed because it varies with the number of students who register every semester and it is up to students to decide whether they pay the fees or not. On the average, affiliated organizations of GSC receive financial aid three percent of the total income of semester's student-fees. It is about 1.5 million won per one semester.

Despite the amount of budget, organization expenditure has been increased, and during the last semester they had a budget deficit, about twice bigger than this semester's budget. That also brought severe damage to organization management. Some associations wound down operations for lack of funds. In case of a cultural festival for women held by the Women's Student Council in fact, could not have been held for two years because of costing too much. HUFSMEDIA and Art and Literature Student's Council also suffer a similar problem. They apply for GSC's assistance budget or search for extra sponsors whenever they have events. It is not easy for them to act properly on every occasion, so if the funding for events is still insufficient, they should hold it with a drastically smaller

More concerns are needed for inter-



Many seats in the women's lounge are empty.

scale.

Students' carelessness about self-governing association's work

Students, who should cover most of self-governing association's budget by student's council fees, still do not know the reason for their paying and cannot benefit from the student's associations. However, these associations are just being operated purely for student's convenience and welfare not for self-governing associations.

Student-Governed Library, an important place in modern Korean history and traditional culture, possessing rare social science books, has great value. It also has a wide variety of periodical publications, hundreds of new and rare books, out-of-print books, foreign books and historical material of HUFPS. In addition to that, it holds book

review contests and several presentations given by professors well-known in their field every month.

The Women Student's Council performs various day-to-day operations including management of a women's lounge, sleeping room and shower booth in the Student Center, and more importantly, runs an emergency committee when HUFPSans became victims of sex crimes, to help the victims. Moreover, it also serves on external seminars, courses, and career development information for women. Besides, the Library Student's Council offers students convenience, creating an academic atmosphere in the library. HUFSMEDIA and Art and Literature Student's Council also do its own part in the school.

"In case of book review contests and lecture meetings, students who are interested

Learning suffering from financial development



Jo Min-jeong / The Argus

ensure their regulations with discussion rules and decision making processed, the matter will be somewhat prevented from shortages and stabilize the management.

However, considering the actual conditions of self-governing association management, enacting those regulations isn't realistic. Each organization is operated by steering committees that consist of two or three students. Even the proper duty of each association could not be performed with this number of committee members. "Recently, our committee members have cleaned up the reading rooms. But our committee has only two member, so there are many difficulties due to lack of members." said Lee Woo-jin (F-02), the president of Library Student's Council. Thus, regulations don't consider real conditions caused tension between GSC and affiliated organizations and cause a vicious circle.

Insufficient supports from school

The school supports financial matters when GSC holds large-scale events such as the school festival, student's travel, and the volunteer helpers for the farmers. But the amount of HUFS' aid to student activities is insufficient compared to other schools such as Kyung-hee and Sungkyunkwan Universities. About this matter, Zang Bung-ik, Dean of Student Affairs, said, "HUFS has been raising funds for school since last year, the end of strike. Our targeted level for this movement is up to ten billion won. It is difficult to raise the amount of supporting students' activities right now due to this

project." Mr. Zang said that by "HUFS development," it meant visible changes like constructing new buildings. That kind of progress is important however, the school ought to recognize that it is also important to make inner associations improve and raise the level of students' welfare as much as possible.

For optimizing the management

The fact that student's self-governing associations have difficulty managing is no fault of their own, but of whole school. More concerns should be laid on those organizations in point of a government of the students, by the students, for the students. Hand-in-hand with warm atmospheres, they are keen on providing a quality school life, state of the art welfare services and facilities to HUFSans. They play various roles, instead of the school, spurring not only growing quality of campus culture, but in creating many advantages in campus life. Therefore, it is necessary for school to support these organizations more. And to optimize the organization's management, it should be focused on enhancing mutual understanding between the GSC and affiliated organizations and the school by explaining their respective roles and reducing the differences as much as possible. Besides, it is also needed for students to pay more attention to the student's self-governing associations suffering from inefficient resources and an irregular income system.

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take part in untiringly. Students, who pay the bill, should know that those events were held for them and exercise their rights," said Seo Soo-min (C-04), a guard of Student-Governed Library.

Lack of understanding between GSC and affiliated organizations

About the difficulty of student's self-governing association management, Moon Wol-ho, the president of GSC said, "It is important for us to increase the operating allowance. But, before we discuss the deficit matter, we should evaluate if associations' structures are efficient and well administered. Presidents of affiliated organization are selected not by election and an inner steering committee which has the right to execute the budget and make decisions has not been set up." He added that if those associations



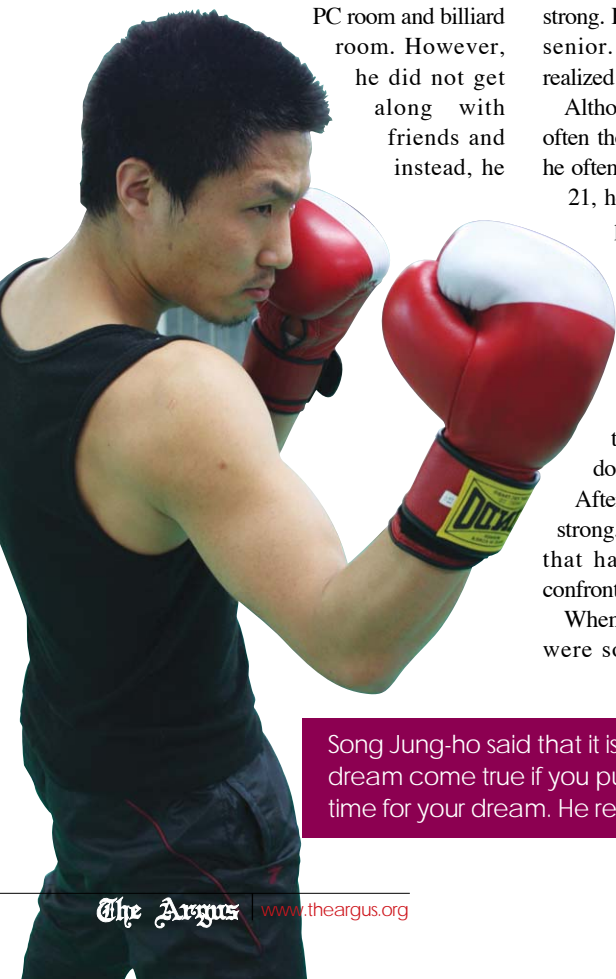
Jo Min-jeong / The Argus

Punch!

By **Kim Eun-hye**
Associate Editor of *The Argus*

Recently, a HUFSan became a winner of the new Boxing amateur player tournament. A boxer at HUFs? It may sound strange, but it is true. The HUFSan boxer is Song Jung-ho (T-01) who is a leader of the boxing club. The *Argus* visited the boxing clubroom to meet him. Many trophies and medals show the fame of the club.

He started boxing right after the national college entrance exam was completed. He was motivated by the comic book, "The fighting." After entering HUFs, he joined the boxing club and addicted to boxing much more. When he was a freshman, his friends asked him to hang around PC room and billiard room. However, he did not get along with friends and instead, he



Song Jung-ho said that it is always possible to make your dream come true if you put your effort and spend your time for your dream. He really wanted boxing.

spent much time to practice boxing in the gym. Although he had not hanged out with his friends, he did not regret his decision. Boxing was more attractive and important for him.

Why is he boxing? Many people avoid boxing because it is dangerous. However, he is spending his time for boxing. What leads him to boxing? "Boxing is so hard. While boxing, I feel limited for movement and power. But then, I feel I'm alive!" People who have not had a boxing experience may not know those feelings. Boxing is not an ultimate goal for him. He just loves boxing, so feels more valuable when he spends his time for boxing.

He feels a lot from boxing. When he did sparing with his senior first, the senior defended him just by a left hand. Before he matched with his senior, he thought that he is strong. However, he was not able to beat the senior. When the sparing was over, he realized that he has a limited capability.

Although he likes boxing very much, he often thought about quitting boxing because he often faced with challenge. When he was 21, he had a chance to do sparing with a professional player. He just wanted the game to be ended because he got several attacks and felt so sick and tired during sparing.

However, after the time, he was disappointed at himself having such mind. He wanted to give up the sparing and the time goes past. He does not wanted to come over that time.

After that time, he changed his mind to strong. If he faced by anyone, he became that has challenging mind, though he confront limitation.

