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Creating Global Professionals

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Korean Flagship Times

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Nina Arata
Tyler Miyashiro
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Korean Language Flagship Center

Center	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program	Overseas Program
Ho-min Sohn, Director	Sang Yee Cheon, Coordinator	Dong-Kwan Kong, Coordinator	Inbum Kang, Coordinator
Graham Crookes, SLS Advisor	Sumi Chang, Instructor		Instructors
Mary S. Kim, Recruitment Advisor	Tutors		
Lydia Chung, Program Officer			

Current Students

Undergraduates

Cohort 2: Ki Jung Kim, Wonkyoung Kim

Cohort 3: Stacey Cha, Jungyun Ha, Rona Jung,
Daniel Kim, Joshua Nam

Cohort 4: Michelle Ko, Joan Lee, Joseph Michaels,
Kortne Oshiro-chin

Cohort 5: Emily Boyd, Troy Chong, Dean Jagusiak,
Soyoun Joo, Janal Kim, Jessica Lee, Misun Nakama,
Sehun Nakama, Elliot Oh, Dominique Tosatto, Keoni
Williams

Cohort 6: Nina Arata, Andrea Choe, Elton Chun,
Jacky Chun, Alyssa Donovan, Katherine Emery,
Bonnie Fox, Jenny In, Anthony Jenkins, Gi Hyun Kim,
Jai Eun Kim, Nicole Kim, Ashley Layco, Joseph Oh,
Ah Lim Om, Micah Jurmey, Esther Yi

Graduates

Cohort 7: Courtney Diehl, Marco Garcia, Dianne
Juhn, Jonathan Kam, Danica Lim, Rachel Nam,
Narith Ta

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The following chart features organizations in Korea and the US that offer internships to students with critical language skills.

Internship Opportunities in Korea	Internship Opportunities in the US
Basket and Sponge Project in Asia	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Bae, Kim & Lee LLC	Bureau of Labor Statistics
Cheil Worldwide	Bureau of Land Management
Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights	Bureau of Reclamation
The Daily North Korea (newspaper)	Central Intelligence Agency
East Asia Institute	Coast Guard
Educational Broadcasting System (EBS television)	Defense Intelligence Agency
Eugene Bell Foundation	Defense Logistics Agency
Green Korea	Dept. of Agriculture
Hankyoreh (newspaper)	Dept. of Commerce
Hankyoreh Foundation for Reunification	Dept. of Energy
HOLT Children's Services inc.	Dept. of Health and Human Services
Ilmin International Relations Institute	Dept. of Housing Development
Institute for Far Eastern Studies	Dept. of Interior/USGS
Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Dept. of Justice
Korea Institute for National Unification	Dept. of State
Korea Institute of Defense for Analyses	Dept. of Transportation
Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	Environmental Management
Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency	Environmental Protection Agency
Kyobo Securities	Executive Office for US Attorneys
Legal Research Institute	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
National Assembly of the Republic of Korea	Federal Emergency Agency
National Human Rights Commission of Korea	Fish and Wildlife Service
Overseas Koreans Foundation	Foreign Agricultural Service
Scranton Women's Leadership Center	Mine Safety and Health Administration
Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS television)	National Agricultural Statistics Service
Teen News	National Labor Relations Board
Yeoinchisa: Women's Human Rights Defenders	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Sejong Institute Foundation	

KLFC NEWS



From left to right: Mr. Inbum Kang, Dr. Hikyoung Lee, Dr. Ho-min Sohn, Dr. Sang Yee Cheon, Dr. Sumi Chang, and Ms. Lydia Chung

The Language Flagship Annual Meeting

The Language Flagship Annual Meeting was hosted by The University of California, Los Angeles at the Manhattan Beach Marriott on Saturday, May 17-Tuesday, May 20, 2014. Dr. Sohn (Director of KLFC), Dr. Cheon, Dr. Chang, and Ms. Chung attended the Annual Meeting along with Dr. Lee (Director of the Institute of Foreign Language Studies, Korea University) and Mr. Inbum Kang, colleagues from the Korean Flagship Overseas Program (KFOP). Every year the Annual Meeting brings together 26 different programs at 22 institutions in eight languages.



