YONSEI
Toward Truth and Freedom
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Yonsei University has always followed the righteous path through the twists and turns of Korea’s modern history. As a distinguished global academic institution, Yonsei has made significant contributions to society and humanity. Inheriting this prestigious tradition, we aim to advance into a new era of Yonsei, thereby opening the gateway to the future with what makes us uniquely YONSEI.

In the age of “Big Blur,” we are experiencing the collapse of boundaries between academia and industry. We are confronted with the dual challenges of digital transformation and energy transition on the fiercely competitive battlefield of innovation. Words like creativity, consilience, and convergence have long since become keywords in our society. Innovation is the only way to stay relevant in this rapidly changing international environment.

Yonsei’s enduring mission for 139 years has been to nurture talents who drive innovation and change. We will continue to build on this foundation, to cultivate individuals who proactively tackle the problems of global society while pursuing the values of coexistence. We will strengthen programs that foster creative future talent, such as the “Student-Designed Semester,” enabling students to freely explore academia, to grow as independent agents of the future society.

Yonsei’s key asset is the optimal campus in which we can navigate diverse academic disciplines. We aim to bring together Yonsei’s academic capabilities to address: the meaning and quality of a healthy life in an aging society; redefine human dignity and ethics in the era of artificial intelligence; implement ecological practices to confront climate crises; and consolidate efforts to solve international conflicts and societal challenges. This interdisciplinary research initiative is rooted in a humanistic understanding of humanity and nature embedded in Yonsei spirit. With a focus on future sustainability, including artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and renewable energy, Yonsei will seek to elevate our global research competitiveness.

The new Yonsei era will be realized through “Empowering Yonsei,” founded on the principles of “governance centered on respect and communication.” Enhancing the pride of the Yonsei community through the autonomous and responsible operation of each unit is the first step towards being Yonsei. Ensuring a happy campus, where all Yonseians can pursue studies, research, and personal growth to their hearts’ content, will indeed be the shortcut for Yonsei to leap forward into a future beyond boundaries. Please join us on this journey.

20th President of Yonsei University
DONG-SUP YOON
Mission Statement
Yonsei University is dedicated to educate future leaders of our society in the spirit of Christianity, fostering a strong and lasting commitment to the principles of truth and freedom. “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples, then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” [John 8:31-32]
Yonsei's history is consistent with the milestones of South Korea's social development.

Yonsei University was founded in 1885 by visionaries who recognized the value of education that transcends racial and national boundaries. The pure passion and dedication of Yonsei's founders to nurture future leaders in the service of humanity live on to this day. Over the past 139 years, approximately 370,000 people have earned a degree at Yonsei University, contributing to the development of society in the spirit of truth and freedom.

1885
1886. 3 Chejungwon opens as the first medical school in Korea.
1885. 4 Gwanghyewon, Korea's first modern hospital, is founded as a royal hospital.
1904. 9 Through a donation from Mr. L. H. Severance, the hospital is reconstructed, and the medical college is finalized.
1917. 4 Chosun Christian College is accredited as Yonhi College, a private institution. Humanities, Mathematics and Physics, Business, Agriculture and Theology is newly accredited.
1918. 3 Yonhi University and Severance Medical College merge to become Yonsei University.
1957. 1
1958. 3
1959. 4 Korean Language Institute is established.
1957
1957. 1 Yonhi University and Severance Medical College merge to become Yonsei University.
1958. 3 Chromosome research begins.
1959. 4
2007. 3 Wonju Campus starts the first Residential College (RC) education in Korea.
2010. 3 International Campus officially opens.
2014. 4 Yonsei Cancer Center is opened.
2011. 3 Residential College (RC) education begins at the International Campus.
2021. 9 LearnUs is opened to the public.
2023. 6 Yonsei ranks 1st among Asian Private Universities and 76th globally in the THE World University Rankings 2024.
2022. 6 Yonsei ranks 1st among Asian Private Universities and 73rd globally in the QS World University Rankings 2023.
World-class research and education competitiveness

Yonsei University is widely recognized as a world-class university. It is steadily gaining recognition in global university rankings, including 1st among Asian Private Universities and 76th globally in the QS World University Rankings 2024, 78th globally in the THE World University Rankings 2023, and 123rd worldwide in Nature Index 2023.

