Yonsei’s vision for the future

As the oldest private university on the peninsula, Yonsei University represents the past and present of comprehensive modern higher education in Korea. Continuous innovation in education, research, and commitment to the local and global community puts Yonsei at the fore of international higher education. Pursuing these values, Yonsei strives to be a globally acclaimed university.

FACTS & FIGURES

ARTICLE PUBLICATIONS
5,776
(Unit: Case)
2014: 5,630 / 2013: 5,265
* SCI, SSCI, A&HCI, etc. / Source: SciVal (Scopus)

RESEARCH FUNDING
346
(Unit: Million US Dollars)
2014: 327 / 2013: 358

GLOBAL ALLIANCE NETWORK
652
(Unit: Number of Institutions)
International Student Exchange Programs: 258
University Studies Abroad Consortiums: 31
Bilateral Partnerships: 363
* As of 2016

ENROLLED STUDENTS
37,742
(Unit: Number of Persons)
Undergraduate: 26,103
Graduate: 11,639

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
4,538
(Unit: Number of Persons)
* Including both Degree and Exchange/Training Programs

FACULTY
5,006
(Unit: Number of Persons)
Full-time Faculty: 1,994
Adjunct Faculty: 1,410 / Lecturers: 1,602

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY
278
(Unit: Number of Persons)

NUMBER OF COURSES
5,679
Lectures in Korean: 4,665
Lectures in English: 1,014

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING CAPACITY
12,862
(Unit: Number of Persons)

SCHOLARSHIPS
115
(Unit: Million US Dollars)

VOLUNTEER HOURS
242,617
* As of 2014

NUMBER OF COURSES
5,679
Lectures in Korean: 4,665
Lectures in English: 1,014

ALUMNI
297,920
(Unit: Number of Persons)
* As of 2015
* Exchange Rate 1 USD = 1,154 KRW (As of June 9th, 2016)

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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)

Philosophy
Yonsei University embraces all fields of arts and sciences and serves to nurture leaders who will contribute to society both in Korea and abroad. Yonsei was founded on the ecumenical Christian spirit of “truth and freedom.” The university holds true to this spirit as it strives to inherit the cultural legacy of humankind and lead in academic development through creativity and critical thinking. Yonsei will serve its neighbors with open hearts and contribute to the prosperity of humankind. With such missions, Yonseians will demonstrate their leadership to represent the spirit of Yonsei in the world.

From left,
Dr. H. G. Underwood  
(Founder of Yonhi College),
Dr. H. N. Allen  
(Founder of Gwanghwyewon),
Dr. O. R. Avison  
(Founder of Severance Hospital)

Contributing to humanity with the spirit of Truth and Freedom

1885-1956
A Torch in the Darkness
Yonsei University was the cradle of Korea’s modernization, beginning with the founding of Gwanghwyewon in 1885 and subsequently by the establishment of Severance Hospital and Yonhi College. For several decades, colonization and war cast a dark shadow over the country. Yonsei helped to revitalize and heal the nation by championing modern higher education and modern medicine and bringing forth a new era in Korean history.

1885 Gwanghyewon, the first modern hospital in Korea, established; subsequently renamed Chejungwon.
1904 Severance Hospital dedicated.
1917 Chosen Christian College accredited as “Yonhi College”. “Severance Union Medical College” first accredited.
1946 Yonhi officially recognized as a university with 4 colleges and 11 departments.

1957-2009
Driving Korean Industrialization and Democratization
In 1957, Severance Union Medical College merged with Yonhi College to create Yonsei University. Yonsei helped to lead Korea’s economic growth and development through world-class academic research and advanced university administration. In the spirit of truth and freedom, Yonsei was also at the forefront of South Korea’s democratization movement. The establishment of the Wonju Campus in 1978 extended Yonsei’s reach in the country, making it a key player in regional development.

1957 Yonhi University and Severance Union Medical College merged into Yonsei University.
1959 Korean Language Institute established.
1981 Wonju campus becomes Wonju College with 10 departments.
2005 Underwood International College (UIC) established.

2010-
Soaring to Become a World-class University
The opening of the Yonsei International Campus in 2010 continued Yonsei’s development, reforming its education and research institutes to form a more integrated and innovative community. As one of Asia’s top private universities, Yonsei’s spirit of service and sharing is demonstrated through internationalized academics, research, and community service.

2010 Yonsei International Campus (YIC) in Songdo, Incheon established.
2013 Introduction of Residential College (RC) Program.
2016 131st Anniversary Celebration.
Yonsei is the only university in Korea with four campuses. These include Sinchon Campus, Yonsei’s flagship campus in Seoul; the Yonsei University Health System (Severance Hospital) with multiple locations in Seoul and across Korea; Wonju Campus in Gangwon Province; and the Yonsei International Campus (YIC) in Songdo, Incheon. Integration of these four autonomous campuses into one network multiplies Yonsei’s educational and research capacity.

