

THE UIC SCRIBE

Summer Edition: Vol.8 ED.2, 2013

STUDENT-ORGANIZED OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF YONSEI, UNDERWOOD INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Snippets from Songdo:
SMART CITY SONGDO

President Park Geun-hye
& GENDER EQUALITY

SUMMER
Must List

The Ever-Expanding UIC



LETTER FROM THE DEAN



The Liberal Arts for International Minds

With this issue of *The Scribe*, we are launching a new motto for Underwood International College: “The liberal arts for international minds.” This phrase will be joining our classic “Join tomorrow’s leaders at the hub of East Asia,” which will continue to be used. The new motto will be featured in our page in the Global Education section of Newsweek Asia (December 31, 2012 edition), as well as our new 2013 UIC brochure, due to hit the shelves sometime in mid-January.

The idea of the “liberal arts” is particularly meaningful for universities in Asia in the twenty-first century. While a Confucian tradition does place great value on academics knowledgeable in literature, philosophy, and the arts, Asia in the last century has seen an emphasis on pre-professional, career-driven higher education. Korea, in having high school students decide upon humanities/social sciences vs. science/engineering tracks, continues this trend in early specialization with a major-focused, professionally purposeful college education, and the popularity of Business as a college major attests to this emphasis.

But the liberal arts is striking back. Liberal arts has always been about the skills and tools necessary for success, rather than content, a quality much needed in our information age. Like the old saying that rightly values “teaching someone how to fish” over the gift of a fish, the liberal arts emphasizes the tools of critical thinking, close analysis, and an awareness of democratic citizenship. Such training leads to an individual more capable of problem-solving, thinking, and negotiation. The liberal arts emphasizes that knowing the skills and the strategies for understanding one’s position in the world is preferable to knowledge of any specific content. In today’s information-rich world, content, if not already available online to the public, faces an increasingly short shelf-life.

The best college education these days needs to teach students to think deeply, to understand themselves, to anticipate what lies ahead. A college education must instill in students the values and integrity needed to support them in making difficult choices, both professionally and personally. The only content that college graduates must possess, for a lifetime, is the cultural capital contained in the legacy of our collective civilization. Culture—the collective wisdom of East and West, in the form of history, literature, politics, philosophy, and sciences—is what we have inherited from our ancestors, and its transmission is what distinguishes us from non-human species.

In our rapidly evolving era that demands a flexible, supple mental acuity and a wide-ranging, intellectual interdisciplinarity, we need college graduates who have learned to deliberate purposefully, to act responsibly, and to lead with sympathy. For Asia to move beyond its status as a source of manufacturing and technology, and into the category of leadership in innovation and idea production, it needs the liberal arts. The liberal arts for international minds: Underwood International College’s new motto reflects our position at the forefront of Asia’s necessary direction for elite undergraduate education.

Best wishes for the new year!



Hyungji Park, Ph.D.
Dean
Underwood International College



CHIEF EDITOR'S LETTER

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It was less than a year ago that I introduced myself to our readers as the eighth editor-in-chief of *The UIC Scribe*, and it is with bittersweet emotions that I say farewell to that title. Founded by a handful of dedicated students in 2006, the same year as UIC, *The Scribe* has blossomed from an understaffed student-run newsletter into a respected UIC institution. Currently run by a staff of 17 writers, editors and layout designers, *The Scribe*, which served fewer than 100 students in its first year, now gives voice to the thoughts, concerns and interests of more than 1000 UIC students.

UIC continues its rapid expansion at YIC with the establishment of ISSD and ISED in March of 2014. *The Scribe* includes in-depth coverage of these major structural changes and what they will mean for the UIC community (p.). This issue also features a wide range of interviews with professors and students: new faculty members, Professors Seung-hei Clara Hong and Henry Em, are introduced to the UIC community (p. & p.), while we speak with Professors Michael Michael and Christian Blood about the teaching awards recently bestowed upon them (p.); we also highlight the achievements of two ambitious UIC student entrepreneurs, Park Sung-chul and Lee Seung-kon (p. & p.). This semester saw three distinguished Shinhan Speakers visit UIC, Professors Chang-rae Lee, Martin Jay, and Catherine Gallagher, and we report on each of their lectures to the UIC community (p.). In our regular columns, "Snippets from Songdo" and "Club Spotlight," we look into the eco-friendly "Smart City" of Songdo (p.) and cover the 100th meeting of Yonsei Toastmasters (p.). And, on a more somber note, *The Scribe* takes time to remember the late Park Kwang-jin, a UIC student from the entering class of 2007, who, sadly, lost his brave battle with cancer this March (p.).

Sweeping change has certainly not been limited to UIC. We thus take a look at what implications the election of Korea's first female president, Park Geun-hye, might have for gender equality in this country (p.), and how the Papacy of Pope Francis, the first Jesuit to hold the position, has raised new hopes for reform within the Catholic Church (p.). In the world of technology, one of our writers breaks down Apple's patent infringement lawsuits against Samsung (p.). In addition to the coverage of current events, this edition includes a variety of interesting opinion pieces. We examine some of the reasons for why UIC students do or do not participate in class (p.), the invisible (or not so invisible) gulf that divides Korean and international students at UIC and Yonsei (p.) and the insensitive portrayals of other cultures and ethnicities in the Korean media (p.). Summer is an exciting time for UIC students filled with infinite possibilities. As such, our Culture section features an article on safaris in South Africa (p.), along with our second "Must List" (p.) and photo essays of Yonsei's vibrant Daedong Festival (p.) and the experimental open art space of Seoul's Mullae Art Village (p.).

At the risk of sounding overly-sentimental, I must say that serving as the leader of this wonderful publication has been one of the most rewarding and memorable experiences of my life. Throughout all of UIC's changes this past year, both the momentous and modest, *The Scribe* has been there to provide insightful coverage for its readership, acting as a bridge between the student body and university administration. While I now bid a fond farewell to the student writers, designers, and editors, and to the professors and administrators who have supported *The Scribe*, I have no doubt that UIC's only student-run newsmagazine will continue to thrive. Above all, I thank all of our avid and loyal readers for continuing to support *The UIC Scribe*; I very much look forward to joining your ranks. Please join me, as *The Scribe* opens yet another chapter, in welcoming its ninth editor-in-chief, Yoon Ha-yon. The future has never looked brighter!

Warm Regards,



Kim Eun-hae
Editor-in-Chief



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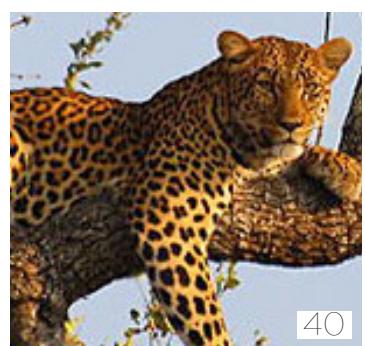
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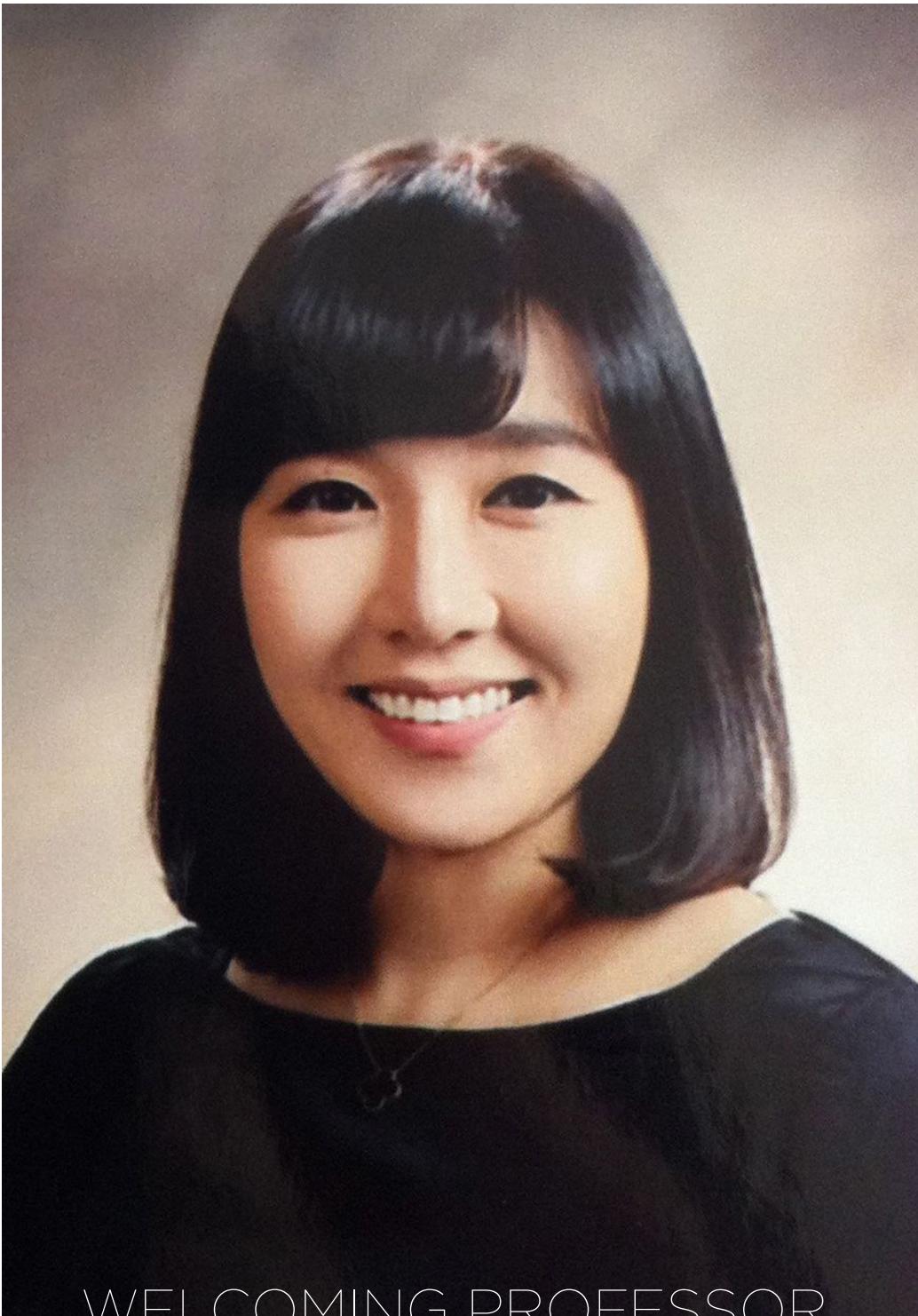
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FINAL REMARKS



WELCOMING PROFESSOR

Seunghei Clara Hong

By Ku Ji-youn

One breezy spring afternoon, I had the pleasure of meeting Professor Seunghei Clara Hong, a new faculty member at UIC.

Could you give us a brief self-introduction?

I go by Seunghei or Clara. I was baptized as Clara, and I sometimes go by “Clara” because people have difficulty pronouncing “Seunghei.” I was born in Seoul, Korea, but have lived most of my life overseas—in England, Singapore, Malaysia and the United States. I studied English Literature at Cornell University and wrote my Honors Thesis on Jane Austen. As a senior, I deliberated between going straight to graduate school or working in the corporate sector. I chose the latter, and, upon graduating from college, worked as a junior ad-executive at Cheil Communications in Korea. Work turned out to be a detour, but, looking back, it was a good learning experience; at that time, however, I was bewildered and overwhelmed by the inefficacies and gender biases within the corporate structure. I went back to school, and to the States, to carry on with my studies. I received my MA from NYU and my PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan. In 2010, I returned to Korea and began teaching at UIC. I am currently Assistant Professor of Asian and Comparative Literatures and also the Residential Master of Allen House at the YIC Residential College.

How did you find out about UIC and what aspects attracted you here?

I first became acquainted with UIC in 2010. At that time I was doing my post-doctoral at the Academy of East Asian Studies at Sungkyunkwan University. One of my professors from Michigan was a friend and colleague of Professor Helen Lee. Helen told me about UIC: a highly selective, all-English international college housed within Yonsei University. I had always wanted to teach in a small liberal arts college, and, while I am fully bilingual, most of my academic learning has been in English, so the idea of teaching at a liberal arts college in Korea where all instruction would be held in English appealed to me strongly. Learning about the student demographic also made me curious about UIC. I belong to the first generation of so-called “trans-culture kids”—children who move from one country to another because of their (usually) father’s occupation. I felt I was well equipped and prepared for the students at UIC. Helen suggested I apply for a position at UIC, and the rest is, well, history.

How has your experiences been so far at UIC and what do you think about UIC students?

I enjoy teaching at UIC tremendously. I especially like that UIC offers an intimate and congenial learning environment—even as it lies within a larger academic community. Our students are so talented, intelligent, and invested, and it is wonderful to see their motley curiosities and interests answered at UIC and Yonsei. I am also ceaselessly amazed, semester after semester, by the diligence and zeal of some students; they make teaching at UIC immensely inspiring and rewarding. A few students, however, seem to harbor a sense of complacency, that they have “made it” to college and need no longer try. College is not so much about professors telling students what to do as it is about guiding them; the bulk of the responsibility falls on the students. I wish more students would emerge out of their comfort zones, whether it be academic or social, and venture forth with audacity.

Tell us about the lectures you plan to give to students.

My research focuses on memory and trauma, particularly on the narrativization and re-presentation of traumatic memory in the Korean and East Asian contexts. I am interested in looking at the politics and ethics of memory, asking how, why, and for whom particular histories get buried and re-collected within the interstices of politics, history, and epistemology. Most of my classes since 2010 have focused on these themes. Last semester I taught a course called “Narrativizing the Korean War in Popular Culture,” where we studied short stories, films, songs, and even memorials to consider how the “story” of the Korea War is constructed, subverted, and perpetuated. This semester I am trying to break free from my comfort zone and am teaching a class on “The Poetics and Politics of Walking.” We read peripatetic literature and consider what it means to walk and who has the privilege to walk. It might have been slightly ambitious, but discussions have been hopeful. I am also teaching a second-year ASD seminar on “Translating Asia Through Film.” We scrutinize how the so-called “Orient” is constructed through Western eyes, what this construct reveals about the Western spectator, and how East Asian cinema re-appropriates these very constructs. In the future, I would like to teach

classes on women's literature, commemorative remembrances in East Asia and the theories of Walter Benjamin and Michel Foucault.

Are there any helpful tips students could benefit from?

As a professor, I would encourage students to be intellectually curious and assertive. I doubt anyone comes to UIC to stand at the sidelines, to be a passive audience. Ask questions, participate in the discourse, and become an actor—both inside and outside the classroom. As a Residential Master, I would like students to be more empathetic (rather than sympathetic) and open-minded. Be good listeners, be aware of differences, try to understand others, and genuinely learn from them. As a life-*sunbae* (senior), I would advise students to make friends, meet new people, travel, read books and enjoy college!

Could you give us your opinion on the restructuring of UIC?

That UIC, through its expansion, can offer the caliber of education it already offers to a larger number of students is hopeful. More students should benefit from a liberal education that encourages free inquiry and creativity. My one concern is that the small, intimate learning community of faculty and students might dissipate. Nevertheless, I am excited at the prospect of what such a diverse student body will bring to UIC.

Are there any final words for the students?

Use your time in college well—make priorities. Get to know your professors. Be assertive and reflective. And, a final word for our freshmen at the YIC Residential College: Sleep and eat well! ■



(Yonsei's PR Office)



WELCOMING PROFESSOR **HENRY EM**

By Yun Jae-young

Could you please introduce yourself briefly?

I was born in Korea, but my family moved to the United States when I was little—that was in 1968, when I was in the third year of my elementary school, so I was eight years old. I grew up in Chicago, and I pretty much got all of my formal education there: my B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. In between my B.A., M.A. and Ph.D., I had some really important experiences in terms of life, my life's path and my intellectual formation—experience doing human rights work after graduating from college. I was on a mission internship program through the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church in the United States. So on a mission, as an intern, I had gone to the Philippines to do some human rights work, and for me that was really a life-changing experience. After nine months of doing that work, I went back and I did a Master's degree. At that time at the

University of Chicago there was no Korean Studies, and so my focus was on Japanese Studies—modern Japanese history, more specifically. I then went to Japan to do one year of language study. Originally, I had wanted to do that kind of human rights work in Korea, and the opportunity then came up where again, through the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church, I spent a year and a half working in Korea and doing human rights work. That was, in some ways, a very exciting time in contemporary Korean history. I was here doing that work from January 1986 through July 1987, and that was exactly the time of the strongest surge of the democracy movement, where you had the transition into democracy starting in June 1987. And so for me, that work in Korea also had a huge impact. In the meantime I got married and decided to pursue a Ph.D., so I went back to the University of Chica-

go to do my Ph.D. in Korean history. I finished my Ph.D. in 1994, I taught for about five years at UCLA, and then seven years at the University of Michigan. I taught for two years also at Korea University, in the department of Korean history, and then I went to NYU for four years, and I have come back to Korea. My appointment here at UIC began on March 1, so this is my first year, first semester.

How did you hear about UIC, and what made you decide that you wanted to come here? Is there anything in particular that you hope to gain or achieve during your time at UIC?

I have now been teaching for 20 years, and I am now much more attentive to—and aware of—what I want to accomplish before retiring. In other words, I am now at the stage where I want to do really what I think would be meaningful. One of those things is obviously teaching. Underwood International College, I think, is an exciting idea. As you all know, Korean people invest a huge amount of time and money in education. This includes “going abroad to study,” a practice that began in the late 19th century but is now obviously much more intense and involves a lot more people. The idea of having a liberal arts college like the Underwood International College here in Korea and setting a new path for liberal arts education in East Asia was really exciting for me. To be a part of that kind of initiative, especially because my field of study is Korean history, and to be a part of this Asian Studies Division (ASD) was very attractive. There were also personal reasons too—my wife’s company was sending her here and we were living in different cities, so for the first time in six years we are living in the same place. And so for both intellectual, professional and for personal reasons, Underwood International College made a lot of sense to me. It is an endeavour that I could commit to wholeheartedly.

How are you enjoying the Yonsei International Campus (YIC) so far?

The campus is beautiful, it is new, and actually there are some difficulties precisely because of that kind of newness—the buildings, as you can see, and the air inside them are still probably a bit toxic? And it will take a little while before everything is up and running. But for me, still, the possibilities that YIC

has are quite palpable here, especially in terms of the ASD. Obviously there was this controversy and protest about some of the decisions that the central administration took, and precisely because of the protest by students and also by the students’ parents, the ASD remains a division. I think that was a good result—if we think about this new grouping with the new majors that goes under the name of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, ASD remaining a division makes a lot of sense to me, because the older name given to this new division that was previously envisioned was “Global Convergence.” If you think about what “global” means in terms of culture, economics, politics and the military terms, what is “global” and where the “global” is converging—as many politicians and others have pointed out—in Asia. Precisely for that reason I think it makes sense for Asian Studies to be one of the central components of this new department for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences in the sense that in so many of the questions of the day, its geographical location is going to be in Asia—so whether its economics or law, I think it would make sense that a lot of those kinds of questions, both in terms of the curriculum and the questions being posed and the people who will be teaching these courses, that a central focus would be this thinking through these various questions, located in and anchored to this geographic location, Asia.

What courses are you currently teaching or planning to teach?

This semester I am teaching History of Modern Korea, which traditionally covers late 19th century to about 1945, but in my case goes up to 1948 and the creation of the two Koreas. The other course is about the Korean War. And this fall, I will teach a course on the Cold War in East Asia, and another course on human rights in East Asia, focusing on the two Koreas.

What is your impression of your ASD students?

What I am impressed by is the strength of identification and the sense of community that they have formed and their willingness to mobilise to try and preserve that kind of sense of community. I think that says a lot about Professor Helen Lee and the fact that she has devoted a tremendous amount of

time and care to the Asian Studies major students. It is my first year and my first semester and I feel gratified at teaching students who have such a strong sense of commitment to their field of study and their sense of commitment in order to ensure that Asian Studies remain a vital part of UIC. And as I said earlier, I think for me, intellectually in terms of what UIC is all about, it makes a lot of sense to me that the Asian Studies Division remains a vital part of the UIC curriculum.

Do you have a personal teaching philosophy? What do you think is the most important thing in establishing a professor-student relationship?

