World’s Top 100 University

Korea University
Korea University will enter the world’s top 100 universities.

KU is now preparing for its new future.
Greetings from Korea University! As President of KU with a strong sense of responsibility and sincerity, I am putting forth my best efforts to make the future of KU stand tall in the world, building upon the proud history of KU as the nation’s pride and hope.

We are now standing at a great transitional period in the history of civilization. Our average life expectancy has been extended by more than 30 years, and the world that we live in has become one big global community. Informatization, led by the semiconductor and computer revolution, has dramatically changed human civilization again. Societies, organizations, and knowledge are changing even at this very moment. Moreover, we are facing many issues that are newly threatening humanity, along with these drastic changes.

KU is pursuing a new start with “Pioneering Intellectuals.” Established in 1905 as the nation’s first private higher education institution, KU has embraced its heritage and history in pioneering the nation’s future during theJapanese occupation, emulated Inchon who built the Library (the current Graduate School Building) by traveling all over the country to raise funds, and followed its seniors who have led democratization and industrialization with the spirits of liberty, justice and truth. Bearing its distinguished history in mind, KU is committed to nurturing young and passionate pioneering intellectuals who can lead the future of humanity in the 21st century.

Korea University will nurture young students not as passengers waiting for a cruise ship ready to set sail on a pleasant and comfortable journey but as pioneers who can build their own boats to navigate through rough and heavy seas. To this end, we will endure the excruciating pain and difficulty in the process of innovation and reformation.

KU-The Future, Pioneering Intellectuals and Innovating KU!

These banners are flying over the KU campus. Pioneering, reformations, changes, and challenges have never been easily accomplished. We once again aim to lead the future in a KU-fashioned way. Please join us and support the future that KU strives to pioneer. We invite you on our journey of opening the future and making KU together. Thank you.

President of Korea University
At the Great Transitional Period in the History of Civilization, Prepare for the Future!

In the midst of the nation’s dark era, Bosung College, founded on the hopes of the people as the nation’s first private institution of higher education, prepares for the future by teaching the innovative but rather overlooked disciplines of law and plutology.

1905~

The Library (the current Graduate School Building), built upon donations and support from the Korean people, prepares for independence and the nation’s future with the spirit of “Putting the Public Ahead of Personal Gain, and Keeping the Faith.”

1935

KU takes the lead in the fight for democracy, contributing to the groundwork for establishing a nation-state.

1940~1960

KU stands at the forefront of industrialization and modernization by leading the way to economic growth as well as pursuing academic research and technical development.

1960~1980

On its 100th anniversary, KU declares its vision to enter the world’s top 100 universities in order to leap forward from the nation’s KU to Global KU.

2005

As the nation’s first private university to enter the world’s top 100, KU states a new future-driven mission.

2016
KU, Sail with Enthusiasm Towards the Future Campus

Foresight and Courage for Transformation:
KU Spirit Flourishing to Become a World Class University

Boundless Thinking and Creation
π-Ville

In September 2016, Pioneer Village (π-Ville) was established for knowledge creation. The π in π-Ville comes from the first two letters of the word “pioneer” and is written as “π” to symbolize endless expansion. As expressed in its name, the village intends to become an incubator for infinite challenge, collaboration, and creation in the hopes of expanding KU’s pioneering spirits.

A Future Space for Creativity and Immersion
SK Future Hall

Unlike traditional lecture rooms, the SK Future Hall is composed of 111 small seminar rooms and 111 individual carrels. This space symbolizes KU’s new university education paradigm for going beyond simply receiving knowledge and discovering knowledge that can lead the future.

A University with the Greatest Trust and Expectations

Autonomy, Trust, and Responsibility
Replacing Proctored Exams, Attendance Checks, and Relative Grading

The Innovative Three-No Policy

As other prestigious global universities have done, KU has implemented an academic policy based on autonomy, trust, and responsibility. KU has made a promise to allow its students to take exams with honor instead of having proctors and to prepare for classes autonomously without checking attendance, and its teachers to assess students without grading them on a curve.