The Language Flagship Annual Student Meeting

In March, Rona Jung (Cohort 3) and Dean Jagusiak (Cohort 5) were selected to attend The Language Flagship National Student Meeting at the University of Maryland, hosted by the Persian and Arabic Flagship Program. Rona Jung's proposal titled, "North Korea's antagonized view of the relationship between South Korea and America" was selected to be presented at the conference. The two students were able to meet many Flagship students studying the various critical languages. They were also given the opportunity to network with government agencies and private companies for future employment opportunities. After their return, Rona and Dean shared their experiences with other Flagship students by giving a short presentation at the Tutor-tutee gathering in April.



Korean Language at Roosevelt High School

Roosevelt High School has institutionalized the KLFC Korean language class into their regular curriculum. This decision comes after the end of the three-year NRCEA (National Resources Center East Asia)-KLFC sponsored program. When the KLFC first started the program in 2012, Roosevelt High School was the only public school in the State of Hawaii with a Korean language class. Although we are sad to say goodbye to Roosevelt, we are proud to announce that the program has influenced other school in Hawaii to develop their own Korean language classes. There will be four different high schools (Roosevelt, Moanalua, Assets, and Waipahu) offering Korean language classes as part of its regular curriculum starting in the fall 2014 academic semester.



UH Manoa Events



2013 Orientation

The KLFC opened the 2013-2014 academic year with the New Student Orientation on August 26, 2013. 17 new Flagship students were present to receive information and meet fellow classmates, seniors, and faculty. The evening closed with an official gathering attended by the BA and MA Flagship students, and KLFC faculty.



Hangul Day

The Korean Language Flagship students attended the 2013 14th Annual Korean Storytelling and Essay Contest at the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa on October 5, 2013. This contest is sponsored by the Center for Korean Studies, Korea Times, and Radio Seoul. The competition is open to learners of Korean as a foreign language and includes two parts, a storytelling speech contest and essay contest. In the storytelling division, our Flagship students swept the competition with MA student Marco Garcia winning the grand prize and Jonathan Kam (MA), Alyssa Donovan (BA Cohort 6), and Elton Chun (BA Cohort 6) each placing in first, second, and third places accordingly. In the college level writing contest, Esther Yi (Cohort 6) placed first, and Jacky Chun, Anthony Jenkins, and Gihyun Kim placed accordingly in second, third, and fourth places.



Picture Source: <https://www.facebook.com/coldeyes2013>

HIFF

Each year the Hawaii International Film Festival brings a diverse selection of movies for the local community to enjoy. KLFC invited the students and faculty to attend the showing of "Cold Eyes" on September 20, 2013 at Consolidated Theatres Koko Marina 9. After the viewing, students were invited to a roundtable academic discussion about the Korean film industry, influence of the film industry on society, and cultural changes that can be seen throughout the film.



Manoa Exp Day pg 8



Farewell pg 10



Ch'usŏk (추석)

KLFC students celebrated one of Korea's biggest holidays, Ch'usŏg, on September 20, 2013. Everyone enjoyed traditional Korean food such as Chapch'ae (잡채) and songp'yŏn (송편). Two BA representatives, Jai Eun Kim and Esther Yi, gave a presentation about Ch'usŏg. MA students organized traditional Korean folk games such as Yut (윷), Chegich'agi (제기차기), and Ttackchichi'igi (딱지치기).

Recycling

Throughout the year, Dr. Chang's KOR 499 class diligently gathered to empty the KLFC recycling bins located near Moore Hall and the temporary portables. Not only did they contribute to a preserve our environment, they also contributed to a more hygienic learning environment by deep-cleaning the TP 102 Multimedia Resource Room.



Pre-capstone Orientation

Mr. Inbum Kang (KFOP Program Coordinator) visited UHM to conduct a pre-capstone orientation on November 26 and 27 for the undergraduate and graduate students going overseas in 2014. Over 15 students were in attendance and each student was given a detailed overseas booklet in preparation for their capstone year.



