

KOREAN FLAGSHIP TIMES

July 2015
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UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
MĀNOA



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP
Creating Global Professionals

Korean Language Flagship Center

Center	Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program	Overseas Program
Ho-min Sohn, Director	Sang Yee Cheon, Coordinator	Dong-Kwan Kong, Coordinator	Jongwoo Park, Coordinator
Lydia Chung, Program Officer	Sumi Chang, Instructor		Instructors
	Tutors		

Current Students

Undergraduates

Cohort 2: Ki Jung Kim, Wonkyoung Kim

Cohort 3: Daniel Kim

Cohort 4: Michelle Ko, Joan Lee

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, 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

Cohort 7: Joseph Capano, Jihyun Choi, Connie Chong, Xiuju Cooney, Joseph Gaenzle III, Alden Kim, Katrina Kim, Yeajin Kim, Dean Kira, Amiel Ko, Samuel Lee, Seok Jong Lee, Eloise Morris, Kiana Mitchell, Austin Nay, Maile Pan, Carolyn Roanhaus, Juyoung Song, Eunhae Whang

Graduates

Cohort 8: Christopher Jones, Sean Madsen, Taylor Nichols, John Remis, Kea Zertuche

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

Internship Opportunities in Korea

Asiatic Research Institute
 BBDO Korea
 BKL Bae, Kim & Lee LLC
 Cheil Worldwide
 Citizens' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights
 The Daily North Korea (newspaper)
 Database Center for North Korean Human Rights
 Daumsoft
 D Tribe
 East Asia Institute
 Education Broadcasting System (EBS television)
 Eugene Bell Foundation
 Hankyoreh (newspaper) / Hankyoreh Foundation for Reunification
 HOLT Children's Services Inc.
 Ilmin International Relations Institute
 Institute for Far Eastern Studies
 Institute of Japanese Studies
 King Sejong Institute Foundation
 Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Korea Institute for National Unification
 Korea Institute of Defense for Analyses
 Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
 Korea Policy Research Center
 Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency
 Korea University Anam Hospital
 Korea University Museum
 KU Office of International Affairs' Center for Int'l Students & Scholars
 The Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan
 The Korean Cultural Research Center
 Korean Womenlink
 Kyobo Securities
 Megabox
 Migrant Health Association in Korea
 National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
 National Democratic Institute Korea
 National Hangeul Museum
 National Human Rights Commission of Korea
 North Korea Strategy Center

Overseas Koreans Foundation

Root93 (software company)
 Scranton Women's Leadership Center
 Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS television)
 SNU Innovative Design & Integrated Manufacturing (IDIM) Lab
 Talk to Me in Korean
 Voluntary Agency Network of Korea (VANK)
 Yeoinchisa: Women's Human Rights Defenders
 Young Defectors' Alliance for North Korean Human Rights

Internship Opportunities in the U.S.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
 Bureau of Labor Statistics
 Bureau of Land Management
 Bureau of Reclamation
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Coast Guard
 Defense Intelligence Agency
 Defense Logistics Agency
 Department of Agriculture
 Department of Commerce
 Department of Energy
 Department of Health and Human Services
 Department of Housing Development
 Department of Interior/USGS
 Department of Justice
 Department of State
 Department of Transportation
 Environmental Management
 Environmental Protection Agency
 Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys
 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
 Federal Emergency Agency
 Fish and Wildlife Service
 Foreign Agriculture Service
 Mine Safety and Health Administration
 National Agricultural Statistics Service
 National Labor Relations Board
 Natural Resources Conservation Service

KLFC NEWS



The Language Flagship Annual Meeting

The Language Flagship Annual Meeting was hosted by the University of Oklahoma at the Embassy Suites Norman on Saturday, May 16-Tuesday, May 19, 2015. Dr. Sohn (Director of KLFC), Dr. Cheon, Dr. Chang, Ms. Chung attended the Annual Meeting along with Dr. Hikyoung Lee and Mr. Jongwoo Park from Korea University and colleagues from UH Mānoa. Every year the Annual Meeting brings together 26 different programs at 22 institutions in eight languages.



KBFD Documentary featuring KLFC

KBFD, an independent Korean-language television station in Honolulu, produced a special 2-part documentary called A Tree With Deep Roots Will Not Sway (뿌리깊은 나무 바람에 아니될세) that aired on October 9 and 16, 2014. The documentary discusses the current Korean language education in Honolulu and also features the Korean Language Flagship Center's faculty and students.