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**INTERNATIONAL CAMPUS**

Reaching the World through Global Education

The Yonsei International Campus has established a new higher education paradigm in Korea through its Residential College (RC) system, convergence education, and internationalized programs. With its innovative curriculum and interdisciplinary programs, the International Campus emphasizes crossing borders in order to produce the global talents of the future.

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**SINCHON CAMPUS**

Flagship of Education and Research

The Sinchon Campus is the traditional core of Yonsei University, and it continues to serve as a focal point for Korean culture, society, politics and economics. As the flagship campus, Sinchon is the base for fields that include the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, business, and engineering. Connecting Yonsei’s three other campuses, Sinchon Campus is at the heart of Yonsei’s drive to become one of the world’s elite universities.

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**WONJU CAMPUS**

A Global Model for Regional Universities

The Wonju Campus has distinguished itself from the traditional academic system by creating top-quality humanities and natural science academic clusters. In doing so, it is providing a global model for regionally-based universities. At the same time, it has played a pivotal role in the development of the City of Wonju’s internationally recognized knowledge-based medical industry cluster. The Wonju Campus continues to be a driving force in promoting university-industry collaboration models in fields related to the environment, healthcare, and poverty alleviation.

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**YONSEI UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM (SEVERANCE HOSPITAL)**

East Asia’s Premier Medical Hub

With its long experience in Western medicine and global competitiveness, Yonsei University Health System (YUHS) is the history and future of the medical field in Korea. This cutting-edge, five-hospital medical complex utilizes a unified, integrated information system that organically connects all of its units. Emphasizing clinical medicine, education, research, and treatment, YUHS strives to fulfill its core mission: “With the love of God, free humankind from disease and suffering.”

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YONSEI VISION

In an era of great transformation, Yonsei is returning to the basics by reinvigorating its commitment to education and research and emphasizing its social responsibilities. Guided by the spirit of its forefathers, Yonsei is determined to share and practice the values of Christianity, Creativity, and Connectivity as it prepares for the next 100 years.

YONSEI VISION

Christianity

Creativity

Connectivity

YONSEI, Leading the Way to the Future

CHRISTIANITY

Over 130 years ago, Yonsei was established through the generous sacrifices of its missionary founders. Christianity is Yonsei’s bedrock and provides the compass for the future we wish to help create. Yonsei’s goal for the next 100 years is to foster talent with a passion for sharing and a love for humanity. With the spirit of sharing deeply embedded in its DNA, Yonsei will do more than share material wealth and knowledge; it will take the initiative in building an empathetic community that helps others who are in need.
In today’s high-tech, rapidly changing world, knowledge and information can quickly become obsolete. To address this reality, the university must be adaptable, incubating the capacity for creative thinking. In preparing for the next 100 years, Yonsei is implementing a new education and research paradigm based in creativity, interdisciplinarity, and empathy. Yonsei’s creative education will help to shape the future of Korean society and humanity.

Connectivity is an important aspect of being human. Humans do not live solitary lives, but spend time with others and connect through love, friendship, and sympathy. Yonsei believes that with strong connections, humans can achieve the unachievable and imagine the unimaginable. As such, the university actively promotes connections between students, professors, and alumni, while fostering the interdisciplinary studies that will create the knowledge of tomorrow.
YONSEI, Leading the Way to the Future

Book 2

EDUCATION
RESEARCH
SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
CULTURE
Yonsei’s dream today is society’s tomorrow.

Long ago, during the old Korean empire, a seed called Yonsei was planted. Dr. Underwood and Dr. Allen came as missionaries from afar, facing challenges, inviting creation, and practicing giving whilst spreading the Gospel, modern learning, and medicine. As an answer to their calling, these two extraordinary men became the salt and light to this land. In God’s Providence, the Yonsei seed of which the missionaries dreamed has now grown into a mighty 131-year-old tree.

When Yonsei was founded over 130 years ago, the great societal changes of modernization were happening, just as we are now facing the societal transition that is referred to as the fourth industrial revolution. Today’s universities are standing at the frontline of the shock of AlphaGo felt worldwide, the surge of the fourth industrial revolution, and the nerve-rattling knowledge that comes with it. Artificial intelligence is replacing humans. It is predicted that as soon as 2030 nearly half of all current jobs will disappear. For a generation that will live past 2100, it is now untenable to simply provide students today with an education that gives information. Similarly, higher education cannot manufacture customized talent which society demands at this moment. Universities must pioneer a knowledge-network era. Higher education must put forth a new vision and cultivate and produce new talent who can lead the fourth industrial revolution.