Department of East Asia Language and Literature

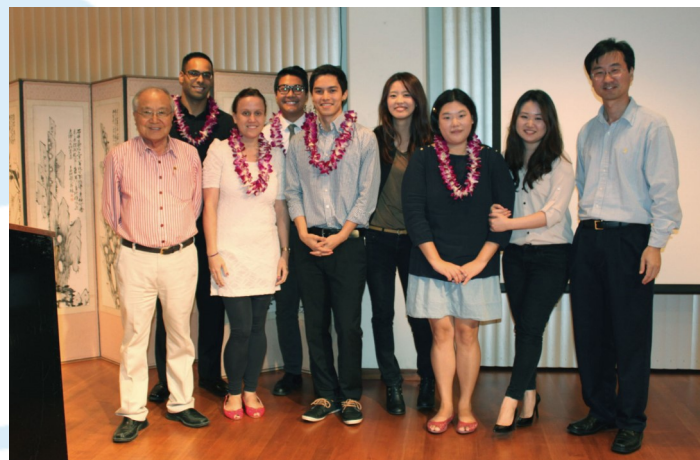
Manoa Experience Day

The KLFC participated in the campus-wide recruitment fair, Manoa Experience Day, on Saturday March 1, 2013. In collaboration with the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the KLFC brought in a lively crowd of prospective UH Manoa students to the booth. Many KLFC BA students and faculty were in attendance.



Korean Culture Day

On March 14th, UH students, faculty, and local area high school students were invited to the annual Korean Culture Day. About 400 guests experienced Korean culture by participating in six different activities: *samulnori* (사물놀이), *tuho* (투호), *chegich'agi* (제기차기), *ttakchi-chi'gi* (떡지치기), *söye* (서예), and by wearing traditional Korean clothes *hanbok* (한복). Participants also watched taekwondo demonstrations, a samulnori performance, and a Kpop flashmob. A delicious Korean lunch, including *Ttökpokki* (떡볶이) was served to all guests. To close out the event, students competed in a student talent competition by singing Korean songs. This event is held annually and sponsored by the Korean Language Flagship Center, College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literatures, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Center for Korean Studies, and Palama Supermarket. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact flagship@hawaii.edu



End of Semester Ceremony

The 2013 KLFC End-of-Semester Ceremony was held on December 13, 2013 at the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa. BA students from all cohorts and MA students gathered to celebrate the close of the fall 2013 academic semester. The KLFC also celebrated the graduation of two BA students, Dan Bee Suh and Alexander Benton and wished five MA Cohort 7 students (Courtney Diehl, Marco Garcia, Jonathan Kam, and Narith Ta) a successful year in Korea.



Tutor-Tutee Event

The KLFC hosted the Tutor-Tutee End of Semester Mixer on April 14 ("Black-Day" in Korea) to have a delicious bowl of black-bean-sauce noodles *Tchajangmyŏn* (짜장면) and to provide an opportunity for students, tutors, and faculty to gather and bid farewell their tutors. During this event, Dean Jagusiak and Rona Jung each gave a short presentation on their experience at The Language Flagship National Student Conference.





Farewell Ceremony

This semester we said our farewells to four BA Flagship graduates, five MA Flagship graduates and seven students going to Korea for the overseas capstone program. KLFC students and faculty were also joined by esteemed guests Dr. Robert Bley-Vroman, Dr. Kimi Kondo-Brown, Dr. Robert Huey, Dr. Heisoon Yang, Dr. Gay Satsuma, Dr. Song Jiang, Dr. Yung-Hee Kim, and Dr. Soo Ah Yuen.

BA Graduates: David Cho, James Chung, Michael Puzon, Juann Choe, Tyler Miyashiro

MA Graduates: Terris Brown, Sean Daly, Alexandra Hager, Gloria Kang, Cody Thiel, Taheera Virani, Grayson Walker, Eunice Yum

Overseas: Nina Arata, Jenny In, Jai Eun Kim, Nicole Kim, Michelle Ko, Sehun Nakama, Joseph Oh, Janal Kim, Esther Yi



Korea University Events



KFORMaster's Program Orientation

Four students attended the KFOR Graduate Program Orientation. Undergraduate Flagship students welcomed the new students.

Special Lecture: Professor Seok-Hoon You

Professor Seok-Hoon You (Korea University) gave a special lecture to the KFOR. The title was "The prospect of being Korean Experts".



