



# The Wheel

CARVE OUT THE FUTURE TOGETHER



KOREA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

케이씨대학교

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\*Youngran An (Editorial Advisor) E-mail: yyrran@kcu.ac.kr, Chanwoo Lim (Chief Editor) E-mail: ycw1028@naver.com



2018교육부  
대학기본역량진단평가에서  
**자율개선대학**으로  
최종 선정되었습니다!

## *Autonomous Improvement University: Plans for years ahead*

College Basic Competency Diagnosis is the name of the government's university evaluation method for the purpose of reducing the overall number of universities. Among the 50 universities in Seoul, KCU was selected as an autonomous improvement university after a basic competency diagnosis conducted last year. As a result of the selection, KCU can receive 1.6 billion Won of financial support from the Education Ministry for over three years and student loans can also be available. However, since KCU was selected this year, it is still in the process of preparing for school development and is the development phase. So, we interviewed students, professors, and staff about the Autonomous Improvement University.

First, Professor Kang Woo-joon of the G2 Big Data Management Department, was interviewed. He is the head of the planning department's representative business group and is in charge of autonomous improvement university. When asked how finances would be used, he said, "The Ministry of Education has decided to use them for university innovation projects, and these projects are planned to be for students' education. We are also planning how we could focus on education and create Academic-Societal Revolution. In particular, we will assign a lot of support to student satisfaction management."

*Some of current plans are:*

- 1) **Creating** educational contents by improving majors, non-subject materials, and liberal arts in a curriculum with a concept of talent training and student guarantee. Contents are important in education, so development of a right college operating system is currently in progress.
- 2) **Facilitating** Academic-Societal Revolution, which measures how much a college contributes to its community. KCU plans courses that will help students to become prepared workers by actively doing community work.
- 3) **Securing** student satisfaction also known as 'Student Guarantee' where creating an educational environment for students is a top priority. In order to change school facilities, current music building is set to become a pleasant open reading room students can study. Latest air-conditioning systems are to be installed and more resting areas for students will be made by actively utilizing space in each floor. Also, reading rooms will be renovated.

One student shared his reaction: "Frankly, it is hard to judge just by glance, but if you look closely, you can see that the school faculty and professors are struggling in many ways." He added, "As the school knows the best about its own situation, I expect that more accurate improvements will be achieved."

Jihye Kwak, Jihyun Lee





KCU students and Hwagok High School students practicing an English debate together at classrooms of Hwagok High School.

## ***KCU's Engagement in the Community: Teaching English debate to high school students***

**Service Learning**, also known as SL, is an elective course for students in the department of English at KCU. SL allows students to use English skills they have acquired while teaching other people in our community. Following Myeongdeok High School and Myeongdeok Girls' High School last year, another SL class started on April 3 at Hwagok High School. Every Wednesday, an English debate SL class has taken place at Hwagok High School or KC university by Professor An Young-ran and her students.

Compared to last year's SL classes there have been many improvements. First, the class is more organized as the number of mentors increased and the number of mentees decreased. Every mentor is assigned only two mentees, so mentors can teach according to each mentee's ability. Second, mentors gather and practice in advance to improve mentors' understanding of the topics that will be shared and improve their debating abilities.

The following are interviews with Professor An, (who created the SL classes), Shin Ye-jin and Lee Ji-hyun (mentors) and Kim Dong-hwa, a high school student mentee.

### ***Q. (For Professor An) Why do you continue to hold an English debate class?***

Even if you want to take a debate class in high school, you don't have the right environment such as: experts, participants, time, effort and money. That's why high schools are welcome to take the time to offer debate classes. The reason why a debate-style method is used is that high school students prefer classes with enough records and data. If a class changes continuously, it would be difficult for students to predict what this class does, and this would lead to decrease in participation. Therefore, the debate-style classes are constantly being held because they reflect the needs of the educational field, and there are more opportunities to gain professional experience by increasing their knowledge.

### ***Q. (For Professor An) What kind of skills do you want students to improve from debating?***

I hope as mentors teach others, they will improve their confidence and English speaking skills. Unlike when mentors just sit down and listen to lectures, mentors will feel burdened and spend more time and effort to teach students. Your techniques and knowledge surely become yours when you teach what you have learned from others. Mentee students have different levels, knowledge, ideas, and levels, so I cannot match with all of their levels. Debating courses need mentors in order to enhance the conversational and thinking skills of the mentee.



