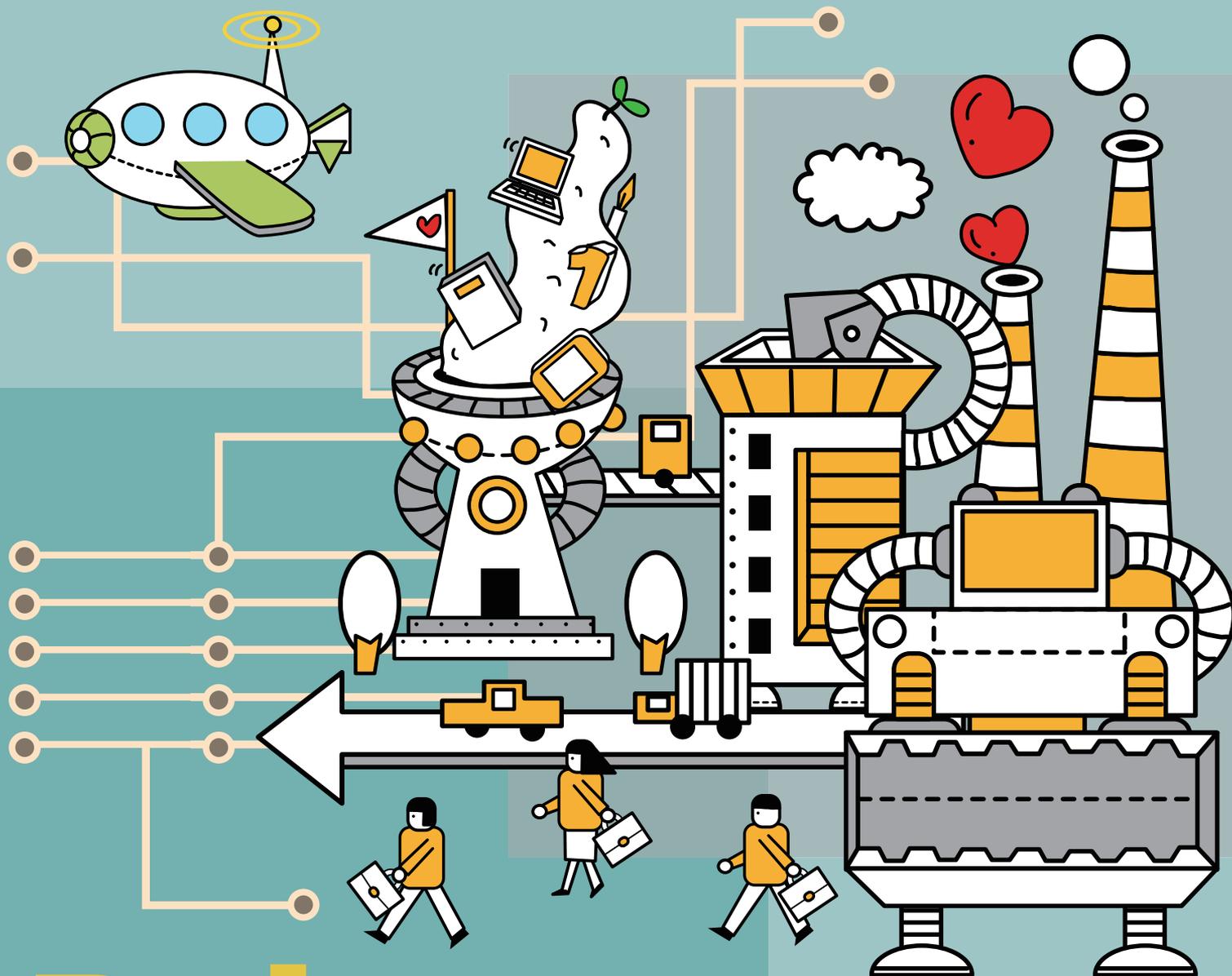


DONGSEO UNIVERSITY

# e.zine

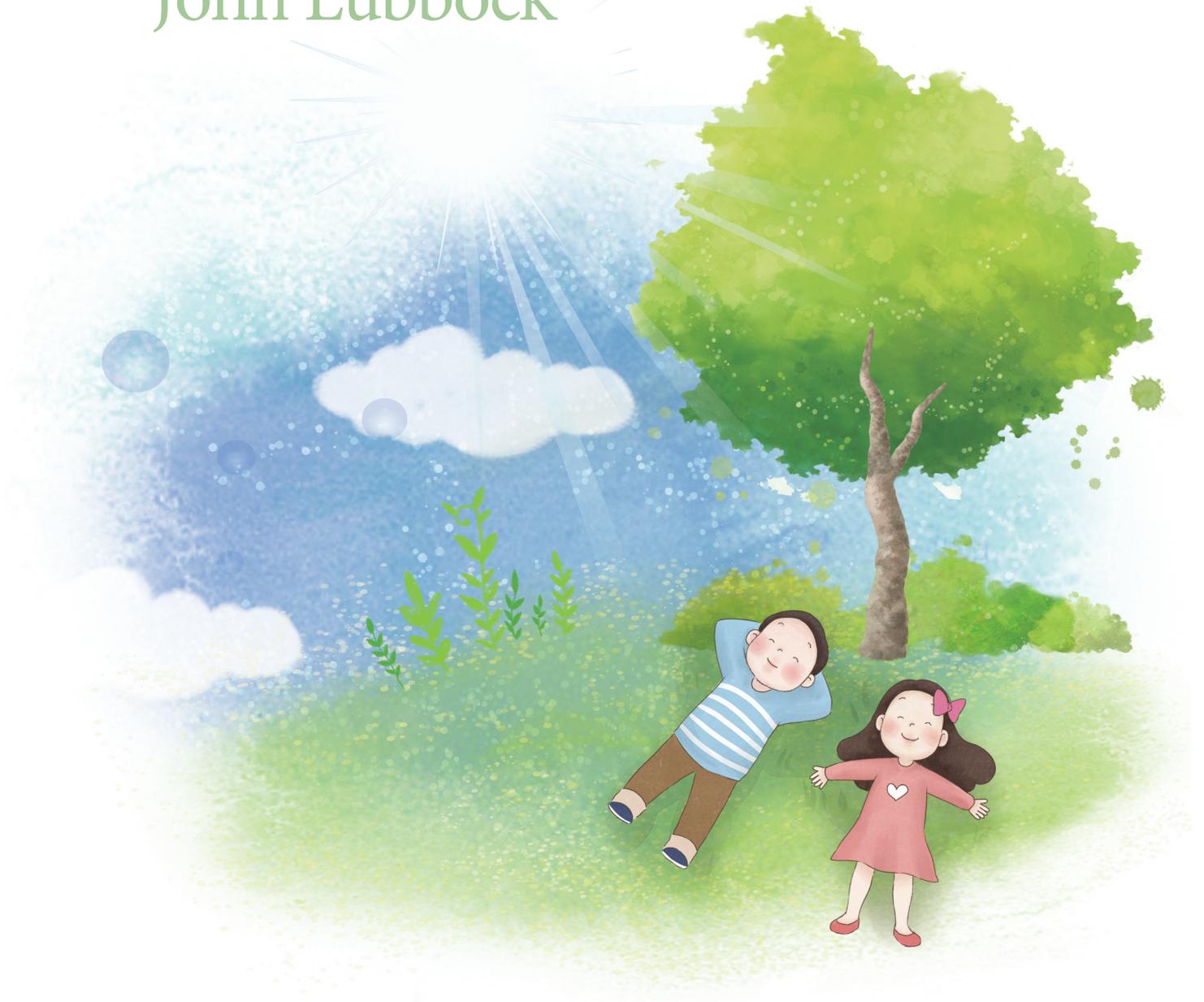


# Robots

Vol. **56** SUMMER  
2014

Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.

John Lubbock



# Hello readers!

How are you? These days, an early hot summer is coming to Korea. However, there has been a wide temperature range. For students, now is also an important and busy time, because it's getting closer to the end of semester. There are many tasks university students have to prepare. I really hope when you pick up this magazine, you will have enough time to take a short break and read all the pages with interest. If you do, you will find a lot of useful and new information in this, our summer 2014 edition!

Because of the sinking of the Sewol, Korea has been in great grief on a national scale. People are feeling so gloomy because there were so many young people on board the ship, most of them high school students of Danwon High School. Families of victims and the public have become deeply disillusioned and disappointed with some of their leaders.

Who do you think is a real leader? Someone who is a perfectionist at work? Someone who takes care of you or your job through their rules? Or someone who is passionate and has big dreams? Yes, all of these are important virtues of an ideal leader. However, his or her mental virtues are crucial. Recently, I have been very impressed with a book about leadership, *A Leader's Legacy* written by James M. Kouzes and Jossey-Bass. I'd like to pass on some valuable lessons and quotations from it to let you know the authors.

What does being a good leader mean? There are very many famous sayings and definitions of this. First, good leadership begins from within. People wonder if their leader has a good personality, a clear goal, and a good plan which can be a guideline for them. Isn't it obvious? They want to know why you should be their leader, how you would lead, and what qualifications you have to do so. So, if you hope to be a good leader, first you have to be a good leader of yourself. Second, you should be a good predictor. An ideal leader has to be prepared for any emergencies in the future and also provide a clear plan for the people under his or her control. This allows trust to develop, and for the active following of the leader's instructions. Finally, you sometimes have to bring yourself down to the level of the lowest-ranking subordinate in your organization or have experience of that position. As a leader, do you expect all the staff around you to ingratiate themselves? In that case, you'd be better suited as the emperor in *Civilization III*, a computer game, not as a leader in the real world. People are not interested in leaders' own dreams and purposes. Rather, they hope their leaders pay attention to what they are saying and be eager to devote themselves to their cause. If you want to be at the top of your group, first make your followers ahead of yourself.

In any group and party, a leader's actions and influence are some of the most important elements in running it. Therefore, a person who is in the position of a leader has to take responsibility and be under an obligation to his or her group.

You might think, "I'll never be a leader; it's not my business". However, you should know that what I said above is not just good advice for a leader. It applies even to the most basic of human relationships. I myself am poor at controlling and resolving problems with other people. I feel that if I want to be a good man, I must handle myself as a leader I grow older.



Written by  
Bae Hyeon Seok  
English, Junior  
b\_hyeonseok@naver.com

DONGSEO UNIVERSITY

# e.zine

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**Publisher and President** Chang Jekuk

**Executive Editor** Prof. Keir Thornburg

**Managing Editor** Prof. James Turnbull

**Editor-in-Chief** Bae Hyeon Seok

### Reporters

Lee Ji Eun, Choi Hye Won, Kim Young Woo, Choi Hye Won

Moon Ha Rim, Han Sueng Eun, Jang Sang Dong

Kim Ye Eun, Bae Gee Tae, Lee Eun Song, Choi Yu Na

### Advisors

Prof. : Danny May, Terry Nicholson, John Warak,

Gregory Kados, Lenard Stevens

**Photography by** Kim Hyun Jin

**Address** Ezine Office

#8407, Business Administration Building, Dongseo University

47 Jurye-ro, Sasang-gu, Busan 617-716, Republic of Korea

**Tel.** 82-51-320-2193

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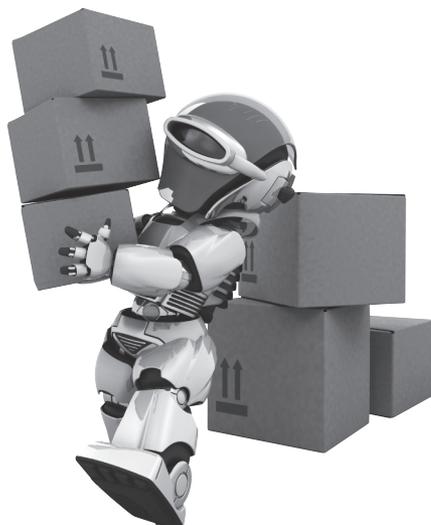
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## Dongseo University and Mykolas Romeris University to Begin a 2+2 Joint Degree Program

The Lithuanian Ministry of Education officially approved a 2+2 Joint-Degree Program between Dongseo University (DSU) and Mykolas Romeris University (MRU) in the field of Informatics and Digital Contents. It is set to begin in September of 2014.

