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Special Topic

The English Department's Growth
in Global Networks



HANBAT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



Chicago, see p.22

Contents

Editor's Pen	3
Faculty News	
Prof. Sul Dong-ho	3
Prof. Oh Ho-jin, Winning at the Game of Your Life	4
Prof. Jeffrey Wilson	5
Into Hanbat	
Mongolia: Khishgee and Dariimaa	7
China: Lisa	10
Philippines: Charmagne Lourdes Chua Pelaez	12
Out of Hanbat	
Thailand: Jeong Yeon-ji	14
New Zealand: Oh Eun-hye	15
Philippines: Lim Ah-yeon	18
USA: Kwon Hye-in	19
USA: Kim Jong-gwan	22

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Editor's Pen

Hello, everyone! This new issue of *Del Media* for English Department students is just hot off the press! I am really pleased that I can introduce it to you. In this edition we have some fantastic stories from the pens of many English Department students who have studied abroad-and from some who are at this very moment studying abroad. We also have some great articles from some of the foreign students who are presently studying with us here at Hanbat National University!

Many students have given their special stories for you to read. We hope that they will be quite interesting to you, and will help you understand different people and places more easily. Please keep in mind that each story is based on another person's vivid experiences; each one contains vital ideas that they have experienced in their own past and present lives.

I believe that you all have a longing curiosity to go into the world; English majors have always been captivated by the unknown! Actually, these writings can help engage your minds and souls-even as you meet some material and spiritual obstacles. So I hope that *Del Media* becomes a helpful weapon for you as you prepare your mind for the future! I want to encourage you to read the stories with an open mind, and I hope you can be motivated and inspired by the words of these special writers!

Special Note: In order to compile this issue of English Department news, there was lots of special help and support. I would like to thank Prof. Kim Yeon-man and Prof. Jeffrey Wilson for their help. Furthermore, I want to thank the special students who gave their wonderful writings to all of us at *Del Media*! Thank you all!



Kim Lan-hui
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Faculty News



Prof. Sul Dong-ho

I came back to the English Department after I had done my best for our university for 8 years. I want to express my deep gratitude to all of the professors and students in our English Department.

Now we live in the age of globalization which is based on knowledge. We must develop our abilities to live a happy and successful life in this wide world. Global leaders must have the creative knowledge. The knowledge is gained from your studying, reading, and useful experience.

Set goals for the day, the week, the month, the year, and your entire life and do your best for your successful life. If you have self-confidence and work with a positive mind, you will succeed. Self-distrust is the cause of most of our failures.

Every time when you face difficulties, you should work with all your might with no fear. We should make harder efforts to become not only the capable experts but also the future leaders of the world with global abilities in this rapidly changing society. I look forward to expecting your enthusiasm and positive energy.

Winning at the Game of Your Life



Prof. Oh Ho-jin

Right now it is the football game season in many American universities. The University of Mississippi at Oxford, which has invited me welcomingly as a visiting scholar for one year, has no exception. Every Saturday they have games, and then Sunday through Friday enjoy talking of the results in their last games. If they win, they would be very victorious, but if they lose, they would be very depressive and fall down their heads.

While I am looking around this football syndrome, I have thought a lot about our life. What is life? Life to me is a game like this football game, and you and I are the players. What does it mean to win at the game of life? What is true success? Immediately, I need to say that when I call life a game, I mean that it's a contest, not that it's trivial or all fun and games. You've learned that since your high school life. But if life is a game, you and I are playing the most important contest of all. To win a football game, there must be more than 15 coaches on the sidelines who are quite making best plans together during the game. Likewise, to be a winner in life needs a good plan. All my experience of life has convinced me that to win a game you and I need a game plan. Obviously, God is our Head Coach, and no one wants to lose in the biggest game of all. Then, you and I are to be Vice Head Coaches in our own life. Also, we need many smart and sober (sometimes sly) coaches like the Head Coach of football team.

As I mentioned above, you are necessarily to be a vice Head Coach who must decide to choose a proper plan to let yourself be a winner in your university life. And you have to make the plan or strategy that you can meet the very important persons who are to be other coaches or helpers in your university life. Here remember this!

They can be your professors, your friends, your books, and somebody or something else. They can lead and guide me and you into the touch down line of your brilliant harbour of university life without further mistakes.

Right now! Why don't you knock to open the doors of your possible coaches like the football team's coaches, and meet them earnestly. All my last experiences made me realize how fragile life can be. You have to make the plan that can help you avoid some of the mistakes I've made too. You have to win the lasting impact your influence can have on others during this very short life.

Greetings!