Experiencing Korean Pottery

For a field experience, students attended Icheon Cerapia (이천 토락교실) to make their own Korean potteries. They also visited the grave of Sejong the Great, King of Joseon and credited with creating Hangul.

Language Buddy Event

The Language Buddy Event was an orientation provide guidelines to buddies and Flagship students. This also gave an oppourtunity for buddies and students to build their relationships with each other.



Trip to Jeju Island

During the midterm period, April 24-26, students went on a class trip to Jeju Island. It was a good opportunity for them to experience Jeju Island's distinctive food and scenery.

Special Lecture: Researcher Jaeho Lee

Researcher Jaeho Lee (Hyundai Research Institute) gave a special lecture on "Formation of Korean Chaeböls (재벌) and their characteristics".



KLFC Students Submissions



Nina Arata (BA)
Cohort 6



Tyler Miyashiro (BA)
Cohort 5



Grayson Walker (MA)
Cohort 6



Gloria Kang (MA)
Cohort 6

플래그십에 들어오기 전에는 한국어 회화능력에 자신이 없었다. 자라면서 어머니와 어머니의 친구분들께서 한국어를 쓰셨기 때문에 듣는 것은 괜찮았지만 말하는 것은 어려웠다. 그렇기 때문에 어머니와 나 사이에 언어 장벽이 있는 느낌이었다.

KOR202를 듣던 중 플래그십에 대해 알게되었고 프로그램에 등록한 후 그 해 여름방학에 한국으로 가서 공부하게 되었다. 한국어 있는 동안에 한국어 말하기 실력도 높였고 새로운 친구들도 사귀었다.

잠을 줄이면서까지 프로그램 내에서의 발표준비와 숙제들을 열심히 하는 동안 플래그십의 첫 두학기는 빨리 지나갔다. 그리고 이제 1년동안

의 한국유학을 결정할 OPI를 보게되는 기간이 됐다. OPI를 본 적이 없었기 때문에 어떻게 준비할 지 몰랐지만 KOR499를 같이 듣던 친구들로부터 조언을 들을 수 있었다. OPI에 나오는 질문들의 대부분은 사람마다 다르기 때문에 준비하는 것은 아주 어려웠다. 하지만 기적적으로 그 전 학기 KOR403 수업에서 발표했던 주제가 OPI에 나왔다. 그 주제에 대해서 알고 있는 것들이 많았기 때문에 OPI에서 Advanced Low를 받았다.

Nina Arata



플래그십을 시작한 뒤 어려운 한국어 수업들을 많이 들었기 때문에 이제는 어머니와 대화할 때도 어려움 없이 자연스러운 대화를 이어나갈 수 있게 된 것에 대해 선생님들께 감사하고 싶다.

Before joining the Flagship Program, I was not confident speaking Korean to a native Korean speaker. Growing up I listened to my mother and friends speaking Korean, my listening proficiency was high, but I had a low speaking proficiency. Growing up, I listened to my mother and her friends. Because I could only understand, and not speak Korean very well, there was always a slight language barrier between my mother and me.

After taking KOR 202, my class advisor told me about the Korean Language Flagship program. I applied, and after being accepted into the program, that summer I was embarked on a summer overseas intensive program at Korea University for the summer overseas intensive program. Studying abroad during the summer forced me to use and improve my Korean; it also allowed me to meet new friends who were also in the program.

Many late nights, homework assignments and presentations later, my first two semesters after joining the Flagship program felt very short. Be-

fore I knew it, it was time for me to take the oral proficiency interview. This would determine whether or not I would qualify to go to the capstone year overseas. I really didn't know what to expect because it was my first time taking the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). However, in KOR 499 we prepared as a class and got feedback from fellow classmates who had already experienced the test. Preparing for the OPI is very difficult because the testee only has a general idea of what questions will be asked, but everyone is tested on different questions and subject matters. Luckily, while taking my OPI one of my questions was related to a final presentation I did last semester in my KOR403 class. The countless articles and statistics I knew for this topic allowed me to achieve an Advanced Low rating.

Since joining the Flagship and taking many challenging Korean language classes, my mom has noticed a significant increase in my Korean proficiency, and we are now able to have conversations comfortably without the language barrier.