I think in terms of the professor-student relationship, there is a difference between the professor-student relationship in the US and a professor-student relationship in Korea. There is actually a lot more expectation placed on a professor in Korea. Professors are held up to a very high standard; students approach professors with not just intellectual academic questions but sometimes even questions about one's life choices, not just in terms of career, but sometimes in the truly liberal arts sense of the term, how to be a human being, how to be a citizen, and so on. So in some ways being a professor in Korea allows you to really grapple with the questions that are at the heart of a liberal arts education with the students—that is to say, what does it mean to be a human being

engage perhaps in that much of a multidimensional way in the US—and here we are talking about large research universities—where oftentimes the emphasis on the relationship between a professor and a student is placed on graduate education and there is just not as much time that can be spent with undergraduates in thinking about these issues. And for me, at this stage of my career, that is also the other exciting thing about being at UIC, where I do not have to be involved in training Ph.D. students. I get to spend more time with undergraduates, both in the classroom and at least much more than before outside of the classroom.

In terms of teaching philosophy, I want to try and be more specific—that is to say, focusing on Asian Studies. I think for me my teaching philosophy as I come to Underwood International College is to really think about how Asian Studies can be a very integral part of the liberal arts education at Underwood International College. Precisely because of Underwood International College's location in Korea and in East Asia and as someone who is teaching Korean history and Asian Studies courses, my priorities—my philosophy—has to engage with the question of how to recognise cultural inheritance: many of the students at UIC are students of Asian descent, perhaps many born in Korea and having spent a number of years in Korea. So how to recognise that

kind of cultural inheritance in teaching Asian studies or Korean studies courses? And then more generally, how to foster a kind of personal development? Here I think it is at least two different levels: one of course intellectual—how to read, think, speak and write critically and powerfully is at the heart of a liberal arts education. But also I think liberal arts education in its classical sense was about thinking about the different kinds of possibilities of being, and new ways of being, human, and new ways of being like a citizen. I think that involves a



(Yonsei's PR Office)

or a citizen today, here, in this place, in this context, in this situation? And it is not quite as possible to

kind of development not just in terms of intellectual development but also in terms of emotional development and formation. When I talk about cultural inheritance I am not talking about the difference between East and West; I think it would be a mistake to approach this kind of question in terms of this binary of the West versus the East. I think approaching the cultural inheritance of students born in Korea or China or South East Asia, precisely because of that personal and historical background, the questions that we have to deal with here deal with the history of colonialism, war and such. Yet at the same time I think there is a real palpable sense that there is a shift that is happening: political, cultural and certainly economic. And especially because what I teach is Korean and East Asian Studies, how to enable students majoring in Asian studies to be critical and self-reflective participants in creating a new cultural form, new knowledge—a new East Asia.

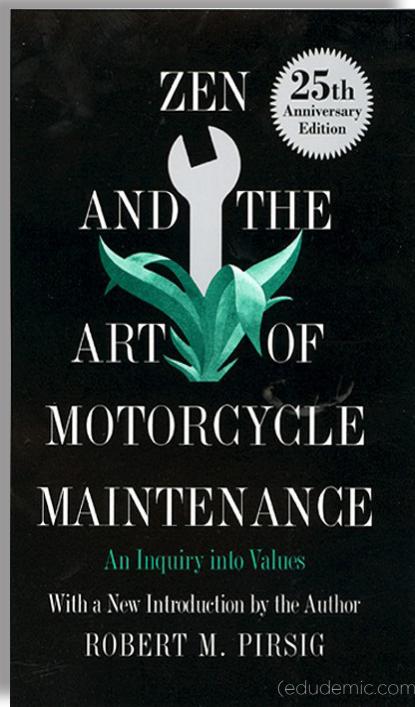
In the courses that I teach at UIC, my students encounter a broad range of primary texts: for example, Yun Ch'i-ho's diary, Yi In-jik's "Tears of Blood," and Chris Marker's 1957 photos taken in North Korea. I enable my students to recognize such texts as microhistorical lenses through which they can understand how racial and civilizational hierarchies come to be constructed, or how geopolitical spaces can be rendered.

Where possible, my students will conduct oral history projects or research projects that involve them in experiential learning as well as knowledge production. Because of my own experiences after college doing human rights work in the Philippines and South Korea, and studying Japanese in Japan, I welcome the opportunity to help develop a curriculum that sees the human being and citizen as agent, and not just as knower

Can you recommend a few books to UIC students?

There is a book called *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: An Inquiry into Values*. The author is Robert Pirsig, and he was actually a graduate student at the University of Chicago. I would recommend this to UIC students because UIC students and university students Korea in general face dilemmas that

are different from the dilemmas I faced. On the one hand, university education is seen in very instrumental terms—something to put on the résumé, a stepping stone to a career, a diploma from UIC, Yonsei University. On the other hand, I think UIC students and university students in general understand that their education and university experience should be much more than that. And I think that is the dilemma. My reason for recommending this book has to do with one end of that dilemma – to remind students about what a university education and time at a university can and should be: a time of deep reflection, not only or even primarily about what courses I should take in order to make myself more competitive for the job market, how I might maintain a high GPA, but how to be in the world. *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* in that sense addresses that kind of question. A big chunk of that book itself has to do with a journey between a father and a son on a motorcycle and his reflections, life and different possibilities of being as an exploration of different possibilities.



Finally, do you have other extra advice that you would like to give to UIC undergraduates?

No, because I know my limits as a teacher. Really, the important questions will come from the students, and I want them to be able to recognize that. They are the ones who will be asking the questions that will be of most relevance to their generation. ■

The UIC Scribe would like to heartily congratulate Professor Michaelakis Michael on receiving the Yonsei Best Teacher Award at the beginning of the spring semester. Professor Michael and Professor Christian H. Blood are also the recipients of the UIC Outstanding Teaching Award this semester. They reflect upon how it felt to receive the prestigious awards.



Interview with Prof. Michaelakis Michael on the Yonsei Best Teacher Award & the UIC Outstanding Teaching Award

By Kim Eun-hae

How does it feel to receive both the Outstanding Teaching Award from UIC and the Yonsei-wide Best Teacher Award?

I feel happy and honored to receive these awards. I also feel appreciative of UIC students, who are a joy to teach. Teaching is never just about the teacher, it is about the interaction between teacher and students. If I did not have such good students I would not be so motivated in my teaching and so I would not have received these awards.

Were you surprised upon hearing the news of both awards? Why do you think you received them?

Yes, it was a surprise. I am not sure precisely why I received the awards, but what stands out for me from the feedback I have received is that students say I deliver my lectures with passion and that I make ideas clear. From my perspective, I want my students to gain a depth and clarity of understanding that will help them grasp the value of ideas. It is this desire, I think, which comes through in my teaching and which students most appreciate.

Based on your experience, what do you think are some effective teaching methods/classroom exercises, those which students respond to in a positive way?

Different people like different things, but in general I feel students respond most positively to the traditional format of class lectures. The (again rather traditional) round-table seminar format, in which students present and then discuss the readings, is also effective. I have tried numerous other approaches, but so far it seems the simpler and more traditional ones work best. I do think, though, that in talking about what makes for effective teaching, focusing on methodology can be misleading. In higher education, what

matters as much is the teacher's function as a model of how to think about things. This is based on my experience as a student. What I learned most from were my professors' intellectual traits, the things that made them the kind of thinkers they were and needed to in order to practice their discipline effectively. I remember, for example, someone describe one of our professors as having "the lowest entropy mind in Cambridge." I knew immediately what this meant: he had a very clear mind, always able to explain the most difficult ideas in the most lucid way. This is an invaluable quality in philosophy and observing it in my professor had a great influence on me. It is therefore important to keep methodology in perspective. Which methods are effective will vary depending on the subject matter, the students, and so on. What is more fundamental for me as a teacher is that I am able to convey to my students the value of a philosophical way of thinking.

Are there any new teaching methods/classroom exercises that you hope to implement in the near future?

One new approach that I have tried is role-playing. I used this in one of my History of Science classes, where the main part of the course was an elaborate game, based on the "Reacting to the Past" series. I will probably do this again at some stage. I would also like find a way of incorporating smaller role-playing scenarios into my classes. This kind of approach offers something like the opposite of what I was talking about earlier, in that the students are not learning by observing, but by immersing themselves in a set of circumstances that call for creative response. This of course is also of great value. As in many other activities, teaching is about finding the right balance between different approaches. ■



Interview with *Prof. Christian H. Blood* on the UIC Outstanding Teaching Award

By Kim Eun-hae

How does it feel to receive the Outstanding Teaching Award from UIC? Why do you think you received this award?

To be recognized by my students and my college with this award is an absolute honor for me, and everyone—family, teachers, former students, friends, and colleagues—who has taught me thus far. Even though my family did not celebrate *doljanchi* (hundredth day anniversary), my parents understood pretty early that I would end up a teacher. Yet I never was the best student; a few good grades came easy, but most did not, and good study habits weren't ever intuitive. Anything I know, I had to be taught slowly. This is, I think, why students like my courses: I know what it is like for school to be thrilling, desirable, life-changing—but also overwhelming, fraught, and sometimes just terrible. Although my grading is stern, the reading load is voluminous, when excited, I talk faster than they can take notes, and the torrent of Greek and Roman etymologies never ceases, students tend to trust me once they realize how deeply I just want them to sit down and read, talk through a book, and understand something new and different.

Were you surprised upon hearing the news?

It is a funny story. Ms. Oh—UIC’s indefatigable registrar—called me at 9:30 a.m. on a Monday. And naturally I assumed there had to be some sort of problem when I saw her phone number: Maybe Veritas Hall A had burned down, and I would be conducting Western Civ. on the soccer field. Or maybe some computer glitch meant I would have to teach calculus next semester. So, when Ms. Oh asked me to verify the spelling of my legal name, my anxiety spiked more: Were Immigration Officers at New Millennium Hall, trying to deport someone named B-l-o-o-o-d? It took a minute for me to register the good news that I had won the teaching award, and that Ms. Oh was just double-checking how I wanted my name on the plaque. But goodness yes, I was very happy.

“So, when Ms. Oh asked me to verify the spelling of my legal name, my anxiety spiked more: Were Immigration Officers at New Millennium Hall, trying to deport someone named B-l-o-o-o-d?”

Based on your experience, what do you think are some effective teaching methods/classroom exercises, those which students respond to in a positive way?

My pedagogical philosophy is less about techniques or methods—which is why I spend as little time as possible on PowerPoint presentations and other mechanisms designed to make a student’s encounter with a book easier—and more concerned with the stance I take toward the alchemy between students, teachers, and books. The role of the teacher is to challenge students to radically rethink their own relationship to the other, which can come in many forms—an august, ancient book; a supposedly dead language; or an inscrutable tract of contemporary lit-

erary theory. Students usually assume, often unconsciously, that the text is beyond reach, that it is an artifact, and therefore not immediately knowable, and that the only way they will understand it is to read someone else’s bullet points or summaries. I think college-level work should always be difficult to digest and absorb—but not impossible. When I teach, I am helping students extend themselves out toward otherness, not to render it inert and normalized, but to open themselves to both its differences and its familiarities. I want students to appreciate the august monuments of Greek and

Roman literature and the Western canon, but I do not want them to stop there. What I really want is for my students to see how these same books also have a human scale, are current, strange, puzzling, and touching too.

Are there any new teaching methods/classroom exercises that you hope to implement in the near future?

First things first: let us just all get through Western Civ. in one piece! ■

Lee Chang-rae, Martin Jay & Catherine Gallagher

Conduct Seminars for UIC Students

By Joe Litt

Few students can say they have met a world-renowned, prize-winning novelist, and even fewer can claim to have received intensive, hands-on writing lessons from one. But for a lucky group of UIC students, this is exactly what happened when Lee Chang-rae visited UIC May 20-31 as a Shinhan Distinguished Visiting Faculty member. During his stay at UIC, the Pulitzer Prize finalist, noted for works such as *Native Speaker* and *Aloft*, conducted a special creative writing seminar, devoting eight sessions to mentoring UIC students on the finer points of the creative writing process. Professor Lee also gave a public reading from his forthcoming novel, *On Such a Full Sea*, in New Millennium Hall on May 22.

Professor Lee, who also heads Princeton's Creative Writing Program, gave a seminar at UIC for the second time in six years. His goal, he insisted, was not to turn UIC students into the next Hemingway or Tolstoy, but rather to teach them to think and write more creatively.

Professor Lee was quick to stress the importance of creative thinking, as well as how creative writing can be a vehicle to success in fields beyond the arts. "What we do in the classroom has no bearing on what [the students] will ultimately [do in their ca-



Professor Lee Chang-rae
photo from UIC PR Office



Professor Martin Jay
photo from UIC PR Office

reers], but the class teaches them to express themselves creatively through storytelling. It is artistic training but it's not training for one particular thing.” Creativity, he noted, “is important in all fields. That’s where you get innovative ideas, innovative techniques, and approaches to problems.”

In fact, learning to write creatively may provide UIC students with an important advantage for their future careers by teaching them to think creatively: “I think [creativity is] a skill and maybe even a talent that business, politics—all these other fields—are valuing highly,” said Professor Lee. “[Employers] want people who have that kind of innovative approach to solving problems.”

Professor Lee, however, was not the only Distinguished Visiting Faculty member this semester to give up-close mentoring to UIC students. The University of California, Berkeley husband-and-wife team of Martin Jay and Catherine Gallagher also conducted two-week-long seminars for UIC students, and each gave an open lecture for the general public. On May 27, Dr. Jay, Sidney Hellman Ehrman Professor of History at UC Berkeley, gave the lecture, “The Neo-Liberal Imagination and the Space of Reason,” in which he argued that neo-liberalism,

although often conflated with conservatism, has a much more positive attitude towards rationality than the more traditional conservative position. The following Monday, June 3, Dr. Gallagher, Eggers Professor of English Literature, Emerita at UC Berkeley, gave the final Shinhan lecture. In her talk, entitled “Charles Dickens’ *A Tale of Two Cities* and the History of Modern Revenge,” Professor Gallagher explored the nexus of liberalism, revenge, and atonement in Dickens’ depiction of the French Revolution. The Shinhan Distinguished Visiting Faculty seminars officially concluded on Friday, June 7. ■



The Ever-Expanding UIC: Where We Make History Together

By Kim Eun-hae and Hwang Ji-young

Since Yonsei President Jeong Kap-young's inauguration in February of 2012, the top two priorities on his agenda have been the Residential College (RC) system at Songdo's YIC and UIC. When it was decided by the former Yonsei president, Kim Han-joong, that all UIC freshmen, beginning with the entering class of 2011, would spend their first year at YIC, UIC came to occupy the heart of what President Jeong now terms Yonsei's "Third Founding." As the centerpiece of the university's goal to establish itself as "Asia's World University," the expansion of YIC has been spearheaded by UIC, with the introduction of the Asian Studies Division (ASD) and Techno-Art Division (TAD) in March of 2012. And with the university's announcement, on March 19, that it would establish the Global Convergence Division (GCD) in March of 2014, it became apparent just how integral the seemingly continual expansion of UIC is to the future growth of YIC.

Originally intended as an umbrella division housing all of UIC's Songdo majors—including the seven new ones scheduled to begin in March 2014—the creation of GCD inevitably meant restructuring ASD and TAD, making them majors within GCD, as opposed to stand-alone divisions. As part of the restructuring, the quota of students allocated for Yonsei's Open Major (intended to be a pre-law type program) was to be given to GCD in Spring 2014, leading to the disbanding of the major. In addition to the one ASD major (Asian Studies) and three TAD majors (Information and Interaction, Creative Technology Management and Culture and Design Management), GCD would introduce four new integrated

social science majors (Justice and Civil Leadership, Quantitative Risk Management, Science, Technology and Policy, and Sustainable Development and Cooperation), along with three new integrated science and engineering majors (Bio-Convergence, Energy and Environmental Science and Engineering and Nano Science and Engineering). Envisioned as UIC's Songdo division, complementing the Sinchon Campus's Underwood Division (UD), GCD, in UIC Dean Park Hyung-ji's words, was to become "Songdo's UD." Like the UD model, GCD would provide students with maximum flexibility and freedom, allowing them to choose any of the majors offered by GCD and to change their major at any time.

Upon being informed of the dramatic structural changes planned for UIC, the responses from ASD and TAD students were largely negative. While individual reactions varied from student to student, there was a pervasive feeling of shock and stupor amongst the ASD and TAD communities. Due to the accelerated time frame imposed by the central administration—with the announcement made on March 19 and the new admissions policies scheduled to be released in April—students had a difficult time grasping all the implications of the sudden and massive changes. Among the effected UIC students, one of the principle questions, voiced by an anonymous ASD student, was: "What does ASD have to do with GCD?" Park Ye-ji, a TAD student from the entering class of 2012, echoed a similar concern: "It did not make sense how the school was bringing TAD as a major into a division [GCD] that has no relevance to techno-arts." Dean Park, for her part, sympathized

with the students' initial sense of bafflement as they struggled, in her words, to "understand and respond at the same time."

In an attempt to facilitate greater communication between the UIC administration and a confused student body, the Dialogue with the Dean (or Official Debate on the GCD Transfer) was held on March 26. Reflecting just how anxious students were to receive answers from the administration, all four buses provided by the university to transport students from YIC to the Sinchon campus were packed, and New Millennium Hall's Main Auditorium was filled beyond capacity by UIC students from both campuses, along with some of their parents. The Dialogue opened in a civil manner, as representatives from each division asked Dean Park prepared questions relating to the exact nature of the changes that would be brought about by the implementation of GCD, how far along the GCD plans were, and why the university had failed to keep the promises it had apparently made to ASD and TAD students during their orientations. But tensions started to rise as one mother of an Open Major student intervened, forcefully articulating her reservations about GCD; she said, quite bluntly, that this was not the future she had envisioned when she enrolled her child in the Open Major. Prompted by this parent's questions, more and more students from the audience began interjecting their opinions, demonstrating less and less concern with retaining the formality that usually characterizes the Dialogue.

As the Dialogue progressed, and their hopes for preserving ASD and TAD as autonomous divisions seemed increasingly faint, the students' frustrations became more impassioned. Some students even left the room, dismayed by what they saw as unsatisfactory responses from the administration, which, in their eyes, seemed solely concerned with promoting GCD—and not with being responsive to the students' reservations. Afterwards, an Open Major student remarked that the Dialogue "served no purpose whatsoever," completely failing as "an attempt to establish communication between the students and the school." This student, like many others in attendance, regarded the conspicuous absence of President Jeong as an indication of the school's unwillingness to con-

sider student opinions: "Only the president has the power [to change the plans], but the president not being present at the debate showed that [the school] was just using the Dialogue to announce what they were going to do." Park Ye-ji felt that the Dialogue demonstrated considerable disdain, on the part "of the powerful [university administration], for the powerless [students of UIC]." Park continued: "Honestly, at first, it seemed that the school had no interest in the existing divisions [TAD and ASD], because they did not [even] know the divisions well [to begin with]. Also, it seemed that they had no intention of listening to our opinions. The question we continue to put forward is why TAD cannot remain an individual division, and we have yet to receive an answer."

Perceiving the Dialogue to be a unilateral platform for the central administration to announce its policies, rather than for engaging in an open dialogue, dissatisfied ASD, TAD and Open Major students felt compelled to demonstrate their discontent in more visible ways. By late March, Yonsei's Baekyang-ro was covered with yellow placards decrying the university's actions, while ASD and TAD students, who refused to attend classes for one week, submitted handwritten letters to Dean Park and staged protests in front of



(Yonsei's PR Office)

Yonsei's Main Library and during YIC chapel sessions. Tensions escalated further when, on April 1, concerned parents of UIC students occupied both President Jeong's office and the UIC office. Recognizing the severity of the situation, and the degree to which these changes had angered the student body and their parents, the university changed course. On April 4, the university announced its revised plans for UIC and the Open Major during a meeting of the Council of Academic Affairs.

The disbanding of the Open Major has been delayed until 2015, at which point UIC will receive the program's student quota. Under the revised restructuring of UIC, which will be implemented in March of 2014, TAD and ASD will remain independent divisions, while the four new social science majors will be part of the Integrated Social Sciences Division (ISSD). ASD, TAD and ISSD, then, will be housed in the new Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) Field, while UD (with its five majors) will be part of what is to be called the Underwood Field. And the Integrated Science and Engineering Division (ISED), with its three majors, will constitute the Integrated Science and Engineering Field. The transformation of GCD into HASS can thus be interpreted as a direct consequence of the protests by student and parents, with the university making a compromise by creating larger institutional structures—"fields"—to accommodate the preexisting divisions, while keeping intact the new majors which were to be established through GCD.