I want to say a quick hello to those at Del Media who are actively trying to improve their English. My name is Jeffrey and I truly want to help you get the most out of your education. Learning a language is kind of like climbing a dangerous mountain. I once went climbing in the Swiss Alps. The mountain I was climbing was more than I could handle. It was a cool fall day and all I could do was worry about reaching the top. I was passed by experienced hikers, members of the Swiss Army, and they seemed to be having a much better time than I was. I guess my fear of falling ruined my trip (we had to use ropes it was that steep). I finally managed to make it to the top, but I really did not enjoy the experience. I later found out why: I was too concerned with the outcome. I should have just enjoyed each step of the way. The next time I went hiking I found myself trying to enjoy the process. Yes & the climb! This is the same way you must conquer English. Don't worry about reaching the top; don't worry about failing. Becoming a master speaker is a long difficult journey. Just enjoy your climb one step at a time! Make English your hobby! Do fun things and learn fun expressions. Then, when you do finally reach the top, you will have good memories from the journey to the top. Good luck!



Prof. Jeffrey Wilson

War of the Words

Hi, folks! I wanted to write an article using some hard words. I want to increase your vocabulary! I also put the definition right next to the word.

English is packed with nuances (Old French, from *nuer*, to shade) that create a highly furtive (secret) game of communication. Most of the American television sitcoms get their high ratings from the gilded tongues (covered with gold), and crafty minds of certain cast members who use irony and sarcasm to alleviate (get rid of) the ennui (boredom) of daily living. One example I distinctly remember was on an episode of Friends. Ross (the lead character) was once in a band during his high school days.

Ross was a loser. It was not really a band, but just a bunch of guys who wanted to be cool. None of them could sing or play instruments. Well, whenever Rachel (the queen of sarcasm on the show) talked about his band, she used air quotes. What are air quotes?

Take your hands and raise them up to your eyes. Now make a V out of your pointer fingers and your middle fingers. Voila! These will provide quotation marks for the word you want to emphasize. As you speak the word you must bend your fingers at the same time. Rachel did this with the word band. It actually meant that Ross was not in a band. By using air quotes, Ross knew that she knew he and his high school friends were losers. Rachel was using sarcasm with Ross. This sarcasm was all in fun and jest. But sometimes sarcasm can hurt.

Sarcasm literally means ripping the flesh. It comes from ancient Greek, and later it was adopted by the French. Long ago the French intellectuals would love to use sarcasm in their daily conversations. The greatest wits would use words and phrases to either make a cut, or produce a snarl. The best users would be so good at it that the victim would not even know he or she had been cut. Today, native speakers from around the world love to use sarcasm. It is part of our culture. Sometimes the native speakers are truly experts at it, and are so secret (furtive) with it that a Korean or foreign student will not even know they were cut. Let me give you one example of how this hurt someone. Recently, one English major told me about an incidence inside an American cafeteria. She was new to America, and needed to provide her own breakfast the next day. She simply took some fruit out of the cafeteria. This was no problem. There was a ton of fruit, and it would do no damage at all. As she left the cafeteria with the fruit in her hands, she saw a group of American girls. As she passed by them she heard one of the girls say, I hope she did not steal all of the fruit! This was a sarcastic remark. It was not kind at all, and actually hurt our student. I truly felt this was rude and uncalled for (especially since the native speaker probably knew she was a visitor).

Our fellow Hanbat member did not know what to do. She simply walked away & the victim of a mean girl. I would have handled the situation differently. Having grown up in America, I was born with the skills to actually understand sarcasm, and even defeat it. In America, the best way to conquer sarcasm is with sarcasm. The key to winning is speed! If the victim can (quickly) come up with something to make the speaker feel even more embarrassed, he or she will have won! This is a war of the words. We can now review the fruit incident one more time. What could our Hanbat student have said to make the girl feel embarrassed? She could have smiled and said (very quickly):

1. Don't worry; I left some for you to steal as well. (Light Comedy)
2. Oh no! I did not realize you were the cafeteria police woman! Please don't arrest me! I don't want to go to prison! (Semi Light Comedy)
3. Wow! I steal fruit, and you steal ugly shirts. I guess we have a bunch in common! (Mean Comedy)
4. I took the bananas because I was afraid they might make fat people like you even fatter. (Very Mean Comedy)

I probably would have just said, Wow, you sure must have a boring life if all you do is watch what people take out of the cafeteria! There you have it. She could have smiled and walked away in triumph, and the mean girl would have been put in her place. As you become more and more familiar with the English language, your skills must become sharper and sharper. Learning how to understand and defeat sarcasm is a step in the right direction. Good luck, and please, do not use sarcasm on any of the native speakers here at Hanbat. We are truly sensitive. J

Recently *Del Media* interviewed two Mongolian exchange students, and asked them some interesting questions. We are sure you will be curious about their answers!

Can you give us a brief introduction to yourself?

Hello! My name is Buyankhishig. My nick name is Khishgee. I am a senior student and majoring in English Education in Mongolia. I am the other exchange student of Mongolia International University (MIU). I came to Korea on August 23 with Dariimaa.

It's my first time to come to Korea. Unfortunately, I will stay only 6 months in Korea, so every moment will be valuable for me here.