**Q. (For Mentor Yejin Shin) How did you get to know this class and why did you apply?**

I once attended the class as a volunteer because of Professor An's request for help. After that, she recommended that I take the class next semester. I applied to the class because, not only because of Professor An's recommendation, but I also wanted to improve my leadership skill and logical thinking by participating as a mentor.

**Q. (For Mentor Yejin Shin) What is a mentor to you?**

I think a mentor is someone who can teach according to the ability of the mentees' level. Because my mentees were not good at speaking English, I prepared English discussion in advance and practiced with the mentees so that they could speak in their own words. Also, I helped my mentees to pronounce correctly and taught many English expressions.

**Q. (For Mentor Yejin Shin) Did you have any difficulties as a mentor?**

At first, it was difficult to teach because I did not know my mentees' level, but after grasping their level, there was no particular difficulty.

**Q. (For Mentor Jihyun Lee) Why did you take the course one more time?**

I took this course for the first time last year. At that time, everything was fresh so it was awkward to deal with students and the activities. However, I learned a lot from my seniors. After this experience, I wanted to show my progress and prove what I had learned.

**Q. (For Mentor Jihyun Lee) What do you think a mentor is?**

I think a mentor's role is to communicate well with students, to remind students of their potential, to teach them what they lack and to improve their skills. So, I am helping students to be more confident by leading them to speak English on their own. Also, I am trying to help students to understand things that students do not understand by solely preparing data. I want students to have good time learning English and build their confidence with communicating to others.

**Q. (For Mentor Jihyun Lee) Did you have any difficulties as a mentor?**

There was no difficulty for students to follow along. However, I felt disappointed by the lack of participation of students in this class.



Professor An gives a lecture about a weekly debate topic to students.



Hwagok High School students prepare for a weekly debate.

**Q. (For Mentee Donghwa Kim) Why did you choose an English discussion club?**

When I first chose this club, I decided to try it with my friend out of curiosity because I had already done an English discussion class before. Also, I joined because I thought English discussion would be helpful for my studies.

**Q. (For Mentee Donghwa Kim) What did you want to learn from this class?**

It was harder than I thought because I wasn't able to speak English very well. I have studied English grammar and vocabulary a lot and I want to improve my English conversation skills through this class.

**Q. (For Mentee Donghwa Kim) Do you want to recommend this club to other friends? Why?**

There was no English club like this when I was in middle school so I would recommend this club to my friends because it feels more comfortable and fun to talk in English with college students.

Jihyun Kim, Sohyeong Yu



## KCU pursues New ways of Teaching students

Development of information network system (INS) like AI, big data, and mobile systems has continued all around the world in the 21st century. Many researchers have proven the fact that the

development of INS affects many fields such as politics, economy, and society. Among those fields, the area of greatest development is education. This was proved through recent data research.

In the past, many universities had taught students one way of gathering information which limited their thinking. However, the fourth industrial revolution aims to cultivate people's talents utilizing unique approaches like "Flipped Learning" and "Educational Social Network Service." These two methods are preferred by current educators. Educational SNS is a new educational measuring system and some colleges in Seoul are already using this service. It provides many services such as: E-portfolio, (which encompasses a lot of learning materials and personal career data of students and educator), a mentor & mentee system (where mentors guide their mentees), and school reunion. Moreover, Educational SNS can be accessed through mobile applications. Most of applications used by universities are Google Classroom and Classting, which can help students to open up new ways of thinking.