When *The Argus* interviewed him, there were some friends around him. All his



Boxing club members are valuable for him as like his family.

friends said that he has a very good personality. They also said that he is a leader of the boxing club and also get a good grade in classes that he takes. However, he was not a good student before he joined the army. He did not perform well in the class and only spent most time at the gym. After he was discharged from the military, he switched his goal and reposition himself to work hard on classes and present better at school. "I wanted to convince my promising future to friends and other students and tell them that I can do well on both boxing and studying. So I tried not to lose any of them at all."

The latest match that he won has a special meaning to him. After returning back from the military, he realized that study was more important than others. Thus, he concentrated on studying than boxing and did not participate in the match after 2005. But he decide to attend boxing match before he get braces. Unexpectedly, he won the match. Furthermore, he worked on the match just by the left hand since his shoulder was hurt. After the match was finished, he started tooth bracing, but his desire about a boxing match was getting bigger than the past.

Now, he is focusing on getting a job. It is not a boxer. Nevertheless, his desire for boxing continues. Although he is not a professional boxer, he hopes to join the match after getting a job. Boxing is not just a hobby to him. Boxing did not help him build a strong body, but have a strong mind and be a real man.

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Angels keeping the environment

By Yun Ji-hun

Associate Editor of *The Argus*

Everybody knows importance of the environment and nobody could disagree on its proper protection. However, how many university students are consistently paying attention to and playing a vital role in the protection? United Nations Environment Programme Angel (UNEP-Angel) is an interuniversity *dongari* as well as an environmental group that has only university members from Korea, Pusan, Yonsei University, and Kaist and so on. UNEP-Angel's representative movement is to encourage the students to have suitable environmental consciousness through diverse activities for the environment inside and outside universities.

Reporter (R): Do you think many university students are participating in environmental activities?

Kim Sung-hee (Kim): Unexpectedly, a large number of university students majoring in not only Environment Science but the other studies care about environmental problems. However, they are restricted

Kim Sung-hee (ES-05)



by time and distance, so it seems a little difficult for them to personally take part in environmental activities.

Yoo Yong-soo (Yoo): As for me, I am disappointed as pretty much as I expected. The students appear to display interest in participating in the activities, but almost none of them carry their concern about the environment into practice.

Yoon Ji-young (Yoon): No wonder it is important to care about the environment, of course, but it is more important to personally do step by step what we have in mind, as saying, "Action speaks louder than words."

R: How does university students' participation have a positive effect upon all environmental movements?

Kim: I think that university students' are open to change. In other words, they can accept different ideas and advance attitudes towards social progress and change. As a matter of fact, it is necessary for residents to alter their environmental awareness and consciousness in order to ultimately settle environmental problems. Consequently, offspring who are university students need to state their views on the environment at home so as to turn preceding generation's fixed perspective into a flexible perspective. It also may arouse the concern over the environment of the present generation.

R: What kinds of activities does UNEP-Angel do and plan to do?

Yoon: In the past, UNEP-Angel had a chorus. The chorus did their job every Saturday, but it doesn't exist now at all. We investigated ecosystems of Seoul while walking along Han River from Youido to Jamsil.

Kim: UNEP-Angel is not a professional group, so its academic activity also is not professional. We read lots of books about the environment and investigate indices of it. We also arrange campaigns to make it public that the current environment is in a poor condition and arouse people's attention to environmental destruction. We try to care about environmental issues in these ways.

Yoo: We are going to establish an effective program to promote students' participation. In addition, cooperation systems with other groups are under construction. For example, we are setting up a sisterhood relationship with Mohyeon-myeon this year. Cooperation with environmental youth group and overseas environmental group is also necessary.

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Yoo Yong-soo (ES-05)



Yoon Ji-young (S-06)

Join in

On April 22, celebrating 37th Earth Day, a large number of environmental groups took part in environmental campaigns and made various events on Daehak-no. One group tried to inform current poor condition of endangered animal species. Another group held a distinct event of eating up a bowl of *Bibimbob*. There were three environmental slogans that day: Move bicycle, recycle again, and stop warming.

UNEP-Angel participated in the campaign as well. Members of UNEP-Angel tried to attract attention and a lot of interest from many people, especially

children. They launched a petition that aimed at planting a billion of trees. In addition to this, they arranged a special event in order to make children interested also. The event was intended to show the disappearing habitat for polar bears due to global warming. Children put on polar bear masks and stood on prop glaciers. As the glaciers melted into water, children who did not stand on the glaciers were out. It was a symbolic metaphor that polar bears are suffering from a shortage of their habitat. The children looked funny and seemed to understand a little about endangered polar

bears.

Lee Jeong-hee, a new member of UNEP-Angel, said, "We decided to plan both events relating to global warming while the members were discussing one of the slogans. It is necessary to ponder whether or not they are bothering the environment, of course. It, above all, seems more reasonable to make children interested in the environment who will be leading generations in the future."



Yun Ji-hun / The Argus

Is this your dreamed university?

By Kim Eun-hye
Associate Editor of The Argus

What is your image about the university? What is the first thing that you would like to accomplish when you enter the university? Maybe many students are focusing on getting a good job. All universities are competing to educate students to satisfy what the firms look for. However, is it something that we really wanted to pursue in the university education? Is our ultimate goal to be educated only for getting a good job? The university's educational goal has been changing to train students who can well fit into the commercial organizational goal more and more. Learning multiple languages and getting professional certificates are getting more important than enhancing personal values and quality of life in a society. In this issue, The Argus tries to look at the current picture of university and find out the true meaning of university education.

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Time to run away from ordinary university

Education of all universities in Korea should be changed practically.

By Park Yeon-jun

Reporter of *The Argus*

The original mission for the university is to gain knowledge and enhance quality of life. However, from the realistic view, the university does not perform the mission. Many students think that the university exists only for getting a job after graduation. Why did the conflict occur?

Crisis of unemployment

The job market in Korea appears to be frozen for college graduates. Last year, the employment rate in the average enterprise is one out of 92. The worst case was that one person was hired out of 1,000 applicants for the position in the certain firm. Only 70 college graduates were hired out of 15,000 people who apply to the foreign-exchange bank. The similar situation was observed in the government-owned company. The Incheon Port authority said that more than a hundred people were competing for one position opened in the firm.

It seems no improvement can be observed in 2007. The competition rate at Samsung who typically hires employees at a large scale was only 5 to 1. According to the Korean Council for University Education, among 36 universities in Seoul, graduates from only three schools - Korea University, Kyunghee University, and Sogang University - reported

a more than 80 percent successful labor force entry rate. About 18 universities, including the most prestigious institution for higher education, Seoul National University, failed to reach the 60 percent job entry success rate. Well then, what is the most important thing to get a job? Many companies require language abilities, computer skills, and professional certificates. In addition, recent requirements for the job are English fluency and the personality test. This year, 81 major enterprises among 100 large firms will put more importance on English speech and communication skills. They will evaluate problem solving and decision making skills in English, so the test score from TOEIC is no longer important for them any more. Won Jong-Su who is a staff at the human resource department in Han-hwa said, "We require the personality test in order to make a decision of personal suitability to the organization." Samsung Aptitude Test (SSAT) that is conducted in Samsung is the most popular test. SSAT consists of 300 questions dealing with interpersonal skills and assessment of working ability. Many students are preparing for SSAT. SSAT practice test is held all over the universities. An authorized staff from Job Space said, "For recruiting employees for the first half of the year, our company held a practice test. The participation rate to the test is gradually increasing."

Actually, employees can interview if they only pass the written test, so many students do not hesitate even they are local universities. Eventually, there is no connection between estimation of company

and education of university. The unemployment problem is getting worse and worse. Thus, many students have to choose either academic studies or professional careers and their choice is often career preparation.

Problems of university education

Students who are majoring in language suffer from difficulties of getting a job. Also, only a few can get a job related to their major. In other words, there is a growing gap of expectations between job seekers and companies. They have to put effort on career preparation first and their major study is the second job. Many students prefer courses that are useful for getting a job instead of humanities courses. More than one hundred students enrolled in some classes dealing with career preparation such as business. Kang Tae-young who is a general job positing manager at the career services center of HUFs said, "Many job fairs are held on campus because students want." The university seem to exist only for a job. The supply to get a job is outstripping demand. Company positions are limited to satisfy overflowing demands.

However, we need to look at the primary cause of the problem. The prime cause is coming from the lack of practical education. Students have been received a standardized one-way education. It is true that companies prefer experienced professional workers or graduates with business and economics

diplomas. Several enterprises also consider presentation skills and team projects. Are there any alternative suggestions for solving this problem?

