

KOREA & OXFORD



April 2013

Forging future ties

The University of Oxford is building on its long-standing ties to Korea to advance cutting edge scientific research and become a centre for the meaningful study of Korea.

Korea boasts a long history and rich cultural heritage and is today the world's 15th largest economy with 13 companies in the Fortune Global 500. With Oxford's 900-year history of teaching and current status as home to more world leading researchers than any other UK institution, the University and the Republic are well matched and can look forward to a bright future of cooperation.

The University has been proud to welcome many industrial and cultural leaders from Korea in recent years, including Ambassador Kim Woosang, President of the Korea Foundation; Chang Gyu Hwang, National Chief Technology Officer; Professor Chang D Yoo, Associate Vice President of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, and representatives of the Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning, the Korea Institute of Energy Research, and the Korea Electrotechnology Research Institute. We have also hosted the Presidents of Korea University and Yonsei University.

Oxford academics have built significant collaborations with Korean colleagues in areas such as nanotechnology, biochemistry, astrophysics and cancer research. Oxford has also signed agreements, laying the ground for future collaboration with key institutions in Korea including Yonsei University, Seoul National University, Korea University, the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience & Biotechnology, and the Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning.

The University maintains a permanent base in Korea through the Oxford University Press (OUP) office in Seoul. The office is dedicated to English language teaching, producing teaching materials and supporting language teachers throughout the country.

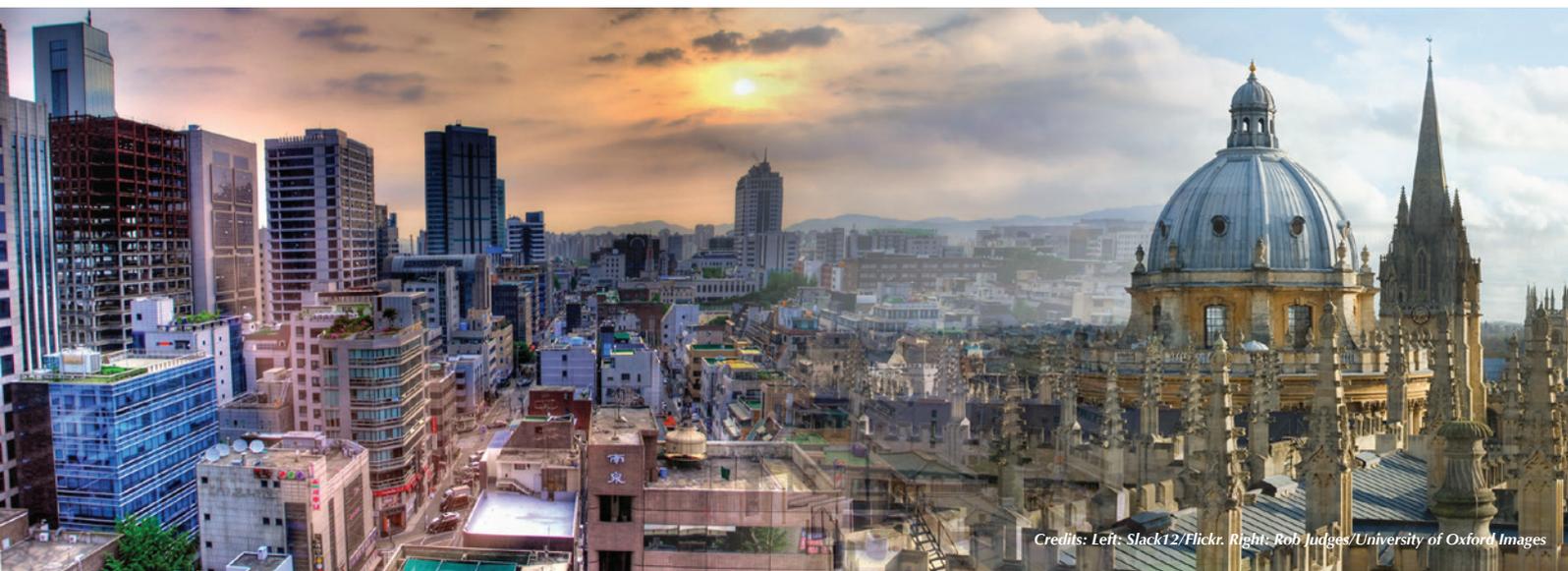


Our aims in Korea

The University of Oxford is committed to recruiting the brightest and best Korean students at all levels of higher education study. In the coming years, we hope to recruit more talented Korean students as well as raising funds to provide scholarships for young Korean researchers working here.