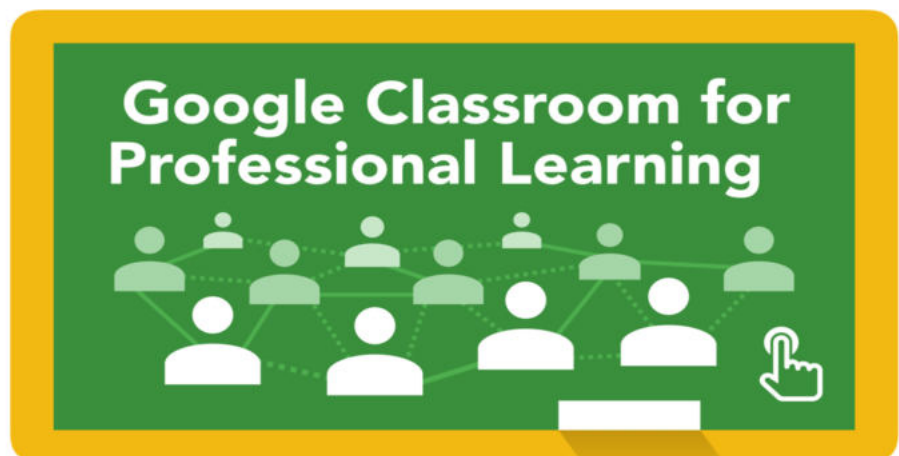
Since 2017, Korea Christian University has used Google Classroom to make classes more effective. Professor An Yeong-ran, a professor of G2 International Languages department at KCU, explained how Google Classroom has improved students' study habits. When she assigned writing homework to students in English Writing class, the students uploaded their homework on Google Classroom. If they wanted to revise their submitted works, they could do so anytime they wanted. In the comment sections, students can discuss topics, context and grammar regarding the assignment, too. By using Google Classroom, Professor An has verified the fact that the students who attended the writing class had improved their writing skills through an online method.

Educational SNS is also not limited by space and time. Students can use Educational SNS anywhere and anytime. This allows students to study better and educational communities to improve. Such applications like Classroom or Classting may eventually help students adapt to their future work life. As many companies currently have their own unique network applications similar to the ones in colleges, graduates, who are accustomed to Education SNS, may quickly become familiar with companies' network systems.

Sangwoo Kim



*Flipped Learning is one unique teaching method preferred by current educators.*



*Education SNS like Google Classroom and Classting have improved students' ability.*





Front page of Shared University Platform, which helps college students to participate in classes of 32 different universities.

## Korean Universities seek improvement through credit exchanges

In 2015, 32 universities, located in Seoul, started academic and credit exchanges. KCU can exchange academic classes and credits with 23 universities such as Konkuk University, Sejong University, Sookmyung Women's University, Soongsil University, and Chung-ang University.

According to University Presidents of Seoul Forum, a reason for the exchange of credits is that, just as the world shares the economy, Korean universities can survive only in line with global trends. In response, University Presidents of Seoul Forum, consisted of 32 university presidents, introduced a concept of sharing universities to promote joint development through exchanges and sharing of personal and material resources from each university.

Through the exchange of credits, students can take courses that are not available at their universities, and universities can create a synergy by sharing classes with different majors.

A manager of the Seoul Forum said, "The number of students applying for exchange credits has continued to rise since the beginning. Especially, there are many more applicants in the first semester of 2019 compared to the second semester of 2018."

A manager of the Educational Affairs Department of KCU said, "From the summer semester of 2016 to now, there always has been students who applied for the credit exchange. I think the number of students who would consistently apply for the exchange of credits will increase."

Tuition fees for exchanges are divided into regular and seasonal semesters. A regular semester can be paid through students' own colleges, and a seasonal semester can be paid through colleges that students want to attend.

You can apply a maximum of six credits regardless of a regular semester and a seasonal semester. Applications can be submitted by using 'Sharing University' platform or filling out official documents from each school.



Hyomin Chung



## *Preparing for a job: How to Participate in a Contest*

**Contests** are essential when you try to find a job. However, it's not always easy to know where to begin. So in this article, I'm going to show you how to participate in a contest and give you practical tips.

First, how do you find a contest? These websites are good: Wevity, Specup (naver-cafe), Outcampus (naver-cafe), Thinkcontest, and Detizen. If you want a little more familiar application, there is a sister version of 'Campus Pick' from college app 'Every-time'. Although these websites and apps may slightly differ, most of them introduce foreign activities, including public exhibitions. In some cases, users may share information regarding both college clubs and school life.

Second, how do you choose a contest? It's waste of time to try out all the contests it's just about the prize money. It is better to select a contest that relates to your major and try one or two contests per semester so that you do not get overwhelmed.