Necessity of practical education

If education took practical approaches, many students could have competitiveness even they are majoring in humanities. The quality of university education determines national competitiveness. Korean chief executive officers think that education, especially at the college level, has not yet caught up with the demands of the economy, according to a survey by the Education Ministry. The question on whether education in finance meets the expectations and needs in enterprises resulted in a meager 3.40 score. The number of higher education recipients in Korea ranked fifth out of 54 countries last year. How do students think about it? When asked, "University education meets the needs of a competitive economy," 200 respondents responded in terms of the level of agreement an average 3.91 out of 6, far below an average of 5.75 from 60 countries. During the quantitative expansion, the overall competitiveness of Korean universities, even the top-rated ones, remained relatively low compared to schools in other industrialized countries. None of Korean universities has ever ranked within the top 100 schools in the world selected by international assessment agencies. The Swiss-based IMD placed Korea in the 59th out of 60 surveyed countries in terms of university quality meeting social-economic requirements.

Times have changed. In other countries, undergraduate students can work at company in the middle of the semester. Their methods apply to demand of work field. Korea should establish countermeasures. Universities need to take the practical approaches to support students to successfully settle down in the society. At Georgetown University in Washington DC, professors removed Shakespeare from their list of required authors for English literature majors and replaced with more non-traditional courses such as the "Poetry of Music" and "Heroes in Science Fiction" that really attract student interest and evoke learning motivations. According to one study recently carried out, two-thirds of the top 70 universities in the

Cambridge science park is a good example of practical education.



world no longer require Shakespeare in English major. In order to make this happen in Korea, education should be improved in terms of both quality and quantity. An institutional strategy is revisited in order to give weight to play a leading role in oneself. Many students in Korea may not recognize their capability and interest when they enter the university. Here is the successful case for this matter. Handong University, one of the universities in Korea, developed a special strategy. Students who attend Handong University can change their major whenever they want until they know their real interest.

Education for creating job

The education system in universities in Korea is based on the current job field. However, the modern society changes very quickly and many new jobs are created everyday. University education should focus on venture business so that students can overcome the current paradigm. There is a need for a paradigm shift.

A case from Cambridge is a good example. The Cambridge government made university education practical since 1970. They established a science complex in Cambridge and developed new technology. About 30 colleges are established in the city. It enabled Cambridge to form a well-planned university town. The graduates in Cambridge started a business related to information management and bio-engineering technology. Faculty members often create their own companies to sell products

developed through experiments in the academic lab. They played a leading role in the development of bio-engineering, information, and communications. The practical approach that Cambridge Universities took brought special profits so called "Cambridge Phenomenon." The government also supports Cambridge. Their policy geared to improve the business environment, remove unnecessary regulations, and promote cooperation between the government and private corporations in the newly emerging high-tech business sector.

Like United Kingdom, our government must work out some ways to get the academic, industrial, and labor sectors to work together on solving the unemployment problem.

Heading for different ways

It is important to be a good member of the society after graduation from the university. Students need to think broadly. The university does not exist as a job fair center for student employment. The university should teach more practical knowledge that can be valuable for students to work effectively in the real world. One step further to overcome this problem!

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Crisis of Korean higher education

By **Tae Yu-mi**

Reporter of *The Argus*

A Korean university accomplishes quantitative growth of the ratio of students who gains on to a higher stage of education. However our system of higher education has many problems. Let's look at these and find a solution to a problem.

Higher numbers of students but lower quality of higher education

University is regarded as a passageway to improve one's position since the 50's, and at this time. The government enforced an unsystematic policy of student numbers attending university. Therefore the management of entrance quotas looks like flood gates eventually it exceeding capacity. Especially, in private institutions of learning, they attempt to extend departments for the quantitative growth like a department store. Even university students numbered 2,800,000. It is the most unique phenomenon in the world. In the end, due to the continuous growth of student numbers, the quality of university education is falling.

Also, the budget for higher education is unchanged but the real budget is gradually decreasing because of the increase of university's number. In addition, the national cost ratio of budget for higher education is barely 15 percent, in Korea. On the other hand, other OECD countries' national charge ratio is about 80 percent. It is nearly quadruple compared with ours. Under these circumstances of inferior management of finances, universities never develop.

Lowering the quality of higher education through irregularities and corruptions in private schools

Also, 87 percent of current private university education expenses are subsidized by the state. Private school's operation expenses are met by student fees and national taxes. Also, all sorts of corruption occur consistently, because mostly, chief is centered on private school and a board of directors appoints the principals directly. So the private school corruption, such as embezzlement and teacher's bribes happens very

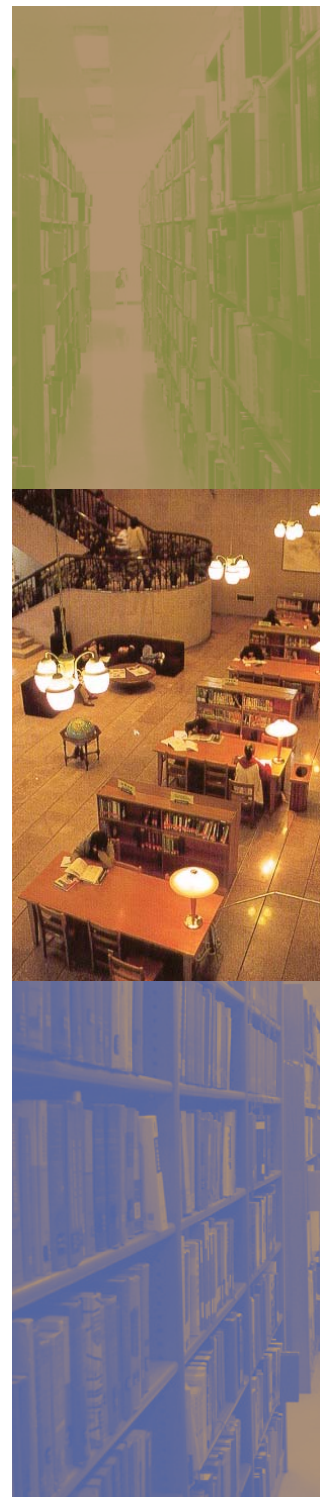
frequently. On this operation process, a university becomes a hotbed of corruption which causes university budgets to flow into the wrong place, because there's no proper governmental control system.

Role of government in restoring quality education that fallen behind

The government should take measures to increase the budget in circumstances of poverty. The current lack of finance is a serious problem; however, it's also important to use the budget efficiently right now. First of all, the government should revive the wrong policy, which is the cause of low educational quality by quantitative expansion, not restricting number limits with only foundation permission, and another way to make up the budgetary restriction is how to use those resources efficiently. In other words, institutional systems which could improve operational efficiency of university research funds are necessary. One of those efficient institutional systems is centered investment. This is not the point of welfare, but a promising university in need. Furthermore, it's a very useful alternative plan to stop the loss of intellectual resources. For instance, our school has BK21, BRICS, and such specializing business centered strategic investments maximize projected profits.

To block financial loss and complications by private schools' corruption, democratic revision and reinforcement of the Ministry of Education's audit would be most urgent, and other related punishment provision must be reinforced. In a knowledge-based society, research activities at university are in charge of the core part for creation, spread and application of knowledge. And it is an important foundation to improve competitiveness of higher education. It is possible to improve university's research ability only when the administrative and financial backup systems are established. In a similar vein, in many countries, governments lead support universities' research activities. From now on, Korean higher education should refrain from a quantity-centered system, and find a converse paradigm to promote the elevation of quality. Especially, the effort is necessary for revitalization of investigation. For this, a sensible governmental financial policy and regulations for government officials' transparency would be very important adjustment.

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Saying ideal college education

By **Song Dan-ah**

Associate Editor of *The Argus*

The world is changing quickly. We are living in the market economy. To survive in this competition economy, we must increase the competitiveness of world enterprise and cumulate capital. To make this happen, we should establish more educational institutions to attract and retain creative talents. However, universities in Korea are losing meaning of teaching; they are pushing students to focus on getting a job. Students are preparing for tests such as TOEIC, TOEFL, Chinese character licensing test, and computer ability examination to be employed in the good place. Also, they are trying to achieve good grades only to sell their qualifications to the companies.

The reporter of *The Argus* interviewed Choi Don-min, a professor of Humane and Social studies of Sangji University and a former researcher of Korean Educational Development Institute, about the meaning of

the university and the expected way of it.

Reporter: When did this phenomenon begin to appear in the university?