MRU is a national university in Vilnius, Lithuania. It is named after the Lithuanian legal scholar, judge, and father of Lithuania's Constitutional Law, Mykolas Romeris. Founded in 2004, it is the second largest university in Lithuania and has about 20,000 students.

Students admitted to the joint-degree program will take fundamental courses in their major along with Korean language courses at MRU for the first two years of the program. They will then complete the remaining two years of the program at DSU.

President Jekuk Chang said, "This program is likely the only one of its kind to connect universities in Korea and the Baltic countries. Both of our universities are strong in the field of Informatics and Digital Contents, and we will do our best to make the program a success."

Edited by Lee Ji Eun  
Biography, Junior  
qhfc1722@naver.com



## President Jekuk Chang Delivers a Special Lecture in Fukuoka, Japan

On May 9, Dongseo University President Jekuk Chang gave a special lecture to about 60 economic and industrial leaders in Fukuoka, Japan. He was invited as an expert on Korea-Japan relations, and his lecture addressed the topic of "The Structure of Recent Korea-Japan Conflicts and Prospects for Resolution." The lecture was followed by a lively discussion session.

In his lecture, President Chang first addressed three main issues causing conflict between Korea and Japan, namely the differing perceptions of history, the Dok-do territory, and the Japanese army's use of comfort women. He suggested that channels previously used to ease tension have become less effective and that discussions between intellectuals and leaders of the two countries are needed to stabilize international relations.

In discussing what Busan and Fukuoka could specifically accomplish, President Chang suggested establishing a Busan-Fukuoka inter-regional economic bloc. Further suggestions included the planning of commemorative projects for the 50th anniversary of the Korea-Japan Normalization Treaty and the facilitation of non-political exchanges in tourism, culture, and investment. Finally, he suggested that a consortium of Busan and Fukuoka universities could be created to expand home stay programs for youth, introduce mutual internship programs, and register the Joseon goodwill missions to Japan as a UNESCO World Heritage Property of Korea and Japan.

Edited by Choi Hye Won  
Game, Sophomore  
aofhddk123@daum.net

# Research Teams Prepare for the 2014 Dongseo Asia Initiatives Program

This summer, nine teams will explore Asia and conduct independent research projects abroad. Each team consists of one supervising professor and ten students. They will learn about Asian economies and cultures on site in a country of their choosing.

With rich human and material resources and strong potential of growth, Asia is quickly emerging as the central force in the world. Leaders in the era of Asia will need a deep understanding of the issues affecting the region as well as of the many distinct cultures it contains. The Dongseo Asia Initiatives Program (DAIP) provides students with an exceptional opportunity to gain first-hand experience while conducting research on location at various countries in Asia.

This year's destinations include Indonesia (2 teams), Thailand (2 teams), the Philippines (2 teams), Cambodia (1 team), Malaysia (1 team), and Vietnam (1 team). The teams will stay at their destinations for two weeks during the summer session.

Support will be provided by Dongseo University (DSU) and some of its sister universities, including University of Malaya in Malaysia, University of Transport in Vietnam, Universitas Ciputra in Indonesia, Cambodian University of Specialties in Cambodia, Bangkok University in Thailand and Bicol University in the Philippines. DSU will cover the full cost of round-trip airfare and part of the expenses for accommodation for the participating students to ease the financial burden of this program.

While students carry out specific research projects under the supervision of their professor regarding the regions visited, they will broaden their knowledge of the local culture and topics in the humanities. They will also develop a spirit of challenge.

Students take a 20-hour course at DSU related to their research project before and after the program, and they will earn 2 credits in the field of Liberal Arts. University will cover the full round-trip airfare and part of room charges for the participating students to ease their financial burden for this program.

Professors who will oversee the research projects include Park Byung-joo, Gwak Jun-sik, Shin Eun-gyu, Jung Su-won, Choi Jung-gyu, Youn Tae-hyung, Jung In-Tae, Youn Suk-il and Lee Young-jun. Some themes selected for the projects include "Understanding the Culture of Global Leisure," "Global Health Care and Medical Tourism," "Economy and Culture of Vietnam," "Investment Environment and Market Development in Cambodia."

DAIP is now entering its second year. Last year's program was a large success, and it is expected that this year's program will be exceptional as well. DAIP was initially introduced to help students grow as leaders in the era of Asia by gaining direct experience through field research conducted in Asia under the supervision of their professor.



Edited by Bae Hyeon Seok  
English, Junior  
b\_hyeonseok@naver.com

## The 2014 Asia Summer Program Will Be Held in Malaysia

The 2014 Asia Summer Program (ASP) will be held at Universiti Malaysia Perlis for three weeks during the period of August 3 to August 25. This will be the third year of the program. The first ASP was held in Surabaya at Petra Christian University and the second ASP was held in Busan at Dongseo University (DSU). ASP 2013 at DSU included participants from 27 universities in 11 countries.

The ASP is held during the summer vacation period, and this year approximately 200 students from 20 Asian universities will participate, including those from the founding member institutions of Dongseo University in Korea, Petra Christian University in Indonesia, Josai International University in Japan, and Bangkok University in Thailand. This year, 26 courses on various subjects ranging from Asian culture to economics will be opened, all of which are taught in English by the professors from participating universities. Each course is 2 credits and involves 30 hours of instruction.

Participating students can choose 2 courses and gain 4 credits in the field of Liberal Arts. After the program finishes, there will be an overnight trip to Langkawi as a special cultural experience.

Dongseo University will recruit participants for ASP 2014 from May 7 to May 29. Except for students who are graduating in August and students currently on a leave of absence, all DSU students with a score of 650 or higher on TOEIC or DSU CBT are eligible to apply.

The university fully covers the cost of round-trip airfare for 30 participating students. Each student is responsible for the participation fee of 600 USD, which covers the cost of courses, accommodations, and meals. The Asia Summer Program is an official affiliate of the Asian University Presidents Forum, and it is hosted by member universities to provide students with an opportunity to experience a highly international environment and to learn directly about the diverse cultures of Asia.



Edited by Lee Ji Eun  
Biotechnology  
destroyw@naver.com

## Dongseo University Design Graduate Offers Advice on Overseas Employment



Kwak Yong Woo, who graduated from the Department of Design at Dongseo University (DSU) in 2007, has been a Senior Industrial Designer at Native Design since March of last year. Native Design is one of the top five design companies in England. The head office is in England with branches in the United States and Singapore. It is a famous global company that specializes in design. Mostly, the company works with HP, Audi, Benz, Chanel, Bentley, and Alessi.

After graduation, Kwak worked at Good Package Design in Seoul, V-Tech, and Lenovo in Hong Kong, before being hired by Native Design in England. When he returned from abroad for his vacation here, he visited DSU and passed on

his knowledge of design trends in England, specific cases from his experience there, and his knowledge about overseas employment to underclassmen at DSU.

He gave his lecture under the supervision of Bk21 Marine Design and Digital Image Design Innovation Center. The lecture was about successful strategies of ocean design and overseas employment. During his lecture, he put emphasis on representative development cases, design trends in England, and strategies of overseas employment.

Written by Lee Eun Song  
International studies, Freshman  
dmsth2006@naver.com

# Dongseo University Students Win Prizes in Samsung Engineering Software Challenge Camp

Kim Si Hyun and Choi Sung Hyun, electronics engineering juniors at Dongseo University (DSU), have won the Grand Prize and the Excellence Award at the 7th Samsung Engineering Software Challenge Camp. Eighty university students were selected to participate in the event. During the camp, students lived together and performed various tasks from February 12 to 21, with breaks on weekends. Exceptional participants will also be considered for Samsung Software membership.

Kim Si Hyun and Choi Sung Hyun said, "It was great that we could share our ideas with other university students, and it was even more interesting because of the specializations that we employed". At first, they were nervous, but their confidence, skills, and perseverance ensured their success. It is hoped that more juniors from DSU will attend the camp in the future.



Written by Kim Ye Un  
International Studies, Freshman  
nicol107@naver.com

# The 20th Dongseo Art and Design Contest Held for 1,491 High School Students



Edited by Choi Hye Won  
Game, Sophomore  
aofhdk123@daum.net

On May 16, the 20th Dongseo Art & Design Contest was held at the New Millennium Building, Design Hall, Electronics and Information Building, International Cooperation Hall and Language & Literature Hall. The contest has been successfully held for 20 years and has become the most prestigious art contest in the Yeongnam region.

This year 1,491 high school students from all over the country participated in the contest. Seventeen students participated in the Drawing a Plaster Figure category, 75 students in the Watercolor Painting category, 125 students in the Thinking and Expression category, 37 students in the Expressing a Situation category, 601 students in the Basic Design category and 634 students in the Differentiating Ideas category.

Professor Kim Ki-Soo, who is the contest chairman, said "the Dongseo Art & Design Contest has been held for 20 years. The longevity of this contest means that it is now well established, and it is not only growing in popularity but is also becoming more prestigious. Every year, many high school students participate in this contest because a student who wins a prize in this contest gains a big advantage for university admission."

Oh Chung-Hun, Vice President of Creative Morning Academy, said "This year, about 100 students from our academy participated in the Dongseo Art & Design Contest. Even if they don't win a prize, the experience will be a precious asset to them. DSU has become recognized as one of the most prestigious universities in the design field."

# Dongseo University Selected for the Second Stage of the Leaders in Industry-College Cooperation Project

On May 8, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology announced the list of universities selected for the second stage of the Leaders in Industry-College Cooperation (LINC) project to begin this year. Dongseo University was among the 41 universities offering on-site, practice-based education selected to receive an average of 3.9 billion won each in funding for the project. Kyungnam College of Information & Technology, a member of the Dongseo Educational Foundation, was also selected.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology will provide universities with government grants according to evaluation results and based on the size of the project groups. The strategy of offering different funding allotments is intended to maximize results by encouraging competition among the universities and offering extra incentive to universities with outstanding abilities. Universities in the field of on-site practice-based education will receive between 3 and 5.2 billion won each, and universities in the field of technical innovation will



Edited by Lee Ji Eun  
Biotechnology  
destroyw@naver.com

receive between 3.2 and 5.8 billion won each. A representative of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology said, "As this project will help universities foster talented individuals and develop technology, it is expected that their achievements will contribute to promoting employment and technology innovation in the local community. This will also contribute toward creating a virtuous cycle of growth for universities and their communities."

## Dongseo University Recognized as a Leader in Information Technology



On May 15, Dongseo University (DSU) was selected as one of the top eight universities in the field of information technology. The Education Ministry and the Korean Council for University Education, in collaboration with the nation's five major business associations, were involved in evaluating 112 departments, at 43 universities, related to the fields of information technology, semiconductor technology, computer software, petrochemicals, and precision chemicals. The business associations include the Federation of Korean Industries, the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Korean Trade Association, the Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business, and the Korea Employers' Federation. They represent such prominent Korean companies as Samsung Electronics, LG Electronics, and GS Caltex Corporation. The results of the evaluation will be reflected in the third-year evaluations in 2015 of the 'Leaders in Industry-college Cooperation (LINC)' Project.