1. Do you have any special purposes for coming to HBNU here in Korea?

I hope to learn so many things here during my time at HBNU; not only in my subjects, but in other areas. For example, I want to learn the Korean language, culture, lifestyle and other things. I also want to start a relationship with other Korean students and professors.

2. After graduation, are there any special plans you would like to accomplish?

Certainly! I have a really special plan after graduation. Studying in Korea is one of the major steps to reaching my future plan. I have not prepared myself enough to get a job. However, I will continue my studies more in America, and then I hope to work in the Mongolian Embassy in the US. I also have a big desire to develop MGL (Mongolia) through People's Education. Mongolians are really clever students; however, many do not get a good chance to study. So I want to give them more opportunities to study abroad. I will act as a special bridge that will help Mongolians reach their dreams. This special dream keeps me occupied each day.

3. What kind of differences are there between Korea and Mongolia?

While in Korea I have seen so many differences from my home in Mongolia.

A. Food: Most Korean foods are loaded with vegetables, and are really good for human health. On the other hand, Mongolian people eat meat more than vegetables. I think it depends on our weather and climate.

B. Relationships: Actually, I feel very peaceful in Deajon-and everyone who lives here seems so



very helpful. When I ask for help using Korean, many Koreans are willing to help me. However, when I use English to ask for assistance most of the people avoid me. I think that Koreans are very good at Into Hanbat - Mongolia English, but they are just very shy people.

C. Culture: I made many Korean friends while I was in Mongolia. So, Korean culture is already somewhat familiar to me. However, I am learning many new things everyday.

D. Weather: In the Mongolian summer, the temperature is very hot and dry. But this season only lasts a short time. But winter is very long and very cold. I think that Korean weather is opposite to our Mongolian weather.

4. Do you have any comments to say to the Hanbat English Department students?

In the end, I want to cheer and challenge you guys. We are the future of our countries. So good luck to you and your studies. I hope we become good friends. Feel free to contact me.

Buyankhishig

Can you give us a brief introduction to yourself?

Hello everybody. My name is Dariimaa. I study in MIU and my major is English Education. I came in HBNU on August 23rd but this is not my first visit to Korea, it is my second visit. I will stay here for 6 months and then go back to Mongolia to continue my studies at MIU.

1. Do you have any special purposes for coming to HBNU here in Korea?

After my graduation I want to study abroad and do research about Korean master degree courses. I also want to improve my Korean language ability with the native speakers here at HBNU.

2. What kind of classes are you taking now, and what do you think about them?

I am attending five courses which are being taught in English. One example is American Literature. The courses I am taking are not so difficult for me. One reason is because I already know the professors. In Mongolia all my professors are Koreans who studied in Canada, New Zealand and Australia. However doing all of the assignments is requires a lot of effort.



3. After graduation, are there any special plans you would like to accomplish?

After graduation my strong desire is to go to Canada and get my master's degree. After that I want to go to Africa as a volunteer worker for several years. Perhaps my last destination will be Korea, or the country of my ancestors. I don't think that I will live in Mongolia. Even though I was born in Mongolia, I am not pure Mongolian. My father is Chinese-Russian and my mother is Mongolian. I feel like I could spend the rest of my life in different countries.

4. What is the most popular job in Mongolia?

Some of the most popular jobs are lawyers and doctors. However, even though they are at the top of the working class in our society, they still cannot provide a high standard of living. This is because the salary is too low. Miners and engineers can actually earn more money. A person who has his or her own business can also increase their level of finances. So it doesn't really depend on what kind of profession because of this.

5. Do you have any comments to say to the Hanbat English Department students?

I am very happy to be here at HBNU, especially in the English department. Thank you for accepting me with such warm feelings; I want to make friends with you guys, even though I am staying in here for just a very short time. If you want to make friends with me, you can feel free to contact me. Good luck with your studying, and I wish you guys to get a job that you want. I hope to spend my time very memorably and I will try to do my best, Thank you.

Dariimaa





Lisa

Hi, everyone! My name is Lisa. I came from Inner Mongolia (of China). My family has four members, and they are my father, mother, twin sister and me. My mother is a doctor, and my father is a policeman, and my sister is a college student (who has the same appearance but a different character with me). We are both studying here in Korea at the moment! Presently I am majoring in English. Even though my native language is Mongolian, my Chinese language is also very good because I live with Chinese people. I can also speak Korean, Mongolian, Chinese and English. Even though I am not very fluent in all of them, I love to learn various languages.

My hobbies are quite broad. I enjoy playing outdoor sports, and like to travel on holidays, especially to foreign countries. Because of this love, I have been to many foreign countries (such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Thailand, and so on). As a result, I learned a lot of practical knowledge, and made many friends around the world.

Now, let me talk about my life in Korea. In our class, I am the only Chinese student. For this reason (when I had my first class) I did not like talking with other students. Furthermore, I was very nervous speaking in English. To make matters even worse, sometimes I couldn't listen very clearly. I was so worried about these issues, but my classmates gave me a lot of help. They helped me not only to learn, but also to adapt to life here in Korea. During the break time, all of the classmates liked to have a conversation with me in English. I must say that communicating with them in English or Korean was the greatest help for me. It made me feel very relaxed, and I could improve my foreign language level. Sometimes after class my classmates asked me to have some ice cream together with them. It was a good time to get to know them.