Choi Don-min (Choi): The educational institution called “university” came from the United States. The entrance exam for the middle school disappeared in 1969 and the high school equalization policy begun from 1974. A bottleneck situation of the university began to occur and increased the admission rate and the number of students from 1986. In the Kim Young-sam’s government, universities were easily permitted to be built and became liberalized. Thus, the vocational training center or vocational school started to be named as a university. Accordingly, the number of students who are admitted to the university is explosively increasing and the quality of the university education is becoming lower and lower. These days, universities are considered as a preparation institution for an employment. Students are also becoming to prefer courses that are helpful to get a job.

R: What is the true meaning of the university?

Choi: The university is a place which seeks after the truth and encourages learning.

However, functions of the university are becoming discolored. The university must present acute criticism to social customs with intellectual behavior and approve examined knowledge and general description.

The university can perform other various functions. However, they first have to perform an essential role to train young people about how to execute gained knowledge.

Due to the public pressure, the university accommodated an overfull student; the truth is that this is undesirable. Although it is important for students to be interested in social problem and employments, the university should return to perform the original role to seek out academic theories and enrich quality of life.

R: What are some problems that universities in Korea have?

Choi: With rapid increase in the number of universities and students, the university has changed institutional function to prepare students for getting a job, instead of being a place for education and research. Graduates still suffer from lack of knowledge to satisfy the expectations from the society and the company. Universities also recognize the issue for the educational quality and arouse suspicion for their professionalism and become hard to prove student’s ability and knowledge in following field.

Our society demands new qualifications to students such as studying abroad to get a master or doctoral degree.

This trend has much influence and makes many social problems of emphasizing on higher education and abnormal overflowing of people who receives an advanced degree.

R: What are the alternatives for the university in Korea?

Choi: The university is isolated from the society. The university should communicate with the society and closely connected. The university was a producer of knowledge, but now the commercial business is taking the role. We cannot avoid from both studying to get a degree and preparing for the employment in the university system. In this circumstance, the university has to present new alternative plans. The university should be specialized. Academic education for pure knowledge and practical training for employment should be separated in the university education system. Handong Global University allows students to change their majors whenever they want. Also, they allow a freshman to take cultural studies like English, Chinese writing to take compulsory education course. After three semesters are completed, students can take related classes to find their best interest. Through this education process, students are able to find their own aptitude.

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Kim Eun-hye / *The Argus*

Mr. Choi is talking about the true education.

Who press down them in society?

Special law to
prohibit sex
traffic needs to
listen to other
voices



The brothel in Cheongnyang-ni at night

By **Yu Byung-ho**
Reporter of The Argus

It has been already two years and six months since a special law to prohibit sex traffic took effect. A fire occurred in a brothel in Daemyung-dong, Gunsan in September, 2000. This shocked female support groups who started a lobby for a law about the veiled problem of prostitution. This movement made the special law to prohibit sex trafficking which was revised from laws prohibiting prostitution. The new special laws concentrated on prevention and punished people just involved in prostitution, so women will be viewed as victims not criminals. Moreover, “the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family (MGEF)” now helps prostitutes to find alternative ways to make a living, speaking of the superiority of the law. “Before the law was past the number of prostitutes reached 5,600, the number is reduced to almost 2,300.” However, someone remain skeptical on the effectiveness of the law, especially about its legally binding powers.

Problems of a special law for prohibiting sex traffic

Expansion of the hidden prostitution

In 2005, the number of people charged with prostitution in Seoul police offices reached about 4,500 and 671 of these were female offenders (15 percent). But only six

percent of crimes occurred through the intermediary of a brothel, compared to 34 percent via the internet, 26 percent in massage parlors and barber shop. Virtually, regulating management of the prostitute quarters by a special law clause simply causes prostitutes to work underground, causing the situation a “balloon effect.” It refers to a situation when a push on one side of a balloon triggers the other side of the balloon to protrude. Like the balloon, solving one side of the problem triggers the other side’s problems.

It is not true that the amount of back-door prostitution is smaller than the amount of prostitution in brothels before the law takes effect. Julie Choi, the representative of women initiative center “W-ing (Women Initiative, networking, growing),” said, “The scale of brothels is about 30 percent before passing the special law.” As the government put the special law in operation, the police mainly regulate the prostitution quarters, easy to control better than the back-door prostitution. It makes prostitutes leave the prostitute quarter and engage themselves in the back-door prostitution.

Growing number of prostitutes who returns to the workplace

According to the status report, the analysis of the situation after carrying out the special law by Lee Joo-yeol, health and welfare professor at Namseoul University, the number of woman who returns to their workplace grows more. Its survey of 999 prostitutes found that prostitutes who do not

leave the prostitute quarter after the law were only 53 (5.3 percent) but 302 prostitutes once leave their prostitute quarter and returned (30.2 percent). 63.9 percent of those prostitutes leave the prostitute quarter especially from September to December of 2004, but just ten months after, around July 2005, 70.5 percent of them returned to brothels. It questioned the practicality of the law. About this situation, Lee Young-hee, the chairwoman of "the Democratic Labor Union of the Sex Worker (DLUSW)," said, "Usually, unpardonable sex crimes against human beings reported in the press did not occur in brothels but from back door prostitution places which sell the sex and alcohol. That kind of prostitution has more threat to prostitutes than prostitute quarters, because the sexual relations are performed outside of intermediate places. In case of prostitution done in prostitute quarter, sexual relations are done in the appointed places and time, so prostitutes remaining in the prostitute quarter is safer."



- ① Women participate in the lecture about the humanism actively.
- ② "Film festival of the women's human rights" held on September 21, 2006.

It is necessary to consider about the definition of 'self-support.'

- The representative of W-ing, Julie Choi

Causes of problem

Measures of seeking a living for prostitute are not practical

According to the result of Korea Human Rights News researched 103 prostitutes in the prostitute quarter in Gyeonggi-do, from May 28 to May 31, all of them answered that they do not accept measures for self-support that Ministry of Gender Equality and Family made. Because the measure is not effective for them to cover their living cost, particularly the prostitutes who have to support their family are hard to lead the measure. The number of the prostitutes having responsibility for bringing up their family is 79 (76.7 percent), and the average number of a dependent family members is 2.6. Expenditures include living costs, hospital costs, and school expenses. MGEF's measures for self-support supports the prostitutes who are willing to escape prostitution, giving financial aid of three million Korean won for medical treatment and 2.5 million won for legal advice per month. And for six months, it would give a subsidy 350,000 Korean won for job training, 440,000 won for living cost per month. However, this aid is insufficient for prostitutes who should support their dependent families.

MGEF doesn't try to understand the lives of prostitutes

MGEF regards prostitutes as protection is required while prostitutes do not want to be

ruled as victims. The reason of this irony is MGEF carried out the special law for prohibiting the sex trade without investing in the lives of the prostitutes enough. During the period making the law, any public hearing and attempts to know the life of prostitutes who would be influenced by the law were not done.

The special law tightens control of the prostitute quarters as the prostitutes become victims of attacks by their employers. Lee Young-hee, the chairwoman of DLUSW said, "MGEF does not know the life of prostitutes. Not all of us are damaged from the employers. We have a symbiotic relationship. MGEF should stop generalizing examples of vicious employers of the back door prostitutes."

Countermeasures of problem

There are two solution to solve the problem caused the ministry could not think the life of the prostitutes. The point is taking care of the life of the prostitute by the different measures. One is the self-control management system in the specific zone. It is the opinion of

Why they gesture to the society?

“The ministry should stop generalizing examples of vicious employers of the back door prostitutes.”

- The Chairwoman of DLUSW.
Lee Young-hee



- ③ Sex workers hailed DLUSW.
- ④ Sex workers fight for the right of labor.

DLUSW. It means the recognition of sex work in specific zones. The other is the self-support on a different level, raised from the women initiative center “W-ing.”

Self-control management system in the specific zone

“We can prepare our life to deposit to bank even now. We don’t need the poor ‘self-support policy’ MGEF gives.” Lee Young-hee, the chairwoman of DLUSW said. DLUSW opposes the use of the word “sex traffic.” Instead, it uses the word “sex work.” the word prostitution has originated from the sex industry which means human traffic. However, that kind of crime has not taken place in the prostitute quarter in fact. They also advocate on the right of sex workers because the sex worker selected the job voluntarily to give the sex service as a legitimate way to earn money. Sex workers focus on getting their rights, as the workers gain the right of the workers through their own labor union. They conclude a collective agreement with “the Democratic Joint of Sex-industrial,” which is the union of employers and try to maintain the democratic relations between the sex workers and employers and care of the welfare of the sex-workers.