According to Dean Park, the protests were the result of a fundamental misunderstanding by students and parents about what a "division" actually means. From the perspective of the central administration, she said, the introduction of GCD would have "changed nothing for the current students." However, ASD and TAD students believed that the school was planning to eliminate their programs. Dean Park, though, admits that both sides "were right and wrong." The central administration claimed that "nothing would change" because the entering classes of 2012 and 2013 would be "guaranteed," for the duration of their studies at UIC, "the same level of academic and extracurricular resources" they now enjoy. "In terms of their curricular offerings [as well

as] their programs," she said, essentially everything would have remained the same for ASD and TAD in 2014, except that they would have been part of the larger GCD. GCD, in other words, did not entail the closing of majors as some students believed. From the university's perspective, then, the only substantial change with the implementation of GCD would have been the admissions categories under which TAD and ASD students would be selected from 2014 onwards. The students, however, interpreted the proposed restructuring to be a "downgrading" or "demotion" of their programs from divisions to majors, and they expressed serious concerns that their curricular offerings would be reduced. As Park Ye-ji said in late March: "If TAD becomes a major within GCD, it will be hard to set the student enrollment quota and curriculum in a manner that is best suited to the character of TAD." Dean Park emphasized that such concerns would not have been an issue, and that the students did not fully understand how the central administration defines a division: "Administratively speaking—as a kind of organizational unit within the university—a division is actually an admissions category and a grouping of students: it is not an academic or budgetary unit." In other words, programs are managed, and their curricular offerings are determined, entirely within the majors themselves. That is, divisions neither have faculty nor offer courses, only majors do.

As university policy dictates that colleges offer all the courses necessary for a student to graduate, the number of courses offered within a particular major is primarily determined by its graduation requirements. ASD students were particularly concerned that their course offerings would be reduced, since the structural changes entailed an approximate 50% reduction in the number of students admitted into ASD compared to the entering class of 2013. Dean Park insisted that this fear is unwarranted, as more students within a major simply means that classes will be larger, while fewer students means that the classes will be smaller. Furthermore, Dean Park stated that "divisions do not have budgets, only majors or colleges have budgets." The "budgetary allocation for UIC," she continued, is for all of UIC; there is "no separate allocation for UD, ASD or TAD." Due to this fact, "whether ASD was a major or division, the

amount of support for the program would have remained the same.”

Dean Park suggested that the students’ responses may have been slightly “outsized or exaggerated,” because they “imagined” that a division has much more importance than it actually does at an administrative or operational level. Nevertheless, Dean Park also acknowledged that the Dialogue and later protests revealed to her and the central administration that, for the students, a division is not merely an admissions category. She came to realize that the students did “have a strong emotional attachment in their *hoobae*s,” and that the manner in which future students were admitted was a matter of significant interest to the current student body. As the crisis progressed, she therefore came to more fully appreciate why students were so resistant to these proposed changes. Having intimate knowledge of the students’ perspectives, Professor Helen Lee, Director of ASD, provided more insight into why a division holds so much significance for the students. A division, she explained, “is kind of like a house”; it is an “institutional structure that gives [students] a sense of membership.” Because students were suddenly faced with the prospect of losing the source of their membership, Professor Lee said that she can “sympathize with how they must have felt a great sense of loss” and understand why the disbandment of their division “mattered substantially to the students.” And it seems that the administration did not initially recognize the high emotional stakes of their decisions. Some ASD and TAD students felt that losing their status as divisions almost constituted a betrayal on the part of the school, turning their backs on the programs without giving them an opportunity to fulfill their potential. On a practical level, Professor Lee noted that a major does not have the same “institutional impact” or “organizational force” enjoyed by a division. She thus “anticipated some level of discontentment” from the student body when the GCD plan was first proposed, although she admitted that she did not expect a response “to that extreme.” Professor Lee continued: “it was the shock that triggered the extreme responses from the students.” She also expressed regret that the administration did not handle things better, especially in the way that the major changes were proposed.

Interestingly, Professor Lee said that few students “questioned the vision or philosophy” behind GCD, or that the program would contribute to and better the UIC community. Many students seconded this opinion, as an Open Major student pointed out: “Rather than finding the creation of GCD the issue, we find fault with the time taken to create and integrate the new division into the college. The time taken was very short, and therefore problematic.” Park Ye-ji agreed: “the school has a big vision that is taking place rapidly and progressing too fast.” These students believe that the suddenness of the GCD announcement, and the short time span between the announcement of the program and its implementation, demonstrated the central administration’s indifference to student opinions, and its unwillingness to consult students when making major changes that affect their college lives. Although the students’ desire to be part of the decision-making process is understandable—and it is their right, as students, to express their positions—Professor Lee pointed out that it is the responsibility of the central administration to run the university and devise new plans. Dean Park explained that the university considers matters related to admissions categories (the main changes affecting ASD and TAD under the GCD plan) to fall under the purview of the central administration. As such, she said that “students do not necessarily need to have input” in these types of decisions, and the university did not feel “obliged to consult with students.” Furthermore, as Professor Lee noted, the “central administration has a larger agenda for a future that is not immediate,” a vision that will unfold over decades. Students, therefore, are asked to have trust in the university’s foresight; however, in this case, there simply was not adequate time for the administration to convince students of GCD’s merits. No matter how great the program might have been, “students need[ed] to see the vision and value in it,” said Professor Lee. “Our students,” she continued, “have to be first informed, educated and brought on board.” Had students been given more time to fully digest the changes and their potential benefits—perhaps, as Professor Lee suggested, by holding additional Dialogues or sessions where students could raise their concerns—the university may have succeeded in implementing GCD as originally envisioned.

But because students were not persuaded of GCD's benefits from the outset, there were suspicions, among certain students, that the school did not have their best interests at heart. There has been, for instance, quite a lot of cynicism surrounding rumors that the university has a contract with the city of Incheon stipulating that there will be 5000 students enrolled at YIC by March 2014. When asked about these rumors, Dean Park firmly responded that there is absolutely no truth to them: "in the one year that I have been involved in all the central committee meetings about how to run these [new] majors, I never once heard any administrative officer saying anything about [the school's] obligations to Incheon." Dean Park wants to assure students that when the university initiates new plans, they genuinely believe that they will be "best for the students." She admitted that there were "differences of opinion about what students wanted, or what [the administration] thought was the best educational value." But, she continued, the school always starts "from a fundamental assumption of trust that [it] is seeking the best educational value for students." Though the GCD plan appeared rushed—some might say hastily constructed—the plans for UIC's new majors have been under discussion since last May. Dean Park expressed regrets about the Incheon contract rumors, as they imply that the school had ulterior motives for pursuing new changes. She also insisted that student opinions absolutely do matter: "What the students did not realize throughout the process [of revising the GCD plans] is how much the faculty and administration were really listening to the students and how much of what students said was taken as feedback that changed the program." Although the creation of GCD was publicly announced on March 19, Dean Park said that she began talking to student representatives and the student council about GCD in late February. While about 80% of the plans were already decided upon by the central administration by late February, she explained that about 20% remained on the negotiating table. The time between late February and early April was therefore intended to be "a period of discussion with the students," as she consulted with student representatives about how best to preserve the identity of their majors with the implementation of GCD.

The student unrest, and the process of revising

the GCD plan, made for challenging times for everyone involved. The GCD crisis not only exposed the divergent perspectives of the students and the administration, it also brought to light previously unaddressed issues that have led to discontent among ASD and TAD students. As the anonymous ASD student remarked: "We were told [by the administration] that, as a division, we would have internships and study abroad programs. The school cannot put us into GCD when it has not even given us what it promised." Indeed, what TAD and ASD considered to be "broken promises" was a major source of discontentment, greatly contributing to their resistance to GCD. When the students' dissatisfaction came to light during the crisis, it was, as Professor Lee reflected, "sort of a revealing opportunity for us [students and administrators] to work out the differences between expectations." She added that she is "glad everything came out" because prior to the protests she did not know that the "students were living under this kind of dissatisfaction." Inadvertently, the crisis allowed Professor Lee to clarify for ASD students some of their misconceptions about the benefits they were supposed to receive—there were, for instance, no such plans for an ASD-exclusive exchange program. The benefits ASD students can enjoy are identical to those of all other UIC students. Reaffirming Dean Park's statements, Professor Lee assured her students that there would always be a sufficient number of major courses, ensuring that all ASD students are able to graduate in a timely manner. She expressed complete "trust" in the university and her colleagues, and she hopes that ASD students will be able to share in that trust.

The tumultuous last few months, therefore, served as an impetus for ASD to address curricular challenges, especially the lack of professors, which has been a constant complaint among ASD students. According to Professor Lee, this issue is one that ASD has been working hard to resolve: one faculty line has already been filled by Professor Henry Em (who began this March), and there are plans to hire two additional professors. Despite the current faculty shortage, Asian Studies courses are being taught by Asianists from within UIC and other related Yonsei departments. Professor Lee emphasized that ASD courses are already being taught by highly qualified and ac-

complished professors, and she remains convinced that the UIC administration and faculty are dedicated to further improving the division. Regardless of the four new ISSD majors under HASS, she insisted, neither ASD nor TAD will be neglected, and the concerns of these students will continue to be treated with the utmost seriousness.

The creation of HASS, in Dean Park's words, embodies "the best of both worlds": it allows TAD and ASD to remain as divisions, while allowing the same flexibility in terms of choosing majors as envisioned in the original GCD plan. Park Ye-ji voiced her satisfaction with the new compromise: "I am very glad that we were able to solve these issues through dialogue. We were able to get our thoughts across to the school. The school was then able to understand our position. I am satisfied that we were able to keep TAD as a division." ASD was also relatively satisfied, as one student commented: "At least we got half of the victory, because we are [still] a division and we can choose the professors that we want. We can have the global academic tour, too. As a division, we will be meeting the Dean; we have freedom of sovereignty." The admission requirements for HASS students will vary: students who are firmly committed to ASD or TAD will apply through the division tracks, while those who are undecided or who wish to retain greater flexibility can apply through the HASS field track—ISED, which will mainly attract students geared towards science and engineering, will have its own separate admissions track with different criteria.

The new ISSD and ISED majors, according to Dean Park, can be characterized as "slightly more applied" and "pre-professional" than the UD majors—she describes ISSD and ISED as "UD with a slightly pre-professional twist." UD will remain a more traditional liberal arts and sciences division, with its strength residing in its emphasis upon broad-based humanistic inquiry. But because UD does not offer "pre-professional" or so-called "practical majors," the administration felt there was a need to create programs targeted toward students who already have a clear career path in mind. The four new ISSD majors, thus, have been geared towards some of the most in-demand careers and fields. For example, Justice and Civil Leadership is based on philosophy, politics

and economics (PPE), but it also provides a strong grounding in pre-law. The focus of ISSD is on interdisciplinary learning, and what the university thinks will comprise "the interdisciplinary fields of the future." Dean Park believes that the "liberal arts plus alpha" (the liberal arts with a pre-professional edge) model will be a very appealing one for both domestic and international students, contributing to UIC's growth and the diversity of its programs.

According to Dean Park, UIC's seemingly non-stop growth is, in fact, its unique strength. Having played a significant role in the establishment of UIC, Dean Park pointed out that "UIC, from the very beginning, was always an extremely ambitious and extremely flexible model." While designed as a "small-scale, elite honors college program in English," UIC was also deliberately "integrated into existing departments and existing majors," which meant that "it was infinitely expandable." This flexibility is an institutional rarity, noted Dean Park: "it is virtually impossible [within Yonsei] to offer new majors or new departments." UIC, then, in her view, is a major force in preventing Yonsei from losing ground to other globally-recognized universities. Professor Lee agreed with Dean Park's view that HASS is "cutting-edge": it is "groundbreaking in the history of Yonsei," she said. While Dean Park remarked that it was both "a compliment and a burden" when UIC was decided upon as the host college for these ambitious new majors, it was ultimately a testament to UIC's success. From its founding as an elite, but small, college within Yonsei, UIC has become what President Jeong calls "Yonsei's flagship college." UIC, in Dean Park's words, has, in seven years, become Yonsei's "best educational brand . . . created in recent memory."

From its first year, when it had less than 100 students, UIC has extended to two campuses, three divisions, nine majors and over 1000 students—and the student body is projected to grow even larger. In this period of rapid expansion, the key, according to Dean Park is to "redefine" and "refocus attention" on UIC's core values. The challenge, then, is reconciling the original vision of an intimate liberal arts setting with the reality of an ever-increasing student body. While Dean Park recognizes that fissures have developed between divisions at UIC, she insist-

ed that UIC “will always be intimate,” because it is united through the Common Curriculum (CC), and it will continue to maintain a low student-faculty ratio. Even with the introduction of seven new majors, Dean Park stated that “we will retain the same [small] class sizes as much as we think is necessary and beneficial.” Western Civilization and Eastern Civilization at YIC, for instance, were a step away from UIC’s traditional class structure, but as “signature courses which all students take together,” Dean Park maintains that they have their own curricular values, offering benefits not available in the small-scale classroom. Dean Park also emphasized that “UIC has a special identity of its own that no other college within Yonsei does”; that is, UIC students identify most closely with their college and not their major (as is generally the case at Yonsei). While all UIC students on both campuses will continue to take CC courses, the fact remains that the majority of UD students in Sinchon will remain separated from HASS and ISED students at YIC (and vice versa). As Professor Lee commented: “you [now] have to go out of your way to make connections.” In many ways, then, the onus is on the students to make connections with students from the other fields: they “cannot be complacent” or “lazy,” Professor Lee said, because the connections are not “going to come to us.”

The next few years will not be easy, and as UIC enters into what Professor Lee terms the arena of “the unknown unknowns,” there is understandably a substantial amount of anxiety. The jury is still out, and it remains to be seen whether HASS will succeed. As Dean Park admitted, the hardest part is yet to come: “talk is always easier than putting the plans into action.” The programs will need to be, in Professor Lee’s words, “launched, implemented, go through some trials”; they will inevitably undergo an “experimental phase” before achieving stability and a “competitive reputation.” What is crucial, in Professor Lee’s view, is patience. It took seven years for UD to secure its current reputation within Korean society and abroad, and she hopes that people will not prematurely pass judgment on ISSD and ISED as they experience their inevitable growing pains.

While UIC has experienced nearly ceaseless growth since the administration’s decision in 2009 to

move UIC’s freshman curriculum to YIC, Dean Park predicts that once the new majors have been firmly established, and the number of admitted students levels off in 2016, UIC will be in “for another very stable period.” Dean Park is very optimistic that the introduction of HASS and ISED will only enhance UIC’s tradition of sending stellar graduates out into the workforce. The most important thing, she concluded, is that “we all have to work together” to make UIC the best it can be. These are all commendable aspirations. But let us, as UIC students, remain vigilant, demanding that the university stay true to its words as it marches toward its goal of making UIC the best English-language undergraduate college in Korea, Asia and beyond. Let us, in other words, hope that UIC will indeed be a college where we grow *together*—and not one where we simply dance to the administration’s drumbeat. ■

GIVING BACK TO UIC

ONE CFA CHARTER AT A TIME

By Joe Litt

When Park Sung-chul began studying at UIC in March 2007, he set himself a goal: to give back to the community as much as he possibly could. Inspired by Jeffery Sachs's *The End of Poverty*—which he read for a UIC class—Park started reflecting on what he could do to “help the people living on the margins of our society.” With that mission in mind, Park convinced his friends at Yonsei to found a student club dedicated to conceiving and implementing creative solutions to help the poor and disadvantaged. Putting their minds together, Park and his friends raised money to buy walking sticks for the visually impaired by selling brooches made from used eyeglasses.

As a result of these efforts, Park was awarded Yonsei's Blue Butterfly Scholarship, which requires that the recipient pledge to give back to the Yonsei community in the future. To fulfill this obligation, Park decided to assist fellow UIC students in obtaining their Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) certification.

Park, who studied economics at UIC, now works as a consultant at Bain & Company. While a student at UIC, he sought to enhance his credentials for a future career in high finance by attaining CFA certification. But after paying around \$1000 for each of the three required CFA exams, Park realized that the hefty price tag might deter other students from getting their certification. While scholarships for CFA certification were available to students in Yonsei's

Business School, no such funding existed for UIC students. Seeing this, Park knew exactly how he would give back to UIC.

Early in 2013, Park pledged to give KRW 1 million to one CFA test-taker from UIC each year for the next ten years. To qualify, applicants must be a UIC student under the age of 26 with a minimum GPA of 3.3/4.3. Applicants must also have passed the CFA Level 2 exam or the CFA Level 1 exam along with Levels 1 and 2 of the Financial Risk



Management (FRM) exam. To apply, students should submit transcripts, proof of passing the CFA or FRM exams, a photocopy of their ID card, a resume, and a self-introduction; the winner will then be chosen on the basis of both merit and need. Each year, the application period will be September 1-14, and the winner will be announced at the end of September. The only other stipulation for this scholarship is that the recipient pledge to give back to the UIC community at some point in the future. Ultimately, Park hopes that future UIC graduates will follow his lead and give back to school. His goal, he says, is to inspire at least ten other UIC alumni to donate KRW 1 million to the UIC Community.

Reflecting on his experiences as a student at UIC, Park believes that UIC's small class sizes, its low student-professor ratio, and its English-language curriculum were essential

"Ultimately, Park hopes that future UIC graduates will follow his lead and give back to school. His goal, he says, is to inspire at least ten other UIC alumni to donate KRW 1 million to the UIC Community."

Park also expressed his admiration for Professor Frankl's work as a jujitsu master who has played a major role in introducing the sport to Korea.

Park, who graduated from UIC in 2013, is still working towards attaining his CFA certification, as well as his career goal of becoming a social entrepreneur who helps to improve lives in the developing world through innovative business ideas. When asked if he has any advice for current UIC students, Park emphasized the importance of taking advantage of all the benefits UIC has to offer: "Half the students take advantage of those merits, while the other half does not. It all depends on your attitude." The most important thing, Park concluded, "is not what UIC provides for you, but your attitude and how you use it." ■

in getting him to where he is today. In particular, he credits UIC's Common Curriculum for helping him to become a well-rounded individual: "If you only study economics, you gain a shallow understanding and only focus on that field," said Park. Through the Common Curriculum courses, he continued, "I got to focus on history, literature, and philosophy, and that prepared me a lot [for my future career]." Park also places a high value on the personal attention UIC professors give to students. For him, Professor John Frankl (currently on sabbatical) stood out as an inspirational figure: "[Professor Frankl] really cares about his students. I like the job he does, inspiring students and exploring new areas."

Interview with UICian
Lee Seung-kon,
 Founder of
The Corea Courier

By Kim Eun-hae

UIC boasts an impressive group of alumni who have gone on to pursue their careers at internationally renowned companies. But UIC is also home to ambitious students who have chosen to start business ventures while still in university. *The UIC Scribe* recently had the opportunity to interview one of those entrepreneurial individuals, Lee Seung-kon, the founder of *The Corea Courier*.

An Economics major from the entering class of 2008, Lee is currently on a leave of absence, but plans to resume his studies at UIC this upcoming semester.

Please introduce yourself briefly.

I do not know where to start. Well, my name is Lee Seung-kon, and I entered UIC in 2008 as an Economics major. I spent 10 years in the United States, and then attended middle school and high school in Korea. I came to UIC and went to the University of Pennsylvania as an exchange student for one year. I then did my military service as an army interpreter at the Korea Military Academy, where I taught English to cadets and did translation work. Following that, I came back to UIC, but I also took a few semesters off, mainly to start this new publication called *The Corea Courier*, which is Korea's first and only free English newspaper.

How did you decide to start *The Corea Courier*?

Currently I am the publisher and editor-in-chief of *The Corea Courier*—president and CEO basically. The decision to start this new publication was actually undertaken as a group, so I am not the sole founder. My fellow '08 classmate, Lee Jae-sung, came to me with the idea of starting a free English newspaper. From that point, everything happened rather quickly. We invited a couple more UIC students, Moon Sung-ki and Kim Kyu-yuhl, to join us, as well as one student from Hanyang University and one from Kyunghee University. The six of us then started *The Corea Courier*.

When Jae-sung first approached me with this project, I thought that it was a great idea, and that we might be able to create a niche market in Korea, reaching out to English-speaking residents (especially Korean high school and college students), who lack access to a free English newspaper with Korean translations. From then on, I took the initiative. I decided that the newspaper's main focus would be to overcome the linguistic, cultural and generational divides that currently exist in Korean society. As such, we were determined to publish articles that appealed to Koreans—students, college graduates and business people—hoping to improve their English, along with fluent English speakers wanting to read interesting articles.

My current role encompasses all sort of roles necessary to publish a newspaper. I do everything: I do interviews (which seems ironic, because I am being interviewed right now), I write articles, I translate, I do some layout design, I go looking for advertisers who want to promote their products through our newspaper, I do sales and marketing, I answer the phone and I also distribute the newspaper. I have a lot of responsibilities and the work load is demand-



ing, but I am not in a position to complain because I am doing this for a great cause.