There are many more examples of this special treatment that I did not tell you about. I am very grateful to my classmates and professors for all the help and encouragement they gave to me. Even though I was a foreigner, I didn't feel very lonesome, or inconvenienced. This was all because of their help.

Time has passed by really quickly for me. I came to South Korea, and soon, without even noticing, two years have passed by. Due to the help of my Korean friends and professors, I could stay in Korea without tension. I want to tell

all of them that I've really enjoyed my school life.

I think Koreans like English very much. In particular, one of my classmates is 70 years old. I mean, I should probably call him an old grandfather. Although he is old enough, he still insists on the importance of learning. That's why I admire him very much! Well, finally, I would like to introduce several ways to learn English as a gift to all of you!

Here are some tips which may help you master the English language!

1. Speak without Fear
2. Use all of Your Resources
3. Surround Yourself with English
4. Listen to Native Speakers as Much as Possible
5. Watch English Films and Television
6. Listen to English Music
7. Study as Often as Possible
8. Record Yourself

We can talk on the phone; listen to the radio, and read audio books or CDs in English. This is much different from watching TV or films, because you can't see the person that is speaking to you. Many English learners say that speaking on the phone is one of the most difficult things that they can do in English. Anyway, it can be the most efficient way to improve your English skill.

In closing, I would like to add something else. Because my biological clock is very special, I always have some rest in the daytime and study in the evening. This habit started from high school. Though I know this is not a good habit, studying in the evening is more effective. So, I am usually late for school. I think I should make a sincere apology to all of my Professors who teach me in Hanbat National University.

Thank you all!





Charmagne Lourdes
Chua Pelaez

Charmagne Lourdes Chua Pelaez

My name is Charmagne Lourdes Chua Pelaez. I was born and raised in Manila, in the Philippines. My father is Spanish Filipino and my mother is Chinese. I'm the third child out of four siblings. Growing up with three other sisters was fun, not only do I consider them my sisters, but also my best friends. In addition, I also have a dog named "Arf-Arf" which is a Lhasa Apso- Shiatsu mix. I was raised in a strict but loving and supportive family. They supported my choice to study in Korea for a short duration, and I miss them very much. However it is a blessing that we have the internet for communication. By using it, I can keep in contact with them.

The Philippines is a beautiful country. There are great tourists spots-such as the many tranquil beaches, mountains (some of the Seven Wonders of the World: The Chocolate Hills, The Rice Terraces) and many volcanoes. One of my favorite spots to visit is the internationally known Boracay Island, which is located in the province of Aklan, Philippines. This is a great spot for water sports and relaxing on the beach-with clear waters during the day, and listening to live bands and having moonlit night caps in the evening.

The Philippine culture is very rich, with a long Asian history that has been influenced not only by other Asian countries, but also the Spanish as well. One trait that far exceeds others and is well known to tourists is that Filipinos pride themselves with their hospitality and kindness. Filipino cuisine is really good. Although it may not look as extravagant (and usually not presented as colorful as other Asian dishes are) I recommend that you try everything, "Never judge a book by the cover..." In the Philippines there is a wide selection of ethnic foods available -from various Asian delicacies-to Western cuisines.

As far as Korean influence in the Philippines, it is quite apparent since there is a big population of Koreans living there. They have not only influenced cinematography (e.g. Korean romantic-comedy films), but also influenced the local Filipinos with Korean fashion traits and delicacies.

I am currently studying at La Consolacion College, located in the city of Manila in the Philippines. I am pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Tourism. I am proud to be associated with my college as the Professors and staff are professional, competent and well-organized. I had the honor of being selected to represent Filipino students for this section of *Del media* Into Hanbat - Philippines, based on my academic achievements, my responsible and mature attitude. I strongly believe that this exchange program will significantly benefit me personally and professionally (since my major is Tourism). I feel that I have already gained some personal growth by my different encounters with various people- the culture and experiences I have had here at Hanbat National University. It has been only one month since I have arrived here, and I am enjoying this experience-the people are very friendly and hospitable. I look forward to my stay here for ten months. My goals and achievements that I wish to attain while in Korea include: To visit many places in Korea, to become fluent in the Korean Language, to gain my independence by taking care of myself; and finally to do household chores like laundry, and cleaning.

I have three other Filipino schoolmates from La Consolacion College who came here with me from the Philippines. We have befriended each other and support each other. We have gained strength, and feed off of each other's energy to overcome obstacles and sadness from being far away from our family and friends. I also met some Korean friends that are very nice and hospitable. They usually are the ones who give us tours, and teach my friends and me about Korean life and the culture. I have nothing but good things to say about them, they are nice people and fun to be with. Although I have met a few new Korean friends, I look forward to meeting more of my fellow students.