Scholarships to Students in Need and Honor to Students with Outstanding Grades

Reforming the Scholarship Policy Based on Needs

KU has reformed its school scholarship policy to serve its purpose of promoting learning opportunities for students. The Need-based scholarship allows financially challenged students to concentrate on their studies and develop their future rather than to work part-time jobs for tuition.

Academic System to Promote Autonomy

Implementing a Flexible Term System

The flexible term system offers the freedom of choice and concentration by allowing students to design and manage their own semester flexibly. For example, a student can complete a school term in eight weeks per semester or three semesters per year. It enables the professors to concentrate more on their research and the students to take new challenges, such as overseas internships.

Admissions System to Prioritize Potential and Possibilities

Altering High School Education Through Innovating the Admissions System

University admissions have a great influence on the middle and high school education system. Therefore, it is our duty and mission to lead the nation’s farsighted educational framework for future generations. KU presents an innovative admissions system to discover strong applicants with great potential and possibilities.

All Korea University members remember the noble dedication of the donors who have shown their love and faith for KU. Based on their support, KU will set a good example of a global university with its innovative educational infrastructure.
KU, Soar to the Infinite Universe of Research

Leaping to be a research-oriented university as a creative pioneer of the unknown academic fields that will lead the future of humanity.
KU, Connect a New Route Leading to a Wider World

Fostering Global Leaders Who Can Embrace the Global Community with Passion and Love for Humanity: Global KU

Encountering the World with the Frontier Spirit

Placing KU Campus inside Renmin University of China

KU-China Global Leadership Project

KU built the KU Global Center in the prestigious Renmin University of China located in Beijing in 2013. Every year, KU sends about seventy students to Renmin University of China and the Harbin Institute of Technology in order to provide them with opportunities to intensively acquire the language and widely experience the culture in China. The KU-China Global Leadership Project trains students from various academic fields to become regional experts in the Chinese language and culture. The project has been carried out successfully two times a year since 2013. KU is also operating other projects including KU-Silicon Valley and KU-Latin America Global Leadership.

Flourishing to Be Asia’s Top International University

International Summer/Winter Campus

Distinguished professors and students from the world’s top universities convene at KU every summer and winter vacation. KU offers opportunities for students to attend lectures of professors from the Ivy League and interact and be friends with about 2,000 students from the prestigious universities of 40 different countries. KU’s International Summer Campus, proud to be the largest program of its kind in Korea, has grown to be an international summer campus representing Asia.

Being the First Pioneer in the Rising Land of Opportunity

KU-Latin America Project

Latin America is an emerging market, currently receiving worldwide attention. While other universities pursue globalization focusing on the U.K. and the U.S., KU has launched the KU-Latin American Project by pioneering Latin America for the first time. KU is the first university in Korea to sign an MOU with the University of Habana, located in Cuba. KU continues to march into new territories by building collaborations with the ministries of education in Costa Rica, Peru, Columbia, Mexico, and Ecuador.

Expanding Collaborative Research Networks with World Class Universities

Founding the Korea, China, Japan, Nordic and Benelux Consortium

In 2016, KU founded the East Asia-Nordic/Benelux University Consortium (ENUC). Twelve universities in 10 countries—Korea, China, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, and Luxembourg—attended the conference. Members of the ENUC will come together to prepare the future of humanity and the future of higher education based on the groundwork by constructing various collaborative systems such as promotion of joint research, co-development of educational programs, and implementation of societal duties and responsibilities.
To the World’s Top 50 University

Ready To Enter the World’s Top 50 by 2020,
KU Desires Your Support and Interest

KU once again plods on.
Our seniors have always looked beyond the present and
Our history has always been steps pioneering the future.

Our hope of breaking into the world’s top 50 is not just about numbers in ranking;
It is our firm resolution to become a pioneer of a better tomorrow for humanity in this transitional period in the history of civilization.

The university lit by the nation’s candle in 1905,
KU plans to carry out its mission as a global university by 2020.

We invite you to witness how KU responds to the calling of the nation’s leading university and accomplishes its mission of the world university.