An Unforgettable Journey

Being a part of the Korean Language Flagship Program has been one of the most challenging as well as rewarding experiences of my life. When I first entered the program, I initially doubted if I could meet its high expectations. I felt overwhelmed at first, but I realized that what I got out of the program really depended on how much time and effort I put into it. But as challenging as the curriculum was at the University of Hawai'i, I don't think anything can compare to the experience of studying abroad in Korea for an entire year.

Unlike the rest of my Flagship classmates, I had never been to Korea before. I still remember when I first boarded the plane, I felt an entire array of emotions, including joy, excitement, and fear. But I was really fortunate to have gone with some of my Flagship classmates, who were kind enough to show me around Seoul. While riding the lightening-fast subway, visiting the countless cafés, and eating all of the delicious, affordable foods, I slowly adapted to life in a strange new country. Now with my year in Korea coming to a close, I've started to look back on my experience not just Korea, but my entire journey through the Korean Language Flagship Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. As a result, I've come to realize something very important.

I am extremely lucky to have met so many great teachers and students throughout my time in the program. The teachers from Hawaii as well as Korea have always been a great source of support and encouragement for the students, expressing a sincere concern for us as individuals by providing personal guidance and comfort during stressful times. I cannot express the full extent of my gratitude towards such wonderful teachers, as they have helped me realized my dream and instilled within me a newfound passion for studying the Korean language. I would also like to thank my Korean Language Flagship classmates, who are not only impressive students, but great people. They have given me so many wonderful memories, some of which still make me burst out in laughter. I feel grateful to have had the opportunity to study with everyone, and I am glad to be able to call them my friends. Thank you so much to everyone; it has truly been an unforgettable journey and a wonderful blessing!



Tyler Miyashiro

잊을 수 없는 여행

한국어 플래그십 프로그램의 일부가 되는 것은 내 인생에서 가장 어려우면서 보람있는 경험이었다. 프로그램에 처음으로 들어왔을 때 교수님들의 높은 기대에 부응할 수 있을지 걱정됐다. 처음에는 많이 긴장됐지만 공부를 하다보니 결과는 항상 내 자신의 시간과 노력을 얼마나 들였느냐에 달렸다는 것을 깨달았다. 그렇지만 역시 하와이 대학교에서 배우는 과정은 한국에서 1년동안 유학 생활을 하는 것보다는 어렵지 않았던 것 같다.

플래그십 반 친구들과 달리 나는 한국에 가 본 적이 단 한 번도 없었다. 비행기에 탔던 순간은 아직도 생생하다. 기쁨, 흥분, 두려움 등 여러가지 감정이 한꺼번에 밀려왔다. 한국에 도착하자, 플래그십 친구들은 매우 친절하게 서울을 안내 해줬다. 빠른 전철을 타고, 수많은 카페를 찾아다니고, 맛있으면서 비싸지 않은 음식을 먹으면서 낯선 나라에서의 생활에 적응하게 됐다. 이제 한국에서의 공부를 거의 마무리하면서 한국에서의 경험 뿐만 아니라 하와이 대학교 한국어 플래그십 프로그램 또한 되돌아 봤다. 그러다보니 매우 중요한 것을 깨닫게 됐다.

프로그램을 통해서 정말 훌륭한 선생님들과 학생들을 만날 수 있었다는 것에 정말 행복하다. 하와이와 한국에 계신 선생님들은 항상 학생들을 위해서 많은 지원과 격려를 아끼지 않으시고 학생들이 힘들어 할 때 항상 도움을 주시고 위로를 해주셨다. 또, 내 꿈을 찾을 수 있게 도와주셨고 한국어 공부에 대한 열정을 심어주셨다. 이에 대한 감사를 글로써는 다 표현할 수가 없을 것 같다. 그리고 비록 내 또래지만 대단하고 훌륭한 우리 한국어 플래그십 친구들한테도 고맙다는 말을 하고 싶다. 그들과 함께 만든 재미있는 추억들은 절대 잊을 수 없을 것이다. 함께 공부할 수 있었던 것을 정말 다행이라고 생각하고 이제는 서로를 친구로 부를 수 있게 되었다는 것이 너무 좋다. 여러분들, 정말 감사합니다. 정말 잊을 수 없는 여행이자 굉장한 축복이었습니다.