What were some major challenges you faced when starting a newspaper company?

The main challenge is this: since we are a company that distributes its newspapers for free, we must have paying advertisers to remain in business. But the printing industry is not only a competitive industry, it is also a dying industry. Most newspapers these days are reducing their paper circulation and instead switching to mobile and internet news. Our strategy to overcome this reality is to target the younger generation, which, we believe, has the desire for a free English newspaper, as it can serve as a useful tool to learn English. For instance, a student who wants to learn English may visit Kyobo Bookstore or his or her local newsstand to buy *The Korea Times* for around KRW 1000. In general, if you read such a newspaper regularly, you can subscribe to it, but that requires paying a certain amount of money. For many Korean people, especially students, the newsstand price or the subscription fee over a long period of time can be a burden. Not only that, there is also the language barrier that most students face, which is why *The Corea Courier* has a hybrid format; the articles are written in English and accompanied by a Korean translation, which includes definitions of the vocabulary words that readers may find difficult. By adopting this hybridized, bilingual format, *The Corea Courier* has an edge, appealing to those who are fluent in English,

but who still want to read casually for fun, and to people who want to use the newspaper as a medium for studying and improving their English.

Describe the current staff working at the company.

This is related to the previous question in that we are facing a staff shortage. Working conditions are difficult because we do not get paid, and most of the expenses come out of our own pockets. We work extra hours, and there are no weekends off, so it is a very demanding job both physically and mentally. Many of the founding members have had to go back to school or return to their home countries, so there has been a lot of staff turnover for *The Corea Courier*. But at the same time, we have gained new members. Currently, I am reaching out to university students, primarily Yonsei students, who are interested in writing articles, those who have a fresh perspective on social phenomena and who want to see their articles published.

We have a very interesting group of regular contributors. One is a Yonsei student, Won Hyung-gyu, and he writes weekly editorials on major social issues. There is also a student from Ohio State University, Travis Kim, who writes hip hop op-eds. His articles are more for entertainment and enjoyment, as we are trying to have a mix of serious news articles and “lighter,” culture-oriented articles so that there is something for everyone to read in *The Corea Courier*.

Describe a typical day at The Corea Courier.

We have an office in Sungbuk-dong, but this is not as impressive as it may sound. For one, there is no elevator in the building, so you get some good exercise climbing the stairs. We enjoy a good working environment. We publish every Monday, so on that day we receive the paper from the printer's at the break of dawn, around 5 a.m., and deliver copies to our main distribution points throughout the city. During the rest of the week, we are writing articles, and I often travel around the city trying to get advertisements and establish possible partnerships with companies. As mentioned, I write a lot of articles and conduct many interviews. Right before this interview, in fact, I went to an exhibition featuring embassy representatives from 28 different countries, and I interviewed the delegates there for our section "Around the World." So, apart from Sunday and Monday, which are our craziest days—Sunday because we need to meet our publication deadline—the rest of the days are relatively peaceful.

What are the goals of your company?

One of our goals is to achieve nationwide distribution in Korea, and we are actually on our way to achieving it. *The Corea Courier*'s main distribution points in the Seoul area are subway stations, residential areas, high schools and middle schools, universities and embassies. Recently, some of our readers asked us if they could receive the paper in the mail, so we have started to send *The Corea Courier* by mail to readers in Gwangju, Jeollanamdo and Gyeongido. Instead of reaching these readers by mail, though, I do wish we could set up distribution centers in other cities than Seoul. This runs counter to the recent trends in the newspaper industry, which are relying more and more on electronic platforms. But I still believe that there is a viable place for print journalism if we find the right market and advertise effectively.

Other than that, we wish to receive government funding through the Youth Business Venture Support Center, and if we receive that funding, it will give us a strong foundation to build upon. Since we have an innovative mis-

sion statement, I think we can receive sponsorship from the government or other private sources. As a matter of fact, we are currently conducting a project with Ucanfunding, an organization that looks for deserving projects in order to find sponsorship opportunities for them. Other than that, we are initiating *The Corea Courier* Supporters Group so that interested members of the community can help us to become a well-established company.

Has there been one particularly memorable event since you started the company?

I will never forget the first day we received our paper from the printer. Although the final product is only 16 pages long, each edition requires a significant amount of labor. For the publication of our first edition, it took us nearly three months of preparation, which included doing the market research and procuring the necessary resources. In entering this traditional industry, we decided to distribute the papers in the old-fashioned way. Just as in the movies, where you see newspaper boys handing out newspapers, we took to the streets with *The Corea Courier*. It was in the middle of winter, on the 28th of January. We received the papers at four in the morning, and the six of us stayed outside in the freezing cold the entire day, distributing all 10,000 copies. It took us a long time, from 4 a.m. to 11 p.m.; nevertheless, I think this was the most challenging and rewarding experience I have had with *The Corea Courier*. Like I said before, working for this company is both mentally and physically demanding, but this is a memory I will always cherish.

What experiences can UIC students hope to gain if they choose to contribute to *The Corea Courier*?

They can get a lot more hands-on experience than they would with an internship at a traditional Korean company or one in a different country. Having an internship at a major firm may look impressive on their resume—your so-called "spec" (list of qualifications)—but by contributing to *The Corea Courier*, UIC students can have the unique experience of taking part in a business venture led by students just like themselves. We call it a *mumohan dojeon* ("reckless challenge"). Those who write for *The Corea Courier* enjoy a great deal of freedom because there are few limitations; they can write on just about any topic related to society and culture in Korea and elsewhere in the world. The structure of *The Corea Courier* is not really hierarchical; in fact, the "lowest" position we currently have is that of director. Each member of *The Corea Courier* can provide as

“It is important to do all the analysis and market research beforehand (as we did before launching *The Corea Courier*), but, basically, even if your venture fails, you will have left, in your own small way, a mark in history.

Just go for it and do it.”



much input as she or he wants, so, clearly, UICians would get a lot more practical experience than in other internships where one usually starts from the very bottom. Even if a student has no experience in the field of journalism, she or he is welcome to join because none of us were journalists to begin with, and we have learned the tricks of the trade on the job.

At this point, we are not generating much profit from advertisements, but I think that this is a challenge most businesses face when they are in the startup stage. Once the company gets up and running, though, those who have contributed to *The Corea Courier* will surely get the sort of compensation that they deserve.

Do you have any advice to UIC students who hope to start their own business ventures?

First of all, I do not think I am in a position to provide advice, because I myself am receiving a lot of advice from others about growing my business and growing as a person. But if I were to provide one piece of advice, it would be to just go for it, rather than being hesitant and overly-cautious. It is important to do all the analysis and market research beforehand (as we did before launching *The Corea Courier*), but, basically, even if your venture fails, you will have left, in your own small way, a mark in history. Just go for it and do it. If you fail, you can at least say that you gave it your best shot, and you will have gained valuable experience to draw upon for your future endeavors.

As a final remark, I would say that you should pursue a path nobody else has. Live the life that you want instead of just dreaming about it. And, as I said, if you fail, then you fail. The key is to admit it and move on, while learning from the experience. Hopefully though, you will not fail. ■

Snippets from Songdo

South Korea's Songdo: **THE SMARTEST CITY IN THE WORLD**

By Lee Se-woong (Sam)





Yonsei International Campus, Songdo City
photo from Yonsei PR Office

Songdo draws inspiration from cities around the world renowned for their beauty and elegance. Venice's famous canals, Sydney's Opera House, New York City's Central Park can all be experienced in Songdo. This \$35 billion project reclaimed over 1600 acres of land from the sea and is often noted by international critics as a "SimCity with billions of dollars at stake" (readwrite.com). But the main reason this privately-funded project is attracting international attention is not because the land did not exist a decade ago. Rather, it is because Songdo is one of the world's first "Smart Cities," seeking to combine economic growth and environmental sustainability. CEOs of major companies and environmentalists alike are now keeping an eye on Songdo. This ambitious multi-national project is especially important to Korea as the nation enters a new era of sustainable development.

Songdo's official website claims it is just "3.5 hours to 1/3 of the world's population." If meetings cannot be conducted in person, the flip of a switch can instantly connect residents to the globe. Cisco, a major technology company, has teamed up with Songdo's architects to network every single office and home with reliable fiber optic broadband cables. On the streets, sensors constantly monitor traffic information to ease congestion and allow for

faster travel that would be impossible in a normal city. All of the major and minor operations in Songdo are interconnected to reduce operating costs and increase efficiency. This is all done while maintaining numerous fail-safes and backups of operations so that everything can run smoothly, twenty-four hours a day, every day. The increased integration of technology will not only limit the need for travel but also cut down on waiting and therefore reduce the per capita emission of greenhouse gasses.

Despite its ambitious pursuit of growth and commerce, Songdo has not neglected sustainability. In fact, many environmentalists and critics view Songdo as a pioneer in global sustainability. For example, every traffic light in Songdo uses energy efficient LEDs in place of more traditional light bulbs. Forty percent of the city is carefully planned to avoid the "urban heat island effect" by creating more open spaces. The "urban heat island effect" causes human-produced heat to be trapped in an urban area, raising the core temperature of the affected area by a noticeable degree. In effect, this increases the use of air conditioning inside commercial and residential buildings, which can be easily avoided by preserving more space between buildings, something uncommon in many cities. Taking advantage of this open space concept, 25 kilometers of bicycle lanes



Yonsei International Campus,
Songdo City

photo: UICSummer.yonsei.ac.kr

connect commercial and residential buildings. The main Incheon subway line connects central Songdo. Incentives for low emission vehicles, such as priority parking and charging stations for electrical cars, also encourage more efficient transportation. Indeed, Songdo is a city designed for efficient transportation, in terms of both time and speed.

Songdo has not been without its share of detractors. Many environmental activists had been against the land reclamation project from the start. Concerned citizens even accused the Korean government of being inconsiderate in its approach to the land reclamation project. The hurried nature of the project to meet the government's deadlines meant constant construction and pollution in the area. Furthermore, the dredging of 500 million tons of sand required to create the land that is now Songdo was not, by any standards, eco-friendly. Fossil fuel emissions and habitat destruction were very detrimental to the surrounding wildli-

"Yonsei International Campus (YIC) boasts a building that is dedicated to eco-friendly housing research.

Yonsei proudly presents its 'Pilot Project of Sustainable Housing' on the campus map of YIC."

fe as *Birds Korea* in 2009. In this sense, critics claim that Songdo is a paradox: it is a brand new city built on reclaimed land, neither of which is sustainable nor eco-friendly activities. Yet the city is a haven for energy efficiency research and perhaps this mitigate the negative environmental impacts

Despite the opposition, many ambitious plans continue to be implemented in Songdo. For example, much of the forty percent of the land dedicated to open space is filled with parks and other green areas. Even rooftops are converted to gardens. The city's green space has been designed with water conservation in mind; for instance, the plants have been selected to require minimal amounts of water. The artificial canal system that adorns Songdo uses readily available salt water. All through the year and especially during Korea's monsoon season, rainwater is collected and treated for irrigation and other usages. By employing high-pressure but low-usage faucets in buildings, water usage is reduced even further.

All of Songdo's efforts tie in with the recent Korean trend towards green living. With the increasing demand for energy and a lack of local energy resources, Korea has turned to reducing current consumption. For example, recent bills dictate that the indoor temperature of commercial buildings may be no lower than 25 degrees Celsius and no higher than 20 degrees Celsius during winter. There are already laws in place to limit trash output and increase recycling. In addition, the government subsidizes eighty percent of all personal installations of solar panels. Until now, it seemed that South Korea has made these laws out of necessity. In Songdo, however, it is evident that Korea seeks to become a *pioneer* in energy conservation and efficiency.

A little closer to home, Yonsei is not falling behind in its quest to become an integral part of the solution. Yonsei International Campus (YIC) boasts a building that is dedicated to eco-friendly housing research. Yonsei proudly presents its "Pilot Project of Sustainable Housing" on the campus map of YIC. This is a small residential building that aims to become the laboratory from which Yonseians can create and test eco-friendly solutions. The building complements Underwood House of YIC's purchase of a hundred bicycles to promote self-powered transport to destinations frequented by Yonsei students living in Songdo. The dormitory buildings all over Yonsei also stop electricity when someone is not in the room, to limit unneeded usage.

Not so long ago, Korea was a country intensely focused only on industrial development and becoming a global presence. With little regard for energy efficiency, Korea's recent industrialization has proven to be one of the most environmentally taxing periods in the nation's history. Today, Korea seeks to change that. Laws are in place to fine excessive usage and curb unneeded expenditures. Eco-friendly living is encouraged by the government, which subsidizes low-emission vehicles and public transportation. Now boasting one of the most eco-friendly cities in the world, South Korea is shaping up to lead the world in sustainability. Yonsei University, with its new, even more eco-friendly campus, is an integral part of that process. ■



Yonsei Students
photo by Lee Se-woong (Sam)

Yonsei Toastmasters – *The 100th Meeting and Beyond*

By Thuy Pham

On March 13, 2013, after three years in action, Yonsei Toastmasters (YSTM) celebrated its 100th meeting, marking a transitional point where the previous members passed down their passion and knowledge to the new leaders. The club's weekly meeting on Wednesday has become a routine in which its many members practice delivering speeches in public and help evaluating each other's progress.

This is a story about public speaking, comradeship and persistence.



YSTM was founded in October 2010 by Yang Kuan, an '07 UIC student majoring in Economics. Yang, who is now a graduate student in the Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley, went on exchange to his current graduate school in 2009. It was during this time that he first came to know Toastmasters. Deeply impressed with Toastmasters in the United States, Yang came back to UIC to find that there was already a firmly established network of Toastmasters clubs in Korea. When asked what motivated him to launch the UIC chapter of Toastmasters, Yang states: "I myself have learned and grown so much from this activity. Therefore, I wished I could introduce Toastmasters to UIC students so that our students could all benefit from it." With support from other fellow clubs in Seoul and the determination of the founding members, Yonsei Toastmasters was born—the first club dedicated to public speaking and leadership skills at UIC.

"The organization can proudly say that it has established external ties than any other UIC clubs, thanks to the already developed network of Toastmasters inside and outside Korea.

Yonsei club members have gone to the Netherlands, Japan, United States, and many other countries."

The author of this article (class of '10.5 majoring in International Studies), one of the club's founding members and its second president, vividly recalls the challenges of the club's early years. The newborn organization encountered so many issues, but there was one particular period in her presidency when the club was not able to attract any new members. The quality of activities thus dropped down to such a low point that the leader once broke down in tears. It was almost painful seeing just so much efforts invested only to yield nil. Her term as the president overlapped with UIC's decision to relocate the en-

tire freshmen body to the Yonsei International Campus in Incheon, which resulted in a distressing lack of new members for every UIC club at that time. However, one thing that this author as well as many others learned from their experience in YSTM is that there is always a silver lining to keep them going.

Most of the time, support comes in the form of friendship. Lu Yu (class of '08.5 majoring in Economics), the club's fourth president, commented that it is amazing how someone will always show up and take the initiative to help support the organization. In fact, YSTM survives by more than luck alone. In general, the environment of a Toastmasters club is mutually supportive and friendly. It serves the single purpose of encouraging individuals to develop themselves by overcoming their fear of public speaking. At YSTM, not only do members learn to become better public speakers, but they also become better listeners by offering constructive feedback or compliments. This drive to improve oneself and help others improve themselves is no doubt one of the many attractions prompting





Photos in this article
(in order of appearance)

1. *Inter-club speech contest among Yonsei, Yeouido, Pacific Sunset, and Sinchon Toastmasters*
2. *YSTM Outng Spring 2011*
3. *A guest speaker coming to YSTM*
4. *YSTM members*
5. *Professor Denton Chad's first speech in YSTM*

people to keep coming back to the club despite its purely voluntary nature.

In addition to the supportive environment, YSTM offers a wide platform to exchange ideas as members are presented with infinite opportunities to be creative. Here, members can explore various techniques enabling them to maximize the effect of their speeches; these techniques may include body gestures, visual aids or vocal changes. The Toastmasters stage is a comfortable one because it is not a place where students give formal presentations to be graded, but a free forum for the exchange of ideas. Ann Lee, a student of the Human Environment and Design De-

partment in Yonsei and a frequent visitor to the club, commented: "I think speeches in YSTM are very educational because so many people from different backgrounds come and share their thoughts. They speak about what they are interested in and what they know best, so I love it when I get to listen to topics I would normally be unaware of or would not otherwise do research on." The topics explored thus far ranged from smart phones to the "Dialogue in the Dark," an exhibition currently held in Seoul, to philosophies of photography, to the power of dreams, or simply self-introduction.



Needless to say, bonding among club members and other Toastmasters clubs is a crucial part of the group's activities. The organization can proudly say that it has established external ties than any other UIC clubs, thanks to the already developed network of Toastmasters inside and outside Korea. Yonsei club members have gone to the Netherlands, Japan, United States and many other countries. The Toastmasters network in Korea provides YSTM members access to Toastmasters clubs at multinational companies such as Samsung, POSCO, GS E&C, Microsoft Korea and LG. This is a significant resource UIC students can utilize to gain a wide array of benefits.

The first four presidents of YSTM, Yang Kuan, Thuy Pham, Haijun Zeng and Lu Yu, earned the self-proclaimed, half-mocking and half-serious title of "the first generation veterans." They all started their Toastmasters activities right from the club's very inception and took turns as presidents. Regarding themselves as the most loyal members, they wish to find successors—someone to love the club as much as they did—to take over the leadership role and to continue developing the club. During the past three years, the club has always struggled to maintain the influx of junior members. Fortunately, the "veterans" have now become the minority. Room 112 in New Millennium Hall on the night of the 100th meeting was filled with fresh young fac-

es, promising potential candidates for a new generation of leaders. Every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., there will be more and more newcomers visiting the club, injecting the spirit of youth and passion to the club. As Thuy Pham and Lu Yu, the only past presidents who are still in Korea, commented, even though the older members will be leaving or graduating, they felt happy seeing their cohorts being replaced by a younger one. This is because the changing members mark a sign that Yonsei Toastmasters is still thriving. The club will not stop at the 100th meeting, but will reach the 200th meeting, the 300th and beyond. ■



On October 22, 1924, the first Toastmasters club, Smedley Club Number 1, was founded by Ralph C. Smedley in California, United States. Ninety years later, there are now 13,500 clubs and more than 280,000 members in 116 countries. From one single club in 1924, Smedley's "basement brainstorm" has evolved into Toastmasters International, a world-wide non-profit organization. As of February 2013, there are 42 chartered clubs with over 900 members in Korea.

In Memoriam: Park Kwang-jin

By Kim Eun-hae



On behalf of the UIC community, *The UIC Scribe* would like to pay our respects to the late Park Kwang-jin, a UIC student class of 2007 who passed away on March 2, 2013 from intestinal cancer. We send our deepest condolences to his family and friends. Two of his closest UIC friends remember and reflect on the life of their friend.

* All photos were provided by Song Sung-kyu.



I still remember meeting KJ (our nickname for Kwang-jin) on the first day of freshman orientation. He was the first UIC student I spoke to, and my first words were: "Hi, how tall are you?" At over 1 meter 90 centimeters tall, he probably got that question all the time. Perhaps his skinniness further emphasized his height. That day I learned he had lived in California, graduated from high school there and come back to Korea for college. It was easier for our group of '07 classmates to get along because we all had similar backgrounds; having graduated from high school in a foreign country and coming back to Korea for college. Full of wit and humor, he was always cracking jokes and giving us a good laugh. He also had a love for music and the guitar. He and I were among founding members of UIC's rock band NODAJI and we had a blast as bandmates. We also shared a common interest in gaming. We spent all too many hours in PC-rooms, all the while missing our classes (youth is what I would like to call it). Though skinny, he had an impressive capacity for food. He would order two McDonalds meals and finish them both himself. He was many things to many of us: friend, boyfriend, son and younger brother.

KJ was diagnosed with stage three intestinal cancer in 2011, by which time the cancer had also spread to his lungs. It came as a big shock to all of us. Following his diagnosis, he underwent many medical procedures, including a bowel resection, a series of chemotherapy sessions, a liver-tissue transplant, and then more

chemotherapy. He was brave. He never showed any sign of weakness and never once complained about his condition. We all had high hopes for a while because his health seemed to get better. He returned to UIC in the fall of 2012, but soon had to take another leave of absence because his health worsened.