Edited by Choi Hye Won  
Game, Sophomore  
aofhddk123@daum.net

# Director Kwak Gyeong Taek Appointed as Guest Professor

Written by **Bae Gee Tae**  
English, Sophomore  
bgt0314@naver.com

Busan's own Kwak Gyeong Taek, director of the notable movie *Friend*, received a letter of appointment from the President of Dongseo University, Dr. Jekuk Chang, in a ceremony held on April 1st on the 11th floor reception room of the New Millennium Building. A guest professor at the Im Kwon Taek College of Film and Performing Arts, Kwak Gyeong Taek has lectured students majoring in Film and Video since the beginning of 2014.

After graduating from New York University with a major in Film, Kwak Gyeong Taek directed *3PM Paradise Bathhouse* in 1997, *Friend* in 2001, and *Friend 2* in 2013. He was the recipient of an excellence award in the 2nd Seoul Short Film Festival in 1995, and a 'Today's Young Artist' award in 2001. He was also honored with a director award from the 22nd Incheon Chunsu Film Art Awards in 2001, and another director award at the 27th Annual Hawaii International Film Festival.



## Dongseo University Selected as a Human Resources Training Institution for Strategic Industries in Busan



Written by **Jo Hyeon Cheol**  
International Studies, Freshman  
guscj07@gmail.com

Busan City and Busan Human Resources Development Institute announced in April that applications from 17 project teams at universities and specialized organizations operating in 7 kinds of industries had been received. Among these, five institutions in five industries were selected, with a briefing held on May 30th.

The five strategic industries include the ocean-related industry, the fusion machine materials industry, the culture creation industry, the bio-health industry and the knowledge infrastructure industry. The five selected project institutions and their specialized human resources fields are as follows: Tongmyong University (offshore plant industry); Pusan National University (design of machine parts industry); Dongseo University (image and IT industries); Catholic University of Busan (health innovation field for the Busan medical tourism industry); and Youngsan University (marine tourism industry).

All five institutes will begin their human resource training in earnest next month, and they plan to develop 35 specialists in each field this year. Busan City will inject 270 million won into the start up for this project. The institutes will provide graduates of universities in Busan with specialized training, and they will produce human resource specialists who are prepared to work in the field immediately.

The institutions will provide practical university education based on their understanding of the needs of industry, and they will improve courses of study to reinforce effective workforce skills development.

# Information Session Held for Parents of Dongseo University Freshmen

On April 8, Dongseo University (DSU) held an information session to welcome nearly 400 freshmen's parents. The event included departmental meetings between professors and parents; a campus tour; meals; watching a promotional video; an interview with distinguished graduates; congratulatory performances; the "Before Dongseo After Dongseo" (BDAD) Awards; an introduction to DSU professors; special lectures; and a commemorative photo session. During the departmental meetings, professors talked with parents about students' futures and university development. DSU President, Dr. Chang Jekuk, delivered a speech entitled 'We Should Teach Students Caringly'.

Thanks to high evaluations, DSU took the first rank in the preliminary rolling admission from Busan, Ulsan, and Gyeongnam province. Its particular programs in DSU were also introduced

to the parents. For example, the Department of Design is the first Korean university department to run an original route system across all its courses. Other departments also operate special programs, such as the 'On-Line to off-Line' one of the Department of International Studies, and the 'VOICE program' of the Department of Business Administration.

A parent, Oh Na Yean, whose daughter, Lim Na Kyung, majoring in International Studies, expressed her satisfaction with this event, saying that, "I received an invitation to visit DSU. I am very satisfied with meeting professors, seeing the school surroundings and scenery, and touring the school library. I greatly enjoyed it, and I think that my daughter's future will change dramatically because of DSU". Mrs. Oh ended the interview by shouting out, "Way to go Na Kyung!"



Written by Jang Sang Dong  
International Studies, Sophomore  
jatonate1123@naver.com

# Dongseo University Evaluated as New, Strong and Distinguished

The *Munhwa Ilbo*, the biggest evening newspaper in Korea, evaluated Dongseo University (DSU) as a strong local university. In a story with the headline, "Strong Regional Universities Fighting with Specialization", on April 9th. The *Munhwa Ilbo* reported that five universities, including DSU and Handong Global University (HGU), have distinguished themselves by trying to nurture global talent with a strategy of developing famous departments. New regional universities such as DSU and HGU are cultivating the most talented people in the country in particular

fields through specialized and elite educators. Talented students, having graduated from these new regional universities, have competed with graduates from the more distinguished universities from around the capital area in more social fields of study. Many of these graduates are already working in these fields. The new distinguished universities are concentrating on specialization, and DSU is aiming to have the best global film and media department in the country.

The *Munhwa Ilbo* emphasized that people who are from these new regional distinguished

universities have broken the stranglehold that famous universities such as Seoul National University, Yonsei University, and Korea University had previously had on some of these specialized fields. Graduates of these new universities are quickly becoming an important force in Korean society. Companies were more interested in personality than a graduate's degree pedigree in the last recruitment market. Thus, personality, enthusiasm, and the responsibility of talented people from regional universities were held in higher regard on the last evaluation. They added that the government is presenting various policies for supporting talented people and regional universities.



Written by Lee Eun Song  
International Studies, Freshman  
dmsth2006@naver.com

## Dongseo's Blue Dolphins Join Korean National Team



Written by Jang Sang Dong  
International Studies, Sophomore  
jatonate1123@naver.com

Seven players from Dongseo University's (DSU) 'Blue Dolphins' American football club were recently chosen to join the Korean national team for the International Federation of American Football World Cup preliminaries, to be held in Stockholm, Sweden in 2015. Of the seven players chosen, three are DSU alumni: Im Seong Soon, who majored in Marketing; and Jeon Hong Duk and Hwang Joon Geun, who majored in Leisure and Sports Science. The other four players selected are undergraduate students: Lee Seung Hun majoring in Sports Medicine; Lee Chan Woo majoring in Chinese; Shin Hong-Sub majoring in Business Administration; and Ahn Joon Ho majoring in Leisure and Sports Science, who is also the Blue Dolphins' captain.

The Blue Dolphins reached the quarterfinals of the Korean American Football Championship last year, and won second prize in 2012. The American Football World Cup is held every four years. The Korean, the Kuwaiti, and the Japanese team are the only teams to compete in the Asian World Cup. The Korean team is going to have its first preliminary in Seoul's Mok-Dong Stadium on May 12th. The Korean American Football Association held training camps four times, having started its selection process in October 2013 in order to prepare for the upcoming World Cup. An exhibition match between the 'Busan Griffons', an amateur American football club, and the 'College Union' team, helped the Association officials decide on a final list of 45 players, included in which are the seven players from DSU. Blue Dolphins captain, Ahn Joon Ho said, "I am so pleased to achieve my dream. I have always wanted to be a member of the national team, ever since I started playing American football. I will do my best to achieve good results for the team".

## Dongseo University Hosts Career Fair



This April 9th, the Dongseo University (DSU) Career Fair was held on the 3rd floor of the Student Plaza, with 15 Busan companies participating and conducting interviews of students. The 15 companies were Kyungdong, Dongshin Hydraulics, Dio, Boksan Pharm, Cson Partner, Yongwoong, Osstem Implant, Jokwang ILLI, Jinyeong Food, Castec Korea, Korea Aquaria Twenty One, Hankuk Fiber Group, the Grand Hotel, Park Hyatt Busan, and ADT Caps. There were various mid-sized companies representing many different fields, including construction, hotel, pharmaceutical, and manufacturing. Personnel managers from each company employed multifaceted strategies for selecting good students at the fair, including by interviewing DSU students and receiving job applications.

Additional events and services offered at the Career Fair including such things as occupational psychological tests, job application clinics, makeup clinics for interviews, guidance about international internships and employment, and self-interview consultations.

Written by Choi Yu Na  
Management, Sophomore  
cynlss@naver.com

# Robots:

## Ushering in a New Revolution

### An Introduction to Robots

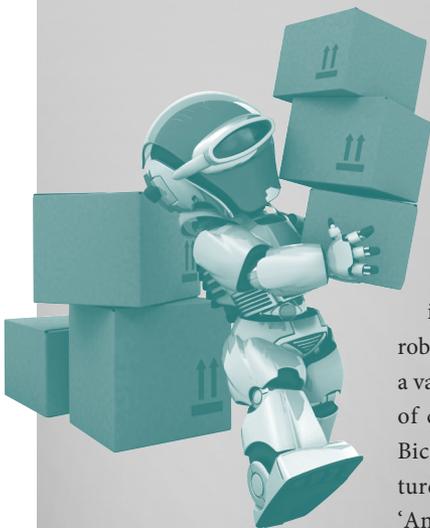
People's ceaseless imagination for progress has facilitated life. It was imagining flying in the sky that led to the invention of the airplane. It was imagining automation that led to invention of manufacturing machines, a key factor in allowing us to escape the agricultural era and begin the industrial revolution. And now, robots, which we only imagine on the page and screen, are very near to becoming real life.

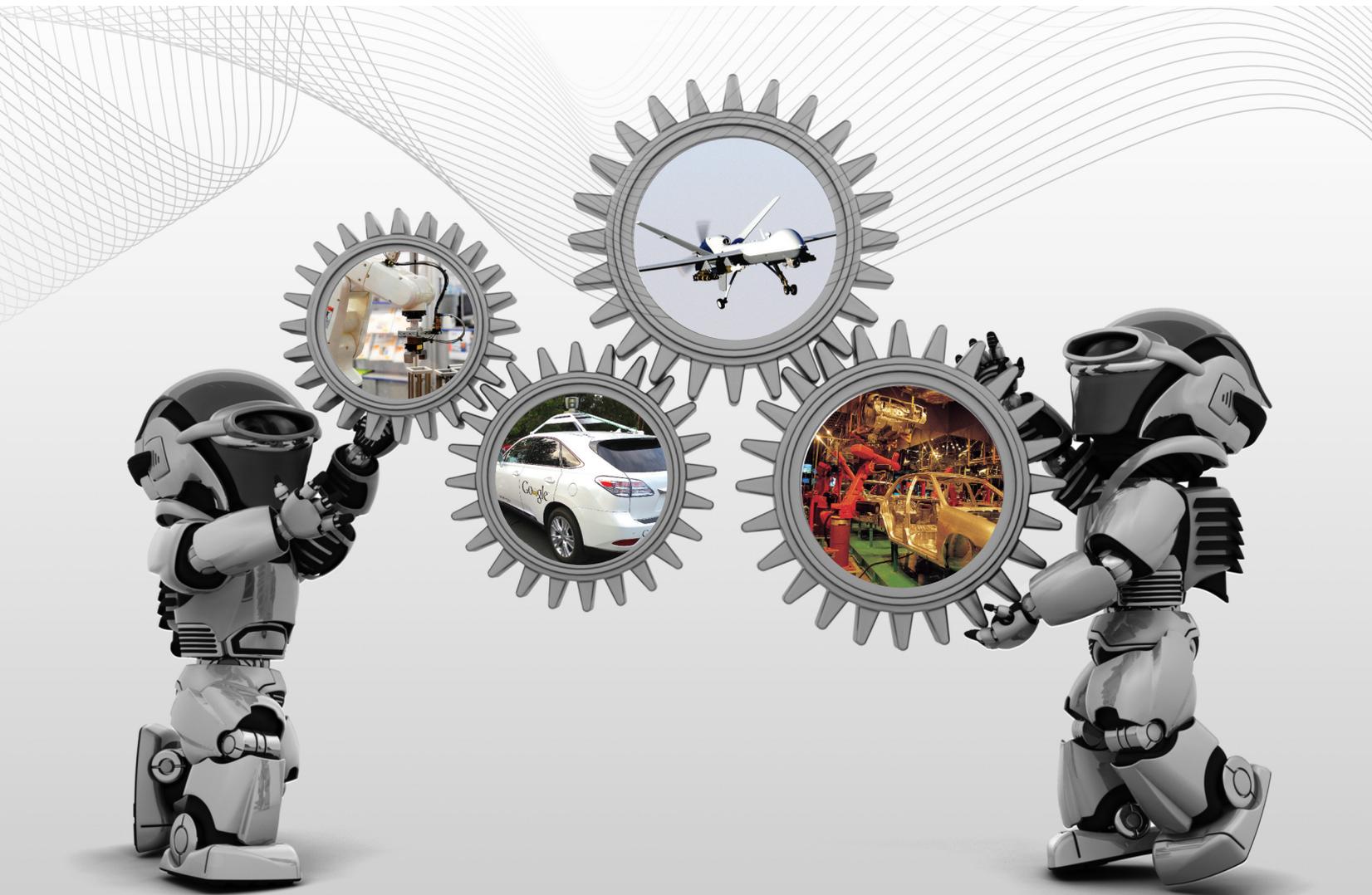
While we are familiar with the term "robot", few know its definition. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, a robot is "Any automatically operated machine that replaces human effort, though it may not resemble human beings in appearance or perform functions in a humanlike manner". Therefore, it is called a mechanical, or virtual, artificial agent of humans. Given the definition that robots are originally designed to replace human work, they are often seen in reality. Computers are the main examples of robots. However, in popular culture, we tend to see imaginary ones. In the Transformers movie series, robots are as big as buildings, and fight each other in a variety of ways. They are also intelligent to the point of communicating easily with human beings. In Bicentennial Man, a humanoid robot is manufactured for household chores. But the robot, named 'Andrew', happens to have emotions such as with

love and curiosity, beyond those needed for simple communication.