* As of April 1, 2023

Students (Unit: Number of Persons) 40,533
Faculty (Unit: Number of Persons) 6,506
Number of Courses (* as of 2023 Spring Semester) 7,301
Article Publications (Unit: Case, 2022) 7,210

International Students (Unit: Number of Persons) 5,868 (14.5%)
International Faculty (Unit: Number of Persons) 351 (5.4%)
Research Funding (Unit: Billion KRW, 2022) 532.5
Scholarship (Unit: Billion KRW) 160.7
On-Campus Housing Capacity (Unit: Number of Persons) 14,465
Alumni (Unit: Number of Persons) 370,818

* As of April 1, 2023
Digital Literacy

Educating Digital Competence with Knowledge in the Humanities

Yonsei University has taken the responsibility to nurture neo-renaissance talent that will lead the Fourth Industrial Revolution and has initiated educational innovation that is transforming the paradigm of higher education. All Yonsei students are now eligible to receive digital literacy training. Yonsei has established various institutions and infrastructure for advanced education to enable students, the leaders of the next generation, to collect and analyze data and deploy computational reasoning skills, with extensive knowledge of the humanities.

LearnUs, an Advanced Virtual Educational Platform for the Digital Age

LearnUs is an innovative educational system that utilizes cutting-edge technology, such as AI and immersive media, including VR, AR, and XR. With LearnUs, which will be available to users worldwide, Yonsei University aims to use virtual platforms that go beyond traditional boundaries such as edX or Coursera.

Establishment of a Digital Creative Campus

In 2017, as part of its digital education program for fostering future talent who will lead the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Yonsei University formed a strategic partnership with Adobe for the first time in Asia. The collaboration enabled all members of the university to use applications and services offered via the Adobe Creative Cloud (ACC) for research, study, and personal development.

Building Educational ICT Infrastructure

Yonsei University is laying out an educational infrastructure to support capacity-building in the use and production of immersive media, including VR, AR, and XR, and to run programs for strengthening production-related skills. Accordingly, the university established the XR Lab, which is furnished with high-end equipment and software optimized for creating immersive media content, and Y-Scape, where students can experience and explore various immersive media content.
University Social Responsibility
Fostering Leaders with a Community-oriented Mindset

Faced by an uncertain future due to rapid technological advancement and changes in the global environment, Yonsei University recognizes the sustainable development of humanity as a key goal. To this end, Yonsei has established various institutions, including the Institute for Global Engagement & Empowerment (IGEE) and the Institute for Higher Education Innovation (IHEI), to provide programs and activities that will help resolve social issues.

**Institute for Global Engagement & Empowerment (IGEE), Fostering Global Citizens**
The Institute for Global Engagement & Empowerment was founded in 2017 under the leadership of Honorary Chairman Ban Ki-moon, the 8th UN Secretary-General. Since then, IGEE has hosted the Global Engagement & Empowerment Forum on Sustainable Development (GEEF), and undertaken diverse training and volunteer activities to cultivate global citizens.

**Yonsei University Health System (YUHS), Empowering People through Treatment beyond Borders**
The Yonsei University Health System provides financial support to patients in need and runs various programs that help patients readjust to society after treatment by providing holistic care. Ongoing medical service-based social projects include the Severance 1% Sharing Movement, Good Samaritan SOS Project, and Global Severance, Global Charity.

**Institute for Higher Education Innovation (IHEI), Providing Hands-on Training Centered on Problem Solving**
The Institute for Higher Education Innovation was established to foster future-oriented talent who can understand the challenges of those in need and proactively address the social issues that they face. It implements an on-site training curriculum and extracurricular activities that build students’ social innovation capacity.
Yonsei University provides an environment and system that helps researchers to focus solely on their research, which is key to university competitiveness. Yonsei is enhancing its status as a research oriented university by continually improving its proactive research support system and policies (including administrative support, allocation of research facilities, and joint research-matching), thereby promoting more creative research, innovative technology, and knowledge gathering.

Research Support Administrative System
Yonsei University introduced on-site research support to provide customized administrative services for researchers. The Office of Research Affairs has strengthened research data collection and analysis to support research policy establishment, to provide research performance analyses tailored to researchers, and to provide updated information on trends in major R&D projects and policy changes. The existing fund management system has been expanded and reorganized into the Research Management System II, and a paperless system has been established to simplify research administration, thus creating a research-oriented environment.