Yonsei University seeks to fulfill its responsibility as an institution of higher education to predict and lead a changing society through a set of values termed the 3Cs: Christianity, Creativity, and Connectivity. By focusing on the 3Cs, the university aspires to reconstruct the mold and contents of education to create a new scheme for the next 100 years of learning. This means removing barriers inside and outside of the classroom, fostering a capacity for sympathy and sharing, and teaching students to think together. Yonsei is devoting itself to nurturing creative talents with a warm character which artificial intelligence could never replace.

Our founding spirit and history embraces challenges and new creation, sharing and consideration, communication and sympathy, and service and respect. For this reason, Yonsei University strives harder to dream a different dream, a dream to forge the way to the future. Just as it was in the olden days, Yonseians’ dreams today will become society’s tomorrow.

Yonsei is doing all it can to answer its calling and realize the dream to be a “respectful and respected university” and to “make the ancient future.” Join Yonsei as we embark on our next 100-year journey.

Yong-Hak Kim
President
Pedagogy that cultivates creative thought

Active Learning
Yonsei is raising the leaders of tomorrow through the mutual learning models of the Active Learning program. Leaving behind outdated teaching and learning models, the Active Learning method encourages flipped classrooms, experiential learning, and reflective lectures. A diverse array of programs is arranged for students to gain hands-on learning experience through the Extra Curricular.

The Residential College organizes a learning community for students, giving them opportunities to meet professors from their major outside of the classroom and offering experiential academic credits through programs during the winter and summer breaks. Undergraduate students can receive financial support for research activities that promise to help alleviate issues afflicting society. Students are encouraged to collaborate with one another in analyzing and finding creative solutions to challenging problems.

Integrated Education and Problem-solving Courses
Yonsei offers various integrated education courses to nurture flexible and creative thinking. To this end, we have established multi-disciplinary major programs in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) Field and the Integrated Science and Engineering (ISE) Field within Underwood International College (UIC). Innovative and interdisciplinary curricula are also at the heart of the Global Leadership Division (GLD) and the Global Elite Division (GED). Additionally, the "Yonsei Creative Class" is designed to increase students' awareness of the problems facing humanity and allow them to explore possible solutions.

Creativity suited to an era of digital information and rapidly changing knowledge cannot be taught with a unidirectional flow of communication. Professors, therefore, also need to teach students how to enlighten themselves. Yonsei’s new education model casts off the rote learning of the high school curriculum and develops creative thinking powers.
Much of today’s most influential research is achieved through interdisciplinarity and the collaboration of multiple research teams. To further the aim of creating new kinds of academics and knowledge, Yonsei continues to create new networks between different researchers and fields. Yonsei believes that many of today’s complex problems can only be solved through such collaborations.

Galvanizing Interdisciplinary Convergence Research

The Institute of Convergence Science (ICONS) is expanding the horizons of knowledge by promoting interdisciplinarity through an autonomous convergence research community, thereby enhancing Yonsei’s research ecosystem. Free communication between researchers and the exchange of creative ideas allow ICONS to address worldwide issues such as aging populations, energy, climate change, and nutrition. Graduate students from different disciplines can gather and collaborate on developing their creative capacities through research projects in the Junior Convergence Research Group. For faculty, the Medici Room is a facility that will promote the sharing of ideas among professors across departments.

Research Support

To attract world-class researchers, special employment and adjunct programs have been put in place, allowing Yonsei to recruit notable professors from abroad. At the same time, the university is devoting more resources to incentivizing exemplary research and developing promising young scholars.

Yonsei is committed to equitably addressing the phenomenon of age diversity among faculty; as such, it is currently establishing more predictable and precise human resource policies.

Research Appraisal System Innovation

Many academics predict that the barriers between fields of study will fall in the future, meaning that convergent, connective, and interdisciplinary thinking will dominate. Responding to the changing directions in research, Yonsei is implementing a new research appraisal system and support program to promote medium- and long-term convergence and interdisciplinary research activities. This new system will prioritize quality over quantity, allowing rising professors to develop their own research plans and self-evaluate the progress of their research based on their own set timelines.