As the fall semester of 2012 came to an end, the '07 guys got together for dinner and some beer. That night KJ showed up. Never did we imagine that it would be the last time out with him. I later found out that it was during January and February that his health had started to deteriorate. The last time that I contacted KJ, his mother answered. Jeffy, Yoon and I rushed to the hospital. That was the last time we saw KJ.

KJ passed away on the second day of March. During his three-day funeral, the sky, as I remember, was very clear. It was the kind of sky that tells you spring is near. We had all known KJ for only six years, but the connection we had will last us a lifetime. It breaks my heart that I am even writing a memorial piece for him at this very moment, that I should be referring to him in past tense.

I would like to end this piece with the lyrics of a song by Dream Theater (which was another band KJ had introduced me to) entitled "The Spirit Carries On," because it is true.

In loving memory of KJ, the greatest friend,

— By Song Sung-kyu (Class of 2007 Alumnus)

“The Spirit Carries On”

Where did we come from?
Why are we here?
Where do we go when we die?
What lies beyond
And what lay before?
Is anything certain in life?

They say “Life is too short”
“The here and the now”
And “You’re only given one shot.”
But could there be more?
Have I lived before?
Or could this be all that we’ve got?

If I die tomorrow
I’d be alright
Because I believe
That after we’re gone
The spirit carries on. I used to be frightened of dying
I used to think death was the end
But that was before
I’m not scared anymore
I know that my soul will transcend.

I may never find all the answers
I may never understand why
I may never prove
What I know to be true
But I know that I still have to try.
If I die tomorrow

I’d be alright
Because I believe
That after we’re gone
The spirit carries on.

“Move on, be brave.
Don’t weep at my grave
Because I’m no longer here
But please never let
Your memories of me disappear.”

Safe in the light that surrounds me
Free of the fear and the pain
My questioning mind
Has helped me to find
The meaning in my life again.
Victoria’s real
I finally feel
At peace with the girl in my dreams.
And now that I’m here
It’s perfectly clear
I found out what all of this means.

If I die tomorrow
I’d be alright
Because I believe
That after we’re gone
The spirit carries on.

The last time I saw Kwang-jin was only a few days before he passed away. By then, he was in the worst shape I had ever seen him. I regret that I did not say a single word; I was in too much shock. He was still too young. He had so much to see and experience, but he had very little time. That is all I thought about during my visit. I miss him, and I will always miss him. That almost 2-meter tall, slightly slouching, thin guy with a deep, Daegu-accented voice—whenever he walked, a step for him is two steps for us, thanks to his “daddy long legs”—who sometimes made the most hilarious statements or jokes. That is what we will always remember and that is what we should remember him for. That is what he would have liked: for his friends to remember him for the good times we had, the laughs, the jokes, and the shenanigans; the eating, drinking, and gaming; watching old horror films, and stand-up comedy; and lying back just being lazy. Those times are the precious memories he has left for us, and the times we will always cherish.

Cheers, KJ.

— By Yoon Hwang (Class of 2007 Alumnus) ■

GLASS CEILINGS SHATTERED?

ON PRESIDENT PARK AND GENDER EQUALITY

By Lim Jee-soo

On December 19th, 2012, the people of South Korea sat in front of their televisions with bated breath awaiting the results of the 18th Presidential Elections. Votes had poured in throughout the day, and even before the election was officially over, supporters of the Grand National Party rejoiced as it became clear that candidate Park Geun-hye was clearly in the lead. She finished the election with 51.6% of the vote, achieving victory over her Democratic United Party rival Moon Jae-in, who garnered 48.0% of the vote. But Park Geun-hye and the Grand National Party were not alone in their celebrations. President Park's rise to power was heralded by many women in Korea, who hoped that her breakthrough as the first female president in a highly patriarchal society would finally shatter the glass ceiling that has hindered women from achieving social and economic equality.

According to a report by the *Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Gender Initiative*, the gender gap in wages of full-time employees in South Korea is the greatest out of all OECD countries; perching at a 39% disparity between women and men, placing female employees far below their male counterparts. Women face more obstacles than men when it comes to finding and securing a job. Once employed, their struggles continue in the form of maintaining that positions after subsequent marriage and maternity. In most cases, women end up handing in their resignation letters to focus completely on raising their children while their husbands become



photo from BlogNaver

the sole breadwinners of the household. For decades this problem has permeated Korean society, with President Park's male predecessors failing to tackle it adequately.

The gender imbalance in South Korea has significant roots in Confucianism, which played a large role in building the foundation of Korean culture and moral customs. Indeed, Korea was recently described as "the most Confucian society on earth" by *The Korea Herald*. The highly patriarchal set of beliefs permeating Confucian thought created a distinct division between the roles of men and women, firmly delegating women to the domestic duties of child-care and homemaking while their husbands worked. This mindset has carried through well into the 21st century, and although women today enjoy more freedom than their predecessors of the Joseon Dynasty, they still suffer from a heavily male-dominated social structure. However, that a woman was recently elected to the most powerful position in the country is a reassuring sign that tides may be changing. Maybe now opportunities for women to attain higher positions in various private and public domains, such as business and politics, may not be so out of reach.

As reiterated by *Arirang News*, President Park Geun-hye pledged to "provide more employment opportunities for women and the youth by establishing an ability-based employment system," and "raise the country's employment rate to 70 percent by 2017." With such promises, Korean women were given a strong reason for placing their hopes on the newly appointed leader whose campaign slogan was "A Prepared Female President."

Many were anxious to see whether the new president would usher in a new era of gender equality. However, that hope was short-lived, as criticism seemed to follow President Park Geun-hye from the very beginning. Some have been critical of her apparent lack of ability to empathize with other women, pointing to her single and unmarried status as an obstacle to truly understanding the many hardships faced by the women that her pledges target.

In a recent edition of *The Telegraph*, Kim Eun-ju, the executive director of the Centre for Korean Women and Politics, argued that "[f]or the past 15 years, Park has shown little visible effort to help women in politics or anywhere else as a policymaker." *OhMy-News* reported that though President Park promised to allocate a 30% quota of public service positions to women, she has only appointed two women in the Blue House's Secretariat and Cabinet, fueling the skepticism of many that she will not bring about any real change for women in the future.

These critics have attributed her presidential victory not to her appeal as a woman or a successful politician, but to her appeal as the daughter of former president Park Chung-hee. As stated by analysts in *The New York Times*, "the clearest indication that little was changing was that Ms. Park won in good part on the appeal that a man—her father—still holds for many in a country still deeply divided over his legacy." His role in bringing about radical growth in the nation's economy after the Korean War has helped him continue his legacy as the most popular former president, though many remain scarred by the iron-fist regime he pursued during his presidency.

Critics notwithstanding, it may be too early to dismiss President Park's pledges to improve women's status in a patriarchal society. Her five-year term has just begun, and North Korea's recent threats to enact a state of war with the South could reasonably be argued as a pressing demand for shifting priorities. Women's rights are not the only issue that the president must tackle, and as the leader of a nation, she has the difficult task of determining which issue to tackle first. Her preoccupation with the threat of impending war does not necessarily imply that the president was insincere in her pledges of pursuing equality for women.

The fact remains that her rise to presidency is a victory in the ongoing battle for a more gender-equal society. As *The Telegraph* reports, she is the first woman to become the president of her nation in the Northeast Asia region, and she "shatters the bias surround-

ing women's rights in a country that came 108th out of 135 countries in a survey on gender equality; one place below the United Arab Emirates." In a society where such a feat could not have been imagined

"These critics have attributed her presidential victory not to her appeal as a woman or a successful politician, but to her appeal as the daughter of former president Park Chung-hee."

possible, her new position as president continues to give hope to women in Korea that things are changing for the better. Although the immediate future may not see a dramatic closing of the gender-gap in wages and salaries, or a significant rise in women holding upper-echelon positions in the private and public sectors, or even in the employment of women in general. Nevertheless, it opens up possibilities for women and motivates them to take the initiative to challenge the social and cultural norms that have perpetuated inequality against women.

That being said, President Park has many tasks left to accomplish before her five-year term comes to an end. Even if she were to meet her pledges to provide equality for women in the workforce by placing quotas on the number of jobs allocated to women, she would still be faced with the problem of sustaining such advances. Quotas, or any other form of artificial barrier, would only provide temporary solutions to issues that require long-term investment. They would also come at the cost of possible side effects,

such as the disregard of personal merit and excellence, and gross exaggeration of artificial measures when explaining the accomplishments of women in the workplace.

Equal pay between the genders is a pressing matter that will provide more lasting benefits for society as a whole, not just women. The misconception that women are less capable at their jobs, which in turn is used to justify less pay than their male counterparts for performing the same tasks, requires government intervention if it is to be rectified. A firm and heavy hand is needed to shatter the glass ceiling that traps women in a perpetual cycle of injustice.

Better childcare services and benefits for pregnant women are just some of the issues that must be addressed if President Park wishes to fulfill her goals. One of the main obstacles facing women in the workplace is the lack certified child care providers. Many are reluctant to re-enter the labor force after having a child, while some choose not to have children altogether, a factor that is detrimental to the government's efforts to raise the dwindling birth rate. Companies often prefer hiring men over women because they may perceive them to be more likely to maintain long-term commitment to their job. President Park needs to take on these matters in order to ensure higher job security and equality for the women of her nation.

President Park's policies are headed in the right direction and are a good stepping-stone for future improvement. One cannot expect the long tradition of a male-dominated society to be eradicated in a single day, month, or even year. However, as long as she continues to try to fulfill her pledges, there is hope for her fellow women. ■

THE NEW POPE OF THE HOLY SEE: A MERE HOPE OR A NEW WIND OF CHANGE?

By Linh Nghiem



Above: Pope Francis
Below: Vatican City

The Catholic world witnessed several firsts at the beginning of 2013. On February 28, Pope Benedict XVI became the first pontiff to resign from the position in nearly 600 years. Two weeks later, Jorge Mario Bergoglio was elected as the new Pope. He is the first Pope ever from South America, the first Jesuit Pope and also the first Pope to choose the papal name of Francis. To stir up excitement and anticipation from the Catholic and non-Catholic population throughout the world, the new Pope has proven that he has a lot more firsts to offer in





his first few weeks at the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Right from the inauguration—his first public official appearance—Pope Francis attracted attention by deviating from the traditions established by his predecessors. Headlines from newspapers around the world depict a Pope committed to simplicity and humility along with the honest desire to reach out to the people. As reported by CNN, Pope Francis made “another kind of history” when instead of giving a blessing to the crowd like any other Pope, he first asked the crowd to pray for him. He also refused to step on the platform that would lift him above the other cardinals, insisting on standing on the same level with them while being announced as the new Pope of the Catholic Church. For the Christian ritual on Maundy Thursday, the newly elected Pope chose to go to a youth detention center and wash the feet of prisoners, rather than performing the ceremony in one

of Rome’s basilicas. The BBC also noted that “many of the inmates were minors” and one of them was a Muslim female—a minority group that has never been included in a foot-washing ceremony before. Taking one more step in accordance with his humility, Pope Francis refused to move into the luxurious papal apartment which his predecessors have used for more than a century. As Alessandro Speciale from Religion News Service puts it, whereas Benedict XVI “cherished the privacy of the papal apartment that allowed him to study and play his beloved piano, the Argentine pope has shown a more common touch with people and enjoys the contact with the residence’s guests and visitors.”

While the time since Pope Francis became the leader of the world’s 1.2 billion Catholics is relatively short, what he has done and said has planted the seed of hope in the faithful as well as others worldwide. For

years, the Catholic Church has been facing devastating charges of sexual abuse and corruption. The election of a Pope coming from outside the walls of Rome thus gives reasons for the hope of reform. Common among reactions to his election is the positive expectation of change. Political leaders in many countries sent their sincere congratulations and expressed their hope that Pope Francis would walk together with them to build a world of peace and happiness for all people. Argentina’s President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, the current leader of his home country, said she hoped the Pope would have a “fruitful pastoral.” Hope also comes from leaders of other religious groups. The *International Business Time* quoted Dr. Sumer Noufouri, Secretary General of the Islamic Center of the Republic of Argentina, expressing his organization’s excitement and great expectation that Pope Francis will continue to strengthen “dialogue between religions.” Executive Director Nihad Awad of the Council on American-Islamic Relations said he “offers the Muslim community’s support and cooperation in every positive effort [Pope Francis] will undertake for peace, justice and the betterment of humanity.” These words signal the beginning of a new friendly relationship between the two religions after the incident in 2005 when Pope Benedict XVI caused anger across the Muslim community by quoting a medieval document saying the Prophet was “evil and inhumane.” The *Jewish*

Journal addressed how Ronald S. Lauder, President of the World Jewish Congress, also expressed optimism that Pope Francis would better the relations between the Catholic Church and world Jewry.

born and lived almost his whole life in Latin America, actually is a descendant of an Italian immigrant makes it hard for some to believe that his election signals commitment to change from the solemn Curia (the central

of his priesthood. The humorous tone and friendly approach he used in his inauguration, the humble gesture when he stood on his knees and washed the feet of the prisoners, as well as his persistence in riding the public bus



(telegraph.co.uk)

Reactions from the followers of the Catholic Church are a mixture of hope and suspicion, however. Kate Child Grahams from the *National Catholic Reporter* reports that while some Catholics express relief and joy as Cardinal Bergoglio is elected as the new Bishop and that they hope he will be “a priest of the people,” others reveal their concerns that despite his austere life and earnest wish to help the poor, he does nothing “revolutionary” to enhance equality for women or to promote the inclusion of LGBT people. Doubt also spreads that Pope Francis may have been involved in the “Dirty War” in Argentina during the dictatorship, although the Argentine Supreme Court has announced him “completely innocent.” Caution is also displayed among people concerned about the origins of Pope Francis. The fact that the new Pope, although he was

administration governing the Church).

This brings up the question: does Pope Francis actually have the potential or capability to meet the expectations of the hopeful and relieve the anxieties of the doubtful? The answer is probably yes, because his words and actions until now are no newly adopted styles that may disappear after a

obedience.” Each Jesuit is to “show himself ready to reconcile the estranged, compassionately assist and serve those who are in prisons or hospitals, and indeed, to perform any other works of charity, according to what will seem expedient for the glory of God and the common good,” as written in the Foundational document of the Society of Jesus, 1540. These core principals to which Pope

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“While the time since Pope Francis became the leader of the world’s 1.2 billion Catholics is relatively short, what he has done and said has planted the seed of hope in the faithful as well as others worldwide”

few days; they are deeply coherent with what he has so strongly committed to from the beginning

Jesuit is, however, an absolute obedience to the teaching of God.

Pope Francis, therefore, may not be a bold reformer who will swiftly convert the Church's opposition to same-sex marriage or abortion like some hope for. And that is a good thing, indeed, because change that is forced from the top will not survive, but change that results from a thorough discussion is the "enduring kind of change," as Father Tony Flannery, a member of the Leadership Team of the Association of the Catholic Priests, puts it. In the case of Pope Francis, communication is exactly what he can do well, and that is why we have good reason to hope. During the time he worked as an archbishop in Buenos Aires, the Pope was well known as a man of dialogue. The World Jewish Congress's President Ronald S. Lauder once said, "[Francis] always had an open ear for our concerns. I am sure that he will continue to be a man who is able to build bridges with other faiths." Father Flannery traces this keenness to communicate to the fundamental operating principle of the Society of Jesus: "For the past 50 years... all important decisions [of the Society] are made in

consultation with the members. So this way of governing should be deeply imbued in the new Pope." The great expectation emerges that the Pope will import this culture of openness and listening to all sides in the Catholic Church. The solemn Curia will then be able to break its gridlock in dealing with sexual abuse and corruption charges, and contribute more to the world community. After all, open dialogue may be the key factor in reviving the Roman Catholic Church.

In closing, let us—both the religious and non religious of the world—hope that the new Pope will remain courageous in persistently following the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, after whom he takes his papal name, and perform what God had requested of him: "Go, Francis, and repair my Church in ruins." ■



ROBOT AND FRUIT: THE SECOND BATTLE

By Song Da-woon (Amie)

What's been going on lately in the world? Where is the nearest pizza place? What's my friend been up to today? In order to answer all of these questions, many would resort to their smartphones in order to find quick answers. Smartphones have become so prevalent around the world that it has come to the point where many people regard "non-smart" phones as ancient relics that

belong in a history museum. A good share of smartphones today comprises those made by two extremely successful companies, Samsung and Apple. In a race to design and develop the best smartphone, the two companies have been embroiled in intense, at times hostile, competition with each other and with others, which has culminated in a controversial lawsuit that is still ongoing and yet to be fully resolved.

The legal battle between Samsung and Apple mostly regards patent infringement and product imitation. The first round of legal battles ended with Samsung's defeat, but the original payment amount that Apple had demanded from Samsung was reduced, and another trial was set to begin in 2014. While this lawsuit has become internationally well-known, the details surrounding the battle remain less clear in the public eye. How did the lawsuit exactly start? Why is there a new trial pending? Which company is likely to win this time?

Both Samsung and Apple are multinational corporations, the former being founded and based in South Korea and the latter in the U.S. In the past,



An Apple Inc. iPhone 4S smartphone, left, and a Samsung Electronic Co. Galaxy S III smartphone, right.



(itworld.com)

Samsung, going by the specific name “Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.” for the 2012 lawsuit, was known for being the world’s largest television manufacturer and largest seller of smartphones. Apple, meanwhile, is mostly known for developing and designing Mac computers and smaller electronics, such as the iPhone and the iPod. Before any other company had the chance to do so, Apple had managed to obtain numerous patents for certain technologies for its products, such as the “bounce-back” effect (the appearance of bouncing when a user has scrolled to the end of a list), and the “pinch-to-zoom” effect (expanding two pinched fingers in order to zoom in).

Tension inevitably rose between the two technology giants, as they vied to be number one in the electronics market. The legal battle officially began during spring of 2011, with Apple accusing Samsung of patent infringement. These suits took place in various countries, such as the U.S., South Korea and Japan. It was ruled both by the Seoul Central District Court and the Tokyo District Court that Samsung’s Galaxy smartphones and tablets had actually not violated any Apple patent on wireless technology and data synchronization. Meanwhile in the U.S., Apple sued Samsung for \$2.5 billion for seven patent violations in total. It was eventually ruled that Samsung had violated Apple

patents, including the “bounce-back” and the “pinch-to-zoom” effects mentioned above. Samsung launched a counterattack by suing Apple for approximately \$400 million, arguing that Apple had violated Samsung’s own patents. Samsung’s countersuit was later dismissed, while Apple was awarded \$1 billion.

However, Judge Lucy Koh of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, after thoroughly reexamining the lawsuit, declared that although Samsung had in fact violated Apple’s intellectual property, the former did not willfully infringe upon the latter’s utility and design patents. According to Christina

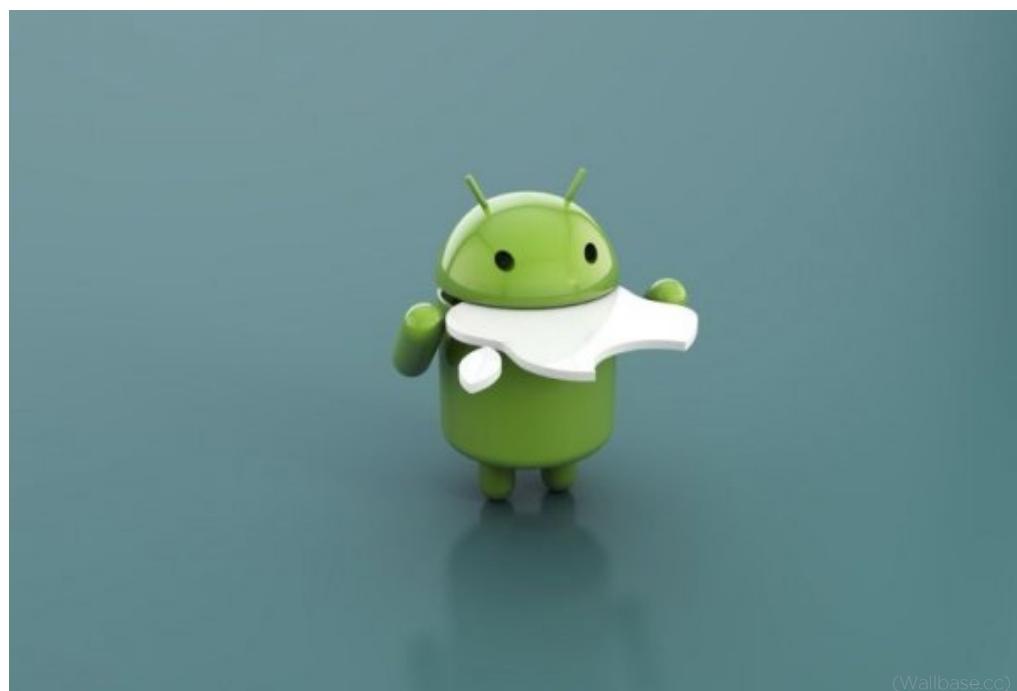
Bonnington of Wired.com, Judge Koh explained that Apple must prove by clear and convincing evidence that there was an ‘objectively high likelihood that [Samsung’s] actions constituted infringement of a valid patent.’ Moreover, Judge Koh stated that the jury had failed to follow her instructions regarding the calculation of damages for the utility patents. Her post-trial decisions reduced damages for Samsung, which could have been triple the reduced amount if the patent infringement was found to be willful. “Given that Apple has not clearly shown how it has in fact been undercompensated for the losses it has suffered due to Samsung’s dilution of its trade dress, this Court, in its discretion, does not find a damages enhancement to be appropriate,” Judge Koh wrote in her order. She also stated that Apple’s request for \$400 million in compensation was inconsistent, with its claim that money could not compensate for the harm caused by Samsung’s actions. As a result, the need for a new trial was announced.