No two years of my life have changed as much as those that I spent as part of the Korean Flagship Program. I came into this program unable to compose a complete sentence in Korean, neither written or spoken, and upon graduation will have made countless presentations in Korean as well as a scholarly research paper.

The Flagship Program, however, taught me a great deal more than only language skills. I had been interested in Korea for a lot of my life but had never had the opportunity for formal study. I knew that I wanted to make a career out of Korean and Korea, but no idea how or in what field specifically. From day one, the professors in this program helped me channel these myriad interests. The systematic approach at Flagship covers topics such as society, economics, and history while providing exposure to discover my career path. I had always been interested in international development and human rights, but was unclear how to go about incorporating my interest in Korean.

After developing these interests through presentations and research papers I realized my interest in North Korea was strongest. The flexibility of the Flagship Program allowed me to participate in an internship with practical applications outside of the classroom. The sense of community and support even enabled us to start a recycling program together to earn funds after discovering the lack of facilities on campus in Hawai'i.

As a result of the internship experience I was able to discover my true passions and a career to which I could apply my Korean skills. The networking exposure helped me secure a job with the DailyNK, a news organization in Seoul using sources inside North Korea and the main source for news related to North Korea globally. Part of my role in this organization will be fostering more international collaboration and support for human rights in North Korea, none of which would have been possible without the skills honed in this program.



Grayson Walker

한국어 플래그십 프로그램은 내 인생의 방향을 바꾸어 놓았다. 2년전 프로그램을 시작했을 때는 말하기로나 쓰기로나 한국어로 한 문장도 제대로 완성할 수 없었다. 학기당 5개의 수업과 주당 1회 이상의 발표와 많은 과제는 힘들기만 했고 이 때문에 생긴 자기 회의를 어떻게 극복할 수 있을지 몰랐다. 그러나 선생님들의 지지와 플래그십 공동체. 이제는 가족이 된 많은 사람들 덕분에 졸업할 즈음 한국어로 논문을 쓰고 수많은 발표를 할 수 있게 되었다.

이 프로그램을 통해 언어 실력이 향상된 것 뿐만이 아닌 다른 많은 것을 배운 것 같다. 비록 한국에 대한 관심은 옛날부터 있었지만, 하와이에 처음 도착한 날까지 한국어에 대해 제대로 공부할 기회가 없었다. 어렴풋이 미래를 위해 한국학을 중심으로 경력을 쌓고 싶다는 생각은 있었지만 어디서 시작할 것인지는 알지 못했다. 그러나 플래그십의 선생님들은 아낌없는 교육과 지도를 통해 내 한국어와 한국학 연구의 밑거름을 마련해주셨다. 한국 사회, 경제,

역사, 문화 등에 대해 체계적으로 배웠는데, 이 교육을 통해 내 원래 관심사인 국제 개

발 원조와 인권이 한국어와 일치할 수 있다는 것을 알았다. 플래그십 과정을 하면서 예전에는 생각해보지 않았던 북한에 대한 관심 또한 생겼다.

플래그십에서는 학생들에게 교실 밖에서 폭넓고 다양한 배움의 기회를 제공한다. 이러한 공동체 의식은 재 활용에 함께 참여함으로써 학생들에게 환경문제에 어느 정도 관심을 갖게하였고 그로인해 생긴 수익금은 의미있는 곳에 쓰여졌다.

인턴십 경험을 통해서 내가 원하는 경력을 쌓게 될 수 있었으며 어떤 상황에 직면한다면 한국어를 어떻게 적용할 것인지 알게 되었다. 이뿐만 아니라 네트워킹을 통해 졸업전임에도 불구하고 북한관련기관에 취직할 수 있었다. 플래그십 프로그램에서 받은 교육과 훈련을 활용하면서 북한 인권을 위해서 국제사회 지지와 협력을 증대시키려는 노력을 할 것이다. 한국어 플래그십 프로그램이 있었기 때문에 내 꿈을 실현할 수 있게 되었다.