### The Rise of Robots

But robots are surpassing our expectations, now doing things that had only been depicted in movies and novels. In addition to mundane tasks such as vacuuming floors, doing the dishes, and manufacturing, they are also conducting reconnaissance missions, and becoming companions and caregivers. There are two main factors responsible. The first is that robotics research and development is getting easier. New shared standards make good ideas more easily applicable from one platform to another. What's more, the accumulated know-how of many years has enabled the cheaper building of such platforms. A robot like 'Baxter', with two arms and a remarkably easy, intuitive programming interface, was almost inconceivable ten years ago. Nowadays, you can purchase it for just \$25,000. A second factor was that companies in the world are aggressively investing and expanding into robotics. After initiating their technological empire with Google Glass and the driverless car, last year Google bought eight promising robot startups. Google has gained confidence from its combination of superior cloud computing system and artificial intelligence, and have promised to create something wonderful, although what exactly is yet to be made clear. Meanwhile,



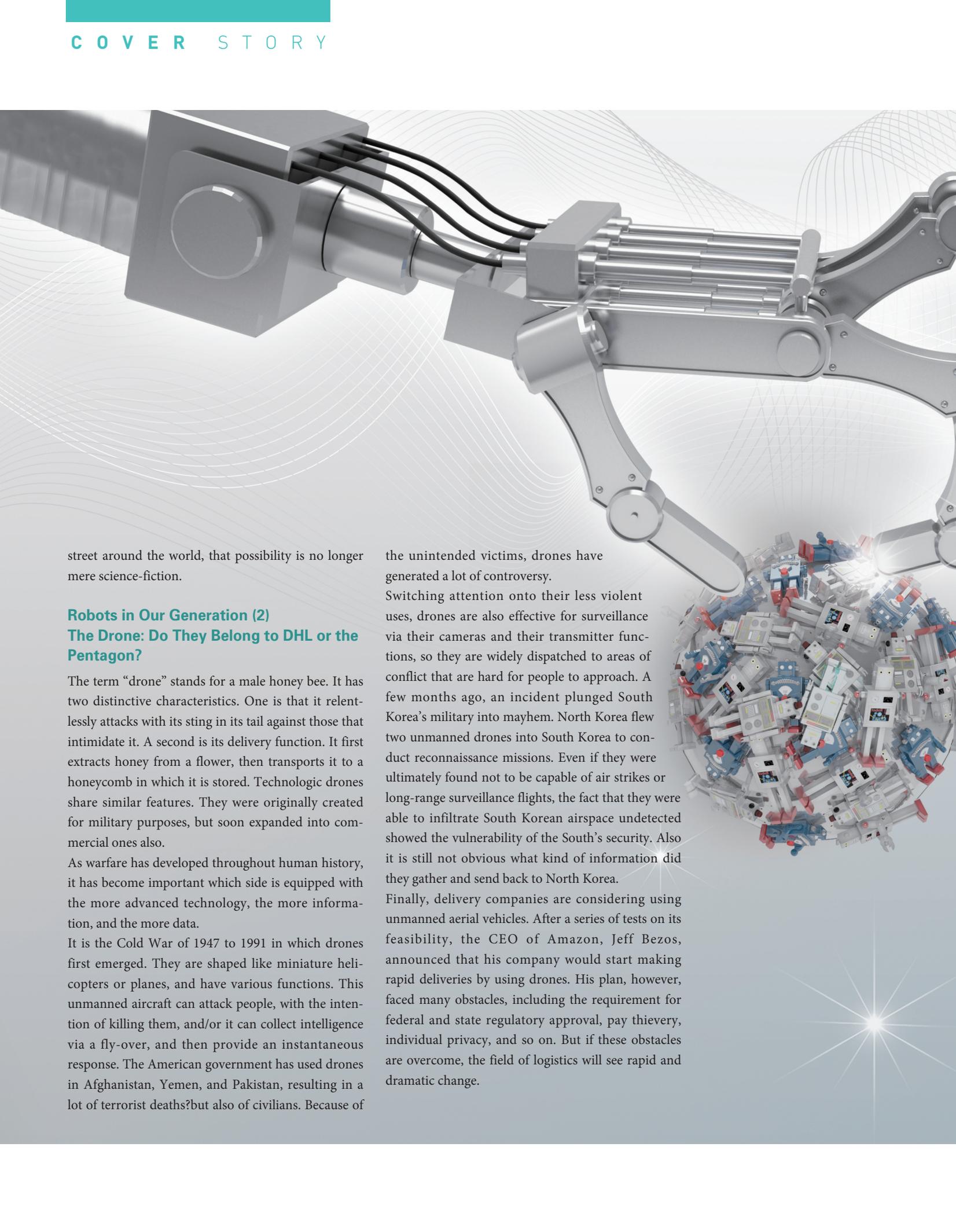


Amazon has poured money into the drone business, along with automating its warehouses across the United States. Accordingly, venture capitalists increasingly see robotics startups as profitable investment opportunities.

### **Robots in Our Generation (1)** **Google's Driverless Car**

Those who watched the Transformers series might be able to harbor a thought of how robotic cars could have artificial intelligence, with the capabilities of 'speaking, thinking, and listening. Such sophisticated cars are close to becoming part of our daily lives, able to move, control themselves, stop in front of red lights, and park. Google is at the vanguard of these. They first revealed a prototype of self-driving car in 2010, and have put enormous efforts into commer-

cializing them by 2017, conducting a variety of tests on them. Since each driverless car needs to be able to interact with others to function well, sharing data or information about the road and traffic conditions is an important point. So far, things seem to be going well. GM in the United States and Canada announced that the next cars will come with fast, 4G mobile broadband, just like we use in smartphones. Improved connections will also make it possible for cars to send warnings to each other to prevent crashes and ensure they keep a safe distance, and to connect with traffic signal computers as they approach crossroads. Accidents and congestion would go down as a result. Because of this, some American states have already made driverless cars legal. Although there is still a long way to go before we see unmanned cars on every highway and side-



street around the world, that possibility is no longer mere science-fiction.

### Robots in Our Generation (2) The Drone: Do They Belong to DHL or the Pentagon?

The term “drone” stands for a male honey bee. It has two distinctive characteristics. One is that it relentlessly attacks with its sting in its tail against those that intimidate it. A second is its delivery function. It first extracts honey from a flower, then transports it to a honeycomb in which it is stored. Technologic drones share similar features. They were originally created for military purposes, but soon expanded into commercial ones also.

As warfare has developed throughout human history, it has become important which side is equipped with the more advanced technology, the more information, and the more data.

It is the Cold War of 1947 to 1991 in which drones first emerged. They are shaped like miniature helicopters or planes, and have various functions. This unmanned aircraft can attack people, with the intention of killing them, and/or it can collect intelligence via a fly-over, and then provide an instantaneous response. The American government has used drones in Afghanistan, Yemen, and Pakistan, resulting in a lot of terrorist deaths?but also of civilians. Because of

the unintended victims, drones have generated a lot of controversy.

Switching attention onto their less violent uses, drones are also effective for surveillance via their cameras and their transmitter functions, so they are widely dispatched to areas of conflict that are hard for people to approach. A few months ago, an incident plunged South Korea’s military into mayhem. North Korea flew two unmanned drones into South Korea to conduct reconnaissance missions. Even if they were ultimately found not to be capable of air strikes or long-range surveillance flights, the fact that they were able to infiltrate South Korean airspace undetected showed the vulnerability of the South’s security. Also it is still not obvious what kind of information did they gather and send back to North Korea.

Finally, delivery companies are considering using unmanned aerial vehicles. After a series of tests on its feasibility, the CEO of Amazon, Jeff Bezos, announced that his company would start making rapid deliveries by using drones. His plan, however, faced many obstacles, including the requirement for federal and state regulatory approval, pay thievery, individual privacy, and so on. But if these obstacles are overcome, the field of logistics will see rapid and dramatic change.



### Robots in Our Generation (3) Paro: The Cute Therapist

Just like in the aforementioned Bicentennial Man, robots are approaching a level where they are beginning to be utilized in dealing with people's emotional needs and affairs. As our society grows older, aged people often live alone, and may have also serious health problems such as dementia and depression. In order to tackle these pressing issues, a Japanese researcher, Takanori Shibata, created a therapeutic robot named 'Paro', which looks like a baby harp seal and is covered with fine soft hair. In particular, thanks to an array of skin sensors underneath, it responds amiably to stroking, blinking and shaking both hands. Though it cannot walk, it can turn its head at the sound of a human voice, and can tell one voice from another. Paro sometimes even gives the impression that it wants to talk with people. Ultimately Paro can be a good friend and caregiver, having a positive psychological impact on people who interact with it, and is especially well suited for nursing home and hospitals, where real live pets may be inappropriate.

Invented in Japan, people in Europe and America are also already using Paro, or have keen interests in introducing it. And, having proved that it can bring clinical benefits, the only hurdle remaining is the jump into marketplace. However, with an estimated price tag of \$5000, this jump will be difficult. But if this is solved, the benefits to the elderly will be enormous.

### The Advantages of Robots

As always, new technology benefits mankind. Without exception, robots provide us with convenience. They can vacuum floors, wash dishes, do laundry, and make food. And to an entrepreneur who wants to save labor costs, a robot is a perfect alternative. It can produce products at a consistent rate and quality without tiring, and can also do risky jobs that people can't? safety is no longer a problem with robots. Because of these benefits, American companies are closing their overseas factories and setting-up robot-orientated ones back home.

In addition to able-bodied people, Google's driverless car will also be able to help disabled people travel to their destinations safely. In the field of medicine, the on-going development of surgical robotic activity will save lives, while Paro will contribute to longevity. With drones, book orders from South Korea on Amazon will be delivered from the U.S. within a day.