Now, I am very excited for this year's winter season in Korea, it will be my first time to experience a winter with snow on the ground. In the Philippines, we only have two seasons-sunny and rainy seasons (unlike Korea which has four seasons). I will be celebrating my 21st birthday here in Korea. Even though I am sad because my family will not be here, I am also excited to celebrate it here in Korea.



La Consolacion College - Manila

English and Economics: Answering a Difficult Question



Jeong Yeon-ji

"What do you think of Thai people's English speaking ability?" A Thai student recently asked me this question. I thought for a brief moment, and then I gave my opinion... that Thai people seem more relaxed than Koreans while using English. According to his reply, I felt that I must not have communicated my answer very clearly. "South Korea is far more developed than Thailand, and Koreans are more eager to learn English," he quickly replied. He seemed to think that economic development was directly correlated to English language proficiency. I was embarrassed. I had to put all of my verbal resources into making him understand that wasn't what I really meant. I cannot really see how he arrived at his theory of why Koreans are good at English.

Let me tell you a short story. About 3 years ago, just before the government was about to start its work, an officer in the administration announced a brilliant plan for English education. She suggested that Korean students will be better at English if they can pronounce the word "orange" exactly the same way native English-speakers do. Did her plan work? No! She had to take back what she said after getting smashed by an enormous amount of criticism. This proves my point. Koreans tend to cling to an external appearance, a mirage, and it definitely affects the way they think about English. In this particular case, the mirage refers to language elements such as TOEIC scores and good pronunciation. If someone has good English pronunciation, could that person be considered to a master of English as well? Unfortunately, as far as I can see the numbers do not represent everything. English has become one of the essential criterion for getting a job, and there are myriads of high-scoring applicants. It seems that it has become an important part of an applicant (even as important as his or her personality). Even if a person wants to get a job which has nothing to do with English, he or she should possess the ubiquitous high score. These learners have poured a lot of money and resources into improving their English, showing off their high scores, and in the end shrink with fear when they actually meet a native English-speaker! So please tell me, what is the main goal of this obsession?

Let me close by saying this. Of course, there are many people who enjoy learning English. In the big picture, however, the strong obsession is going in the wrong direction. Why should everyone be good at English? It has not been proven that English-speaking ability is directly correlated to a nation's competitiveness. The competitiveness comes from other factors: its cultural power, political democracy, and an educational system which guarantees creativity and diversity—not from English itself. So in the end I must ask you this question: How can we get the economic prosperity that so many of us Koreans long for?



The Best Life I Have Ever Had!

Hello, everyone! I am Oh Eun-hye, and I am a Senior English major at Hanbat National University. I'm presently studying at Unitec in New Zealand as an exchange student. I have been in New Zealand for eight months and have two months left to stay here. The city where I am living now is Auckland, which is the most international and fabulous place in New Zealand. I am so happy, so much that I don't want to go back to Korea! I want to study here more! Living and studying in New Zealand has changed my whole life. I think this year is the most blessed time I have ever lived! Let me explain to you guys what made me fall in love with New Zealand.

First of all, I like the way people live in New Zealand.

They always keep their composure whereas most individuals in Korea get used to being busy in their ordinary lives. When I was in Korea, I was too busy to think about myself. For example: who I was, what I wanted to be, what I was interested in, how I lived and why I should live. However, since I came here, I have found every answer to those questions because I have learned how to cherish my one and only life. New Zealand culture is absolutely different from that of Korean culture. The biggest difference between New Zealand and Korea is the values about life. New Zealanders think highly of how to live-on the other hand, Koreans have a high opinion of what they live for. Three things that you should not ask people in New Zealand are what job they have, what university or college they go to (or graduated from)- and how much money they earn.

Next, I have met many good foreign friends who are in my classes, and share many things in common.

Last semester was the hardest period of time that I had ever gone through (as studying abroad was not my fantasy at all). Things didn't go as well as I thought and expected. The disappointing thing was that I could not meet good friends for the first six months. Students in class were from China, and ten years older than me! So I really did not have any friends, but just classmates. Nevertheless, during this semester, I have met true friends whom I would like to keep in touch with forever! It was not easy to make friends because they did not come to me first. I had no confidence to talk to them first in English since I thought I was poor at speaking English.



However, I changed my mind, thinking that I would regret it later if I did not try my best to get on well with them, and let them know about Korea. So, I talked to them first with courage, then I asked them to have lunch with me after school, and finally I kept contacting them. Once I opened my mind, they started opening their minds as well. They understood my English and culture. The best way to make foreign friends is to share some common interests, especially stories about boys and girls. That was one of the ways that I usually enjoyed sharing, and it really worked. In September, I was invited by one of my friends who threw her birthday party in the city. It was a super awesome time, and I tried new things that I would not have tried in Korea. I am so blessed to meet such lovely friends!

Finally, Unitec gave me the opportunity to take a look at what I would like to study in the future.