There may be a larger battle brewing behind the controversial lawsuit between Samsung and Apple. The American corporation may also have its targets set on Google’s Android. Apple executives have insisted that Google had copied Apple’s

innovations. Walter Isaacson, author of the biography named after the late founder of Apple, Steve Jobs, has described Jobs as having called Android a “stolen product.” Isaacson relays Jobs’ anger towards Google: “Jobs was infuriated that Bill Gates adopted Apple’s graphical user interface for Windows and then licensed the OS to Dell, IBM and a slew of other PC makers, giving Microsoft dominance in the PC market... getting upset when the iPod and other Apple devices were ‘almost copied verbatim by Android,’ ” Isaacson further quotes Jobs’ intention to “destroy Android, because it’s a stolen product” and “go thermonuclear war on this.” Jobs’ hatred, therefore, is likely to play a great role in Apple’s suing Samsung for simply implementing the Android system in some of its products. Professor Robert P. Merges of UC Berkeley has alleged that Apple, during its 2012 lawsuit

against Samsung, had planned on “going after Android all along.” Merges believes that fear of a possible victory by Apple may lead manufacturers to avoid Android, since it would “raise the cost of everyone in the Android system if the damages stick.” Because sales of Android phones by Samsung and other makers have surpassed that of Apple’s iPhones, “Apple’s real target is... everything having to do with Androids.”

The lawsuit may have resulted in Apple’s \$1.5 billion win, but it is unclear what will unfold in the upcoming second trial. At this point, it may be impossible to determine the winner; after all, Apple’s initial win in 2012 was damped when Samsung’s damages were reduced and a second trial was ordered. Moreover, some recent events may significantly shape the outcome of the pending



(Wallbase.cc)

trial. First, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has finally nullified Apple's patent on the "bounce-back" effect, rejecting the claim that Samsung had infringed upon it. Samsung does not seem too concerned over Apple's next move, particularly after USPTO's recent decision. Kim Yoo-chul of *The Korea Times* wrote that according to an official at the Korea Intellectual Property Office (KIPO), "Samsung lawyers are proving their capabilities as more

key Apple patents were nullified." Second, Park Young-joo, a senior analyst at Woori Investment & Securities, believes that "the popularity of the iPhone 5 will be less than expected in markets like China due to its high price and instability in volume of devices delivered." Kim further adds that "while Apple still insists on keeping a one-year gap between the releases of new products, Samsung is introducing new devices at a quicker pace." It seems as though Samsung may transcend Apple as an electronics company, which raises questions about the gravity of the consequences for the latter. If Samsung wins the second trial, Apple may find its sales declining and lose its position as one of the leading companies unless it is able to catch up to speed with Samsung.

It should be noted that the technology dispute between Samsung and Apple can be harmful not only to the manufacturers, but also to consumers. In a statement

Isaacson further quotes Jobs' intention to "destroy Android, because it's a stolen product" and "go thermonuclear war on this." Jobs' hatred therefore is likely to play a great role in Apple's suing Samsung for simply implementing the Android system in some of its products.

originally appearing in *The Verge* shortly after the 2012 lawsuit, Samsung expressed that if Apple continues to legally attack Samsung—and indirectly other sellers—there will be "fewer choices, less innovation, and potentially higher prices." This effect would have drastic effects

on the global smartphone market, as both Samsung and Apple stand as the most successful electronic companies. Will Apple have a global monopoly on the smartphone market? Or will both

companies learn to grow alongside each other in relatively peaceful competition? One can only wait until the second trial takes place and hope that this dispute will be settled quietly and thereby curtail negative consequences for the market,

the citizens and technological progress as a whole. ■



Samsung Galaxy Tab, left, a tablet computer to compete with the Apple iPad, right.

ARE UIC STUDENTS AFRAID TO PARTICIPATE IN CLASS?

By Yun Jae-young

At university, the interaction between professors and students is what makes a class intellectually stimulating and dynamic. When students take up a professor's thought-provoking and invigorating questions, an intellectual "spark" is ignited, and real learning takes place.

Undeniably, student participation is an important indicator of how dynamic atmosphere the classroom atmosphere is. As a UIC student, I have observed that foreign students—and Korean students with an international background—tend to speak up more and are less afraid to voice their opinions. However, Korean students who have spent most of their life in Korea have more reservation about participating in the classroom. Why do Korean and international students' attitudes towards participation differ so much?

Of course, there are a number of reasons why students are

reluctant to participate: some are naturally shy; others lack experience speaking in group; and even fatigue. Doctor Christian Blood, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at UIC, comments, "Some people think Korean students usually know the answer but are less willing to participate." He adds, "I do not know if this is true, but I have also heard that Asian students, because of the grading curve system, are less willing to share opinions that might be beneficial to other students."

I believe that the main reason lies in the differences between Korean and Western education systems. Indeed, Western countries put a bigger emphasis on the role of active participation in the learning process at all levels of the education system. For example, walking into a classroom in Korea is very different from walking into a classroom in the United Kingdom. A typical Korean high school classroom contains rows of desks neatly arranged into

lines that all face the front, with the teacher delivering a lecture to students who take notes, do other work, or sleep as they please.

A classroom in a British high school presents a starkly different picture: desks are arranged in a horseshoe shape, so students can see and talk with one another. This arrangement allows for a lively discussion with the teacher who is, for the most part, not standing in front of the whiteboard, but seated among the students at the bottom of the horseshoe. As shown in the recently-aired KBS documentary, *Homo Academicus*, students in France studying for their *baccalauréat* debate philosophical questions. Ian Watson, the Vice-Dean of Christ Church at Oxford University, explains that the discussion format allows students to "test their ideas against [other students], be enriched by the ideas other people have and also be supported by the group."

Why are Korean and Western classrooms so different? In her

Korea Herald article “Korean Classroom Full of Eager but Silent Students,” Choi Su-ji argues that the differences between Korean and Western education comes down to different attitudes toward questions: “the purpose of education for Korean teachers is not to fulfill the intellectual curiosity of students, but rather to help students take tests and earn high scores.” Thus, if a question is asked that goes beyond the confines of the course curriculum, the teacher will dismiss it as being unimportant, or simply ask the student to memorize important information. Despite the Korean education system's emphasis on hard work and high achievement, Choi criticizes the “passive learning behavior” of Korean students. The Korean educational philosophy of “the more the better” that is relentlessly applied to Korean students' attainment of knowledge has led to a relative paucity of stimulating intellectual curiosity among students.

The cosmopolitan UIC classroom provides excellent opportunities to test assumptions



about the differences between Korean and international students. To understand the issue better, *The UIC Scribe* conducted a survey among 79 UIC students (50 female; 29 male), most of whom were first-year and second-year students from the Sinchon and Songdo (YIC) campuses. The vast majority of respondents were UD students.

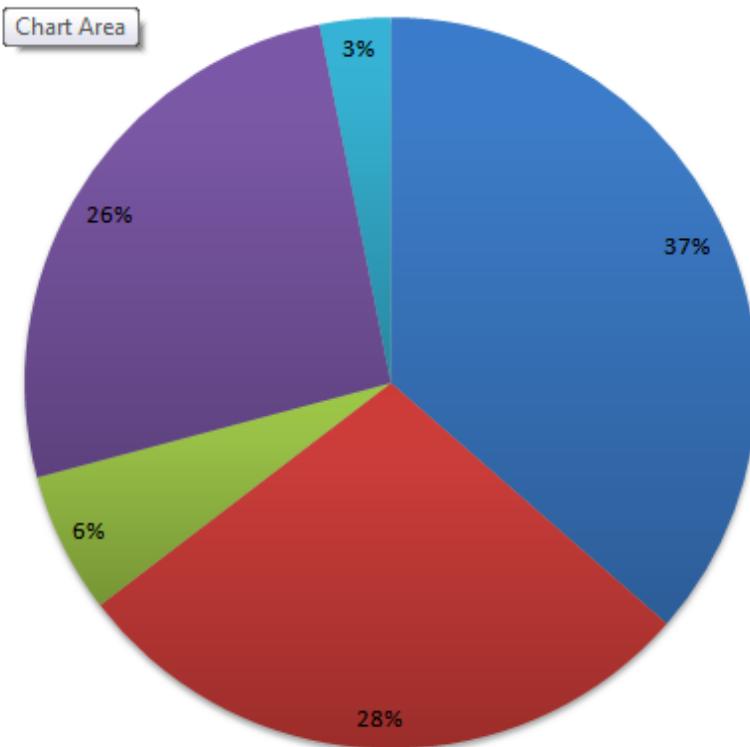
For the purposes of the survey, it was determined that any student with a minimum of two years abroad was considered

having an international background. In the survey, students were asked a variety of questions about their background: whether they had been educated abroad; and if so, for how long; how often on average did they participate in class; and their reasons for (not) doing so. Then, they were asked to identify the most important factor in encouraging and in discouraging student participation. Although a majority of respondents had been educated abroad, the survey results challenged some common views about student participation.

Contrary to the initial hypothesis that international and internationally educated students were more willing to participate in class, the survey results refuted the assumption. In fact, approximately two-thirds of the respondents replied that they participated voluntarily in class. For example, 36 out of 53 students who had been educated for more than two years outside of Korea participated voluntarily



(Photo by Ryan Collerd)



- I like to voice my opinions and debate with the professor and/or the other students on the class material being discussed.

- I ask class-related questions for clarification.

- I ask questions that are irrelevant to the discussion to lighten up the class atmosphere when it gets too serious.

- I participate in order to feel more actively involved in class.

- Other

in class, as did 16 of the 26 students who were not. Furthermore, what was encouraging to discover was that the vast majority of students were genuinely interested in the class. The most popular reasons for their voluntary class participation were: to voice their opinions on the subject matter; to debate with the professor and the other students; to clarify points that they were unsure of; and to feel more actively involved in the class.

Contrary to the assumption that students do not participate because they are afraid of being judged by the professor or peers, most students cited shyness as the reason for nonparticipation. In fact, few students thought that class participation was unnecessary, seeming to contradict Choi's argument that Korean students are programmed to believe that asking questions hinders rather than helps their learning process.

Regardless of background, students generally agreed that the classroom atmosphere—i.e. their comfort level with the professor's personality and teaching style—was the most significant factor. Somewhat surprisingly, the participation rate of other students in the class had little effect on their willingness to speak up. Clear evidence of how a dynamic learning environment is not just the

product of a one-sided effort from either side, but a mutual interaction between teacher and learner.

Of course, not all material lends themselves to discussions, and a professor's job is to decide when, sometimes, a lecture would be better for delivering the material. The survey has shown that UIC students are indeed curious and keen to learn, and that they are receptive to various classroom activities. Students believed that the professor should not be dismayed at what may seem like an unwillingness to participate; but patience and encouragement have the potential to increase student class participation at UIC.

At UIC, students are exposed to a variety of international teaching methods; student-professor interaction is increasingly taking place in classes, providing a more enhanced education. The commitment of UIC professors to provide a more interactive environment is bearing fruit. This survey has shown that UIC students are not afraid to participate in class, and indeed, they should not be.

* A special thanks to my editor Yoon Ha-yon, who helped me distribute and collect the surveys at YIC in Songdo. ■

WHAT'S UP

By Schoni Song

Yonsei University, Sinchon Campus



There they sat, ensconced in a not-so-cozy corner of the Central Library, sipping on an Americano, when a friend of mine stumbled upon them.

“What’s up, guys?” he said. “Still working?”

Indeed, it was 1 o’clock in the morning. Just another Monday night at UIC, with all the rigors of writing, reading, and presentation assignments. Not the most agreeable situation, but do we not all manage?

“Not much,” they replied. “Just got some serious workloads to kill.”

There had been plenty to get used to—the food, the laundry dryers, the names of places, all the tips on staying safe and not getting lost on the subway. It was not so many Mondays ago that all of this would have seemed like life on another planet. In fact, for them, this was like another planet. They are the believers in a different and meaningful education, crossing the sea to pursue their dreams at Yonsei University. From the moment they encountered the poker-faced immigration officer, who languidly stapled a funny white card into their passports, they were henceforth labeled as “international students from abroad.” At times, their new life is almost surreal.

However, as newcomers to the peninsula, the biggest challenges were not the major cultural differences, but the more trivial matters of day to day life. The encounter in the Central Library was reminiscent of many familiar scenes at UIC, like when we meet an acquaintance in the elevator, someone whom we are sure has already forgotten our tongue-twisting names.

“What’s up, guys?” she greeted us with a grin.

But then she stumbled. It is mundane things like this interaction that their education back home did not prepare them for. Hailing from a place where a simple smile and nod would suffice as a greeting, this new custom of exchanging courtesies frequently catches them off guard. It is as if every greeting is a brain teaser of some sort, requiring them to think outside the box and say: "Not much, just hangin' around. What've you been up to?"

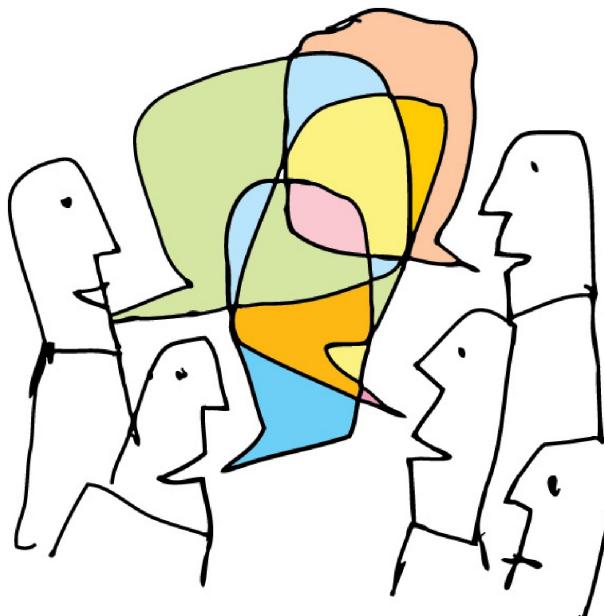
Nonetheless, they continue to try, despite the initial unnerving encounter. Hanging out should not, after all, be an intimidating enterprise. But sometimes, as hard as they try to contribute to a conversation, they feel ill at ease when bombarded with discussion topics they know very little about. In our world, there is *I'm a Singer* and Girls Generation. Sure, there are NBA playoffs and soccer too, but not much else in common with their world. Every casual conversation between us is an adventure, a life-lesson in international relations. All of us have enjoyed these cultural acquisitions that our best foreigner buddies make possible. However, we have all seen the initial meet-and-greet excitement gradually fade into unintentional estrangement.

It is hard on both sides. Paying special attention to them would be unfair, as it would be superficial and cause greater misunderstanding. Both sides, then, have resolved to take the initiative and actively engage with the larger UIC community. Just like all UICians, these international students have high aspirations. Among them are future global leaders and mathematicians, writers and researchers, Christians and coders, litterateurs and linguists, individuals and interesting persons. But most important of all, they are just like all UICians, with diverse backgrounds, a common belief in mutual inspiration, and a multitude of dreams and visions.

This has been a transformative experience. It has required them to assimilate a Western educational model, while musing on what they

stand for as Asian international students. What is certain is that they do not see themselves as a mere statistic in the UIC brochure. The inevitable difficulties they have faced in fitting in has made them all the more committed to fostering mutual understanding between themselves and the rest of the UIC community.

Despite the alienation of not being eligible to work in Korea, and feeling, at times, that they are pawns in Yonsei's politics of diversity, these students want nothing more than to feel included in the UIC community. And it is time that UICians cease to think in terms of binaries and rivalries, such as Korean and non-Korean, Eastern and Western. We should all attempt to foster trust by showing genuine interest in each other, by simply asking "what's up?" a bit more often. All UIC's international students ask is for a bit of patience, especially when it takes more than a second to say that "not much." ■



(blogfinger.net)

The Korean Wave Crashes upon the Shores of Cultural Insensitivity

By Lim Jee-soo



Turn to any Korean channel during a news segment and you are likely to see news coverage on the “amazing expansion” of *Hallyu*, or the Korean Wave. Whether it is a concert held in New York City, or thousands of fans crowding an airport in Thailand, every moment is captured and shown as an example of how Korean culture has gone global. The cherry on top of the proverbial sundae is Psy’s recent hit, “Gangnam Style,” which had celebrities such as Robert Downey Jr., Britney Spears . and even the cast of Glee performed the signature “horse dance.”

Once led by popular soap operas such as *Winter Sonata*, the Korean Wave has expanded to include music, other TV shows and even musicals, though it largely revolves around pop culture and singing idols. The rapid growth of the internet, popular video streaming sites such as Youtube and social networking services, such as Twitter has contributed to an exponential growth of the Korean Wave. With the increasing accessibility has come exposure to a wider audience, and the Korean Wave, which is partially funded by the government, has become a nationalistic source of pride for Koreans.

But there is a darker side to this glitz and glamor, beyond the recent controversies surrounding exclusive contracts and backbreaking touring schedules. While it is not an issue that most Koreans would be concerned by, it is one that has been met with vocal criticism by international fans: Korea's insensitivity to other cultures and their misguided attempts at cultural appropriation. The most jarring incidences can be found in the entertainment industry, as they are the most public manifestations of cultural ignorance existing in Korea today.

Two of the most startling, yet frequent, examples of cultural insensitivity by the Korean celebrities are the use of blackface and stereotyping. Blackface, which is the act of painting one's face a darker color to look "African," in Korean comedy dates to at least to 1986, when Comedian Lee Bong-won donned a darker skin tone for his "*Shikeomeonsu*" skit on *Gag Concert*. It has repeatedly been used throughout the years by singers, comedians and idol stars, repeatedly renewing the controversy. Blackface is considered to be extremely offensive to those of African descent, as it has historically been used, according to *black-face.com*, to portray black people as "racially and socially inferior" since the 19th Century.

One of the most recent controversies involving cultural insensitivity and stereotyping occurred in a segment from the MBC program *Quiz to Change the World* last January. As reported

by *The Korea Times*, two female comedians decided to portray Michol, a character from the popular children's cartoon *Dooly the Baby Dinosaur*, by dressing up in his attire and painting their faces black. When the show aired, it was met with peals of laughter from the guest stars, as well as the families watching the show at home.

What MBC hadn't expected was a severe backlash from foreign fans of the Korean Wave, who began

criticizing the cultural insensitivity of the segment when the clip was posted on MBC's official YouTube account in February. The video received responses from several YouTube users who labeled the show as "offensive" and "racially discriminating." It was only after this criticism from international fans that Koreans began demanding an apology from MBC, which the broadcasting company eventually issued.

The denigration of black people, as well as other races, persists in stereotypes projected in the Korean entertainment industry. In an episode of *100 out of 100* that aired in 2011, Brian Joo, who boasted of his time spent in the US, imitated how "a black woman" spoke and acted as his personal talent. He proceeded to snap his fingers, get in people's faces and talk in what is stereotypically called a "ghetto" voice. He was met with a positive response from Korean netizens, who laughed hysterically at the singer's antics, yet their international counterparts were not amused, accusing the star of offensively stereotyping black women. Brian Joo later posted an apology on his Twitter account, stating that he had never intended to be offensive and was deeply regretful for his actions.

The stereotyping of other cultures does not stop there, however. Native American are widely distorted, with music videos such as T-ara's "YaYaYa" and MC Mong's "Indian Boy" portraying well-known stereotypes of Native Americans clapping their hand over their mouth repeatedly to make war cries while dancing around a fire.