### The Disadvantages of Robots

Unfortunately, the advent of the robot age may also bring disadvantages as well as advantages. First of all, robots will cost people their jobs, just like what occurred at the beginning of the industrial revolution when artisan weavers were swept aside by the mechanical loom?and with many other jobs since. In particular, jobs requiring repetitive or manual tasks are expected to be a main target. For instance, Baxter, mentioned earlier, is already used for packaging and assembly tasks in manufacturing, and does not receive a monthly paycheck, nor medical insurance. All that is required is the initial investment of \$25,000 and simple programming after purchase.

A second, slightly surreal disadvantage is the potential for robots with progressively greater intelligence to desire domination over humans. This seems like science-fiction, but sooner or later will have to be taken into serious consideration.

Humankind is about to enter into a new area, and it is uncertain how the future will look with robots. They may take a toll on us, they may bring a great deal of benefits, or they may bring both. Just as we have lived through periods of great change before however, like the shift the from agricultural to the industrial revolution to this day, what really matters is thinking about how best to adapt to the changing circumstances ahead. Undoubtedly, I think something exciting will be waiting for us.

Written by Kim Young Woo  
Department of International Studies, Senior  
www.kyw@gmail.com

# Discover Your Hidden Talents

Md. Sadrul Asrar  
BBA Department  
Daffodil International University



There was a man who made living selling balloons at a fair. He had all colors including red, yellow, blue and green. Whenever his business was slow, he released a helium-filled balloon into the air. When the children saw it go up, they all wanted to buy one. They came up to him, bought a balloon and his sales would go up again. He continued this process all day. One day he felt someone tugging at his jacket. He turned around and saw a little boy who asked, "If you release a black balloon, would that also fly?" Moved by the boy's concern, the man replied with empathy, "Son it is not the color of the balloon, it is what is inside that makes it go up."

The same thing applies to our lives. It is what is inside us that counts. The things that make us go up are our hidden talents. Each one of us can have a significant impact on the world around us - if we choose so. But for this internal power to grow, we need to use it. And the more we exercise it, the stronger it gets. The best among us are not more gifted than the rest. They just take little steps each day as they march toward their biggest life. Because it's true that "Little by little a little becomes a lot."

Michael Jordan was a basketball genius. Was his spectacular success on the court purely the result of natural gifts? Absolutely not! He took what nature gave him and he gave his best effort to make it happen. He didn't try to be good at five different sports. He just got devoted to being brilliant at basketball. And he was. He said: "I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career; I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed."

I believe that we generally get from life what we give to life. But sometimes we become confused whether we're on the right track or not. As we don't know what is going to happen in future, so we need to remain walking on the path to achieve our goal. We should remember that every single day more or less life sends little windows of opportunity. Our success will ultimately be defined by how we respond to these windows of opportunity. The key to be successful is not spending all of the time thinking about success or coming up with strategies, successful person focus more time on doing things and learning from them. So start investing time to discover your hidden talents!

[Editor's note: In 2013, twenty-two students of Daffodil International University (DIU) in Bangladesh visited DSU for the three-week Asia Summer Program. This article was selected among a number of writings submitted by DIU students.]



# How to Use Your Talent Meaningfully

Are you making the most of your talents? If you feel that you aren't, why not try donating your time by using your talents to help others?

When most people think of donations, they only think about money, maybe a little of their time, or perhaps some odds and ends that are no longer used come holiday season. Sure, donations can mean offering money to those less fortunate, without any expectation of a reward other than a feeling of good will, and donations typically increase during year-end festivities--our society expects people to help out, to make an effort at this time of year. Donating money is the easy way to give back, and yet, while this type of donation is welcomed and heartily endorsed, it is not the only way to aid those people less fortunate than ourselves. One relatively new way of donating has little to do with money, and everything to do with donating your talent.

The concept of 'talent donation' originally meant that companies would guarantee public interests and contribute to public welfare, by using their marketing skills or technical developments to help others while promoting their own companies' images. This type of charity culture has trickled down to the general public, with people now donating their individual talents to improve the quality of life for those in dire need of assistance. Previously, lawyers, accountants, doctors and celebrities were the only ones donating their specialized skills, but nowadays people of all trades and the general public have gotten in on the act. Neighbors are helping neighbors, and it is a wonderful sight to behold.

The traditional acts of donating money or acting as a volunteer make us feel that we can only help out when it is convenient, or when we have

a little extra money, but talent donation can be done anytime if you set your mind to helping others. Sharing your abilities with others not only extends the concept of volunteer work, but also fulfills the real meaning of volunteering by allowing us to do what we do best. Our skills may not be on par with those of a doctor or a lawyer, but this type of donation respects individuality, and that is a marked difference from traditional volunteer work. We all have a different skill set, and talent donation allows for those differences. There is no one way to donate talent; there is no right way or wrong way to share your abilities with others. Whether you give a benefit performance, teach, sing, dance, simply read a book, or play with a few neglected children in an orphanage, you can donate your talents. Ultimately, the ways in which we can donate talent are effectively unlimited.

What's more, this donation method has a different significance than the usual volunteer service, because it respects individual differences and gives personal talents back to the community. Also, while most monetary contributions are a one-off event, talent donation is a continuous exercise in donation based on individual expertise. That is why the culture of talent donation is primed to increase and ready to be more developed.

Some people donate their abilities individually, but people can also join an association or use internet media to donate their talents. This method of talent donation is on the rise in Korea. It is systematic and an efficient way to provide people with a wider variety of choices. Furthermore, there is an institutionalized talent donation system called 'pro bono public'. The term comes from Latin originally, and means for

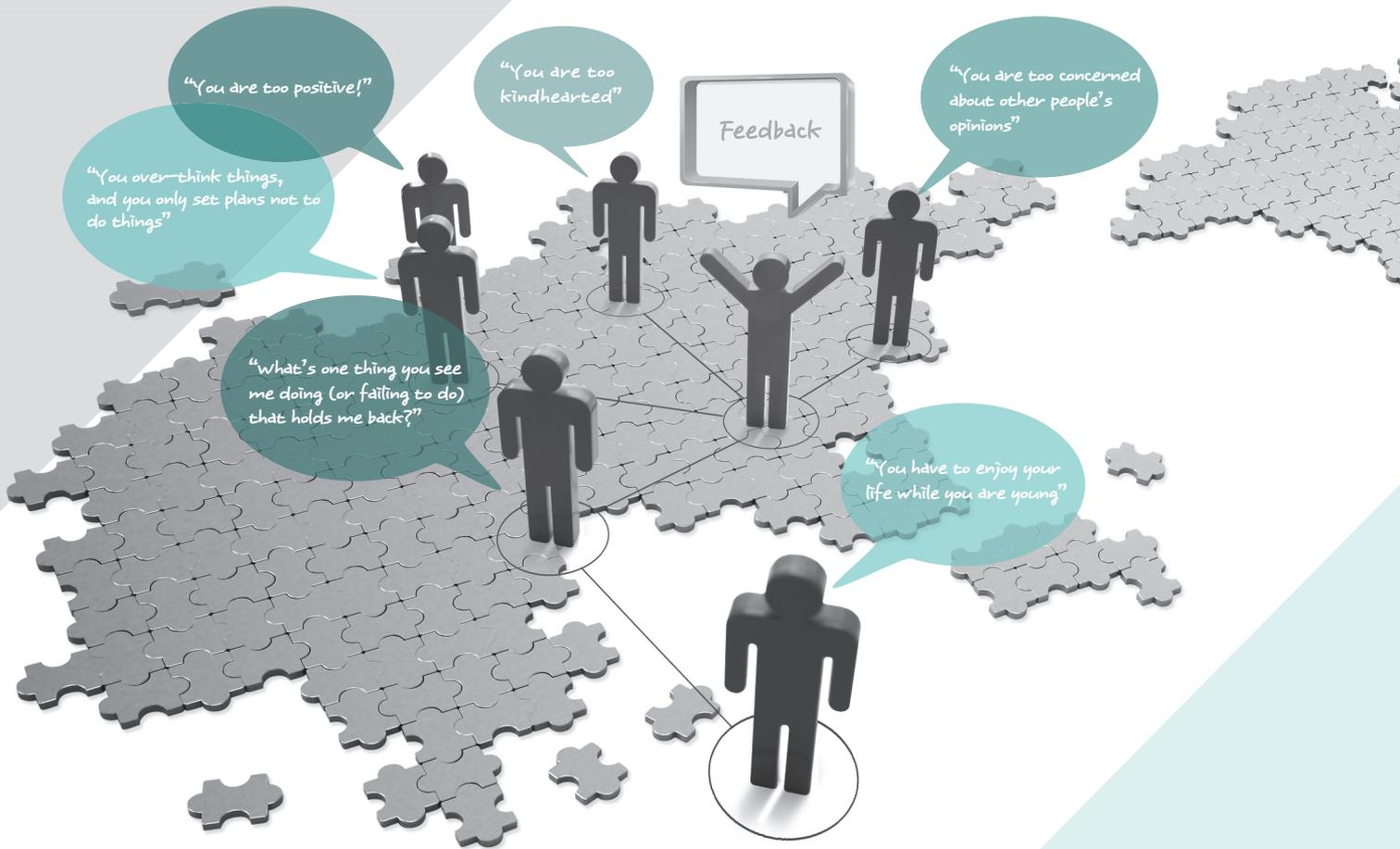
the public good. In English it is usually shortened to 'pro bono'. It means professional work undertaken voluntarily and without payment or at a reduced fee as a public service. Several nations have implemented it bindingly by law.

I have had a few experiences in talent donation, through participating in a mentoring program in a community child center, and in a multicultural mentoring program at Dongseo University. At first, I was worried about doing them. Would I do well? But I learned many things through talent donation, and my concerns proved unwarranted. I had opportunities to find out where my aptitudes lay. I previously had not been interested in teaching or spending time with children. However, afterwards, I learned that I did like teaching, and that I had a lot to offer others. I met many people and made some foreign friends. In addition, I feel that it was really valuable time to develop my abilities while also helping others. I matured a lot spiritually.

There is a Korean idiom that asks "Do you learn for others?", which signifies the importance of learning. If you donate your talents, you will realize many things about others as well as about yourself, and you will have a very special experience, while helping others at the same time? you can kill two birds with one stone. You do not have to limit your thinking that contributions can only be financial. Why don't you try donating your talents? Don't hesitate to share love and happiness.

Written by Han Seung Eun  
International Studies, Sophomore  
dms8230@naver.com

# Accept Feedback Well and Become a Better Person



Written by **Moon Ha Rim**  
International Business and  
Commerce, Sophomore  
ansgkfla1@naver.com

**W**hen I was in high school, I was a diligent, but completely introverted student, who was always obedient to my parents. But one day, they suddenly decided to send me to an International school in China. When I got there, I found a completely different atmosphere to what I expected. There were no connections between the Korean students and the Chinese students, and both groups were all totally different people to me. I was weak and small, but other students enjoyed drinking, singing, and fighting with each other. There were always beatings between the juniors and the older students. I couldn't understand them, and I didn't want to belong to them, so I was thoroughly alone for my first month.

I found that loneliness does strange things to a person. So I started hanging out with some of those other students, and got to know one of them well. He said to me,

"If you don't want to change yourself, you can't be our friend". Even though I didn't want to be like them, I did decide to join the soccer club, and be active at the school. I lived there for eight months, and I did a lot of things, including becoming: a member of the student government and of the soccer club; an assistant at our dormitory; and an overseer of the provision of facilities. In the end I was able to get a reasonably high grade in my class. Friends from the school continue to contact me even now. If I had stayed a shy person without adapting to the situation I found myself in China, I would not have gained any benefits. I did the right thing by using someone's feedback in my first days at the school.

Have you ever heard about people who have been successful without their own efforts and feedback from others? Accepting advice and criticism sometimes makes people successful, and/or helps resolve their problems.