With more and more students studying and researching Korea, the University plans to employ further experts to lead our study of the country and its culture. Oxford is seeking to create two new positions in Korean literature and film, and political economy, social anthropology or modern history.

Oxford is also aiming to forge deeper ties with Korea's leading high-tech sector. It is hoped that the May 2012 visit of Dr Chang-Gyu Hwang, who was named Korea's National Chief Technology Officer in 2010 and was previously President and CEO of Samsung Electronics, will mark the start of a long term partnership.



Ambassador's visit

The strength of collaboration between the University and Korea was in the spotlight when Korean Ambassador to the UK, Park Suk Hwan, visited Oxford in November 2012, meeting with Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton.

The Embassy delegation included Dr Byoung Jun Bae, Head of the Economic Section, and Education Attaché Jaeshik Shin.

The Ambassador used the meeting to discuss the many possibilities for future collaboration presented by Oxford's strengths in basic research and Korea's skills in applied research, while the Vice-Chancellor stressed the ongoing collaborations and agreements

Oxford has with Korean institutions, as well as the support the University is receiving for Korean language instruction from the Korea Foundation.



Park Suk Hwan

Philanthropic support for Korean studies

Since the late 1980s, Oxford has been working to strengthen its Korean Studies programmes. The first full time posts in Korean Studies – a University Lectureship in Korean History and a University Instructorship in Korean Language – were established in June 1994 with the generous support of the Korea Foundation.

In July 2006, a generous joint endowment from the Korea Foundation and the International Communication Foundation established the 'Young Bin Min-Korea Foundation Lectureship in Korean Language and Linguistics', a permanent post at the Oriental Institute. The post is currently held by Dr Jieun Cho Kiaer.

Other leading Oxford experts on Korea include Dr James Lewis, University Lecturer in Korean History. An expert on Korean and Japanese history from 1600 to 1850, Dr Lewis has published extensively on relations between the two countries, focusing on trade and diplomacy. He is currently working on the economic history of Korea from 1400 to 1900.

Dr Young-hae Chi, Instructor in Korean, who previously worked as a military specialist at the Korea Institute for Defense Analyses in Seoul, has recently focused his work at Oxford on the interdisciplinary analysis of politics, theology, and religion.

Growing Korean study opportunities

Undergraduate interest in Korean and Korean Studies is on the increase, and the Faculty of Oriental Studies is working towards a significant expansion in offerings on the literature, language, and history of Korea.

In 1995, the University launched its postgraduate MSt in Korean Studies, which aims to build students' Korean language skills and to familiarise students with many of the most important classical

texts from all periods of Korean history.

Students in Korean Studies already have access to teaching in Korean history, language (both Middle Korean and Modern Korean) and linguistics (both of Korean and comparatively with other East Asian languages). Oxford looks forward to an expansion in the teaching of literature. The Faculty of Oriental Studies also offers a DPhil in Oriental Studies through which researchers can focus on Korea.

Rich collections

Oxford's Bodleian Libraries hold an extensive range of rare and ancient Korean books, manuscripts and other historic items in their collections. These include rare antiquarian printed books and manuscripts, fine portrait albums, and a painted scroll of the funeral procession of King Yŏngjo.

The first arrivals of Korean materials at the Bodleian were a group of books from the New Testament translated in the 1880s into the native Korean script, han'gŭl, by John Ross.

Many of the other rare and important Korean books and manuscripts were donated to the Library by Bishop Mark Trollope, who first went to Korea in 1890,

less than ten years after Korea opened to the West. The donation included two manuscripts, one of which is a painted representation of the funeral of King Yŏngjo in 1776, and a small number of eighteenth and nineteenth century printed Korean texts given in 1927.

Thanks to the University's strong relationship with Seoul National University (SNU), the Bodleian library now holds even more Korean treasures. In March 2009, Professor Jang Moo Lee, President of SNU, visited Oxford to present a generous donation of 400 facsimile books from the Kyujanggak Archive, the royal library of the Chosŏn Dynasty, which is currently maintained by the Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies at SNU.



This is from a collection of official orders by King Kojong conferring various titles on his government officials and their family members. King Kojong was the twenty-sixth king of the Chosŏn Dynasty and the first emperor of the Korean Empire. (MS.Asiat. Misc.a.41(R) Donated by Colin Franklin. Credit: © Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford.