Support Platforms for International Collaborative Research
Yonsei Frontier Lab was opened in 2017 to help Yonsei researchers communicate seamlessly with leading researchers around the world. Yonsei University also established Open Network Lab, a joint research hub for researchers, to provide a support platform for international joint research.

Improved Research Support for Newly-Appointed Faculty
Recruiting outstanding faculty is crucial for strengthening university research competitiveness. To build a creative research atmosphere and to encourage the spirit of challenge in our newly-appointed faculty, Yonsei University has operated the Research Initiative for the Future since 2014.
YONSEI CAMPUSES

Sinchon Campus
A place of innovation that upholds the tradition and heritage of the Yonsei Spirit

Mirae Campus
An independent campus with strong interdisciplinary research and education

MULTI-CAMPUS,

ONE YONSEI

Yonsei University Health System
Northeast Asia’s medical hub with global competitiveness

International Campus
The center of innovative global education
Underneath the blue sky on a sunny day full of radiant flowers, Cheonggyecheon Stream is a summertime delight. The water is a canvas of beauty, reflecting a mirror of nature at Yonsei’s beautiful campuses throughout all four seasons, creating a haven of serenity and culture spreading their beauty.

A symbol of youth and passion, the Yonsei campuses embody the energy of youth with large-scaled festivals such as Muak Festival, Yonsei-Korea Games, cheering event AKARAKA, and various cultural events held by student clubs. The Yonsei culture of harmony and communication is a tradition that encourages creativity, individuality, and pride as a Yonseian.

Yonsei University Sinchon Campus is located in the middle of downtown Seoul, the capital of Korea, where tradition and cutting-edge technology coexist. Seoul is a colorful, metropolitan city with a population of 10 million, while also a cultural hotspot for historical sites such as Gyeongbokgung Palace, Changdeokgung Palace, Deoksugung Palace, and Sungnyemun Gate.

Yonsei University, situated in the political, economic, social, and cultural center of Korean society, has witnessed the history of growth and development of the nation. Its campuses are located in the heart of global Korea, serving as a communication and convergence hub for scholars and experts coming from all over the world.

Yonsei University’s vision is to become the model of a competitive, world-class university, the capital of human knowledge, and an engine of social and economic development.

Yonsei University’s mission is to be a leading university, globally recognized for its excellence in teaching and research, and to contribute to the advancement of society and the world.

Yonsei University’s values are excellence, innovation, collaboration, and diversity.

Yonsei University’s culture is built on the principles of wisdom, virtue, and harmony.

Yonsei University’s students are passionate, creative, and socially conscious.

Yonsei University’s faculty members are dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the advancement of society.

Yonsei University’s graduates are respected for their excellence and are leaders in their fields.
The legacy of our founders who practiced the values of sharing and devotion in this much-beleaguered nation 139 years ago continues to this day through the Yonsei spirit of truth and freedom. Yonsei University has stood firm as the steward of economic development and democratization of Korea. Underlying the historical success is the creative insight of Yonseians, together with their unflagging dedication to community and society. Even now, as a new period in our globally-shared civilization begins, Yonseians shine brightly in their unique ways, as they faithfully follow their calling.

Here is a short list of Yonseians, whom we celebrate for the year 2024.

Yonseians Shining Brightly

Bong Joon Ho
Film Director, Sociology ‘88
With his movie Parasite, Bong swept up awards at nearly every major international film festival between 2019 and 2020 — a monumental achievement in the 100-year history of Korean film.

Lee Juyeol
Former Governor of Bank of Korea, Business ‘70
Well-versed in macroeconomic and financial markets, Lee is the very person who makes decisions on currency and credit policies in Korea.

Suh Kyung-bae
Chairman and CEO, Amorepacific group, Business ‘81
Suh is one of the most respected business icons in Korea. His single-minded dedication to R&D in traditional medicine and western cosmetics is the secret in making Amorepacific a global name in the beauty and health industry.

John A. Linton
Director of Severance Hospital International Health Care Center, Medicine ‘80
Linton is taking the lead in helping the underprivileged and is reaching out to help tuberculosis patients in North Korea, who have no access to professional medical care.