This semester I enrolled in classes about Communication Studies. Through this study I could learn about the media, public or international relations, creative writing, and campaigns. At first it was challenging for me to study other areas where I really did not have much experience; however, the curriculum really interested me. This made me try really hard. After diligently pursuing it, I found it very fascinating to study in this field so deeply; so it gave me a desire to get a Master's Degree of Communication Studies at one of the universities here in New Zealand. I found out what made me interested, excited, and passionate.

In closing I would like to say that studying abroad as an exchange student is one of the most valuable chances I ever had in my life. I hope many students in the English department take this opportunity so that they can achieve what they want-just like I am doing now.

Believing in yourself, challenging everything you want without the fear of failure (while you are young and have your special dreams) are major steps you all should take in your lives. Take a chance, and find an exchange program that makes you fly high in the world! I did!

Frequently Asked Questions about Exchange Programs

1. How did you prepare for the exchange program, and what did you study to apply for this program?

I asked the Center for International Exchange at Hanbat National University for information about exchange programs through which I could study overseas. I checked its homepage, visited the office in person, and asked the administrators many questions that I really wanted to know about. Showing them my interest in studying overseas was the best way to make them remember me, so if something happened they could always let me know some good information. Furthermore, I requested professors to help me prepare for the TOEFL test, and give me some special advice. I had to get high marks from my own major and the TOEFL test to even apply for this program. I think that the TOEFL is the most difficult and expensive English test in the world!.

2. Did your English improve naturally in New Zealand without studying hard in Korea?

This is totally nonsense! Actually, I had a big misunderstanding. I thought that I could speak English very well within three months because of the environment. However, it was wrong. If you don't study English very hard in Korea, it would be useless to study in any countries where the citizens use English as their first language. I think that studying English overseas is practicing what you have already studied or learned in Korea because practice makes perfect. Therefore, I would like to recommend students to study English (not as language but as culture). To be more specific, reading books written in English, (newspapers or magazines), for example The Times, or watching movies or dramas and understanding the English cultures inside. These are fundamental and essential methods to improve your English.

Oh Eun-hye



Hello from Manila!

Hello, everyone. About two month have passed since I first arrived here in Manila. Yes, I am in the Philippines! I came to La Consolacion College, here in Manila (LCCM) for studying journalism, and getting a dual degree! I am with three fellow students in the English department: Bark Su-ram, Lee Seong-jin, and last but not least, Choi Hwan-young. We will specialize in Hotel and Tourism Management or Mass Communication here at LCCM.

About the Dual Degree Program

Our English department has started a special dual degree program starting this year. A total of four students (including myself) who are juniors or seniors were chosen to begin this program. We are given free tuition for two years. During this time, we will get another degree at LCCM in addition to an English degree at HBNU. To receive the degree at LCCM, we have to take 50 units. The students who take part in this program are able to choose a major among the following: Mass Communications, Journalism, Broadcasting, Advertising, Hotel and Restaurant Management, and Tourism. When our new semester starts in November, we will attend lectures in the majors we have chosen beforehand. However, now we are taking an English as a Second Language (ESL) course for two months, starting since we all first arrived here.

Life in the Philippines

What do you think about the Philippines? Are you not willing to study here because it is a developing country? Right, that could be true. But if you have gone to America, Canada, or British (among just a few of the western countries) you might feel the sting of racial discrimination since you are from Asia. On the contrary, I have never experienced discrimination here. Many Filipinos are really kind and friendly to Koreans. They are fascinated with Korean pop culture like singers, songs, and dramas. They already know a lot of things about Korea as well. Furthermore, they admire Korea. Due to these warm feelings toward Korea, we can make friends easily. There are not many difficulties in communication with natives because most people can speak English. Furthermore, it is not burdensome to live, because prices in this country are relatively low in comparison to another country.

Points to Keep in Mind

The Philippines is a generally good place, but there are, as always, several caveats. First, Manila has a serious problem with air pollution; therefore, you should carry a handkerchief everywhere. Secondly, you cannot wear sleeveless shirts, shorts, or slippers in school (this is because LCCM is Catholic school and somewhat strict). You might possibly be required to wear a uniform (which the students of LCCM wear everyday). Finally, you had better open your mind to new people and a new culture. Everything is dramatically unfamiliar to you- but don't be afraid. There are your good friends around you at all times. Be brave!

Lim Ah-yeon

***I Came to America,
which is the land of opportunities.***



I was really interested in American TV shows. They seemed to give me a true picture about American culture, and this created the dream of actually going to the USA.

I participated in an Intensive English Program (IEP) run by the University Of Mississippi (UM) for a month with a group of Hanbat students. I was really excited, and my trip finally began in early July.

After many hours of flying, we finally arrived in America. However, some of the students looked a bit disappointed. The reason was because Mississippi was quite different from the cities (such as New York City) that we had thought about. However, my point of view was utterly different. I thought that this was what the real America was like. By real America, I mean a city that was not like the major cities (like New York or Los Angeles), the ones that are the stages for Hollywood celebrities. I figured that the real picture of America was actually hidden by those exaggerated scenes, and her true face was in the small rural areas.