King Sejong Institute Honolulu

The Korean Language Flagship Center received a grant to begin an outreach program from the King Sejong Institute Foundation. The first semester began on October 9, 2014 with 49 students enrolled from various backgrounds and professions with the goal of learning the Korean language. The 10-week program also included a group trip to the Hawaii International Film Festival (HIFF) on November 4 to watch “We are Brothers” and had a Culture Day on November 25, where the students could experience the Korean culture through various activities, such as *yut* (윷), calligraphy, and making *kimbap* (김밥). Future classes TBA. If you are interested, please contact flagship@hawaii.edu.



UH Mānoa Events



2014 Orientation

The KLFC opened the 2014-2015 academic year with the New Student Orientation on August 22, 2014. 24 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.



Ch'usŏk (추석)

KLFC students celebrated on of Korea's biggest holidays, *Ch'usŏk*, on September 12, 2014. Everyone enjoyed traditional Korean food and two BA representatives, Alyssa Donovan and Alden Kim, gave a presentation about *Ch'usŏk*. The MA students organized traditional Korean folk games, such as *yut* (윷).



Hangul Day

The Korean Language Flagship students attended the 15th Annual Korean Storytelling and Essay Contest at the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa on October 4, 2014. 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 BA student Austin Nay winning the grand prize and in first place, Tyler Miyashiro (MA), third place Chris Jones (MA), and Keoni Williams (BA) receiving a special recognition. In the college level writing contest, Connie Chong (BA) placed first and Seok Jong Lee (BA) placed third.



HIFF p.8

Farewell Ceremony
p.9



Pre-capstone Orientation

Mr. Jongwoo Park (KFOP Program Coordinator) visited UHM to conduct a pre-capstone orientation on October 29 and 30 for the undergraduate and graduate students going overseas in 2015. Over 25 students were in attendance and each student was given a detailed overseas booklet in preparation for their capstone year.



Korean Culture Day

On March 13, UHM students, faculty, and local area high school students were invited to the annual Korean Culture Day. Over 400 guests experienced the Korean culture by participating in 7 different activities that included several traditional Korean games, calligraphy writing (서예), and wearing traditional Korean clothes *hanbok* (한복). A delicious Korean lunch, including *kimbap* (김밥), was served to all guests. To close out the event, students competed in a student talent competition by singing and dancing to KPOP 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, Hanwoori Club, Palama Supermarket, and the Francis and Betty Ann Keala Fund of the Colleges of Arts & Sciences. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact us at flagship@hawaii.edu.



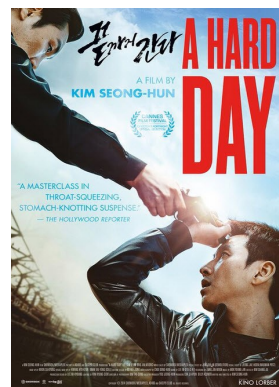


HIFF Fall/Spring Showcase

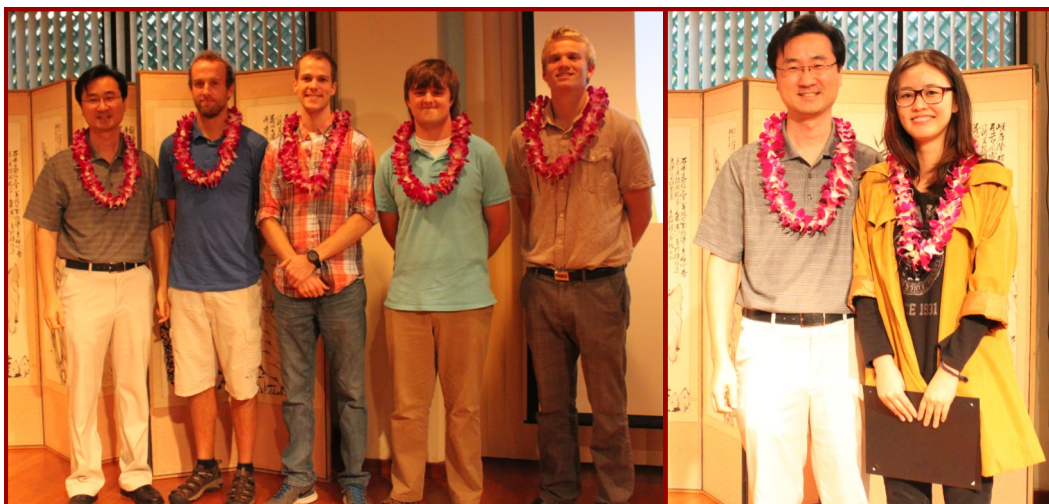
Each year the Hawaii International Film Festival brings a diverse selection of movies for the local community to enjoy. KLFC invited the students and faculty to attend the showing of “A Hard Day” on November 8 and “My Love, Don’t Cross That River” on April 16 at Regal Dole Cannery Stadium 18.