Cheon Jinwoo
Director of IBS Center for Nanomedicine, Chemistry ‘81
Cheon has made remarkable achievements in connecting nanoscience to medicine, enabling research in the field of nanomedicine for the first time in Korea.

Kwon Sun-joo
Former Chairman & CEO of Industrial Bank of Korea, English Language and Literature ‘74
Kwon is the first woman to have assumed the title of CEO of a Korean bank and is currently a non-executive director of KB Financial Group.

Han Kang
Writer, Korean Language and Literature ‘89
In 2016, Han was the first person from Asia to win the UK Man Booker International Prize, for her book The Vegetarian.

John Delury
Professor of Graduate School of International Studies
As a member of the 21st Century Leaders Council of the (U.S.) National Committee on American Foreign Policy, John Delury is one of the leading experts in U.S.-China relations, politics, and history on the Korean Peninsula and East Asia.
Study at Yonsei

Underwood International College (UIC)
Underwood International College is a highly selective, English-language, four-year liberal arts institution, which combines the intimate, elite learning environment of an American-style liberal arts college with the faculty and resources of Korea’s top private research university. UIC students can choose from an extensive list of classes conducted entirely in English and taught by a distinguished group of international and Korean scholars. With a student body drawn from around the world (3,299 students from 82 countries), UIC is becoming a globally renowned liberal arts college.

Global MBA (GMBA)
Founded in 1998, the Yonsei Global MBA program is the first full-time MBA in Korea where all classes are conducted in English. The Yonsei Global MBA program cultivates creative and ethical professional managers with a global perspective through outstanding education and leading research. Graduates are active world leaders in various fields, including corporate management. GMBA ranked 52nd globally by The Times Higher Education/Wall Street Journal in 2018.

Global Leaders College (GLC)
Global Leaders College is committed to providing education to talented people and to equipping them to play key roles in the international stage based on their overall understanding of Korean culture, politics, and economy. In parallel with its curriculum mainly delivered in Korean, GLC offers a variety of educational services including customized academic guidance and face-to-face writing tutorials as well as ample Korean cultural programs. As of 2023, GLC consists of nearly 1,150 students from 38 countries and accommodates five majors in International Commerce, Korean Language & Culture Education, Culture & Media, Bio & Living Engineering, and Applied Information Engineering.

Graduate School of International Studies (GISIS)
The Graduate School of International Studies was established in 1987 to meet the growing global demand for international academic institutions and to educate individuals to become global experts. Yonsei GISIS offers Master’s and Doctoral degree programs in various languages—Korean Studies (English), Global Studies (English), Global Citizenship and Cooperation (Chinese), and Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development (Multilingual/mainly Korean). More than 80% of the Yonsei GISIS students are international students from diverse cultural backgrounds. Dual degree and exchange programs with over 650 partner universities in 70 countries also enable GISIS students to graduate with a key competitive edge.

Winter Abroad at Yonsei (WAY)
WAY offers two separate sessions that focus on academic achievement with various courses and intensive Korean language courses along with special cultural and historical lectures. Participants can enjoy special Korean winter activities on the weekends.

Korean Language Institute (KLI)
Founded in 1959, the Korean Language Institute (KLI) has been playing a key role in Korean language education around the world, teaching Korean language and culture to international students, professors, and diplomats.
**International Students Ratio**

14.5% 5,868

40,533 Total Number of Students

**International Students**

- Degree-seeking: 3,668
- Language Course: 1,286
- Credit Exchange: 914

**International Students from Global**

- Asia: 4,009/68.3%
- Europe: 680/11.5%
- North America: 914/15.6%
- South America: 76/1.3%
- Oceania: 45/0.8%
- Africa: 144/2.5%

**University-wide Partner Institutions**

- Partner Institutions: 733
- Countries: 79

**EPILOGUE**

Yonsei University’s challenges for the future

The noble spirit of “Yonsei: Toward Truth and Freedom” has persevered throughout the waves of modern Korean history for the last 139 years and will continue making strides.

Please join us on our journey for the sustainable development of humankind.

More...

Please refer to the web page for more information.

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* The booklet used the Noto, Open Sans, and Crimson Pro typefaces provided by Google Fonts.