The self-control management system is different from the state-regulated prostitution. Under a state-regulated prostitution system, the sex worker is considered as the reserved criminal but under the self-control management system, sex worker and sex industry could be regarded as the labor and management. DLUSW tries to apply this system to a specific zone.

New measure of self-support

“MGEF enforces the self-support policy according to a fixed way, but this way cannot ensure the happiness of the woman. (W-ing avoided using the term ‘prostitute’ and tried to regard the prostitute as ‘the woman’ friendly.)” The representative of W-ing, Julie Choi said. W-ing is the institution of supporting “self-support.” The philosophy of W-ing is “to encourage and support the women who try to have a more successful life as the way they work and to help their quality of life grow constantly through the network.” She added. “It is necessary to consider about the definition of ‘self-support.’ If the word means just living for oneself, every person who lives alone struggles to make a living. Since the society has prejudice against women who engage in the sex industry, they live with a black label attached to them like a leopard’s spots, and cannot possibly remove it for the rest of their life. It makes the prostitute’s life much harder. However, the ministry demands those labeled women to live independently through job training for one year and six months and gain some certificates of qualification. This unreality of the government’s measure gives women more pain.”

Wing provides women with not only the training for qualifications but also the well-knit program. The program for “self-support” is operated like the university. It has the systematic curriculum. The curriculum consists of basic, vision, self-management, coaching for enterprise, and humanism. The required subjects are English conversation, women’s studies, and philosophy. The optional subjects are swimming, volunteering, and so on. One semester is three months. The graduation requires six semesters. W-ing also gives a counsel program consisted of the film festival of the woman’s human rights and a lecture about the humanism to make women care for their own psychological health.

MGEF regards the self-support policy as the last thing to do. Enforcing the regulations, the government makes the prostitutes leave the prostitute quarters then supplies the self-support policy. However, it is hard for the government to stop prostitution because prostitutes are anxious about their future without prostitution. It is necessary for prostitutes to have the right to become sex workers and make labor unions. Of course it is good to come into being as a legal basis to help prostitutes who have suffered by vicious employers forcing them to do back door prostitution. However, the bill compels women to automatically give up prostitution though there are many women who have to support themselves and their family everyday and only have this source of income. To them, the government’s action is another kind of violence. It is desirable for society to consider seriously what it is exactly that is really good for prostitutes in the long term.

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What they cry to the society?





Harsh rain never obstructs, “4.20-Struggle”

By Mun Hyeon-gyeong
Associate Editor of *The Argus*

On a nasty rainy day, sorrowful guitar sounds were heard at Seoul City Hall. It was not a street performance but a voice for disabled people. Facing the Disabled Day on April 20, “4.20-Struggle against discrimination of the disabled” was held in front of Seoul City Hall at around 2 p.m.. Handicapped peoples who attended this agitation were demanding the “pass of the education support bill for the disabled, punishment corruption of social welfare organs.” In addition to that, they requested to repeal limitations of Personal Assistance Services. A fight committee of the 4.20-struggle has prepared the demonstration to win handicapped peoples’ right and turn down Disabled Day, when the public see disabled as a target of sympathy and favor from 2002. The committee has found that a flurry of rosy government promises ends up being just lip service.

A woman in a wheelchair met during the struggle, Mun Ae-rin from Seongbuk Center for Independent Living, was willing to talk to the reporter of *The Argus*

with a broad smile on her face. She talked about some plights of disabled people which non-disabled people don’t realize. “There are such a few number of low floor buses that it took me much time to wait for a bus. I’ve waited an hour. Moreover, because of unbalanced roads, a lift of the non-step bus did not operate and what is worse, some

drivers of the bus didn’t know how to operate it. Matters of facilities for disabled are also serious causes of violations of the disabled movement’s rights. When it comes to subway stations, it is hard to follow the maze-like arrangements of elevators. At line number one, for example, I’ve got into an awkward position because the space between the subway and station was wide and the subway’s door sill was so high that my wheelchair could not go forward.” The central and provincial governments need to do their best to improve these commuting service

systems which disabled people rely on entirely for movement.

According to the conversation with her, physically challenged people suffer a bitter insult in restaurants. Some restaurants don’t have space for wheelchair and even some owners keep aloof from the disabled. For this reason, there are few eating places where the handicapped people can enter. Interest in the plight of the disabled has undeniably heightened greatly in recent years. However, when we looked, advocates for disabled peoples continued the sit-in in front of Seoul City Hall, and when we heard a voice of handicapped peoples asking for better treatment, we became aware of the invisible prejudice and discrimination which still remain strong in various fields of society.

While the rain continued, the reporter met an assistant at the disabled people’s gathering. Park Sung-ho, NodI Center for Independent Living For People With Disabilities, had put on raincoats on handicapped people in wheel chairs. He said he also usually takes the subway with disabled people who take his activity assistance service instead of riding low floor buses which take much time to use. Our reporter asked whether the Personal Assistance Service for disabled people is effective or not. He said that the service doesn’t assist much. “Under this system’s rule, handicapped people can get service in accordance with their level of disability and trouble. Even though most handicapped people need to get assistants’ help more than 80 times per month, only a few people receive enough service. Thus a revision of the law on the service is needed and before making a support system, policymakers have to realize how people with disabilities are facing adversity.” He asked for non-disabled people’s natural helping hand to the disabled and his warmhearted mind made us realize that more affluent people ought to help less affluent neighbors.

On that day, so many people passed by the place of the struggle in front of Seoul City Hall and the passers seemed like they did not want to get their clothes wet and did not have any interest in the voices of the disabled. Even in that situation, the people who participate in the fight shouted the day’s slogan louder and called for the abolition of discrimination of the disabled. Those who have more should share what they have with those who have less. Through this struggle the reporter learned many things, including the inconveniences and discrimination experienced by the disabled, which she had not realized from a non-disabled people’s point of view, including public facilities, employment, and other factors of social life. We are all obliged to feel responsible for the plight of disabled people. It is time for all of us to have a consistent interest and concern for guaranteeing the rights of disabled people to lead better and more fulfilling lives.

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“Abolish discrimination of the disabled!”
Even harsh rain, their voice was continued.

Our new road is still incomplete

By **Park Yeon-jun**
Reporter of *The Argus*



A law for transportation, conveniences for the disabled, enacted new transportation systems for the disabled. A reporter of the *Argus* interviewed with Bae Yung Ho who is the director of the Easy Access Movement for People with Disabilities in Korea due to know about transportation situation of the disabled.



Director of Easy Access Movement for People with Disabilities in Korea - Bae Yung-ho

Park Yeon-jun / The Argus

Differing from Korea, Canada has buses for comfort of the handicapped almost everywhere.

R: What is the way to improve easy access for the handicapped?

B: Money does not do everything to settle this problem. That means our government does not have a strong will to solve the problem. There are about 1.78 million disabled people in the country. Among them, 30,000 are suffering from serious disabilities and poverty. But the 230

Reporter (R): A law for transportation conveniences for the disabled has taken effect since 2006. Has it improved the situation?

Bae Yung-ho (B): I do not want to make hasty conclusions. Plans can not quickly change transportation system of the disabled. We can anticipate outcomes in one year because the Ministry of Construction and Transportation has not made up precise guidelines for that law. It will make a five-year plan including special transportation and electric moving assistance for the handicapped. I expect the law will bring on epoch-making changes in the disabled society. However, there has been little coverage of the fact in the media.

R: How should government policy for the disabled be changed?

B: First of all, the government support for the disabled is required. Also, government should have sufficient budget to increase its support. But financial aid is not forthcoming. For example, Korea Railroad said, "We can not make transportation systems for the handicapped because we do not have enough budget." The current situation is not hunky. Only several stations have facilities for the comfort of the people with disabilities. I think all stations should have those facilities. The provincial government has similar problems. Local transportation companies also feel a financial burden due to lack of government

support. Budget deficits are the major problem. The Ministry of Construction and Transportation announced that the budget for the handicapped will be increased by 2013. It seems we have no choice but to wait until then.

R: What do you think about the Airport Railroad case?

B: Airport Railroad was opened at the end of March. However, people who use wheelchairs can not use the touch-screen of ticket vending machine because that height is too high. And they do not give special reduced rates for the disabled. So the current system of Airport Railroad is irreplaceable to the disabled. If law for the special-needs transportation had been made earlier, we would have had better results. Because the handicapped can not use the Airport Railroad in safety, they should show a little effort to solve this problem.