As a Korean-American, I had been somewhat confident in my ability to communicate in Korean. However, the first OPI for admission into the KLFC program threw me into a shock. The tester slowly began with easy questions about my day, asked what I was studying, and inquired about my family. I felt comfortable replying but I slowly began to stutter and sweat when he asked about my opinion on the economic and social implications of homelessness and some possible policies that could be implemented to resolve the issue. Honestly, would I even have been able to answer in English? I was humbled immensely but the interview ignited my desire to be part of the KLFC program because I wanted to improve my Korean, especially in ways that mattered. It was an amazing experience to meet the other members of my cohort and hear about their backgrounds and passion for the Korean language and Korea. They inspired me as role models while also being companions on a similar path. I also appreciated the feedback from our professors as they accurately pointed out my weak points and flaws, not just in my weak Korean but also about my preparation, content, and delivery. Professor Kong emphasized numerous times that although improving our Korean language was important, it was more important to keep in mind a larger goal and understand why we were spending our days cooped up studying indoors, so far away from the beach. The same point was emphasized to us again during our classes and internships in Korea. Our Korean skills were improving but it became much more important to apply those skills in our daily lives, actively advance our projects at our internships, and absorb content during our courses. Our grades didn't matter as much as our experiences and how we were laying down the bricks for the next steps in our lives. This is to me, the greatest lesson I was able to gain from the Flagship program. My Korean has improved immensely (although I am no fonder of OPIs) but I learned that it was always about never losing sight of the bigger picture and understanding how our language skills would aid us in reaching our various professional goals. I am most grateful to all those in the KLFC program who helped me gain this insight.



Gloria Kang

한국계 미국인으로서 저는 한국어로 소통하는데 어느 정도 자신감이 있었습니다. 하지만 한국어 플래그십 프로그램 지원 과정에서 치렀던 OPI 시험에 큰 충격을 받았습니다. 시험 초반에는 저의 일상, 공부, 그리고 가족에 대한 간단한 질문들이었습니다. 이 질문들에는 편하게 대답을 했지만 시험 후반부에 증가하는 노숙자 문제가 경제와 사회에 미치는 영향과 이런 문제를 해소할 수 있는 정책을 제시해달라고 했을 때 저는 알맞은 답을 찾을 수 없었습니다. 그것들은 영어로도 대답하기 어려운 질문들이었습니다. 이렇듯 제 한국어 실력의 부족함을 깨닫게 된 후에 저는 한국어 플래그십 프로그램을 하고 싶은 마음이 더욱 커졌습니다. 의미 있는 분야에 한국어 실력을 향상시키고 싶었습니다. 학교 동창들을 만나고 그들의 배경과 한국어 및 한국에 대한 열정에 대해서 듣는 것은 아주 인상적이었습니다. 그들은 모두 저의 롤모델이면서도 저랑 같은 길을 걷는 동반자로 느껴졌습니다. 저의 한국어 실력뿐만 아닌 프리젠테이션 등의 준비 과정, 내용, 그리고 전달력의 약점과 실수들을 정확하게 지적해주는 교수님들의 피드백도 너무 감사하게 받았습니다. 공동관 교수님은 한국어가 느는 것도 중요하지만 왜 공부해야만 하는지를 아는 것이 더 중요하다고 하셨습니다. 한국에서 수업을 듣고 인턴십을 하면서 이 교훈을 여러번 곱씹었습니다. 성장하는 한국어 실력보다 한국어를 일상에 활용하고, 인턴십에서 하는 프로젝트를 적극적으로 발전시키고, 수업 내용을 제대로 습득하는 것이 더 중요하다는 것을 알게되었습니다. 성적보다는 경험과 미래를 위한 토대를 쌓는 것이 더 귀중했습니다. 이것이 플래그십 프로그램에서 얻은 가장 의미 있는 교훈이었습니다. 처음에 바랬던 것처럼 한국어가 많이 늘긴했지만 큰 그림을 잃지 않고 우리의 언어 실력을 통해 다양한 분야에서 성과를 얻는 방법을 배운 것 같습니다. 무엇보다 이런 깨달음을 갖게 해주신 한국어 플래그십 프로그램의 모든 분께 너무 감사드립니다.



Korean Language Flagship Center

**M.A. in
Korean for
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**B.A. in
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**Certificate in
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