The comedian Lee Soo-geun has mixed up Korean with random sounds to make himself sound "Chinese," and Arabs are often portrayed as Muslim terrorists. These instances of cultural insensitivity littering the Korean culture scene have made non-Koreans wince at the lack of cultural sensitivity within Korea.

However, I do not mean to claim that all Koreans are racist xenophobes who have no hope in

Brianjoomuzik Brian Joo
But that still isn't an excuse, and I know... But please except my apology for I am hurt that others are hurt... I will pray for you all
3 hours ago

Brianjoomuzik Brian Joo
& I wasn't trying to imitate a certain group of people, but my close friend who was actually on set w/ me that day, visiting from Seattle
3 hours ago

Brianjoomuzik Brian Joo
And if my apology isn't enough, I don't know what else I can do~I am seriously sorry
3 hours ago

allkpop.com



a globalized future. Far from it. Korea's insensitivity to other cultures is not born out of malicious intent or feelings of racial superiority. It is rather due to ignorance stemming from the fact that Koreans simply do not realize the need to consider cultural sensitivity, as the population has been overwhelmingly homogenous for most of the country's existence.

Almost all of the issues mentioned above ended with sincere apologies from the celebrities involved, all of whom swore that they did not realize how offensive their actions may have been to others. The genuine tone of their apologies reflects a lack of education about other cultures, not an intentional act of racism. As one of the most homogenous populations in the world, Koreans usually do not communicate with non-Korean individuals in their day-to-day lives. Because of this lack of interaction, the issue of cultural insensitivity has never been a pressing matter.

This does not mean that the cultural misappropriations that take place should be taken for granted. Though it is impossible to avoid every single cultural misstep, it is important that Koreans take the initiative and develop a more profound and nuanced understanding of other cultures. Koreans are aware of the superficial aspects of other cultures, but it is vital that they learn about the customs of other cultures that should be respected. A cautious approach needs to be taken when representing or reconstructing the culture of others. We can no longer hide behind the excuse of homogeneity, especially when so much of Korea's economy relies upon global interaction.

If the Korean government wishes to keep expanding the Korean Wave, it will need to realize that respecting and understanding the cultures of others will not only ward off any potential backlash from the international community, it will also make Korean culture more inviting to non-Koreans. Without this deeper knowledge of other cultures, Korea will continue to give the impression that its entertainers distort and stereotype other cultures out of a sense of cultural superiority, which is certainly not the case. In an age where political correctness is emphasized, Korea will need to educate its public figures and citizens, spreading the message that knowing other cultures will pave the way for more meaningful and equitable cultural exchange—and it will also ensure greater respect for Korean culture by non-Koreans.

The road will not be easy, as it will require a complete reconstruction of Korean perceptions and mentalities, which have been shaped over generations. It will take time, but it is essential as Korea continually strives for greater recognition amongst the global community. The process will be continuous and unrelenting as Korea increasingly emphasizes its presence in the global community. It must be remembered that cultural sensitivity is absolutely necessary for the social and economic growth of a nation that relies heavily on exports, including its newest source of national pride, the Korean Wave. ■

Do It Like A Proper Guide to SAF

The word “safari” conjures up iconic images of Africa: the mesmerizing tones of orange and yellow streaked across the sky as the sun sets; antelope, zebras, and giraffes strolling peacefully by your covered jeep; the game ranger quietly pointing to a herd of elephants in the distance, crossing the plain towards a nearby watering hole. The people sitting around you excitedly reach for their cameras and binoculars. Watching the elephants on the horizon, you hear the quiet rumble of their steps as they lumber through the tall grass of the savannah. Nearby, large herds of zebras and wildebeest also wander in search of water, and all is quiet and calm. This is the life, you might think, this is a real safari. Or is it?

Safaris are certainly wonderful, but for us locals... well, our experience is somewhat different. Having been born and raised in South Africa, I am no stranger to wildlife, game reserves, and “safaris.” However, after five years abroad, I have begun to realize that the idea most people have of Africa’s spectacular game reserves is quite different from what I know. First of all, a local would not be caught dead paying for a safari tour. More often than not, we make day trips to the game reserve in our own cars, driving ourselves around instead of paying the reserve to do it for us. We may miss out on the guide’s constant stream of fun animal facts, and his knowledge of all the best viewing spots or *lapas* (structures built in strategic locations, often next to a watering hole, allowing visitors to view wildlife from outside the car), but we do get to go at our own pace. When we spot rhinoceroses and elephants, we can stop for as long as we like; and if all there is to see are the quite common impalas or zebras, we can move on at

our leisure. We also get to choose when to eat lunch and at which viewing points we want to stop. If we are feeling truly ambitious, we might try a bit off-road driving—what we locals call “speeding”—on the trails specifically designed for four wheel drive vehicles.

If you are a local, you always prepare in advance to make the most of your day. The first step is choosing the nearest game reserve and determining the total travel time. In the case of my family, we always went to The Pilanesberg National Park, which is, depending on traffic, two or three hours outside of Pretoria, my home town. For the optimal game reserve experience, it is vital to beat the crowds, so we would wake up at 6 a.m. and be on the road by 7 a.m. to make it to Pilanesberg just as it opened. Before leaving, we would pack snack food and drinks in a cooler, along with sandwiches, biltong (traditional South African dried meat), water, and Coca Cola, because refreshments are essential when driving around all day in the heat. We would also make sure that every family member had a pair of binoculars (binoculars come in a variety of sizes), as without them, it would be very difficult to spot some of the shyer, more reclusive wildlife. Pens and paper are important if you are feeling a bit competitive and want to make a contest of spotting the wildlife, while hand sanitizer is essential to keep the sweat and dust at bay.

Once you arrive at the game reserve, you (absolutely) must acquire the game reserve’s map and animal guide. Of course, you will need the map to navigate the park, but the animal guide is essential for identifying the different birds and less commonly

a Local: a South African ARI

by Gloria Mundim

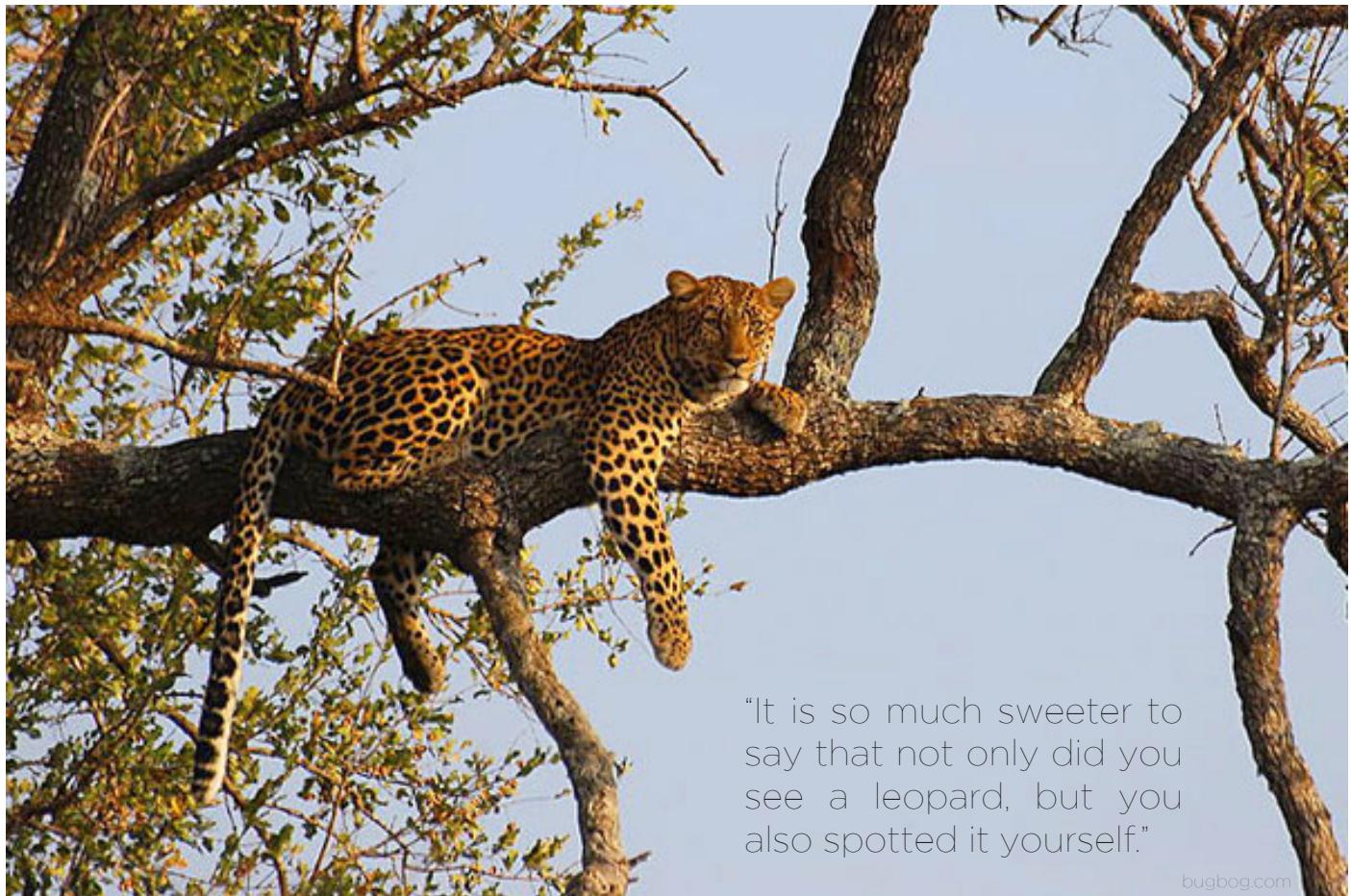
viewed animals you might come across, and also for distinguishing between species of animals, such as a black rhinoceros and a white rhinoceros. In my family, we would play a game called “spotting,” which is basically a competition to see who can spot the most species of wild game first. Once a particular animal is spotted, you scratch that species off the list and move on to the next animal. The game ends when you have left the game reserve, or once you have managed to scratch off every species from the list (a feat that we have yet to accomplish). In fact, seeing every single species of animal in the reserve during a single day is a mighty challenge, because the big cats usually do not come out until nighttime—so count yourself lucky if you spot a lion or leopard during the day! Fortunately, Pilanesberg has a daily lion feed-

“Having been born and raised in South Africa, I am no stranger to wildlife, game reserves, and “safaris.” However, after five years abroad, I have begun to realize that the idea most people have of Africa’s spectacular game reserves is quite different from what I know.”

ding session, in which the park rangers put out a bovine carcass to attract the lions, so we would always plan our itinerary to be there at 1 p.m. (the usual feeding time). Because lions are usually active

at night, taking advantage of the cooler temperatures, we never actually got to see the lions stalking their prey. Therefore, do not expect to see Simba the Lion King in his glorious hunting prime. In Pilanesberg, Simba will appear more like a giant, very dangerous housecat being fed. After the lions had eaten, we would have our own lunch. Usually we ate the lunch we had prepared, but another option is driving to one of the park’s restaurants, although most of these are ridiculously expensive. If you do not feel like eating in the car, or dining at one of the restaurants, you can also stop at one of the viewing points to eat a sandwich and drink a Coca Cola while watching a crocodile or water buffalo lounging in a watering hole.

Speaking of animals, there are some things you should keep in mind if you decide to go on your own safari. If you come across a troop of baboons in the middle of the road, and they look like they have settled in for a bit of a nap, it is safe to say that they will not be moving any time soon; so, in this case, feel free to back up and find another route. Oh, and if you spot a rhino? Great, observe and enjoy; but if its little tail starts swishing about, this means that it is getting irritated, and it is probably best to move on. The same goes for an elephant flapping its ears back and forth. We once had the frightening experience of trying to maneuver the car away from an irritated young elephant bull charging towards us—apparently he decided that he did not like our car. Mind you, he was charging us from the front, so we had to drive away from him with the car in reverse. Needless to say, I do not recommend annoying an African elephant. I would also urge you to ensure that you reach one of the reserve’s entrances by closing time (dou-



"It is so much sweeter to say that not only did you see a leopard, but you also spotted it yourself."

bugbog.com



experiencetravelgroup.com

ble check what time they close; it is usually 6 p.m., but it will vary from park to park). Otherwise, you will be stuck in the reserve until the next morning—spending the night with hungry lions and surprisingly scary baboons—or be forced to speed on your way out, something that is against the game reserve's rules. On one occasion, we were racing to get out of the reserve on time and almost hit a hyena at an intersection. The repercussions for injuring or killing an animal in the reserve are severe: not only will you be expected to explain how you managed to hit the animal, you will also incur a hefty fine. Fortunately, on this occasion, we made it out on time without hitting any wildlife, and we were lucky enough see a pride of lions laz-ing around the gate—though it really was a pity that we could not stay longer to watch them. Along with the African water buffalo, the rhino, the leopard, and the elephant, the lion is one of Africa's Big Five—our most revered animals—which any visitor to South Africa must see.

Doing it like a local entails something different than the traditional tourist experience, but it is just as fun, if not more so. Above all, the advantage of flexibility means that each trip to the reserve is a new and unique experience; you may decide to work your way around the reserve's perimeter, or try exploring the side roads of the interior. You will likely feel tired after driving yourself around all day, but the satisfaction is all that

sweeter because you found the animals on your own, and you made your own unforgettable experience with the people you love. What distinguishes the “local safari” from a guided one, then, are the bragging rights you get to take home with you—it is so much sweeter to say that not only did you see a leopard, but you also spotted it yourself. So, if you are ever visiting South Africa, Zambia or the Serengeti in Tanzania, and you do not feel like paying for a guided safari with strangers, remember how the locals do it—because, in all honesty, who would not want to brag about spotting the Big Five all on their own? I certainly would. ■



Mullae Art Village: Art on Musty Walls

By Thuy Pham

The area of Mullae-dong in southwestern Seoul used to be a major hub for small ironwork shops and machinery parts factories. But since the year 2000, due to President Kim Dae Jung's policy of relocating factories to rural areas, most of these manufacturing units, which relied upon old-fashioned manual labor, have been deserted, with a few metal workshops still lingering. Mullae-dong's buildings stand as a slice of urban history, a monument of Korea's industrial landscape in the 1980s and 1990s. Sights that are largely extinct in this hyper-modernized metropolis suddenly materialized as I walked along the streets of Mullae-dong on a Sunday in April. Hidden behind the main street (which looks just like any other major thoroughfare in Seoul, except that there are almost no cars passing through) are narrow, maze-like alleys full of run-down, one-story houses, makeshift warehouses, and piles of scrap metal. It felt as if I were walking into a film of Park Kwang-su, the director well-known for his depictions of Korea during the 1960s, when the country experienced rapid industrial development under Park Chung-hee's dictatorship. The sound of CNC metal-cutting machines and the smell of industrial grease filled the air, calling to mind the factories that once ran at full capacity here.

However, there is more to Mullae-dong than the remnants of an industrial neighborhood that has passed its heyday. As the majority of machinery parts factories moved out of the area, real estate prices dropped. Attracted by the low rents in Mullae, cash-strapped young artists left the traditional (but expensive) art centers, such as Hongdae and Daehangno, to move to Mullae. But these 170 urban artists—their number in 2011, according to SeoulArtSpace.or.kr—did not simply become residents of the area, they also revitalized it. Today, visitors can peruse a wide array of visual artworks, including paintings, installations, engravings, illustrations, photographs, calligraphy, films, and animations. There are also many artists working in other forms, such as fashion, dance, mime, street performance, and music. Mullae has been transformed into an experimental open art space, one that has the potential to become a focal point of Korea's contemporary art scene. On this day, I was fortunate enough to pass by a workshop belonging to one of the Mullae artists; there, I saw the interesting juxtaposition of a painting gallery, steel workshop, and living quarters occupied by huge cats nonchalantly strolling about. The walls running along the alley in front of the house were covered by blocks of paint in different colors, playfully arranged to visually represent music notes in tablature. At first glance, these colors looked incongruous on the whitewashed surface, but, upon closer examination, they revealed a distinct rhythm.





Visiting Mullae, one gets the thrill of discovering artwork on brick walls, discarded shopping carts, abandoned mailboxes, and even on an old-fashioned, black power meter, as the photographs show. These original artworks deserve the attention of anyone interested in getting the pulse of Korea's contemporary art scene; that is, of a vibrant and authentic art scene that you won't find in the flashy, high-profile, and commercialized galleries of Gangnam. Mullae, with its largely abandoned industrial complex, on the other hand, provides a hard-edged, lively art laboratory where artistic creativity runs freely, and sometimes explodes in unsuspected directions. Here, on the moldy walls of Mullae, there emanates a raw and unrestrained voice of art, of youth, and of Seoul. ■



THE MUST LIST

Summer

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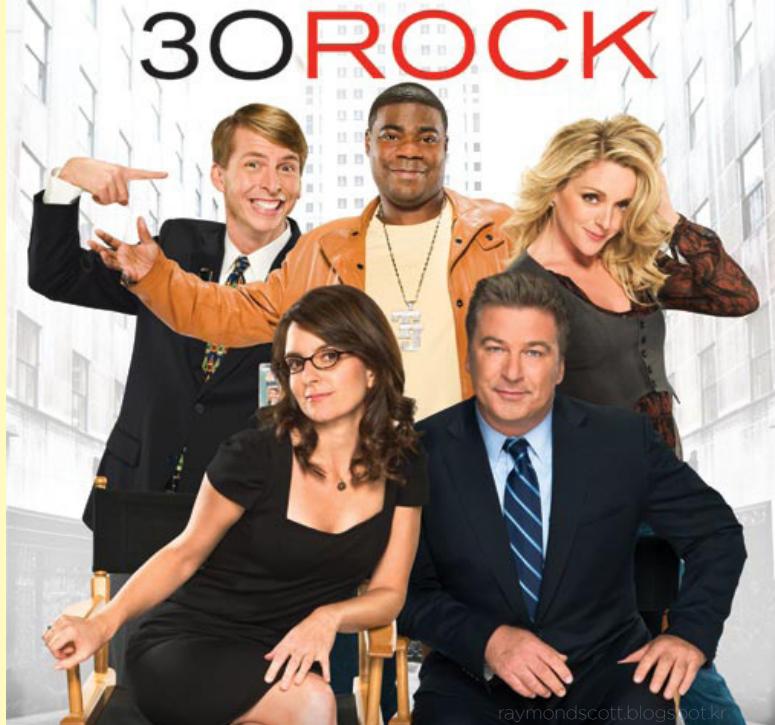
The “Must List” is an exciting column launched last edition by The UIC Scribe in the hopes of connecting with our readers at a more personal level. Under the theme of summer, our editors, writers and layout designers have compiled a list of “must-dos” to make the most out of your time under the sun.

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Must See: 30 Rock

Kim Eun-hae

Summer break may be the time to catch up on 30 Rock, the long-running hit show that catapulted Tina Fey into her current status as one of America’s funniest and smartest comedienne. Chronicling the life of Liz Lemon (Tina Fey playing a loose version of herself), the head writer of a sketch comedy show starring the manic Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) and the attention-craving diva Jenna Maroney (Jane Krakowski), Lemon struggles to control the surreal antics of her stars while managing her relationship with NBC honcho Jack Donaghy (Alec Baldwin). Juggling work and the shambles that is her personal life, Lemon hilariously muses on the trials of being a single business woman—something Jack claims is non-existent—who tries, but often fails, to have it all. Throughout its seven seasons (its last episode aired on January 31, 2013),



raymondscott.blogspot.kr

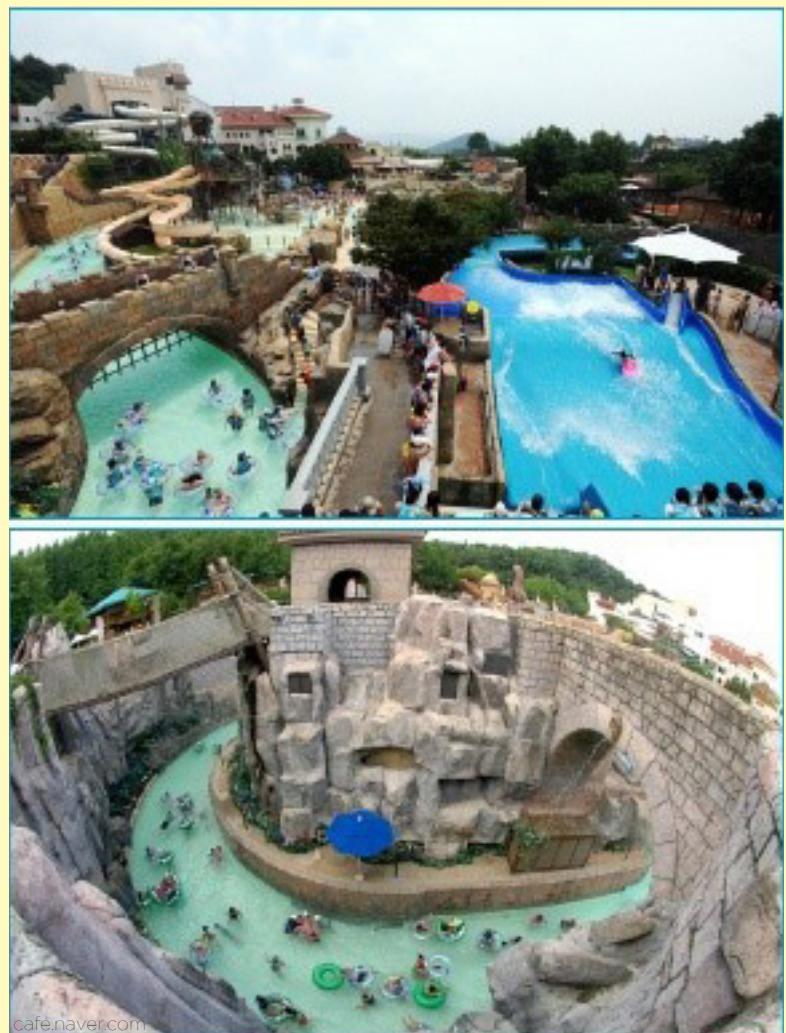
30 Rock was a critical darling—earning numerous Emmy awards for Fey and Baldwin—and though it never garnered a huge audience, it always commanded a cult following. Catch up on this wonderfully bizarre show with a TV marathon during one of those lazy summer afternoons as you sit back in your air-conditioned living room and learn about the delights of night cheese (a reference you will only catch if you watch the show).