Moreover, the world's social boundaries are weakening, with indirect conversation expanding through SNS and telecommunication. Having a direct conversation between people is becoming more possible and more convenient than ever before. However, people seem to use feedback less than before, and feedback is disappearing for many reasons. So, I would like to highlight the importance of feedback, some feedback techniques, and the effects of feedback.

What comes to mind when you first think of feedback? Most people don't humbly accept criticism when they are first faced with feedback. They consider it a personal attack. But is constructive criticism really an insult? I would like to talk about the exact meaning of feedback, and how to accept it. Feedback is a sort of tool to judge and distinguish what has been useful and successful. There are six steps to becoming a better receiver when getting feedback from other people.

First, knowing your tendencies is quite important. These include your immediate reactions when you face some feedback from others about specific matters, and then there is your long-term response to feedback. For instance, some people immediately rebut the feedback, whereas others adjust their behavior in response to it. And there are still others who don't answer immediately but are silent for a moment, only responding to the feedback later. Sometimes you can have problems by using feedback to adapt without knowing your own tendencies first.

Second, it is not good to reject feedback on the basis of who is giving it. When feedback comes from your rival or a person who you do not usually trust, certainly you can be confused about whether to accept it or not. But if the feedback is good, it is irrelevant where it comes from and how it is delivered. Therefore, we have to separate the message from the messenger.

Third, you should consider the strength of the feedback. It may contain an assessment of your performance or suggestions to improve your ability to a higher level. Be aware that feedback can show you how to achieve a higher level of performance.

Fourth, we should analyze the feedback. Sometimes feedback is ambiguous, and we can't understand the exact meaning. Therefore, as we receive advice or criticism, we have to analyze it seriously, rather than immediately refuting it or adapting to it. This kind of attitude will lead to a more informative and productive conversation.

Fifth, ask for just one thing. Usually, when we ask someone to give us feedback, the tendency is to ask for too much. For example, we often say "How is it?" or "How

about that?," which is much too general, and, in order to answer, it may simply encourage the adviser to be unnecessarily specific by naming the first behavior that comes to mind or the most important thing on his or her list. It would be much better, and it would help us to better understand the thinking of an adviser, if we only focus on one specific thing at a time.

Finally, we should engage in small experiments. It can be difficult to know whether feedback someone has given us is useful or not. In such circumstances, if it is doubtful that a suggestion will be useful, but if the downside risk is small and the potential upside is large, experimenting by following up on the feedback is worth a try.

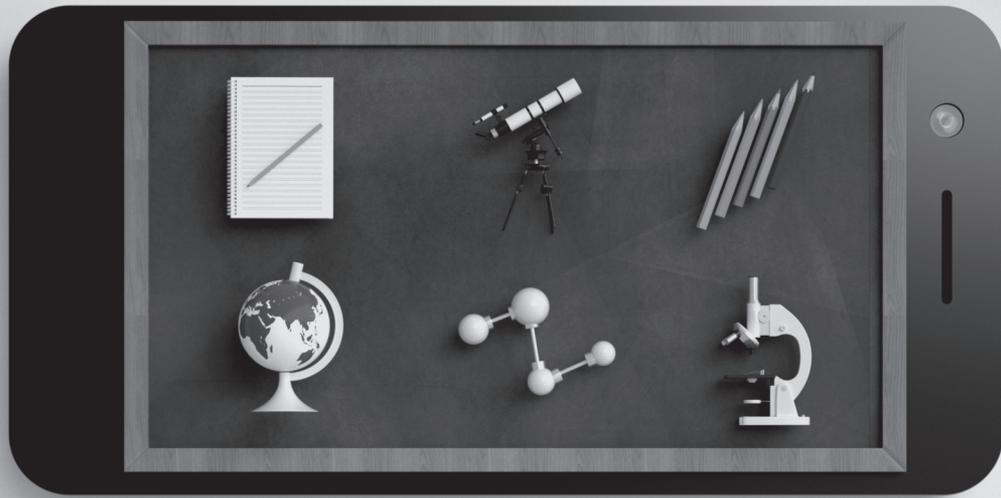
These six steps about accepting feedback from others are used in Harvard Law School. You can use one simple thing immediately that I introduced above in step five. The secret is to ask the question: "What's one thing you see me doing (or failing to do) that holds me back?". I asked my family, my friend, and my brother. The answers were quite varied and satisfying to me. They all answered differently. They said things like: "You over-think things, and you only set plans not to do things"; "You are too concerned about other people's opinions"; "You are too positive!"; "Fix your face"; "You are too kindhearted"; "You have to enjoy your life while you are young"; "You should stop being so indecisive"; "How about having some specific plans which you can accomplish easily?"; "Study hard"; and "Don't be obsessed about being a man of sincerity". Already, this feedback has changed my thinking completely. Through these answers, you may guess what my personality is like. I am surprised at how much we can be affected by someone, by asking just one little thing.

I only used one feedback technique of the six I've described above, yet the question generated various responses, and many were very perceptive. While feedback might be awkward to take sometimes, if we trust these techniques and take some action, we can use it to grow in a positive way. I believe that our growth depends on our chosen deeds as we try to fight against fixed patterns of action. Feedback is one of the great tools for daily life. Once you start to learn something from feedback, you can experience an amazing world.

We can fix our wrong patterns of action through the six steps about accepting feedback. These six feedback steps are adaptable to everyone and everyone can do these. We are in a globalized world, so we are always meeting different types of people. As we experience a world which seems to have fewer and fewer boundaries, the feedback of others is very important.



# E-Learning in School



About ten years ago, we didn't have to ask why people needed to study at school. School was the only place we could find and gain knowledge. It was the only place people could learn more efficiently, and get specific information related to some field of study as well. However, through advancements in scientific technology, the situation has changed. Nowadays, school attendance is not an essential part of school because of the invention of 'E-learning'. When E-learning first appeared, people were crazy about it. Demand increased rapidly, and people started to study with it. Though the first materials were not much better than those from traditional (offline) classrooms, it didn't seem to matter to the users of E-learning content.

E-learning refers to the use of modern technology such as computers, networked digital devices, associated software, and courseware delivered through the internet. Because E-learning is done through the internet, it has the quality of being available everywhere and to anyone. E-learning programs can be offered through various systems such as audio, video, blogs, webcams, and screen casting. These programs have a variety of advantages and disadvantages.

### Convenience

There is no doubt that millions of people who work want a new opportunity for further education. E-learning provides this opportunity through the internet. In E-learning, class work can be scheduled around work and family. These students can better understand course material through the feedback of the E-learning system. Students in online degree programs are less likely to face closed classes, and are less likely to waste time in classes because they aren't motivated to study. These students don't have to spend time and money traveling to campus, don't have to worry about parking, activity fees, and finding somewhere to eat while on campus. Most importantly, they have the option of selecting materials that meet their level of knowledge and interest. E-learning better accommodates different learning styles and facilitates learning through a variety

of activities.

For example, when I was a student who aspired to learn Chinese, there were no good schools to study it in my area. There were only two academic institutions which were providing what I thought was poor service, but I had no choice but to register at one of them. One day, one of my friends said to me, "Hey! You can use an E-learning system if you are not satisfied with your institute". So I quit the institute I had been attending and started using an E-learning program. It helped me understand Chinese better.

The disadvantage of E-learning, however, is that students with low motivation or bad study habits may fall behind without the routine structure of a traditional class. In my opinion, when people have a lot of spare time to do coursework, they usually don't do it. They waste their time. If someone is determined to study with an E-learning system, they have to be extremely self-disciplined, and have a specific plan.

### Classroom Dynamics

Another possible advantage of an E-learning environment is that it could give more reserved students an opportunity to find their voice in the relative anonymity of the online classroom, leading to more classroom discussion from students who wouldn't ordinarily be willing to participate in face to face conversation. On the other hand, students in exclusively online programs have fewer opportunities to practice interpersonal and social skills. Employers expect a job applicant to have people skills in addition to occupational knowledge.

I don't think the E-learning environment is good for having deep discussions. Because people don't really know each other in online environments, they have less concern for the opinions of those participating in a given discussion. They often post comments without thinking, just spitting something out. I haven't seen much in the way of high level discussion from my experiences in internet chat rooms. However, in offline classrooms the situation is different. We see the face of each person from the class and have to think of what to say with



each student looking at us. If the discussion gets off track, the professor can lead it the right way. In an E-learning environment, the students may feel isolated from the instructor and classmates. This isn't the case in offline classrooms. We see the people sitting next to us and are motivated to work harder.

### Integration

In my opinion, E-learning is extremely useful and effective for delivering a lot of content, but is best used as a supporting mechanism for traditional schools. Students who rely on either exclusively offline or exclusively online classrooms must deal with the shortcomings inherent in each system. A dual system is more adaptable and will help us a lot more.

One course at Dongseo University was offered in an exclusively online format and in an integrated format, where students worked in both an online and offline context. Can you guess which class yielded better results? Some students who took the class online didn't feel that they developed, but the students who took the integrated class felt satisfied with their development. I also took the integrated class, and it helped me to study more efficiently. In the integrated classes I've taken, I've had some in-class discussions after studying the materials on the internet which were facilitated by the professors who encouraged us to speak and rebut freely. These have been some of the greatest educational experiences that I've ever had. They were completely different from my experiences in the Korean high school system. I would like Dongseo University to continue to offer these kinds of classes for us.

Written by Moon Ha Rim  
Department of International Business  
and Commerce, Sophomore  
ansgkfla1@naver.com



# Interview with Brian Myers Chair of Dongseo University's Department of International Studies

**A few days ago, we asked Professor Myers for an interview. He provided us with a lot of down-to-earth advice and discussed some current issuers of North Korea.**

**Ezine Reporter** How did you get the opportunity to become the chair of the Department of International Studies (DIS)?

**Professor Myers** The president of Dongseo University (DSU) asked me to take the job. So, I did. It's actually very rare, in Korea, for a foreigner to be a head of a department. Even most of the international studies departments in universities in Seoul are run by Koreans. I think that shows how much more globalized Dongseo University is.

**Ezine Reporter** Could you briefly introduce the DIS?

**Professor Myers** It's a department where students study in English, about international business, international relations, and international economics. We don't study English itself; we study in English—which I think is a more effective way of learning the language. We also have students from many different coun-

tries: Canada, Russia, Ethiopia, Cambodia, and Mongolia. So, it's like studying overseas while staying in Busan.

**Ezine Reporter** What made you decide on a career as a professor?

**Professor Myers** I hadn't really wanted to be a professor. I was writing literary criticism in the United States in 2001, and I'd just had my first big article published, when another Korean university asked me to come and teach North Korean studies. That's how I got started in academia.

**Ezine Reporter** What is your educational philosophy?

**Professor Myers** My philosophy has changed over the years. I used to think that I would be able to motivate lazy students to study harder; but really, nine out of ten lazy students will stay lazy—no matter what I say or do. It's better to focus on challenging the diligent students.

**Ezine Reporter** How was your first class

at DSU?

**Professor Myers** It was a class about German unification. I had two Russian students and one Korean. I said, "Let's wait for the other students to get here". Then, I realized no one else was coming.

**Ezine Reporter** What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of Korean students?

**Professor Myers** Their main strength is in their ability to memorize a lot of content, even in a short time. When it comes to English, I am always impressed by how big their vocabularies are. Their main weakness is their need to be around other Korean people all the time. They do their English homework in groups, which is much less effective than individual study. When they go overseas, the first thing they do is look for other Koreans. One DSU student admitted to me that, the only thing she learned, during her language



study in the USA, was how to speak (Korean) like someone from Seoul.

**Ezine Reporter** I heard that you visited England recently. What was the purpose of your visit?

**Professor Myers** I was invited to the Oxford Union Society, which is a student run debating society, at the University of Oxford. It is quite an honor for me to have been invited there. I gave a talk there on May 2, to students who had read my book *The Cleanest Race: How North Koreans See Themselves and Why It Matters*. I presented my views on North Korea and their leader Kim Jong Un.

