Korean Flagship Times

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Picture Source: http://1000amazingplaces.blogspot.com/2012/06/970-seoul-south-korea.html
# Korean Language Flagship Center

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- **Tutors**

### Graduate Program
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- **Instructors**

### Overseas Program
- **Inbum Kang**, Coordinator
- **Instructors**

## 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.

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<td>Sejong Institute Foundation</td>
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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 good-bye 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.
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.

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.
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 Orienation

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.

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).
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-ch’i’gi (딱지치기), sŏye (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 Ttŏpkokki (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

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.
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
KFOPMaster’s Program Orientation
Four students attended the KFOP 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 KFOP. 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 to provide guidelines to buddies and Flagship students. This also gave an opportunity 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 Chaebōls (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
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. Before 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.
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 걱정했다. 처음에는 많이 긴장했지만 공부를 하다보니 결과는 항상 내 자신의 시간과 노력의 방대한 날짜를 깨달았다. 그뿐만 아니라 하와이 대학교에서 배우는 과정은 한국에서 1년 동안 유학 생활을 하는 것보다는 어렵지 않았던 것 같다.

온라인 반 친구들과 달리 나는 한여름 이전에 가 본 적이 단 한 번도 없었다. 비행기에 탔던 순간은 아직도 생생하다. 기쁨, 흥분, 두려움 등 여러 가지 감정이 한꺼번에 밀려왔다. 한국에 도착하자, 플래그십 친구들은 매우 친절하게 서울을 안내해주었다. 빠른 전철을 타고, 수많은 카페를 돌아얼 리나 마무리하고, 맛있으면서 비싸지 않은 음식을 찾아서 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 위해 많은 지원과 격려를 아끼지 않았고 학생들이 힘들어할 때 항상 도움을 주시고 위로를 해주셨다. 또, 내 꿈을 찾을 수 있게 도와주셨고, 한국어 공부에 대한 열정을 심어주셨다. 이에 대한 감사를 글로써도 표현할 수가 없을 것 같다. 그리고 비록 내 도착지가 빠르면 대답하고 훌륭한 우리한국어 플래그십 친구들과 함께 많은 재미있는 이색들을 겪게 되었음을 수 있을 것이다. 함께 공부할 수 있겠다는 것을 정말 다행이라고 생각하고 이제는 서로의 친구로 무를 수 있게 되었다는 것이 너무 좋다. 여러분들, 정말 감사합니다. 정말 잊을 수 없는 여행이자 평생 추억이었습니다.

Tyler Miyashiro
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
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.