R: Could you introduce successful cases in abroad?

B: I think we are now on our path to become a developed country in part of the disabled because many countries don't have enough facilities for the disabled than you might think. There is nothing the wrong with the support systems for the disabled. The problem is that the law for the disabled is in name only. Facilities for the comfort of the people with disabilities are greatly lacking.

government-licensed facilities can house only some 19,000. The rest have no choice but to end up in some unlicensed institution. And we don't know what's happening there. A shortage of staff and budget cannot be used as an excuse. Even by a rough estimate, the budget for the handicapped is far from enough. National consciousness is also lacking.

R: When it comes to handicapped people, do you have any advice to awaken HUFsans?

B: Actually, it is very momentous to try to understand the point of view of the other person. I went to New York several years ago. Many people were very kind to help me when I had trouble getting about. They did not discriminate against the handicapped. The reason New York is a world class city is that New York citizens treat people without discrimination. New York City rivals any other cities in the world in diversity. They have a spirit of respect for human life. So I think that economic growth is important, but the quality of life should be improved as well. Koreans should have respect for the individual due to be a cosmopolitan nation. There are so many issues surrounding people with disabilities in Korea. The disabled will be very happy if people behave more obligingly.

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Material with infinite power

Find out vary fields of plasma, the fourth state of matter

By **Kwon Eun-jung**

Associate Editor of *The Argus*

Recently, a new type of television display called the Plasma Display Panel (PDP) has been introduced into the rapidly growing product line of televisions. The principle of this technology is as follows: within two thin glasses, equipped + and - electrode makes ultraviolet rays by gas (neon and argon) discharging, and the ultraviolet rays radiate and reproduce color display.

Last November, Dr. Choi Young-wook and his team finally succeeded in the experiment of producing a plasma gun. The plasma gun is a core type of production equipment. Korea was unable to achieve the feat due to lack of technical expertise. Therefore, Korea was forced to import these special items from Japan. Korea's success with this technology became a huge topic with the field of electronics. Since Korea has to import this type of technology, it is creating a huge financial crisis. Experts believe that 300 billion won of import substitutes effect for five years and 120 billion

won of substance enterprise benefits.

PDP or plasma gun is not just used in the field of science, but also used in medicine, society and so on. Plasma also affects our lives in several other aspects of life in different ways we wouldn't even think of. What are some examples of how the plasma affects us? Here are some examples of practical uses of plasma and the better way plasma technology willing to go:

First, look all the things surrounding the typical student: desk, TV, pencil, etc. All these substance are formed of solid matter. Also, substances like water are in liquid form, and the air you breathe is in gas form. The substance form is determined by how close the molecules of the matter are together. Generally, the substance can be changed as conditions of solids, liquids or gases by atmosphere. For example, water can become ice; solid, water; liquid and vapor; aerial by temperature.

By the way, how the aerial substances are going to be if they get more heat in limited space? Curiously, the substance doesn't become gas either liquid, but plasma, which is also known as the "forth state of matter," is

none of the three common forms of matter.

Plasma consists of freely moving charged particles, i.e., electrons and ions. Formed at high temperatures when electrons are stripped from neutral atoms, plasma is common in nature. For instance, stars are predominantly plasma. Plasmas are the "fourth state of matter" because of their unique physical properties, distinct from solids, liquids and gases. Plasma densities and temperatures vary widely.

Some examples of use of plasma

- Plasma, around us

First, plasma has used for so long in around our life though we don't notice. The plasma consists of almost 99 percent of universe, auroras of arctic, thunder the monsoon and suchlike are plasma, we can find easily in nature. In neon signs we can find on any street use plasma. Depending to the gas in a light bulb, the colors change accordingly. We can find another kind of plasma on our houses as well. To stop surface scratching, glassware and cars are coated with plasma.



1



2



- Medical usage

The medical communities have been using plasma, highly charged ionized gas, for many years. Especially on the field of the plastic surgery, it is in the limelight recently. Plasma Skin Regeneration (PSR) procedure remedies wrinkle reduction, tightening, and improvement in skin tone and texture by using highly charged ionized nitrogen gas. Moreover, recently more and more fields of some incurable diseases such as heart disease and cerebral apoplexy are devising ways of treatment.

- Environmental benefits

Not only these kinds of private benefits, there's also plasma for public benefits. While PSR uses the lights and heat of plasma, air filters use the atom and electron of ionizing molecules on harmful objects to make them harmless. In the same way, incinerators use plasma to ionize toxic chemicals, such as dioxide and allergens. In this process, there are some worries about emissions of overuse plus ozone depleting gases; the plasma technology can deal with the problem as well. This method will get rid of various kinds of pollutants and it could reduce the scale of incinerators.

The location of Korean plasma technology and the way forward to

The plasma technology, used so many part of our life and form wider universe, is not only the latest one. Plasma has been studied since early 20 century and up to 1950s, advanced scientific and technical nations have invested mainly. Since late 20 century, Korea has begun to start studying of many fields of plasma and some studies were innovative. However the plasma technology

of Korea does not always go smoothly.

According to the following table from Korean Industrial property rights information (Kipris), the number of valid patents for 10 years, from 1995 to 2005 of U.S., was 167, and that of Japan was 170 while that of Korea is 127. In addition, the number and percentage of domestic application from whole percentage of U.S. were 144 cases with 67 percent that of Japan is 138 cases with 80 percent while Korean has that of 77 cases of 60 percent. The percentage of domestic application of Korea exceeds half of whole percentage, however the number of that just can reach half of that of U.S. or Japan. And while the rate of dependence on imports of U.S. or Japan from Korea is very low, that of Korea shows very high with 22 percent from U.S. and 17 percent from Japan.

As previously stated, plasma technology may create the value of a billion won a year, and that national interest means ultimately national development. According to Dr. Choi Young-wook (electronics and appliances division in the Korea Electro-Technology Research Institute) studies of plasma spend much time and money compare to other scientific technology due to of the way of Studies' processes. The studies of plasma deduce a result or formula by experiment and observation while other studies experiment on the basis of formulation.

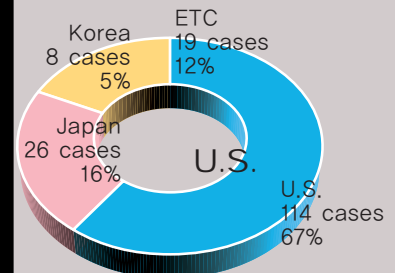
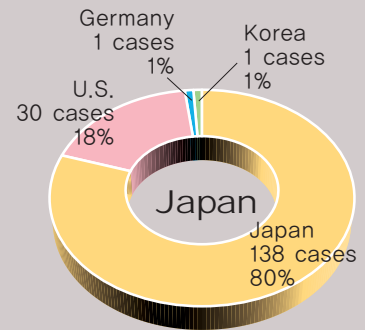
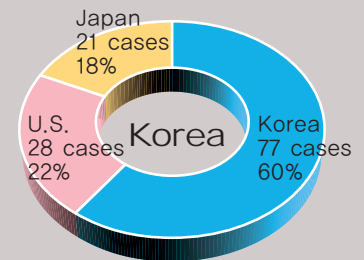
Everything starts from very small things and even something invisible. Plasma itself can not be seen by people as well, but it affects many parts of our lives and its possibilities are infinite. So we should not exclude such technology which we might not recognize or understand, but try to find ways to develop it further.

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The number of valid patents from 1995 to 2005

This table shows the number and percentage of valid patents and domestic application of U.S., Japan and Korea.

Also this table shows the rate of dependence on import of each nation, Korea, Japan and U.S., and Korea's rate of dependence on import from Japan and U.S. was high compared to that of Japan and U.S..



- Korean Industrial property rights information (Kipris)



- 1 Plasma Display Panel
- 2 Plasma gun, core producing equipment of PDP
- 3 Coating by plasma technology
- 4 Incinerating facility using ionizing molecule



Music and Nature, my double target!

By Tae Yu-mi

Reporter of The Argus

Generally, people think that musical performance requires a pretty sum of money. Nevertheless, here is a man who plays music with a leaf. Park Chan-bum, making beautiful melody uses only a leaf. He is the first intangible cultural treasure who plays the reed pipe in Korea. He currently plays the reed pipe in his institute. Let's meet him together.

Reporter (R): How do you contact a reed pipe at the first?

Park Chan-bum (P): When I was eight years old, I followed my father to the mountain. He nipped off a leaf and played a reed flute. He played the song, "Sinawi." I was impressed of the sad timbre even it I was very young. After that, I fell in charm of the reed pipe and I kept on playing it. Of course, I did not want any prizes or awards.