Picture Source: <https://vimeo.com/109219991>



Picture Source:
<http://www.movieinsider.com>



End of Semester Ceremony

The 2014 KLFC End-of-Semester Ceremony was held on December 12, 2014 at the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawai`i at Mānoa. BA and MA students gathered to celebrate the close of the fall 2014 academic semester. The KLFC also celebrated the graduation of BA students—Stacey Cha, Jungyun Ha, Rona Jung, and Joshua Nam, MA student, Danica Lim, and wished five MA Cohort 8 students (Christopher Jones, Sean Madsen, Taylor Nichols, John Remis, and Kea Zertuche) a successful year in Korea.



Farewell Ceremony

This semester we said our farewells to two BA Flagship graduates, six MA Flagship graduates, and 13 students going to Korea for the overseas capstone program. KLFC students and faculty were also joined by esteemed guests— Dr. Kimi Kondo-Brown (Associate Dean, College of LLL), Dr. Robert Huey (Chair, Dept. of EALL), Dr. Yung-Hee Kim (Professor of Korean Literature, Dept. of EALL), and Dr. Hyeri Joo (Leeward Community College).

BA Graduates: Joseph Michaels, Kortne Oshiro-Chin

MA Graduates: Courtney Diehl, Marco Garcia, Dianne Juhn, Jonathan Kam, Rachel Nam, Narith Ta

Overseas: Joseph Capano, Troy Chong, Alyssa Donovan, Bonnie Fox, Dean Jagusiak, Jessica Lee, Samuel Lee, Seok Jong Lee, Alden Kim, Misun Nakama, Austin Nay, Keoni Williams, Soyoun Joo

Scholarship Recipients

Center for Korean Studies Scholarship: (BA) Joseph Capano, Troy Chong, Bonnie Fox, Dean Jagusiak, Soyoun Joo, Alden Kim, Gihyun Kim, Janal Kim, Jessica Lee, Samuel Lee, Misun Nakama, Austin Nay, Keoni Williams, (MA) Christopher Jones, Tyler Miyashiro, Taylor Nichols

FLAS Scholarship: Alyssa Donovan, Bonnie Fox, Misun Nakama, Austin Nay, Keoni Williams

APRO Foundation Scholarship: Jessica Lee, Gihyun Kim, Troy Chong



Korea University Events



KFOP Orientations 2014-2015

The Korean Flagship Overseas Program at Korea University welcomed Flagship students and held orientations to introduce them to the program, faculty and staff. 9 BA students began their one-year overseas portion of the program in July 2014 and 5 MA students began in January 2015.



13th Annual International Korean UCC Contest

Our Flagship students participated in the 13th Annual International Korean UCC Contest, sponsored by Korea University's Korean Language Center. Their video was about the experiences and struggles of Flagship students adjusting to school life, internship, and overcoming culture shock in Korea. Our students won the grand prize at the award ceremony held on November 5, 2014. Congratulations! To view the winning video, [click here](#).



Experiencing Korean Pottery

For a field experience, the students attended Icheon Cerapia (이천 토락교실) to make their own Korean potteries.





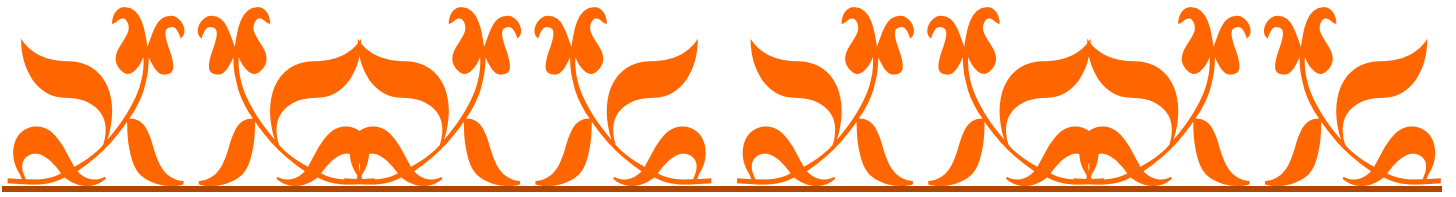
Trip to Jeju Island

During the midterm period, April 23-25, the students went on a class trip to Jeju Island. It was a good opportunity for them to experience Jeju Island's distinctive culture while getting to know each other better.