Anyways, I was able to see many students and ordinary citizens, because Ole Miss (the nickname for UM) was a famous place in Oxford. I was able to see these ordinary people in the school cafeteria, the gym, the library, and so many other typical places



around campus. I saw a lot of White, black, Asian and Latin Americans. Seeing them made me really understand that America was a true multicultural society. After seeing so many students (the new freshmen who were starting their new classes) and the professors (who were carrying lots of lecture materials in the arms) I really was looking forward to starting my classes.



English Classes - Where I Learned about Grammar and America

A lot of international students all over the world were assigned their proper classes through a special level test. The curriculum in the first class was made up of basic grammar, and the second class was English conversation (where we also learned about American Culture more deeply). I liked the latter more, because I was able to learn about topics which are currently the important issues in America (things such as obesity, immigration, bilingual people, and so on). Even though it was only one month, the learning system was very specific, so I felt like I was actually achieving something. I had make a big effort (and practice a lot) in order to make a presentation in front of all my classmates and teacher. It seemed to be a challenging and demanding task for me at the time, but it turned out to be really helpful to me in the end. I liked the overall program that included both cultural and academics.

What Is So Different between Us?

Most of the days I spent in the US were quite memorable and enjoyable, but there were also some parts that made me upset. One of the unpleasant memories was the attitude which some Americans had toward foreign friends (including me). It was a discrimination that made me feel how it felt to be treated unfairly. To be a little more specific, I had a personal experience that I want to share with you. On the first weekend of my journey, I had to take care of my own food by going to a local store called Wal-Mart. It was really hard because we were not fed on certain days. One day in the cafeteria I took some fruit out for the next day's breakfast. As I walked out of the cafeteria four blonde girls saw me and said, Does she want



to steal all of the fruit? At first I did not think she was talking about me or not. However, it really confused me when I understood it was about me. Her carelessness really hurt me a lot. More surprising was the fact that she said it while walking right beside me.

I really wondered why she could be so unkind to me since she really did not even know me. We are all human beings, and it was so sad to see someone treat me, and sometimes other visitors, so unkindly. Well, that experience really opened my eyes. I told the other classmates about it and we talked about it. My teacher told me that we should think vice versa, and

that was important for me to do. It made me see how visitors around the world can sometimes be treated poorly by the host country. Sometimes Koreans even treat visitors the same way. I came to see that discrimination is everywhere, and that we all need to be prepared to deal with it. It hurt my feelings but it helped me to become a better person. I talked about it with other Americans and they understood me and tried to sooth me. I decided to become a friendly Korean who could give a hand to foreigners in need. I can now see that this is the true meaning of becoming a global person. It does not mean that a person should speak fluent English, or go abroad frequently, but the answer is to accept diversity and multiculturalism.

Farewell, America!

Time passed a lot quicker than I thought. If I say the 3/1 of the period was full of desperation about nostalgia and discrimination, 3/2 was my time to understand the US better, make achievements academically, and think about my own national values. Never would this bitter-sweet memory have been possible without the help of our university, and my parents. I also appreciate the professors and Hanbat students who went on this journey together with me. Finally, I recommend this wonderful journey to Ole Miss to the students who are eager to become a global person!



Kwon Hye-in





AMERICA: A Trip to Chicago

It had been three weeks since we had arrived in Mississippi. We wanted to get new experiences that would help us see more of America. We planned a quick trip to Chicago. It wasn't easy at all because of the short amount of time we spent planning for it. I guess that is the main reason why it did not go as we expected. Let me tell you a little about our adventurous trip!

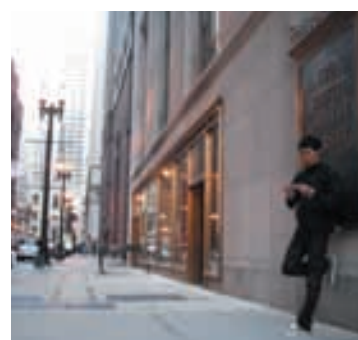
First of all, we didn't have much time, so our team was divided into two groups to make the main plans. We decided to take the bus instead of a flight to save money, and to make the trip longer (giving us more time to see things). The bus ride took over nine hours and that allowed us a big chance to get more experience in America.

The two groups made the plans, and then the next day we left for Chicago. It was on a Saturday, and our whole trip would last four days. We planned on sleeping in the bus, so that took up two whole days of this trip. And so we were off, ready for our new experiences. The first day we started our trip, and that night we arrived at the Memphis (Tennessee) bus

terminal at 10:00 PM. We had to wait, and finally we got on a bus. Actually, going there was so uncomfortable! The bus was filled with crazy big mosquitoes, and the air conditioner was broken! It was not very entertaining at all. We couldn't sleep, and spent what seemed to be countless hours on that uncomfortable bus.