R: What is the charm of a reed pipe compared with other musical instruments?

P: All music can be played with a reed pipe. It can work with any musical instruments. The reed pipe can perform not

only Korean classical music but also Western music. Many Korean musical instruments often make a challenge to harmonize with Western musical instruments. They only have a pentatonic scale, but the reed pipe can represent all musical intervals. Therefore, I think that the reed pipe has an advantage over the globalization of Korean music.

R: In the past, you released the music album played by the reed pipe. Have you any plans to release of another album?

P: Maybe I will. The reed pipe can describe natural sound such as call of birds or bugs. Lately I am recording these sounds with the reed pipe bit by bit. I think that the new album presenting natural sound by the reed pipe will be released sometime soon.

R: I heard you played in LA in the last year. What was their response to your performance?

P: Certainly, the reed pipe is very unfamiliar to foreigners. They feel a quite shock because of the beautiful sound with just a leaf. I expected the good reaction and had confidence to this sound. The music played with the reed pipe was just superior to other western music. As expected, I received big applause and cheering from my audience.

R: What is your future goal that you want to achieve?

P: Actually, due to the lack of intangible cultural assets, I do not have a person to succeed the skill to play the reed pipe. Finding out the best successor is my ultimate goal. Therefore, I will dedicate myself to train successors constantly. Evoking the public attention and interest to the reed pipe is the most important thing now, so I will give many concerts steadily.

R: How can HUFSAans listen to the music with a reed pipe?

P: My album can be purchased from "The National Center for Korean Traditional Performing Arts." I have two concerts this month. The first concert will be held in the Gwangjin-gu art center on May 31.

R: Finally, do you have anything to say to HUFSAans?

P: Modern music is great. But, please spend time to listen Korean traditional music. If you listen, you will have a different impression compared to modern music. I want you to experience beautiful melody of our music played with the reed pipe. If you have some interests in reed pipe, please don't hesitate to come to me.

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Bright stone wall under sunshine

By Song Dan-ah

Associate Editor of *The Argus*

A majority of contemporary apartments and buildings are made of concrete, and traditional buildings are nearly disappearing these days.

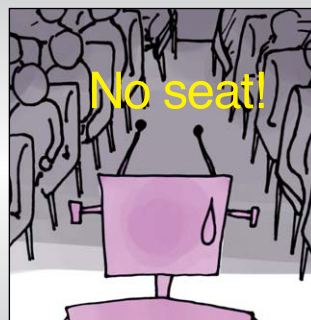
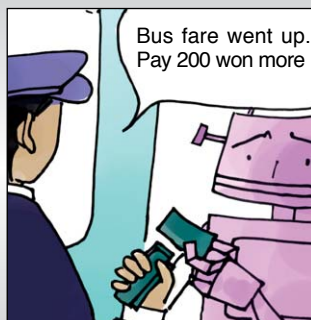
Oeammaul in Asan, Chungchong-namdo, has been keeping unique traditional buildings and preserving long tradition for 400 years. In *Oeammaul*, old ancestor's life style remains. *Oeammaul* is designated for important folklore legacy about the structure of this village; thatched roof houses, *Chogajeep*, are neatly dotted around the 10 tile-roofed houses of the nobleman, which are located on the center. In addition, people could find pleasure with seeing the lovely lanes between the stone walls. A monument erected in honor, a totem pole and a pole signifying prayer for a good harvest stands in front of the entrance. They mean faith which keeps peace and order of the village as an indication. They were originally inside the village but moved to the present position. Moreover, they contain educational meaning of passing down the virtue of the ancestor to the next generation.

Private houses are gathered inside of village and surrounded by rice field and farms. Although the arbor is mostly constructed for entertainment, it is not only for amusement but for the farmers to take a decent rest in the middle of their arduous work. There are two big trees providing shade for people to rest in the village and it is considered to be used as resting place for farmers where they could rest for a moment after they did hard work near the farm. One of the resting places is located on a narrow alley, and the other one on the back side of a stream. It opens a fair when the village held some performance, religious service or village festivals. Inside the village people can see very peculiar scenery with stone walls and houses from the center which other villages can not easily show. At the end of a tour, visitors will realize the harmony of Korean traditional way to construct a village.

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Cartoonist
Kwon Eun-jung



Drawing new rein over soaring tuition fee



By Cha Hyun-jin

Editor of The Argus

On March 28, there was a debate forum for the Joint Committee for University Tuition Fees at the National Assembly Library. Four assemblymen of each party participated in the debate. They were Lee Ju-ho from the Grand National Party (GNP), Chung Bong-ju from the Uri Party, Shim Sang-jeong from the Democratic Labor Party (DLP), and Shim Yeon-mi, an expert adviser from the Millennium Democratic Party (MDP). In this forum, the opinions of the GNP and the MDP about university tuition differed with those of the Uri Party, and the DLP. Especially, a price cap on tuition fees was proposed by the DLP at an extraordinary session of the National Assembly on April.

Shim Yeon-mi said the tuition fee issue was best left to the self-resolving ability of internal university authority rather than implementing external restraints. She added, "An increase of tuition fees has to occur after a school's inner conference group of tuition fees is organized." As a matter of fact, however, it is an impossible solution that tuition fees can be controlled by a coordinating committee for tuition fees. For example, the General Students Council in each school tried to cut tuition fees which were already announced by the university authorities in an organizing committee.

Universities try to increase finances for their profit and welfare of students. And students do not want to pay much money even though it can be used for improvements on students' welfare. That's because the increasing rate of tuition exceeds the general household income. Likewise, they can not solve this problem themselves. In other words, someone else has to set a substantial policy for higher education.

A tuition fee limiting system is a device which the government restricts the maximum amount of the fees based on a one twelfth of an average annual household's income. According to this device, in 2007, tuition fees can not exceed over 2.92 million won. Also the low-income class who needs basic support for living will be exempt from tuition and the government will pay half of the expense.

Shim Sang-jeong said, "Increasing the educational budget up to six percent which still remains at four point ninety five, the limiting system will operate harmoniously by feeding 10 trillion won." An average expense on higher education in Korea accounts for 0.3 percent of GDP. This rate is less than one third of 1.1 percent, an OECD's average expenditure on higher education. In fact, the rise of tuition fees which exceeds inflation rates is a burden to students and their parents. In the case of private schools, the usage information, the decision-making system of tuition fees are classified; even they were opened, the actual amount of fees is so high that it can be a huge burden on students.

The government has to support these issues of finance at universities. The usage of each university can be different. For example, some universities need to construct buildings and other universities need to increase facilities. The needs of universities vary and it can be reflected in increased tuitions, which shifts the responsibility of paying to students from the university authorities. However, the capacity of households to pay can not increase as easily as the schools' expenses increase. In fact, households are not obliged to pay for it. As a result, DLP's policy is not for the soaring needs of universities but for considering household's average payment capability based on an average national income. Not remaining as just a policy, this should be guaranteed and legitimized for the public good.

Till now, university authorities were liberalized to increase tuition for the sake of "improvements," which was only to entangle student's rights. Coordination committees also had no meaning even though they were elevated to official organizations because they were only to discuss their own fee issues. Hence, the government should have expansive regulations on tuition fees and support the financial resources of universities.

Nowadays, university education is not for privileged people any more. And there are no select elites who receive a university education. University education is not for special people who pay for special education. It is not only a problem that each university contains. That's because university education is not a part of the private sector but belongs to higher education in general. That is why the government has to control fees with a substantial policy. Universities have a role of which is not only improving personal economic ability but developing personal talent through education. That is to say, it can make the circulation of human resource as a social role. Therefore, it is time for the government to strengthen support and reinforce regulations for upper levels of public education.

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I live in Seoul, Korea, in an apartment building not far from the university where I work. I buy most of my groceries at the Shoo-Puh on the corner near my building. In Korean spelling symbols - known as Hangeul - it comes out sounding like “Shoo-Puh” to my American ear. The Koreans have borrowed the word from the American “Supermarket” but changed its sound a little and given it a slightly different meaning. They have made it a “Konglish” word, as you hear people call it: a word borrowed from English and made into Korean. In Korea, a Shoo-Puh is a small store in the neighborhood where you buy groceries and sundries. I shop at the Shoo-Puh almost every day.