Promoting Challenges and Entrepreneurship

Yonsei University promotes innovation and entrepreneurship by encouraging students to take up challenges and use their creativity to overcome them. Yonsei supports innovative students through Yonsei Enterprise Support Foundation, which offers consultations and various education programs on entrepreneurship and management; the center also has start-up office space and equipment for students. Recently, the “Creative Playground” opened in the U-Lounge of the Yonsei-Samsung Library. Here, students can easily share ideas and collaborate on start-ups. Yonsei is also fostering an entrepreneurial culture through the “Entrepreneurial Excellence Award.”
The sharing network

**Open Education: Knowledge Sharing**
As our information-rich society develops at an accelerating rate, the demand for the university to host, share, and make innovations in information and communications technology also grows. Yonsei is actively responding to this demand by sharing knowledge through its Massive Open Online Course (MOOC).

With an unlimited number of participants, MOOC offers public lectures through an online platform. Yonsei is currently offering MOOC through the platforms such as Coursera and Future Learn, while its K-MOOC is operated through the Ministry of Education.

**Globalization of Social Contribution**
Yonsei is broadening the scope of its Christian community outreach activities. Missionary and volunteer programs that were previously operated independently are now being unified under the umbrella of Yonsei Global Social Contributions Center.

To train global Christian leaders for a globalized era, Yonsei established the Global Institute of Theology (GIT). Much like the missionaries who came from abroad to establish the roots of the Christian church in Korea, GIT is leading the mission to revive the church around the world by providing international students from underdeveloped countries in Asia and Africa with the best theology program in the nation.

**Community Service Activities**
Yonsei promotes its sharing culture by offering a diverse array of volunteer activities serving the youth of Korea. These include a mentoring program for children from underprivileged regions, Yonsei Dream Major Conductor (YDMC), Yonsei Educamp, Dream-Start, and numerous tutoring opportunities. Volunteers learn the value of sharing through their experiences and build a sense of self-worth while their mentees find new purpose in their continued studies.

Yonsei students also find ways to support regional development through agricultural volunteer work, briquette delivery campaigns, the Yon-In (Yonsei-Incheon) Project, the Youth Volunteer Academy, and the library mentoring program.

Since its first project in Mongolia in 1993, Yonsei University Health System (YUHS) has organized medical missionary work around the world in locations such as Kenya, Cambodia, and the Philippines. The Global Severance, Global Charity project sponsors patients in need from abroad for free treatment. YUHS also provides free medical consultations for vulnerable social groups within Korea, including single-parent households, multicultural families, and the elderly living alone.

Yonsei was established through the generous sacrifices of its missionary founders. Yonsei’s goal for the next 100 years is to foster talent with a passion for sharing and a love for humanity. With the spirit of sharing deeply embedded in its DNA, Yonsei will do more than share material wealth and knowledge; it will take the initiative in building an empathetic community that helps others who are in need.
Community values

All members of the Yonsei community carry the same Yonseian identity and spirit handed down from generation to generation since the university’s founding. Yonseians share a common bond that is the pride of being a part of the Yonsei community that upholds a culture of service and respect.

Akaraka and Yon-Ko Sports Festival: The Living Culture of Yonsei

Student-led concerts, a film festival, exhibitions, performances, and a spectacular outdoor concert, Akaraka, are all part of Yonsei’s annual spring festival. Akaraka is presented by the official Yonsei cheer squad, and it is attended by over 20,000 Yonseians each year.

Yon-Ko sports festival refers to the competition held each fall between Yonsei and Korea University. The event features baseball, basketball, ice hockey, rugby, and soccer matches. The competition not only crowns a winner, it also provides an occasion for students and alumni to connect and for both universities to display their pride to the world.

Student Clubs: Build Your Curiosity

Student organizations are a venue for students to develop their potential and build personal relationships: at the same time, they provide a training ground for discovering one’s values and nurturing a sense of civic responsibility.

Currently, there are sixty-nine different student clubs, to which any Yonsei student may apply. There are also opportunities to join groups that draw their membership from several different universities. Through these clubs, Yonsei students can engage their passion in diverse fields related to the arts, music, performance, community service, spirituality, sports, and technology.

YOON DONG JU: The Personification of Yonsei’s Spirit

In his gentle poetry, national poet and Yonsei alumnus YOON DONG JU (1917-1945) expressed the spirit of the people during the dark times at the end of Japanese colonialization. His inspiring and beautiful lyrics embody Yonsei’s spirit, touching the hearts of those who listen. Students, alumni, and friends of Yonsei have honored YOON DONG JU and his literary work with a monument inscribed with his poem, “Seo-si (Prelude),” in front of Pinson Hall, the former dormitory where he spent his university days.

His poetic spirit and literary achievements are also celebrated and carried on through the various initiatives of YOON DONG JU Memorial Association, which was established in 2000. 2017 marks the 100th birthday of YOON DONG JU, and in his honor, Pinson Hall will be renamed YOON DONG JU Memorial Building and the park in front will be called DONG JU Gil.