**Ezine Reporter** Is there any particular reason why you majored in North Korean Studies?

**Professor Myers** I have been interested in un-free societies since I read George Orwell's 1984, as a thirteen-year-old. North Korea always seemed very mysterious to me, and no one else in America was researching its culture at the time; so, I decided to choose this field.

**Ezine Reporter** How or when did you recognize that your views on North Korea changed?

**Professor Myers** When I started studying it, I assumed it was a communist country. After a few years of reading North Korean newspapers and novels, I finally realized that it was a far-right country instead, more like fascist Italy than the Soviet Union.

**Ezine Reporter** What do you think about the relationship between South Korea and North Korea?

**Professor Myers** North Korea cannot change from a military-first country to an economy-first one, without losing all reason to exist as a separate Korea. This means that it is unrealistic to expect North Korea to reform and improve its relationship with Seoul. So, I think that President Park's approach to Pyongyang is the right one. She is ready to reward the North Koreans with aid, but only if they earn it by behaving better. I also like how she is trying to reduce the public's fear of

unification. It is probably going to happen sometime; so, South Koreans should start preparing for it with a positive attitude.

**Ezine Reporter** If we achieve peaceful reunification, what will be the biggest problems on the peninsula?

**Professor Myers** The biggest problems will be social and cultural, I think. There will be too many young men in the northern half of the country who cannot find jobs or wives, and that will lead to big problems. Many people in the former North Korea will remain loyal to Kim Il Sung, and will insist on keeping many of the statues of him. The schools in a unified Korea will avoid teaching the horrible reality of Kim's rule, because they will want to keep the Japanese as the main villain in Korean history. People in the former North Korea will, therefore, remain nostalgic about their old state after its disappearance. I also worry that they will vote en bloc in elections, much like people now do in the Cheolla provinces. So, the main problem will be integrating everyone into a new society.

**Ezine Reporter** How did you first learn about Korea? How did you first come to Korea, and how is life here different from your home country?

**Professor Myers** My father was here as a military chaplain, first near Daegu in the 1960s, then in Seoul in the 1980s. I came to visit him in the mid-1980s and was immediately fascinated by hangul. I looked up at the big "약" sign for a pharmacy and decided that I just had to learn the language.

I grew up in the USA, Bermuda, Germany, and South Africa. So, I never really felt completely American anyway. Koreans are nationalists, but if you try hard to learn their language, they are the friendliest people in the world. So, I feel more at home here than anywhere else. The most different thing about life here is that it's much safer. In my hometown in New Mexico, there were a lot of gangs, so, I was a little afraid to go to the convenience store late at night.

**Ezine Reporter** Have you written any

books? If so, what were they about, and why did you write them?

**Professor Myers** I have written three books. The last one, *The Cleanest Race*, which is about North Korea's nationalist ideology, has been the most popular. It has been translated into Korean, Chinese, French, and so on. I'm finishing a book about Juche ideology right now. I like the freedom that comes from writing a book. In contrast, when you write an article, you have to follow too many rules and guidelines.

**Ezine Reporter** How do you spend your free time?

**Professor Myers** I spend a lot of my free time in Seoul, actually. I use the North Korean resource center in Gangnam for my research, then I meet friends or explore the vegetarian restaurants up there. I still know Seoul much better than Busan, although I've lived here much longer.

**Ezine Reporter** I heard that you are raising many cats too?

**Professor Myers** Initially, I didn't want to raise cats, but once I came across a young kitten that had been abandoned by its mother, and I couldn't just walk past it. Also, unfortunately, most Koreans still don't neuter their cats. When their cat has kittens, they play with them for a few weeks until they aren't cute anymore, then they put them out on the street. So, I have had to adopt kittens that I found in front of my house. But now, I am at my limit. Because, when there are too many cats in the same apartment, they start to fight.

**Ezine Reporter** Is there any final advice you would like to pass on to DSU students?

**Professor Myers** Don't talk to foreigners in order to learn English. Instead, learn English in order to talk to foreigners. Students with that kind of motivation always learn much better English.

Written by **Han Seung Eun**  
International Studies, Sophomore  
dms8230@naver.com

# Good Reasons to Travel



Nathaneal Rafferty  
Assistant Professor  
Office of Foreign Professors

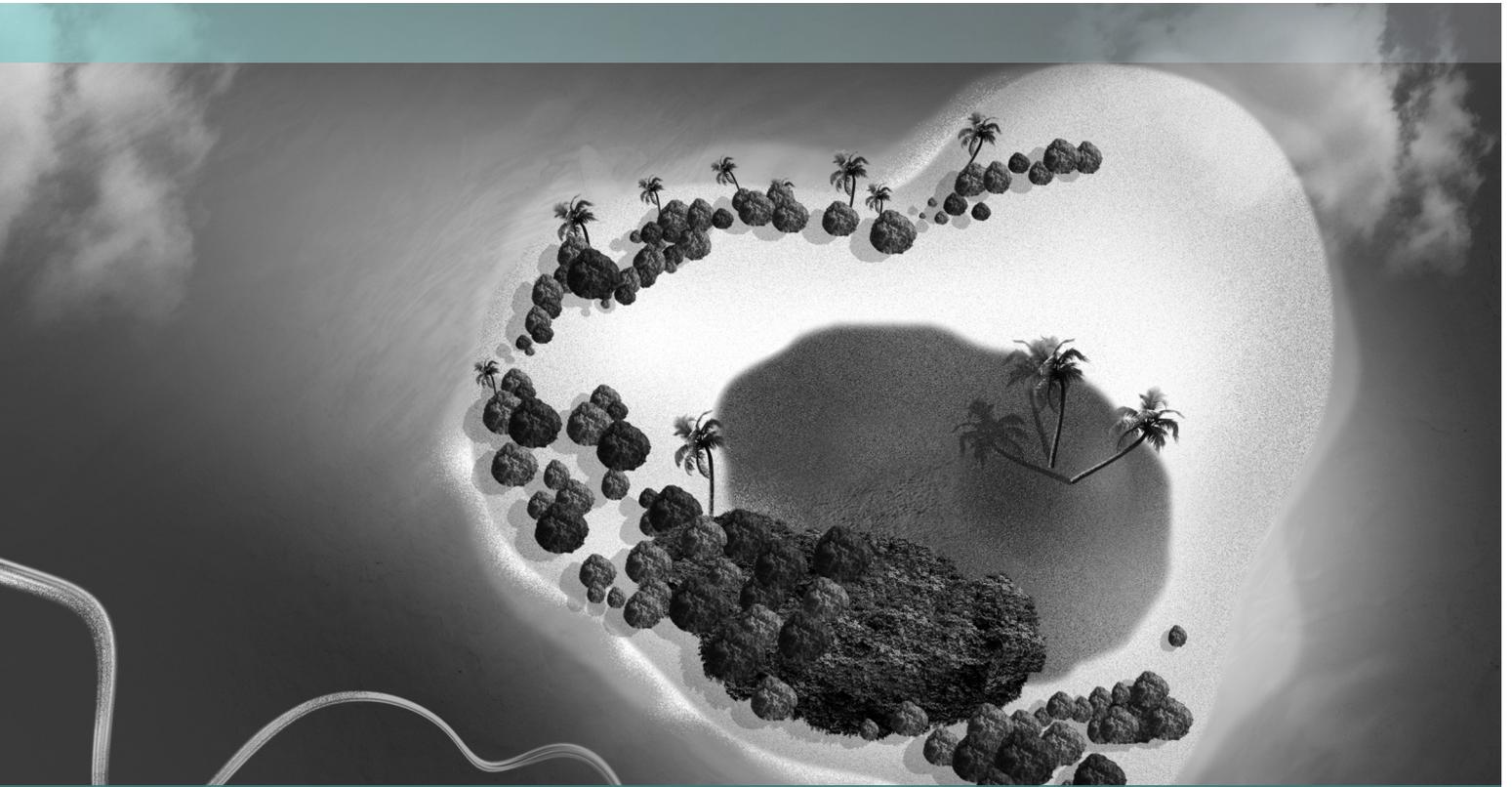
Traveling has gone from something that only the most privileged among us could afford to do to something that many of us do regularly. This has happened quickly, relative to the time scale of human history. Ask your grandparents how many times they've traveled for pleasure, then ask your parents, and compare. My grandmother came to the United States when she was three years old, and did not leave upstate New York again until she was nearly fifty. Many of us have been traveling since we were kids. Even some of the shortest road trips we've taken would have been impractical or impossible just a few generations ago. Still, seeing something new, or the desire to see something new is common theme, even for those who never got the opportunity to travel.

Wanderlust is indeed an urge prevalent among humankind, but that does not mean we all do it for the same reasons. In fact, any traveler takes trips at different times for vastly different reasons. Some people go to the beach in Bali, grab a book and a lounge chair, and recharge their batteries. Travel experiences also indicate status. You might be going to the Malaysian jungle this summer because your friend went to the Mongol Steppe last summer (remember, you need evidence, so take plenty of

pictures with locals in front of scenic backdrops). The increasing ease of travel has also turned people across generations into travel writers, spurring a virtual cottage industry of travel blogs.

But of all the reasons to travel, the sense of "other" might be one of the most compelling. Life is largely about finding predictability in a chaotic environment, but too much routine can make things dull and nurture a fairly myopic view of the world. "The other" is an effective counterweight to the daily confirmation of what we think we know. Seeing something different provides at the very least a glimpse outside the routine, helping to expand the narrow perspective that can develop after extended exposure to the same stuff, over and over again.

The other can tell us something about ourselves. Under the right circumstances, experiencing the other can be a profound, even life-changing event. Seeing how differently other people live no doubt alters a person's thinking, but the feeling that goes along with it can resonate deeply. Living in a time when information is readily available but essentially two-dimensional, it's easy to mistake this kind of representation as substantive knowledge. It is incredibly easy to access the complete history of China and its culture and then think you know



something about China. The problem is that all of that information gets organized around your already existent, preconceived notion of China. It's still basically just a flat picture seen from your perspective and based on your understanding of the world.

However the sheer sensory input of an actual experience in China, experiencing it as the other, disrupts well-worn patterns and networks of sensory input, which leads to fundamental changes in how you perceive China. It makes China three-dimensional and nuanced in a way that a book can't. This kind of experience can make a person aware of points of view they had always assumed to be universal truths about the world. It can give you a visceral understanding of how different things can be, and help you discern a clearer picture of who you are and exactly what place you occupy in the world. It's knowledge you can feel, and it's a feeling that is hard to describe unless you've experienced it. Whether you've been the other, or you've seen the other, chances are that this feeling is something you seek out on some level when you travel.

I'll be going back to the United States to visit my friends and family in August. For anyone who has been living and traveling abroad for an extended period of time, traveling home may be more of an opportunity to re-confirm things you already know, rather than an experience of the other. First I'll be stopping in New York City, where I'll meet my parents and my cousin. We'll likely walk around Brooklyn and Manhattan, see a Broadway show, eat Nathan's hotdogs, and most importantly wander through Central Park; all things we've done before. We'll go back to my hometown upstate and go to restaurants to which we've gone hundreds of times, drink local beer we've drunk hundreds of times, and eat pizza we've eaten hundreds of times. It probably won't be life-changing, but it will likely be at least relaxing, and hopefully comforting.

There is that sense of other though, even when you travel back home. Things change while you're gone. The change is slow and not so perceptible to those at home, but it can be pretty substantial if you haven't been home in two years. Nieces and nephews get

bigger, and although you've likely seen pictures, it's really not the same as seeing them in person. It's an odd balance between the comfort of familiar places and faces, and the strangeness of the other's influence on what you thought you knew. Corner-stores close, Wal-Marts open, and that sense of otherness creeps in to remind you that even at home, things are more different than you remember.