A man and a woman only a little older than I - I’m fifty-eight - run the Shoo-Puh. It is a real mom-and-pop store, the kind that has almost disappeared in America, but you can still find them in every neighborhood of Seoul. The big supermarkets and convenience store chains have yet to take completely over in Korea and run the mom-and-pops out of business. I buy fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, soap, light bulbs, and other such things from the couple who run the Shoo-Puh.

As I was leaving the Shoo-Puh this afternoon with my purchases, a woman - advanced in years but spry - came walking in. A woman younger than her - though still older than I - entered with her, perhaps her daughter. I stood to the side to let them pass.

The woman I took to be the mother wore a brilliant white hanbok blouse and bright pastel-purple hanbok pants. This venerable woman took her time as she strolled into the Shoo-Puh, for she didn’t seem to be in a hurry to get anywhere. From the moment she walked in, I could not take my eyes off her, for you rarely ever see a person who looks as striking as her. To me, she looked like she could be a queen, or at the least a princess.

This fine afternoon at the *Shoo-Puh*

Lyman McLallen

- Assistant Professor Department of English Linguistics



I peered into her face deeply as she walked by, and I noticed the wrinkles that lined her eyes, the few gold teeth in her mouth, her finely brushed snow-white hair that she seemed to wear as a crown. I noticed her high cheek bones, for I recognize those same high cheek bones - so prominent and distinctive of Korean faces - in the young faces of the college students I see every day in the classroom, whose bright and joyous, handsome and beautiful faces seem to echo hers. She caught me looking at her - admiring her, really - and when she did, I did not look away, and neither did she. We held our eyes on one another, then she began to laugh out loud, and I laughed out loud too - I couldn’t help myself.

I walked home with my groceries and put them away. But I have not stopped thinking about her.

I try to imagine how she has lived her life, all the paths she has taken that this day brought her to the Shoo-Puh, to this moment, and to our brief chance encounter, and I think about Korea in her lifetime: first, the occupation by Japan, then the wars, the attendant starvation, the chaos, and all the heartache - and I know that she did not escape from any of it.

Guessing that she is near eighty - though a vigorous eighty - I figure she was born in the middle of the Japanese occupation, and that she was barely out of childhood in its last years. As a young woman, she endured the horrors of the Korean War, when every Korean family suffered heartbreaking losses through cruel separations and violent deaths. In the hard times of the fifties and the sixties that followed the war, young women of her generation collected wild plants in the hills and on roadsides out of necessity just to keep their families - and themselves - from starving, and I imagine her searching for the wild edible plants, and filling her paper sack with them.

Recalling her clear bright eyes and her joyous face, I realize that she was born in Korea right in the middle of its most frightening years. No people on Earth have ever been put through more sheer hell than the Koreans who lived through that dark time when this woman was young. Looking at her now, I am as certain as I am of anything that she suffered, too, through all of the pain inflicted on all the Koreans living then, and just thinking about the Koreans of her generation now, it strikes me that they all did nothing less than walk through a firestorm. That any Korean even survived to give birth to the new generations is miracle enough.

Picturing her in my mind, it totally astounds me that anybody could make it through such destruction, such losses, such sorrow, and tears. And yet, there she is, at the Shoo-Puh, laughing, radiant with her joy, and looking so wonderfully beautiful this fine afternoon in Seoul, Korea.



Don't forget to remember Teachers' Day



Hello, every reader of The Argus. How was your mid-term test? Anyway, May already came to us though I feel that this year started very yesterday. As we know well, we have a special day which is a Teachers' Day. So, I

would like to express my great appreciation for my teacher whose name is Dr. Ghong Seong-uk through this news article in The Argus. First of all, I would like to introduce him to you briefly. He is not a professor of our university, HUFS. He is a professor at Yuhan college and one of the advisory editors of the Shakespeare Association of Korea. He is very popular with every student because he is very funny and wise and teaches English literature very interestingly. I met him after 2002 world cup. We have known each other for five years. It is such a long time. I regard our meeting as destiny. The reason why I feel thankful to him is that he always supports me. Whenever I was in

a trouble or I got discouraged, he encouraged me to overcome the problem. He mentioned that the problems that I have are very similar to the ones in his past days. So, from time to time, he almost considered me as his son. Of course, I respect him very much and I also think that he is my father. Moreover, I am very proud of having such a thankful teacher in my life. The most priceless event for me in my life is to meet him. When I was in a dim cave, he became a bright torch. When I sailed in the broad and deep ocean, he was a compass. I will never forget him forever. This is the best time to express your appreciation to your teachers. Why don't you visit your precious and thankful teachers before May is over? Just visit or call your teachers. By doing so, you will find the favors of your teachers once again and the lost memories of your past school days. It will be priceless time to all of you!

Jeong Yun-young (EIT-04)



Parents' Day



Do you know about the origin of Parents' Day? Why do we present red carnations to our parents on May 8?

Most of us thought that a carnation is rightly red. However, ironically the first carnation that was attached to the breast was white. About 100 years ago, a young girl named "Anna Jarvis" lived with her mother harmoniously in Wepseuteo village in Virginia. Unfortunately, one day she had her mother died. After she conducted the funeral with the solemnity, she planted a carnation that her mother ordinarily liked around the tomb. That girl felt always regretful for not supporting her mother well during her lifetime and one day, attended a party with attaching a white carnation to her breast. She wanted to memorize her mother. Subsequently Anna started a social movement that we have to

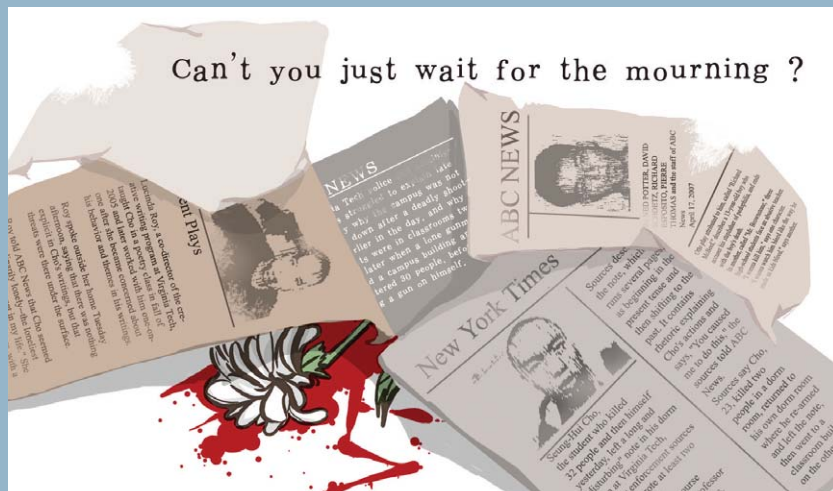
care for mother well. Finally, Mother's Day was held in! 1904 in Seattle for the first time. After that day, that is why we attach red carnations to our parents breast whose mothers are alive and and white carnations to those whose mothers are dead.

Have you ever heard about the words "deploring of tree and wind." This means when one would be filial, his or her parents are gone. Parents' Day is coming soon. How about looking back to our parents? Parents' heart is wider than the blue sky and deeper than the ocean. Parents just wish for our happiness and want children to be healthy. I know you are very busy, but you can spare time to write to your parents. Put the whole mind. Write words flowing out of your heart and express your gratitude in letter. Our parents will read your letter with great happiness. And don't forget to say to your parents, "I love you" and cuddle your parents warmly.

Jin Seol-hee (PL-06)



Han Gyu-hyun
Cartoonist
of The Argus



5/14-18 Ready to FLY

14

Monday

Music contest
World village and each occasion

15

Tuesday

The eve of Daedongje
HUFS starleague

16

Wednesday

Opening ceremony

17

Thursday

Students' performance

18

Friday

Closing ceremony

2007 1st Sem.

FBS Radio Program schedule

Live / transcription	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Morning (AM8:30~9:00)	Morning promenade / Campus network				
Noon (12:20~12:50)	Sound of movie	Animation music clip	Happy noon with music	Music on Broadway	The current at HUFS I love Hanguel
Evening (5:00~5:30)	Picnic day	Minerva evening	Happy reading	World on air	FBS navigator



15 programs (RT : 30min.) per a week



FBS (Foreign Studies Broadcasting System)

Since opening in 1961, FBS has been a symbol of the independent press and the dynamism of youth culture. It is a true embodiment of the educational philosophy of HUFS. It serves the student community by running diverse programs on culture, art, information, entertainment, and academic matters over audio, visual, and multi-media outlets. It broadcasts three times a day, and occasionally airs special broadcasts on major events. FBS also leads the development of the cultural environment of the HUFS academic community by presenting invitational lectures by outside figures.



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