Third, what about some practical tips? First of all, you must be clearly aware of the themes of the contests you

participate in. You may then brainstorm about those subjects. Next is presentation ability. Whether you submit power-point slides or make presentations, visual emphasis is important. Third, ability to utilize various data is required. You should be able to find and use right information anywhere on newspapers, social networking sites, TV and Internet. It is also necessary to know how to analyze and organize data. Fourth, you should be able to logically assert your points. You can only persuade judges when you have good logic. Fifth, concrete measures must be presented. Unless it is a contest for the arts, both private companies and public institutions most likely prefer clear-cut outcomes created with right measures and strategies.

However, the best thing to do when first preparing for contests is to be in a team with other people who had participated or even won contests before because they may share their knowledge. Also, If you don't wish to participate with students from your major, you could meet with students from other departments.

Inyoung Heo





## Stray cats in KCU

Last winter, a stray cat named "Hosik" wandered onto the KCU campus. He was one of many stray cats who wander around the school looking for food. He was very skinny due to malnourishment and the cold. Fortunately, he has gained much weight thanks to Professor Jeong Bokju and a few students who have helped him and many other stray cats by providing food and places for them to eat.

The meal centers not only serve as a place to feed the cats but also gives them boundaries to control the cat population. Giving them boundaries keeps the cats from moving to buildings and keeps them near the meal centers. Right now, the meal center can take care of the current number of cats which is seven, but will not be able to if the current count rises.

The best way to stop population growth is TNR (trap-neuter-return). TNR is currently the best long-term method to stabilize the population and minimize public complaints. However, since KCU is a private university, it cannot use the TNR method but it could work in conjunction with animal rights organizations. Perhaps a club co-



uld be formed on campus that would address this issue.

Acknowledging this need, Professor Jeong stated that if enough students want to organize an official club for stray cats, she will be happy to be a sponsor for the club. If anyone is interested, please contact: name, phone, email.

Myeongcheol Noh

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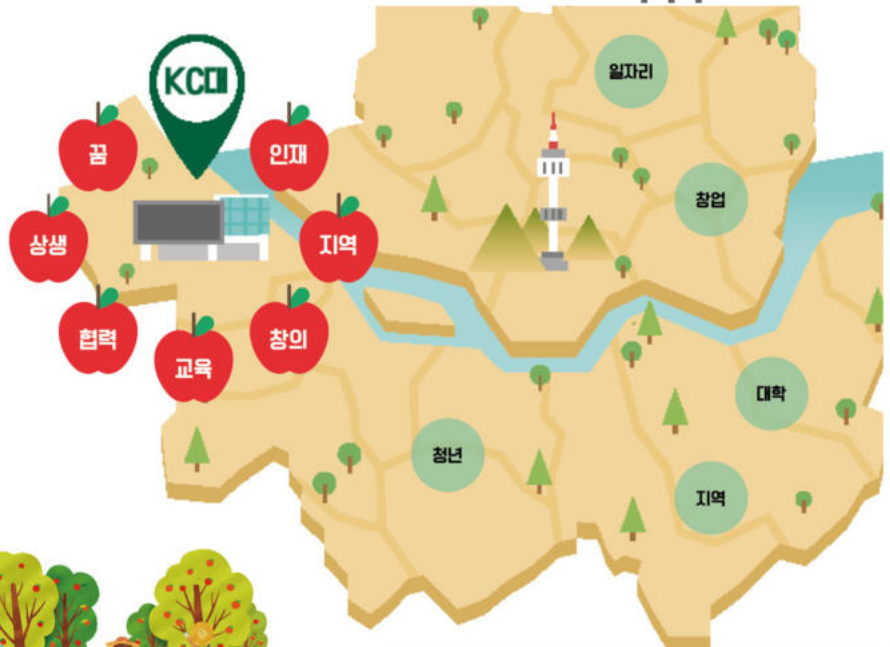
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07661 서울특별시 강서구 까치산로 24길 47 KC대학교


TEL\_02-2600-2294~5

FAX\_02-2600-2296

홈페이지\_ <http://www.kcu.ac.kr>

 KC대학교

 서울특별시

 강서구