KFOP Completion Ceremonies 2014-2015

The Korean Flagship Overseas Program at Korea University said good-bye to Flagship students and held completion ceremonies. MA cohort 7 students completed their overseas portion of the program in the winter of 2014 and returned to Honolulu and 9 BA students completed their overseas portion in June 2015.



Janal Kim
BA Cohort 5



Joseph Oh
BA Cohort 6

Student Submissions



Dianne Juhn
MA Cohort 7



Narith Ta
MA Cohort 7



My one-year experience in Korea has been surreal. To be honest, I had the hardest time deciding whether or not I should continue the study-abroad portion of the BA Flagship curriculum due to financial issues. However, through the endless support of KFLC and KFOP, I was able to pull through and end my study abroad with memories and relationships that I will cherish forever.

My first few weeks in Korea were absolutely mind-blowing. Korea's atmosphere of its fast pace and alcohol culture shocked me. It made me feel very uncomfortable and gave me additional fear that my time in Korea would be a waste. However, through the different supportive communities (ex. KFOP teachers, Korea University's KUBA system, family friends etc.) they turned those fears into happiness... so much happiness that I did not want to leave Korea.

In terms of the academic curriculum in Korea, it wasn't easy. I expected the workload to be less demanding than the workload in Hawaii. However, from the very first day of SIP, I soon found out that it was the exact opposite. In addition, balancing between internship and school was a lot more difficult than I expected it to be. But as time passed and with the endless support the teachers in Korea gave to me, everything was possible. Although it was overwhelming at first with all the OPI adjunct classes, tutoring, media lecture, internship, and my major-related courses, with the right time-management and mindset, anything was possible.

Although the Korean Flagship Program had high expectations for us, KFOP provided all the materials and environment we needed to meet those expectations. Words can't express the full extent of my gratitude to everyone who made this experience possible. I would like to thank my overseas classmates and all the Korean Flagship teachers and coordinators in Korea and Hawaii for making this journey unforgettable. Korea will always be my second home and I am proud to say that I don't regret anything from this amazing experience. Thank you!

한국에서 1년동안 생활했던 경험이 꿈 같았다. 사실, 경제적인 이유 때문에 고려대학교 현지 프로그램을 끝까지 해내야할지 많은 고민을 했다. 그러나, KFLC과 KFOP의 무한한 지원 덕분에 1년 한국 현지 프로그램을 잘 마무리 할 수 있었으며 소중한 기억할 수 있는 추억들과 좋은 사람들을 만날 수 있었다.

한국에 도착하자 몇주동안 한마디로 당황스러웠다. 한국의 빨리빨리 문화와 술 문화가 충격이었다. 그 것 때문에 많은

불편함을 느꼈고 한국에 있는 시간이 낭비될 수도 있다는 공포감을 더 느꼈다. 그러나, 여러 공동체의 지원 때문에 (예: 한국어 플래그십 선생님들, 고려대의 교환학생 버디 시스템, 가족의 친구들 등) 그 공포감들을 극복할 수 있었다... 한국을 떠나고 싶지 않다는 생각이 들 정도로 행복을 주었다.

한국의 학업 과정면에서도 쉽지 않았다. 하와이에 비해 덜 힘들줄 알았는데 SIP를 시작하자마자 내가 기대했던 것과 아니었다. 또한, 인턴십과 학교를 병행한다는 것도 생각보다 더 어려웠다. 그러나 시간이 갈수록 그리고 한국에 있는 선생님들이 지원해 주시면서 모든 일을 극복할 수 있었다. 처음에는 OPI 부가수업, 도우미 활동, 한국어 언론 수업, 인턴십, 그리고 전공 수업들 때문에 힘에 겨웠지만 시간 관리와 할 수 있다는 의지 덕분에 모든 일이 가능했다.