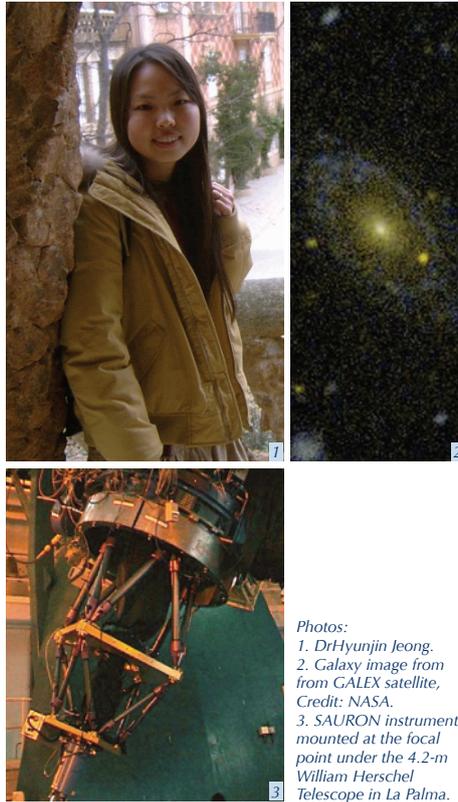


New research reveals evolution of galaxies

Astrophysicists from Oxford and Yonsei University, along with other members of the SAURON team, have won the Royal Astronomical Society's 2013 group achievement award. The team included Dr Hyunjin Jeong, whose PhD at Yonsei was supervised by Oxford's Dr Martin Bureau. They received the prestigious award in recognition of their groundbreaking work on the evolution of galaxies.

Using the SAURON instrument at the William Herschel Telescope in La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain as well as readings from the GALEX satellite, the team probed the composition of what were thought to be ancient galaxies, finding a surprisingly large number harboured young stars.

Hyunjin, who is now continuing her research at Oxford, also contributed to research into the origins of a rare family of stars that are old yet remain very hot. The work shows how the existence of these stars is linked to the chemical enrichment of the galaxy.



Photos:
1. DrHyunjin Jeong.
2. Galaxy image from GALEX satellite, Credit: NASA.
3. SAURON instrument, mounted at the focal point under the 4.2-m William Herschel Telescope in La Palma.

Building a sustainable future for Britain and Korea

In 2012 the University signed a memorandum of understanding with the Korea Institute of Energy Technology Evaluation and Planning to work together to develop green energy technologies.

The agreement commits the Institute and University to advancing sustainable energy use in Britain and Korea, cooperating to develop new technologies that improve energy efficiency, green transport, carbon capture, advanced energy storage systems and other environment-friendly technologies.

Areas of potential future collaboration laid out in the memorandum include identifying industrial partners, conducting joint research, exchanging experts and green energy technology commercialisation.

The signing of the memorandum followed a similar agreement with the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology in 2006, to support research in bionanoscience.

Chief Technology Officer's visit

In May 2012, Oxford's Department of Engineering Science and the Oxford Union Society hosted a special visit by Dr Chang-Gyu Hwang, National Chief Technology Officer of Korea and Head of the Office of Strategic Research and Development Planning in the Ministry of Knowledge Economy. Dr Hwang was previously President and CEO of Samsung Electronics.

Dr Hwang's visit included meetings at the Department, as well as visits to the Institute of Biomedical Engineering's laboratories and the Bodleian Library. He also delivered a lecture to the Oxford Union titled "Smartopia inspires the next big thing", sharing stories of his close relationships with Intel's Andy Grove and Apple's Steve Jobs.

Famous for coining the so-called "Hwang's Law", referring to a hypothesis that the density of top-of-the-line memory chips could double

every 12 months, Dr Hwang led Samsung to become one of the world's largest semiconductor manufacturers. Throughout his tenure Samsung introduced revolutionary new products every year in accordance with Hwang's Law.

It is hoped that Dr Hwang's visit to Oxford will mark the start of a long term partnership with the University. Instrumental in building the relationship is Professor Jong Min Kim, Professor of Electrical Engineering within the Department of Engineering Science and former Senior Vice-President of Samsung.

Professor Kim said: "My role at the Department of Engineering Science focuses on the convergence of nanotechnology with information technology, energy technology, and biotechnology. I am looking forward to developing this area of work".

Professor Kim has played a key role in

international collaborations with the EU, USA, Japan, China and Russia, as well as Korea. In 2012 he arranged for Samsung's support for four Global Research Outreach programmes at the University in the Departments of Engineering, Chemistry and Materials.