Finally, we arrived in Chicago's bus terminal at 9:00 AM. We had been in the country while staying in Mississippi, and so everyone was really excited to see the Chicago buildings standing as far out as we could see. That sight helped us forget about our exhaustion, and helped us quickly get ready for our adventure. What we did first was to see Chicago with a

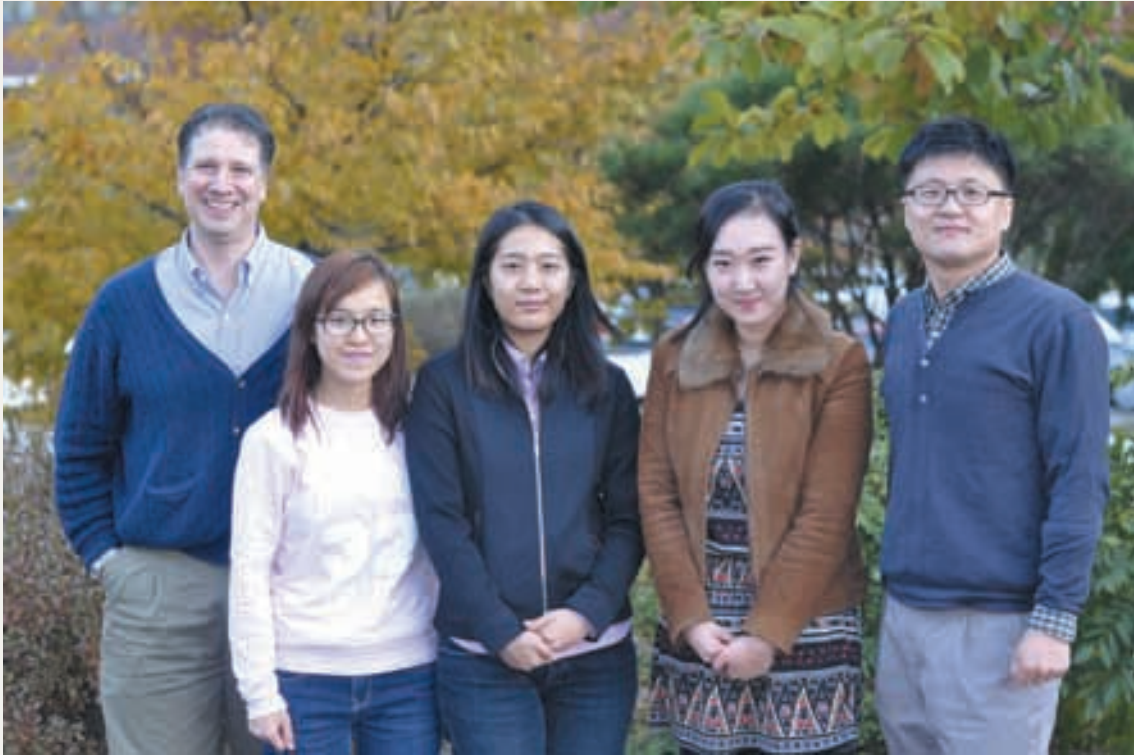
river cruise trip. It was really memorable to see all of the famous buildings. At lunch we stopped at Uno Pizza (which is a well-known pizza place in Chicago). We had a great meal and then we went to the youth hostel that we had booked the day before we left Mississippi. In the afternoon we got to see some interesting sights. First we visited a Cheese factory. Then we went to the famous Water Tower. In the evening we decided to separate into two groups. Half of us went to the John Hancock Tower, and the other team watched the Cubs play! I really enjoyed that! Well, night time in Chicago is kind of dangerous, so we went back to our youth hostile early, and we slept early because we were so tired. The next day we visited some museums, an art gallery, and the aquarium and astronomy observatory. It was a package tour. We were especially surprised by the beauty and the size of the buildings that are so unlike our buildings in Korea. In the sunset, we went to the Sears Tower (which has 110 floors). When we reached the top floor, we screamed like a bunch of children. Every single thing including the people down below looked like tiny little toys.



It was so beautiful. There are sky boxes that are famous in this tower, they looked like transparent glass everywhere. So when I stood there it felt like nothing was under me, and it really was a scary experience! That huge tower was our final destination, and soon we had to get back to the bus terminal. We had a great time, and it all went by so quickly! Everyone fell asleep in less than a minute on our bus trip back, and that return trip was actually a lot of fun. We got so many happy memories from that trip, and we finally arrived back safely to our dorm, the home where we had already lived for a whole month. This was such an incredible trip for us all to experience, and we found a new world called the United States! Goodbye Chicago and Mississippi! See you around!

Kim Jong-gwan





Editorial Board Members

***Del Media*, English Department News 2010**

WANTED

We, *Del Media*, look forward to meeting freshman and sophomore students who want to join us.

No test will be given.

Welcome, everybody.

**If you have any questions about *Del Media*, you may contact us by
Phone: 042 - 821 - 1317/ E-Mail : nan633@nate.com.**