Must Go: Caribbean Bay Song Da-woon (Amie)

It is a hot summer's day with nothing to do but lounge around. The heat is slowly getting to you, and you can't imagine anything better than a dip in the pool. Where do you go? Caribbean Bay, of course!

Located in Yongin, approximately 20 miles outside of Seoul, Caribbean Bay is an indoor and outdoor water park consisting of many different features. The wave pool is an exciting place, catering to the whims and fancies of all age groups. There are various types of water slides—caterpillar, bobsleigh, and straight down. There are also saunas for relaxing the body. Caribbean Bay is also the owner of the world's longest river ride, perfect for a lazy trip, floating in a tube. Of course, there is a shallow pool perfect for children to play in.

Summer in Korea can be a challenge, with the seemingly never-ending heat. But it is easily enjoyable thanks to a wonderful water park waiting just on the outskirts of Seoul. Feeling hot and bored? Caribbean Bay is the answer for you.



Must Go: Danang Linh Nghiem

Say you are looking to get out of Korea, but do not want to spend time or money getting to a faraway place. Why not visit Danang, a mere four hours by plane from Seoul? If your idea of the perfect vacation consists of sun bathing on a silver-sand beach, exploring a wild forest on a road trip, stuffing yourself with exotic seafood, or indulging all the senses with hundred kinds of tropical fruits, Danang is where you need to go. This city in central Vietnam, abundant with natural treasures yet un-flooded with tourists, can indeed satisfy all of your thirst for adventure and relaxation within the same day, at the same location, and under the smallest budget. From the most luxurious spa and resort to the simplest local food in small streets, this town will reward you with surprises and delights.



holidayindochina.com

Must Eat: Naeng-myeon

Gloria Mundim

A summer in South Korea will not be complete without a bowl of *naeng-myeon*. *Naeng-myeon* is a traditional Korean dish of cold noodles served in an icy broth. While it does not sound like the most appetizing of dishes, you are in for a pleasant surprise. There is more than one type, *mool naeng-myeon* being the plainest (but still delicious) to *bibim naeng-myeon*, a flavourful *naeng-myeon* version of bibimbab, another popular Korean dish. If you are lucky, a complimentary side dish of grilled meat with *naeng-myeon* hits the spot! So the next time you spend a long, hot day shopping, walking around and taking Seoul in, treat yourself to a delicious bowl of *naeng-myeon*. Otherwise, you cannot say you have experienced a proper Korean summer!

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popv.files.wordpress.com



Must Eat: Bingsu (Ice flakes)

Ku Ji-young

Just imagine you can make your troubles disappear in a poof! That's what a spoonful of *bingsu* can do for you when you are exhausted and sticky from the heat and humidity of a long summer's day. *Bingsu* originated in China in 3000BC when people enjoyed snow flavoured with fruit juice and honey. Today, ice flakes can be easily found in many parts of the world, especially in Asian countries, each with their unique traditions and flavors. Korea's ice flakes, *bingsu*, came from Japan where they put boiled and sweetened red beans on ice. This used to be the most common form of *bingsu*, but in today's market there is a wider variety to choose from. There is *gwa-il bingsu* (ice flakes with fruit), *oo-yu bingsu* (ice flakes made of milk), *nok-cha bingsu* (green tea ice flakes), and something that is becoming really popular at Sinchon, Oreo *bingsu*. I strongly recommend that you try one of these icy refreshments to make your day!

Must Drink: Pimm's

Yun Jae-young

This wonderfully classic British cocktail is consumed and enjoyed by people of all ages when the sun makes its rare appearance in England during the summer months. Usually served chilled, Pimm's the liqueur is often mixed with lemonade before an assortment of fresh fruit—strawberries, apples, oranges and lemons—is added, along with cucumber and freshly chopped mint. Both the elderly and the young will enjoy a glass of Pimm's at a garden party, or when served with afternoon tea on a sunny day. It is also the “official” drink of The Wimbledon Championships (a tennis tournament held every summer in Wimbledon, London), and is an immensely popular favourite amongst the spectators, many of whom will eat their strawberries and cream whilst sipping a glass of Pimm's during the match. Fruity and refreshing, a glass of Pimm's will cool down even the hottest summer's day.



diverstraveller.com



lunch.com

Must Drink: Sugarcane Juice

Thuy Pham

Growing up in Vietnam, the must-have drink in the summertime was sugarcane juice. With street vendors all over town selling this juice for just about KRW 500, I could practically drown myself in this amazing liquid. Naturally sweet (after all, sugarcane is the source for most of the world's sugar!) sugarcane juice is nevertheless surprisingly mild and refreshing, lacking the cloying sweetness of something like a caramel macchiato. Added to that is the soothing aroma from just a few drops of limequat, a local citrus. The slight sourness from this fruit perfectly complements the sweetness of the sugarcane juice. In Vietnam, people usually indulge in a bowl of steaming hot Vietnamese noodles and wash it down with a cup of sugarcane juice. The delicate balance of sweetness and tanginess that can only be found in this drink makes sugarcane juice the perfect beverage to help cope with the sultry 39-degrees of a tropical summer's day.

Must Attend: Summer Rock Festivals

Sam Lee

Attracting the biggest group of rockers in Korea and always promising exciting performers, two rock festivals take place in the summer. The first is the Ansan Valley Rock festival—rock enthusiasts might know that the Ansan Valley Rock Festival used to be held in Jisan. Early bird and ticket reservations are sold out by now, but tickets at the door may not be! Featuring world-famous groups such as The Cure, Foals, and achime alongside various Korean rock bands, this festival is designed to blow minds. Rockers all over Korea gather for this short span of time. The three day fiesta is sure to satisfy even the craziest of enthusiasts around the world. The Pentaport Rock Festival opens the month following the Ansan Valley Rock Festival and provides a second (or first, for those who missed the Ansan festival) chance for rockers to go nuts. Be sure to fill your memories with lots of music this summer!



Must Attend:

Pifan (Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival) July 18-28, 2013
Van Tran

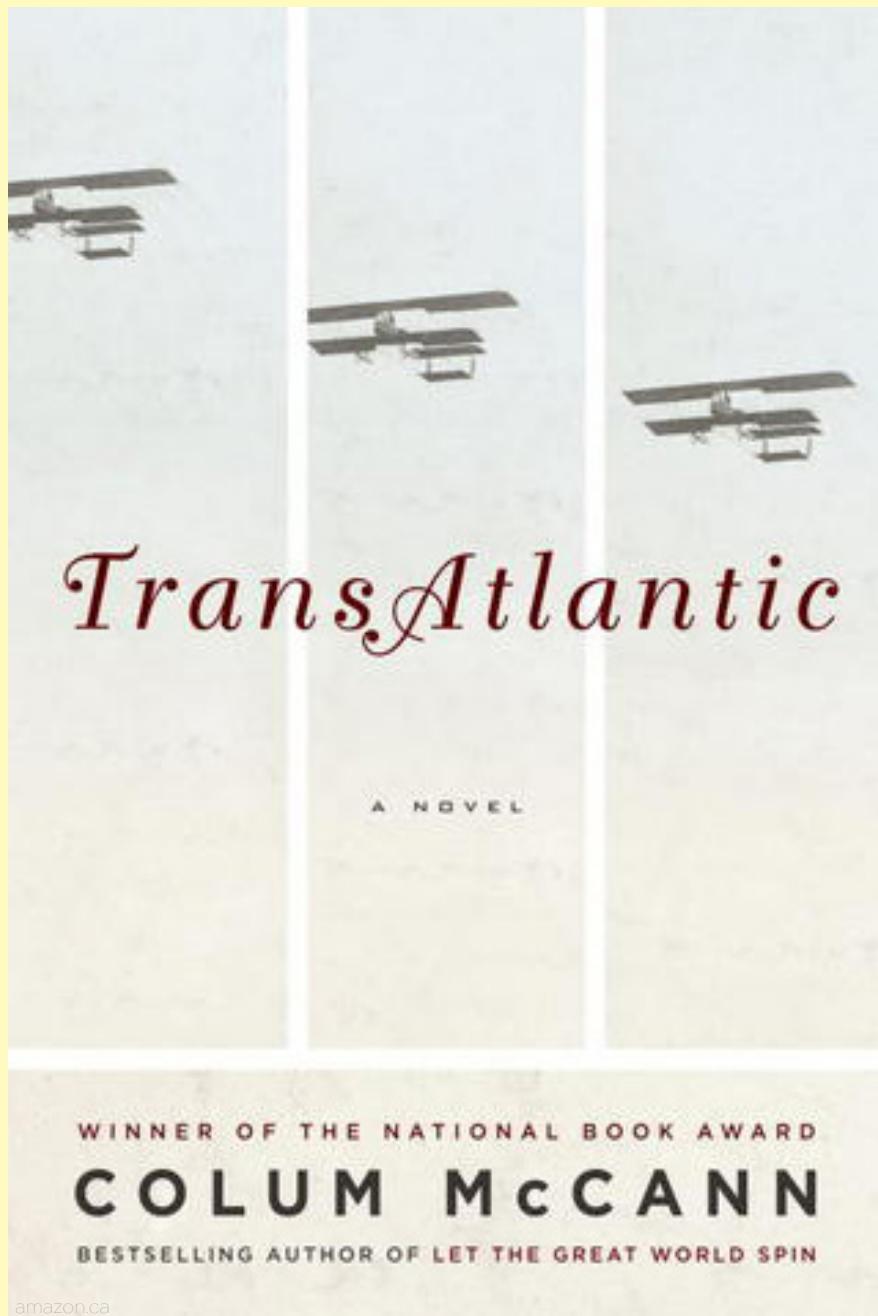
Pifan is the second largest film festival in Korea, focusing on the themes of fantasy, love and adventure. Pifan takes place in the city of Bucheon, a city of just the right size: big enough for everyone to have fun, yet small enough to give you easy access to all activities of the festival. When Pifan comes, the whole city becomes a cinematic world. Besides attending official film screenings, which range from sci-fi, animation, horror, mystery, thriller, to drama, comedy and musicals, you can also take part in a cinema parade, attend outdoor screenings of other movies, and enjoy the many cultural events and sites in Bucheon. I really loved attending Pifan last year and it stimulated me to attend other international film festivals in the future. More information of Pifan can be found on the website at www.pifan.com.



Must Read:

TransAtlantic
by Colum McCann
Isabelle Kim

In 1845, freed African-American slave Frederick Douglass lands in Ireland to champion ideas of democracy and freedom, only to find the Great Potato famine unfurling at his feet. In 1919, aviators Jack Alcock and Arthur “Teddy” Brown emerge from the carnage of World War I to pilot the first transatlantic flight. In 1998, US Senator George Mitchell travels across the Atlantic to shepherd a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. The lines of history are blurred through the eyes of four generations of Irish women, braiding together these and other events from decades apart and lives spanning continents into one epic tale that emphasizes the past’s presence in the future.



Must Indulge:

Hermès Eau des Merveilles
Thai Dang

Hermès Eau des Merveilles is an ideal summer fragrance: effervescent with zesty orange and lemon notes, and yet sophisticated, with the warm undertones of pink pepper. While the oakmoss and vetiver accords lend this “water of marvels” a sense of austerity and mystery, the translucent amber note reveals a delicate, intimate side. A few hours after you wear it, the result is a lingering salty note, occasionally brushed by a subtle floral whisper, reminding you of sand and warm skin. Whenever I smell Eau des Merveilles, I am transported to a high cliff overlooking a windy ocean in the twilight—it is a dream of invigorating freedom, and at the same time, a memory of soothing dreaminess. Marvellous!



Must Wear:

Boteh or Paisley Pattern
Tatyana Yun

Although the picture might remind some of you of middle school biology class, I promise that I am not going to recommend that you observe bacteria under the microscope as your summer must. The picture here shows one of the most amazing and beautiful patterns widely used in various designs. I am sure many of you have seen it before on clothes, jewellery, furniture and other items. This pattern is known in the western world as paisley, but its original name is boteh, and it came to us from Persia and India (it is still unclear where it appeared first). This print was said to be inspired by mangoes. The colloquial term for paisley prints in India are “ambi” or “manga,” which are Hindi and Tamil words for “green mangoes.”

Personally, I find this pattern exceptionally charming, and every time I see it on an item of clothing I want to buy it. In the Orient, this pattern is believed to bring you luck. I strongly suggest that you purchase at least one item of summer clothing with boteh on it. In fact, wear it during your final examinations. Who knows, maybe this pretty pear-shaped pattern will bring you good luck during your tests! ■

Together We are Yonsei:



Daedongjae Photo Essay

By Lee Se-woong (Sam)

Yonsei University takes great pride in its status as one of Korea's best institutions of higher education. Only the most studious and the most dedicated students are granted admission. This makes for a very demanding academic environment—it is not uncommon to see students studying late into the night during exam periods. So, following midterm examinations, Yonsei holds its annual *Daedongjae* (*Daedong Festival*), a three-day, student-run festival, that provides students an opportunity to unwind. This year's *Daedongjae* was held May 14th and 15th, with the Akaraka concert taking place on May 16th. Just as in years past, *Baekyang-ro*, the main road through Yonsei's Sinchon campus, was filled with decorated booths and small-scale concert stages for two days and nights, offering students food, drinks and a variety of entertainment options.

One of this year's most popular attractions was a zombie-filled course, where teams competed for a cash reward of 300,000 won. Yonsei's Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) also manned a popular booth where you could learn how to shoot with a BB gun and enjoy army-style barbecue. *Daedongjae* culminates in Akaraka, a seven-hour concert and cheering session attended by a large number of Yonsei students. Akaraka is well-known for the top-flight artists it attracts, and this year was no exception, with the big-time Korean rapper, Tiger JK, kicking things off. The One, a popular ballad singer, made the girls' hearts swoon, while the boys screamed their lungs out for Girls' Generation. YB shook the amphitheater with rock and roll, and JYP wrapped things up with a remix of popular Korean songs, along with a spectacular montage of Michael Jackson's works.

Aside from the annual Yonsei-Korea University Games held during the fall, *Daedongjae* is the biggest event of the year for Yonsei students. During this blissful week, the normal stress of projects, assignments, and deadlines is lifted, as professors (generally) ease up on the coursework to give students an opportunity to enjoy the spring weather with live mu-

sic and drinks. *Daedongjae* is not only for Yonseians, though. Students from surrounding universities like Sogang and Ehwa, along with members of the Sinchon community, also come out to enjoy what Yonsei has to offer. It even attracts jealous students from Yonsei's rival, Korea University. ■

All photos taken by Lee Se-woong (Sam)



A zombie prowls across Yonsei, seeking for students to participate in the zombie run, a 5km obstacle course littered with the un-dead and KRW 30,000 as a reward for making it through without becoming another...obstacle.



A student cooks delicious *dakgochi*, or chicken skewers, with a blow torch. Yum!



The cute bear seemed to be grabbing all the attention from the festival, as well as all the kisses!



A guest appearance by Girl's Generation, a popular girl group worldwide, steals all the boy's hearts.



Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) provides targets for students to practice their shooting skills on.



UIC students advertise for their student booth. Out of frame, others busily sketch caricatures of interested students passing by.



A group of friends get ready for Akaraka.



FINAL REMARKS

The UIC Scribe would like to congratulate Kim Min-kyung (UD, '12), winner of the Foreign Language Speech Contest (FLSC), which was held November 2, 2012 at the YIC in Songdo. The participants included students who had completed one semester of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language courses at UIC. The president of International Christian University (ICU), Professor Hibiya Junko, who also acted as the FLSC's presiding judge, was highly impressed with Min-kyung's Japanese speaking skills, and she offered her a scholarship to study at ICU during the summer. The intensive, six-week Japanese-language program, which will take place from July 4 to August 25, aims to "provide a stimulating environment in which students may increase their understanding of the Japanese language and culture."

For some, this intensive program might seem quite daunting. Min-kyung, however, relishes the challenge provided by this hard-won opportunity. Having studied Japanese since her high school days, she has, as a lover of all things foreign and novel, found learning Japanese very rewarding. Japan's close proximity to Korea both geographically and culturally—not to mention the manga that is so popular in Korea—has instilled in Min-kyung a deep fascination with all things Japanese. Indeed, her enthusiasm for Japanese culture is not limited to the language; she adores the country's famous culinary delights and cultural events, such as the Sumidagawa Fireworks Festival. Min-kyung wishes to build upon her experience at ICU this summer by continuing to take Japanese language courses at UIC. Ideally, by the end of her college career, she hopes to be able to hold a high-level conversation with a native Japanese speaker. As she puts it: "learning a foreign language is one of the best ways to learn about its culture."



UIC Essay Prize, Spring 2013

The UIC Essay Prize was established in 2012 by the faculty of the UIC Common Curriculum to recognize the best student essays written each semester. To receive this prestigious award, a paper must first be nominated by a UIC professor and then be selected as the best in its category by a panel comprised of CC faculty members. For their achievement, this semester's winners were honored at a dinner, where each received a copy of *The Chicago Manual of Style*, and they will also be given an official commendation at the 2013 UIC Freshman Orientation.

In recognition of their achievements in writing, *The UIC Scribe* wishes to congratulate the winners of this semester's UIC Essay Prize:

Best Essay by a YIC Freshman

Yun Jae-young:
"Engineering Darwin's Copley Medal"

Best Literature Essay

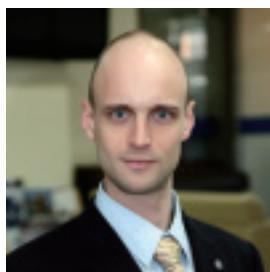
Dang Viet Thai:
"The Maltese Falcon—The Movie That Dreams Are Made Of"

Best History Essay

Koh Kyung-woong:
"The Smithian Non-Revolution: The Influence of The Wealth of Nations on British Government Policy in the Late 18th Century"

Best Culture and Theory Essay

Choa Choi:
"Sublimity in Melville's Moby Dick: The Quest to Understand the Ungraspable Phantom of Life"



ABOVE (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT)
**THANK YOU TO OUR
REVISING PROFESSORS! :**

Professor Christian Blood
Professor Kelly Walsh
Professor Laavanya Ratnapalan
Professor Neeraja Sankaran
Professor Joseph Hwang
Professor Professor Jesse Sloane
Professor Jen Hui Bon Hoa



UNDERWOOD INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE (UIC) is an all-English college within Yonsei University, a private university based in Seoul, South Korea. UIC freshmen take classes at Songdo (a city nearby Seoul). UIC aims to bring together students from diverse and multinational backgrounds, providing them with a liberal arts program that rivals top universities worldwide. The first class was admitted in the spring semester of 2006.

THE UIC SCRIBE was also founded in 2006 as the official student newsletter organized by UIC students. It continues into its seventh year. (For inquiries and articles, e-mail us at scribe.uic@gmail.com.)