한국어 플래그십 프로그램이 우리학생들에게 기대하는 것이 컸을지라도, 그 기대에 부응하기 위해 필요한 자료와 환경을 조성해 주었다. 이 모든것을 가능하게 해준 모든 분들에게 말로 표현하기엔 어려울만큼 감사한다. 한국과 하와이의 모든 친구들과 교수님, 코디네이터들에게도 이 귀하고 잊을 수 없는 경험을 할 수 있도록 해주심을 감사하고 싶다. 한국은 항상 제2의 집이고 이 놀라운 경험에 대한 후회가 없고 자랑스럽다고 말하고 싶다. 감사합니다!



Janal Kim
BA Cohort 5

The past year has been one that was more arduously demanding than one I have ever experienced. Working around a busy schedule with an internship, school, supplementary classes, and a capstone report in addition to the stress and pressure of obtaining high scores on the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK), it was only natural that I became a more disciplined adult. Despite being a Korean-American who already knew a fair amount of the Korean language and culture through the Korean Language Flagship Program, there was still countless instances of culture shock that I had undergone. This was especially due to the major differences in views between the US and South Korea. The egalitarian and liberal view that many Americans in the US hold is quite the opposite of the hierarchal and conservative view that many Koreans have. Although it was initially rather difficult adapting to the cultural differences, I came to grow a better understanding of the Korean people and their culture, and only then was it easier to become more accepting. Through this process I inadvertently and evidently came to know more about myself as well. I ultimately found myself being a “Roman” or trying to be one that is, in “Rome”. St. Augustine once said, “The world is a book and those who do not travel read only a page.” I feel that this quote is especially true and pertains to what I experienced over the past year, and despite the hardships I have encountered, every experience was a rewarding one in its own special way that contributed to my growth as an intern, a scholar, and overall as a person. I recommend that everyone opens up the “world book” that St. Augustine was referring to and read more than a page.

지난 일 년 간 한국에서 생활하면서 많은 사람들을 만났고 좋은 추억을 만들었으며 여러 가지 인생 교훈을 받았다. 새롭고 다양한 경험을 통해 유익한 시간을 지냈건만 현실적으로는 늘 즐거운 시간은 아니었다. 한국에 입국하기 전에 한국어를 전공하고 있는 2세 한국계 미국인으로서 한국 문화를 잘 알고 있다고 생각을 했는데 막상 한국에서 일 년 동안 생활을 하다 보니 그렇지 않는다는 사실을

깨닫게 되었고 여러 차례 걸쳐 문화적 충격을 받게 되었다. 처음에는 개방적인 사고를 갖고 한국 사회와 문화를 잘 납득하기 보다는 저항을 하고 어떤 부분은 이해를 하고 싶지 않았다. 그러나 이해를 하고 싶은 마음을 갖게 되자 그 순간부터 하와이에서 태어났고 여기서 자란 내가 한국 사회 및 문화를 이해하는 데에 있어 진심으로 우물 안 개구리였다는 사실을 깨닫게 되었다. 수많은 실패와 실수로 인해 버티기가 힘들어져 포기하고 싶을 때도 있었으나 주변에 있는 친구들, 선배들 그리고 선생님들의 사랑과 지원을 끊임 없이 받았기에 모든 시련을 극복할 수 있게 되었다. 지난 일 년간 양지가 음지 될 때도 있었고 음지가 양지 될 때도 있었는데 모든 경험은 나에게 인턴, 학사 그리고 전반적으로 사람으로서 도움이 되었다.



Joseph Oh
BA Cohort 6

I was blessed to have the most important and meaningful experience in my life while I was completing the Master's degree through the Korean Language Flagship program these past two years. At first, I thought that there would be nothing much more to learn about Korea, but the past two years were the most valuable time in my life to see, to feel, and to learn Korea in many different ways as an adult. It was a little hard for me to adjust myself to the relaxed atmosphere and the hot weather of Hawaii, which is so different from New York. But I was truly fortunate enough to meet my cohort – Rachel Nam, Danica Lim, Jonathan Kam, Marco Garcia, Courtney Diehl, and Narith Ta.

I was able to expand my knowledge in Korean history, and learned the differences between Korea and the US in detail through the history and media classes. It was one-of-a-kind experience for me to take such advanced classes in the Korean language in America. While I was teaching a Korean class as a graduate assistant, I saw how ignorant I was of my native language. I felt as if I was learning Korean all over again with my students, and I have learned so much from my students about teaching language and culture to foreigners.