Discussions between the University and Samsung regarding further areas of research are ongoing and Oxford looks forward to a long and fruitful future of collaboration.



Dr Chang-Gyu Hwang © Oxford Union. Credit: Jonathan Dunbar



Outstanding Korean staff

Oxford has 13 Korean members of staff on its faculty. These academics and researchers are found in all of the University's four academic divisions, although most are in the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, particularly in Chemistry and Computer Science.

Notable Korean academics at Oxford include **Dr Hongseok Yang**, University Lecturer and EPSRC Advanced Research Fellow in Computer Science. His research interests include programme verification techniques, both manual and automatic, especially techniques for heap and concurrency and the semantics of stateful programming. He has been programme chair for an extensive number of international conferences on computing and programming.

Dr Yang studied for his BSc in Computer Science with Mathematics at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Korea before being awarded his PhD in Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.

The current Young Bin Min-KF University Lecturer in Korean Language and Linguistics is **Dr Jieun Cho Kiaer**. Her teaching and research interests include semantics, syntax, Korean Grammar for Modern and Middle Korean, Korean-Japanese Comparative/Contrastive linguistics, East Asian Linguistics and their

contribution to General Linguistics, and Historical Linguistics and Literature in Korea and Japan.

A growing Korean student body

There are more than 110 Korean students currently studying at Oxford, making Korea the seventh largest source of non-European students for the University.

The Social Sciences are the most popular courses among Korean students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, followed closely by the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences.

For Korean students at Oxford looking for support networks, the student-led Oxford University Korea Society provides a focal point for social and cultural activities.

Active alumni

Oxford has a history of educating Korean leaders in politics, business and academia. Among the many distinguished alumni in Korea are:

- Dr Hak-Kyu Sohn, former governor of Gyeonggi-do, former member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea and candidate in the Democratic United Party's Presidential primaries in 2012.
- Dr Ok-Pyo Moon, Professor of Anthropology and former Dean of the Graduate School, Academy of Korean Studies.

- Dr Kyong-Soo Lho, Professor of Politics and former Dean of the Office of International Affairs, Seoul National University.
- Dr Park Jin, President of the Korea-UK Forum for the Future and former Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea for the Grand National Party. Dr Park is also the current head of the Oxford University Society of Korea.
- Dr Choi Myung Ju, former CEO of GK Partners, concurrently CEO and President of Kyobo Securities and CEO and President of POSTECH Venture Capital Corporation.
- Dr Won Dong Cho, appointed Senior Presidential Secretary for Economic Affairs in early 2013.

For Oxford alumni of all nationalities living in Korea, the Oxford University Society of Korea in Seoul is a focal point.

Scholarship opportunities

The University provides many scholarship opportunities for talented Koreans studying in Oxford. These include the prestigious Clarendon Fund Scholarships, the Louis Dreyfus-Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Programme and multiple awards for students who intended to study at particular colleges.

STUDENT PROFILE: Yongeun Ahn

Course: MSc in Global Health Science

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea

Previous education: BA in International Relations (Global Security Track Focus) at Brown University, USA

The Oxford Experience:

Yongeun is the recipient of a Clarendon Fund Scholarship, the University's flagship graduate scholarship programme.

"In my first term at Oxford I found it challenging to juggle academic work with college life, as well as all the clubs and societies. By the second term, however, I had a much stronger grip of the foundations of public health, and found I had a niche passion for maternal child health.

"I will be working in the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit in the final term to take part in the Millennium Cohort Study to explore the association between breastfeeding and infant-mother attachment. I've also been keen on helping out with Giving What We Can, an organization that aspires to eliminate poverty through encouraging pledges for cost-effective aid interventions.

"There are myriad seminars, talks, and parties – I just wish I had more time, or had the superpower to split myself into three to be everywhere at the same time. There is so much to do in Oxford – it is a privilege to be here."



Aspirations:

"Prior to Oxford, I worked with World Vision, an international humanitarian development and relief organisation. Living and working in Zambia, I was distraught to see mothers of my own age dying from complications during pregnancy due to the absence of basic infrastructural support and simple preventative measures.

"I hope my training at Oxford will teach me how to contribute to national health systems' reform processes through policy advocacy and governance restructuring; I hope to apply healthy pressure to governments by representing an organization with clear bargaining power, authority, and money to affect change. In short, my dream is to move the world's most vulnerable closer to universal health goals."