Whatever your reasons are for traveling and whatever your reasons are for going where you're going, chances are that a bit of the other lies underneath. It may even actually be a manifestation of the urge to travel that so many of us have. It may be that seeking out a sense of the other is an unconscious desire to protect ourselves from too much humdrum, and that our bodies know deep down that too much of the same thing everyday isn't good for us. So if you are traveling this summer, either home or in a new place, first and foremost enjoy yourself, and relax if you can. But also, take the opportunity to experience the other and see things a little differently.

# Bingsu:

## The Snow That Melts in Your Mouth



The summer is just ahead of us, and the coming heat wave will drive some people up the wall. Due to the hot weather, it will be challenging for people to study or exercise. What do you do to escape the heat? Many people go to the beaches and valleys for water-side excursions, or they go camping in the mountains, where they can look at the stars and enjoy nature. If you don't have a chance to leave the city to beat the heat though, or if you just want to avoid the heavy summer traffic, how about going to a cafe instead? Most cafes have air conditioners to chill the air and remove the moisture from it, and of course there are many cool beverages and desserts on offer too. From among those, I recommend that you try bingsu. It is the best dessert for summer!

### Welcome to the World of Bingsu

Bingsu is a very popular shaved ice dessert in Korea. It is mainly composed of ice or milk shavings and various ingredients such as fruit, sweetened condensed milk, syrup, and red bean paste. The toppings are very diverse, so you can enjoy eating a variety of bingsu dishes. Patbingsu and fruit bingsu are well known classic styles. The one I enjoy is Melon bingsu, which is contained not in a bowl but in a melon half. The flesh of the melon is scooped out to make many melon balls, and then the emptied melon is filled with various ingredients. If you like fruit such as melon, watermelon, and pineapple, you can make them into bingsu with a special bowl made up of real fruit. Oreo bingsu is also special because there are no usual

toppings except for Oreos, which is a sandwich cookie consisting of two chocolate disks with a sweet white cream filling in between.

I think that the kinds of bingsu that can be made are virtually unlimited because the choices of toppings are endless. Many dessert chefs and chain stores experiment in making new and more delicious bingsu. Maybe there are more varieties of bingsu that I have yet to try.

There are many kinds of bingsu made in countries other than Korea, even though the name of the dessert is different. Aiskacang is made in Singapore. When you order Aiskacang, you can taste many different grasses, jellies, and tropical fruits, such as durian and coconut. Compared to Korean bingsu, it includes unusually sweet corn, and colorful and sweet syrup.

The Japanese style of bingsu is called kakigori. It is very simple when compared to other countries' bingsu because the Japanese usually like to enjoy the taste of each ingredient separately, and they dislike many flavors of ingredients being mixed. Korean people usually mix the all toppings when they eat bingsu, but Japanese people don't mix their kakigori. They prefer to eat the ice shavings with only one flavor of syrup. Popular flavors of syrup include strawberry, lemon, green tea, melon, and sweet plum.

Mango bingsu is popular in Taiwan. It is made from the best mangos grown on the island, and it makes a tasty and healthy treat. Mango bingsu is low in calories, has no preservatives, and no syrup. Mango bingsu was once shown on the famous TV program in Korea, Grandfathers over Flowers, a backpacking program with four elderly actors, Lee Soon Jae, Shin Gu, Park Geun Hyeong, and Baek Il Seop; and one young actor, Lee Seo Jin. As a result of the episode, many chain stores started selling Taiwan-style mango bingsu. If I have the opportunity to travel to Singapore, Japan, or Taiwan in the summer, I will try their delicious and cool varieties of bingsu. How about you?

## The History of Bingsu

When did people start to eat Bingsu? Bingsu, made with snow or ice, and flavored with honey or fruit juice, first appeared in China around 3000 B.C. In The Travels of Marco Polo, it is recorded that the recipe used by people liv-

ing in Beijing was passed on to Venice. In the West, bingsu was first recorded when Alexander the Great, of the Kingdom of Macedonia, made and ate Bingsu when he occupied the Persian Empire. His soldiers would mix mountain snow with honey and fruit, which would help them to get over the heat and their fatigue. In Korea, during the Joseon Dynasty, government officials started to crush the ice that was kept in stone ice storage, and made fruit salad with it.

## Busan, The City of Bingsu!

There are many delicious styles of bingsu that can be enjoyed in the caf?s of Busan. I wish to introduce you to three famous styles. First, there is patbingsu, available along Patbingu Street in Youngho-dong, Nam-gu. Among the many cafes, The Grandmother's Patbingsu is most famous. For 30 years, the host has been selling patbingsu made with ingredients such as adzuki beans, milk ice and apple jelly. The price of one bowl is 2000won. It is very cheap compared to other bingsu. This style of patbingsu is often shown on TV, so many people from all parts of the country eat it when they visit Busan. People sometimes wait in line in order to try some. You can eat bingsu in every season, and patjuk from October to May.

The second famous Busan bingsu is made in the cafe Sulbing, although this style is popular throughout the country. The Sulbing, which is located in Nampo-dong, signed a franchise agreement, so Sulbing bingsu is now available all over Korea. Fusion bingsu and toast with injeolmi, a Korean traditional glutinous rice coated with bean flour, is a very popular and healthy dessert.

Finally, Eeny Meeny Miny Moe, located in Haeundae, sells a variety of bingsu. The name comes from a children's counting rhyme in English-speaking countries that is used when selecting people for games, and was used here because customers hesitate to choose which

bingsu to order because so many different flavors are available. They include milk, mango, strawberry, tiramisu, dongbaceseom, oryukdo, caramel, triple berry, and milk and green tea bingsu. Jung Jin Gu, the owner of the cafe, has liked bingsu since his childhood, so he started making it at home for guests, and opened the cafe after retiring. To learn how to make delicious and unique bingsu, he has traveled around the world, to wherever bingsu is sold. After that, he benchmarked a successful recipe of cool, delicious, overseas desserts. He uses domestic adzuki beans, and makes all syrup and condensed milk in himself. I think Busan is the best place to avoid the summer heat. There are many beaches, and the dessert caf?s selling delicious Bingsu.

## Songs about Bingsu

Koreans love bingsu, so some musicians have made songs about it. One song, Patbingsu, is sung by Youn Jong Shin. The song lyrics are about making patbingsu, and the rhythm is very light and cheerful. It is easy to sing. Another song is Bean Duck Bingsu by Akdong Musician, who were the winner of the Korean famous audition program, K-pop Star 2, aired on SBS. Akdong Musician consists of a brother and sister. They became endorsement models for Paris Baguette, the famous bakery chain store. Paris Baguette sells bingsu in summer, and it often plays the song, Bean Duck Bingsu. Customers appreciate the pleasure of eating delicious bingsu and listening to the rhythmical song.

When I eat bingsu with my friends, I take a picture because bingsu looks so good. I think that bingsu is similar to a mountain with snow. When I eat a spoonful of ice with various toppings on a bingsu, I feel that this snow melts in my mouth. How about eating bingsu to get cool? With the songs about bingsu too, you can feel happier and get cool at the same time!

Written by Lee Ji Eun  
Biotechnology, Junior  
destroyw@naver.com





# The Origins of Miniskirts

Up until just a few years ago, miniskirts were only the symbol of women in their twenties. How times have changed! Nowadays, miniskirts are popular with women of all ages, and regardless of the season. They have transcended age and conquered the weather. Miniskirts comprise a whopping 30 percent of all skirts worn and sold. As the temperature rises with the onset of summer, so does the demand for miniskirts.

What are miniskirts? Miniskirts are brief skirts, which end ten to twenty centimeters above the knee, designed to emphasize the legs and allow for a freedom of movement that longer skirts do not permit. Miniskirts first gained popularity in the 1960s in London, England. Women were immediately drawn to them and the image they presented, and the rest as they say is history. However, are you aware of the facts that surround these articles of clothing? The “actual” history of miniskirts is an interesting tale that has remarkably little to do with women, and dates back much further than the 1960s.

While miniskirts remain a symbol of women

today, it was actually men that were the first to don the garments. Greek, Roman, and Egyptian lower class men were clothed in what could be construed as miniskirts, while the women of the times wore longer skirts. Also, soldiers throughout the ages have marched and fought in loincloths and breechcloths, as did the gladiators of ancient Rome. Their exposed legs were regarded as a nod to their skill and intrepidity. Finally, in medieval times, knights wore suits of armor, complete with pseudo-miniskirts designed to protect their thighs in battle. To consider that modern miniskirts have their roots in military uniforms is interesting indeed.

Yet although they have been around for centuries, they only entered general use in the 1960s. Gabriella Bonheur Chanel, a famous French fashion designer, brought skirts to knee length, a revolutionary event which paved the way for the designer Mary Quant, regarded by many as the creator of modern miniskirts. In 1964, at her shop in Chelsea, London, Mary Quant named her creation after her favorite car, the Mini. Even back then, Quant was subjected to harsh criti-



cism. Pundits decried the higher hemlines as the end of morality.

However, miniskirts had arrived, and were here to stay. Miniskirts were on display on several catwalks in fashion shows in 1965, and have been a staple on the runway ever since; the general public started to wear them by 1967. They soon proved so popular that both France and England claimed to be the home of the design, and 'mini' entered the lexicon as a means of describing small things.

The famous singer Yoon Bok Hee is credited with introducing miniskirts to Korea. An oft repeated anecdote has her exiting a flight from America in 1967 wearing a miniskirt, but she recently disputed that on television, stating that when she arrived in Korea it was winter and she was wearing a fur coat and boots. While that particular story is false, nevertheless photographs from that era do show her wearing a miniskirt at a fashion show in America, and later clad in a miniskirt here in Korea.

The appeal of miniskirts is undeniable; they are fun, flirty, and carefree. They have spread around the globe. But this hasn't been without some controversy. Here in Korea, the govern-

ment tried to control the length of skirts establishing the Minor Offences Law in February, 1973. If a skirt was measured at fifteen centimeters above the knee, the wearer was subject to a measure of control. If a skirt was twenty centimeters above the knee, the wearer was forced to go to a summary trial. Police were equipped with tape measures to enforce the new law; having exposed thighs was an offense--a hard scene to imagine in 2014! The more the police enforced this rather archaic bylaw, the shorter the skirts became. The struggle between the establishment and the desire to wear short skirts continued until the Seoul Olympics in 1988, at which time the bylaw was abandoned.

The fight against the miniskirt continues even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In the Czech Republic, pictures of police officers wearing miniskirts were once utilized at crosswalks with the goal of getting drivers to slow down. It was a novel approach, but regretfully drivers were distracted by the pictures and the number of accidents increased. Also, a university in India has recently prohibited the wearing of miniskirts as a (mis-guided) method of preventing sex crimes. And in Budapest, Hungary, miniskirts made headlines

when it was proposed that only women with beautiful legs be permitted to wear them in city hall--a proposal that was met with a considerable amount of backlash!

Not all the headlines concerned with miniskirts are negative. In the 1920s, University of Pennsylvania professor George Taylor studied the correlation of hemlines with economic situations in New York City. He discovered that shorter skirts coincide with periods of economic growth, and that women revert to longer skirts when the economy slows. This led to his concept of the 'Hemline Index' in 1926, which noted that hemlines on women's dresses rose in advance of stock prices.

But whatever the headline, miniskirts are here to stay. Whether they are considered too short, too risqué, or simply part of the status quo, they are not going away!

Written by Choi Hye Won  
Game, Sophomore  
aofhddk123@daum.net



# My Bright Future

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