Cherishing the beauty and peace of Hawaii, we flew to Korea in January of last year right after the first semester, and spent an entire year at Korea University. My cohort and I quickly began to adapt ourselves to the dynamic Korean lifestyle. But I was frustrated that my Korean was far from being perfect once I began doing homework and translating academic documents at my internship, the Research Institute of Korean Studies. I was rather confident when it came to translating and interpreting the Korean language since I have worked as an interpreter before at the local courthouses and hospitals to help out my father's business, but I was seriously baffled many, many times whenever I saw the academic jargons, because I just had no idea what they meant. Reading and translating academic research documents while I was completing the core course requirement for school, I realized that my interests in Korean culture and literature were growing, and the theme of my MA thesis became Korean literature. Reading the Korean literature, and searching for the critiques and dissertations on them took more time and effort than I expected at first. However, I began to understand the original Korean sentiment as I was reading the Korean literature, which is completely different from Western literature. I was glad to establish my Korean identity again through Korean literature because I saw myself as a true Korean and American.

My cohort and I came back to Hawaii this January again, and worked very hard to finish our thesis and complete the remaining five core curriculum classes at the same time. But we also had a lot of fun at the Korean Culture Festival this year, seeing the students singing Korean songs far better than native Koreans, writing Korean calligraphy and wearing *hanbok* for the first time. I realized that the Korean Language Flagship Center is the place for scholars with pure interests and love for Korea, transcending the national boundaries, and also reassured myself that my internship experience would be most valuable to what I am about to do in the future. Although I do not have the faintest idea what is out there for me, I am positive that it is waiting for me, shining brightly, and not too far from me.

하와이 대학교에서 한국어 플래그십 석사 프로그램을 이수하면서 보고 느끼고 배운 것이 너무나 많아 지난 2년은 정말 알차고 즐거웠습니다. 사실 한국에서 태어나 어린 시절을 보낸 저로서는 그리 새로울 게 없다고 생각했지만, 성인이 되어 좀 더 다양한 시각에서 한국을 바라볼 수 있었던 귀중한 시간이었습니다. 처음 하와이에 도착했을 때는 뉴욕과 너무나 다른 느긋한 생활방식과 더위에 적응하느라 조금 고생스러웠지만, 다양한 개성을 가진 착한 동료들을 만나 금방 친해지게 되었습니다.

한국역사와 문화에 익숙하다고 생각했던 저는 한국사를 배우며 지식의 폭을 넓힐 수 있었습니다. 미디어 수업을 통해 한국과 미국의 차이를 더 자세히 알게 되면서, 제가 몰랐던 사실을 많이 알게 되어 유익한 경험이 되었습니다.

니다. 조교로서 학생들을 가르치면서 저의 한국어 실력을 다시 한 번 다듬을 수 있었고, 저 또한 그들로부터 많은 것을 배우고 느낄 수 있어서 행복하였습니다.

아름답고 평화로운 하와이의 기운을 간직한 채, 저희 플래그십 7기생들은 작년 1월 한국으로 날아가 고려대학교에서 1년을 보냈습니다. 고풍스런 분위기의 고려대학교 캠퍼스를 자유롭게 누비는 해외 학생들은 한국을 온몸으로 즐기고 있었습니다. 저를 포함한 플래그십 7기생들도 여유로운 하와이와는 완전히 다른 역동적인 한국문화에 빨리 적응하기 시작했습니다. 하와이에서 보낸 첫 학기에 이어 한국에서도 미디어 수업을 들으며 엄청난 양의 숙제와 마주하고, 인턴십 기관으로 택한 민연 국제학센터에서 번역을 시작하면서, 저의 한국어 실력이 아직도 완전하지 않다는 사실을 깨닫고 좌절하였습니다. 뉴욕에서는 아버지를 도와 법정 통역이나 의료 통역을 하고, 각종 번역물을 다루어 보았기에 나름 자신감이 있었지만, 전문 학술 용어는 아예 이해하지 못하는 부분이 많아 당황한 적이 한두 번이 아니었습니다. 하와이 대학교 플래그십 과정을 거치면서 많은 학자들의 연구 논문을 읽고 번역하는 중, 한국 문화와 한국문학에 대한 저의 관심이 점점 높아지는 것을 느꼈습니다. 석사 논문이라는 막중한 임무를 수행해야 하는 저는 논문의 주제를 한국문학으로 정하고, 참고문헌을 수집하기 시작했습니다. 어렵פות이 알고 있던 한국문학 작품을 다시 읽어보고, 그에 관한 비평과 연구 논문을 찾아보는 작업은 많은 시간과 노력을 요했습니다. 그러나, 서양과 확연히 다른 한국의 고유한 정서가 담긴 한국문학 작품을 읽으면서, 한국인의 정서를 느낄 수 있었으며, 저의 한국적 정체성을 다시 확립할 수 있었습니다. 다채로운 사건으로 가득한 한국 역사는 제 삶의 일부이기도 하다는 사실을 깨달았습니다. 하와이에 돌아와 논문을 완성하고, 한국문화 축제를 경험하면서, 하와이 대학의 플래그십 석사 과정은 국적을 초월하여 한국을 진심으로 사랑하는 이들의 마음이 모인 곳이라는 것을 알게 되었습니다. 그리고 이 모든 경험은 앞으로 제가 할 일의 토대가 되리라고 확신하였습니다. 그 일이 어떤 것인지 아직 알 수 없지만, 그리 멀지 않은 곳에서 아름답게 빛나는 모습으로 저를 기다리고 있으리라 확신합니다.



Dianne Juhn
MA Cohort 7

Like many other Korean language learners, my interest in Korea and Korean started when I heard groups such as Big Bang, Girl's Generation, and Epik High. You might be chuckling at this point, maybe because you can relate to this, or you've probably seen this from other people you know. But hey, a guy's got to be honest; this Hallyu Wave hit me pretty hard. I'll admit, I was naïve and only knew of the stereotypes that people had of Korea, but delving into all these courses about Korea, I realized that there had always been something intangible that drew me to this country. And so I applied and ultimately got accepted into the Korean Language Flagship Master's Program, not knowing what I was going to expect. Not only that, I was leaving my comfort zone moving from my home state of California to Hawaii. Wow, just re-reading this paragraph made me realize how much uncertainty I had about everything.

Reflecting on the program now that I am done and looking back at all the insecurities I had of my life, academia, moving out-of-state, and of course my future; I realized what the program has done for me. In addition to the fact that this program had dramatically improved my Korean and my understanding of such a diverse range of topics related to Korea, I have gained a sense of independence and understanding for what I want from my life and what I have accomplished. The faculty, students, and coordinators in this program not only sought to educate, but have mentored students like myself. I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to be a part of this program; being given the opportunity to grow and mature and sometimes joke around. As Professor Dong-Kwan Kong said to me, "This is only the first step."

다른 한국어 학습자들처럼 빅뱅, 소녀시대, 에픽하이와 같은 한국의 아이돌 그룹들을 처음 들었을 때 폭 빠져서 한국과 한국어에 대한 관심이 생겼다. 여러분은 이 사실을 이해할 수 있는지는 모르겠지만 좀 웃기죠? 솔직히 말하자면 한류로 인해 큰 영향을 받았다. 끔찍하게 순진했고 사회의 한국에 대한 고정 관념에 대해서만 알았다는 것을 인정하겠다. 그러나 다양한 한국어 수업들을 통해 한국이라는 나라를 깊이 배우게 되고 끌리게 되었다..

이러한 큰 관심 때문에 아무것도 모르고 한국어 플래그십 프로그램에 지원하고 입학하게 되었다. 그 뿐만 아니라, 캘리포니아에서 하와이까지 이사한 것은 저한테 과감한 발걸음이었다. 이 단락을 다시 읽어보니 모든 것에 대한 불확실성이 얼마나 있었는지 알게 되었다..

석사 프로그램을 마치고 나니 저의 생활, 학문적인 경험, 새로운 곳으로 이사한 경험, 미래에 대한 불안감을 되돌아볼 때 저는 이 프로그램을 통해 많은 것을 배우게 되었다.. 저의 한국어 능력과 한국과 관련된 다양한 주제들에 대한 인식을 급속하게 향상시킨 것 뿐만 아니라 저의 삶에 무엇을 원하는지 그리고 독립심을 불러일으켜 주었다.. 한국어 플래그십의 교수진, 학생들, 그리고 코디네이터들은 교육시키려고 했을뿐만 아니라 저와 같은 학생들에게 멘토 역할이 되어주었다. 석사 프로그램을 한 기회를 주었고 성장할 기회와 가끔 장난할 기회를 주어서 감사한다. 공동관 교수님이 말씀하신 것처럼, "졸업은 단지 첫 걸음에 불과하다."



Narith Ta
MA Cohort 7





Korean Language Flagship Center

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**B.A. in
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