Professor Heisook Kim from the Department of Philosophy was elected as the 16th president of Ewha Womans University on May 26, 2017. For the first time in Ewha’s 131-year history, she was elected through a direct electoral system where all the members of Ewha encompassing faculty, staff, students, and alumnae participated. She received solid support from all constituent units within the university and was overwhelmingly supported by the students with the rate up to 95%.

Under the slogan, “New Ewha, Shining World Together,” she announced her pledges to make “Ewha that is transparent and fair; Ewha where all members are respected; Ewha that realizes the true value of a university.”

As the new president, she has inspired all members of the university to unite and join her on the path to build the Ewha community unlike any others as innovative designers of the new world.
Profile of President Heisook Kim

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in English Language and Literature from Ewha Womans University, President Kim received her M.A. in Philosophy and Christian Studies from Ewha Womans University and her Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Chicago in the US.

In 1987, she became a professor in the Department of Philosophy at Ewha Womans University, and later served as the Dean of the Scranton College, the Director of Ewha Institute for the Humanities, and the Director of Ewha Institute of Philosophy.

She was also the President of Korean Philosophical Association, Humanities Association of Korea, Korean Association of Intercultural Philosophy, Korean Association of Analytic Philosophy, and Korean Association of Feminist Philosophy. She served as the Chair of Organizing Committee for IAPh Symposium in Seoul and is the Committee Director of International Federation of Philosophical Societies at present.

EWHA’S 131ST ANNIVERSARY AND THE 16TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

On May 31, 2017, the celebration of Ewha’s 131st anniversary and the inauguration of Professor Heisook Kim as the 16th president were both held at the Welch-Ryang Auditorium on campus.

She was appointed as the new president by the board of directors on May 26, 2017, having gained the largest number of votes in the first direct election of Ewha. Professor Heisook Kim was elected after the position being vacant for 219 days, and she started her official term as president right away on May 26. Her term of office is until February 28, 2021. The ceremony was followed by an event, “Get Together & Go for New Ewha,” held at the ECC Valley where students shared with the new president their hopes and expectations for the university and discussed various issues, seeking ways to cope with them.
Qualcomm, a global leader of wireless communication, provided Ewha with a research grant of USD 100,000. On June 7, the ‘2017 Open Evaluation Workshop for Ewha-Qualcomm Innovation Awards’ took place at the LG Convention Hall on campus. Presentations were held to foster creative human resources, targeting at the natural sciences and engineering students enrolled in the master’s and doctoral programs.

Recipients of the grant are given the opportunity to present their research to Qualcomm Korea’s researchers and to ask for advice at the Qualcomm technical workshops. 20 students were selected at the final stage by the selection committee composed of faculty members of Ewha. The committee comprehensively evaluated the research theses of the students, their analysis of trends in technology, the innovativeness of their ideas, and the potential influence and practicality in IT-related sectors such as wireless technology, mobile, multimedia, artificial intelligence, and semiconductors.

Qualcomm Korea’s CEO Lee Tae-Won delivered a message that Qualcomm would continuously make efforts to foster talented individuals in natural sciences and engineering sectors, and to help students achieve their dreams through active support.

Qualcomm Provides Ewha with a Research Grant of $100,000

The Robot Surgery Center of Ewha Womans University Mokdong Hospital has recently become the medical center with the most single-site robotic surgical procedures in the world by surpassing 500 cases.

On May 10, Ewha celebrated the occasion at the Ewha Womans University Cancer Center for Women. At the ceremony, Professor Moon Hye-sung, the Director of the Robot Surgery Center, said that Ewha Womans University Mokdong Hospital was able to make this great achievement thanks to the effectiveness of the center’s various laparoscopic surgery experiences, and its specialization matching the latest trends. She also added that the center will continue to make efforts to apply the single-site robotic surgery in more diverse fields.

The single-site robotic surgery is a highly challenging state-of-the-art operation method which inserts all surgical instruments through only one hole around the navel. This method leaves almost no scars, enables short hospitalization period due to fast recovery, and reduces operation expenses as the cost of surgical instruments used is also relatively cheap.

Ewha Womans University Mokdong Hospital Ranks World No. 1 in Single-Site Robotic Surgery

The ELTEC College of Engineering hosted a joint workshop with Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL) from April 17 to 20.

Led by Dominique Perrault, a world-renowned architect who designed the Ewha Campus Complex (ECC), various programs were offered such as special lectures from famous Korean architects and field trips to exhibition centers and art museums.

After the workshop, an exhibition was held by Ewha and EPFL architecture students who were set to participate in the “Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism.” Students from both schools have worked hard since the winter of 2016 to participate in the event which will take place in September 2017. This exhibition was held to check the progress on preparations for the Biennale and evaluated by Dominique Perrault and other prominent architects in Korea.

The joint workshop and exhibition were valuable opportunities for both Ewha and EPFL students to interact with one another and improve their capabilities. Using this workshop and exhibition as a stepping stone, continuous collaboration between EPFL and Ewha is expected.

Architecture Department Holds Joint Workshop with Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne
UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COOPERATION

PRINCESS ASTRID OF BELGIUM VISITS EWHA TO RECOGNIZE COMMENDABLE UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

On June 13, Princess Astrid of Belgium and dignitaries of the Belgian delegation visited Ewha Womans University. The 13-member delegation led by Princess Astrid, who visited Korea as special envoy for the King of Belgium, consisted of six ministerial-level personnel, business people and officials of the monarchy.

The Princess’s visit was made possible thanks to the special ties between Ewha and Belgium. In 2014, Solvay Research & Innovation Center opened in Ewha’s campus with $21.5 million investment by Solvay, a Belgian multinational chemistry group. At the time, it was the first case of a global multinational overseas company establishing a global research center in a Korean university, which is considered one of the most representative accomplishments of the university-industry collaboration at Ewha Womans University.

With this visit, Ewha is expected to build a more strategic and solid relationship with Belgium by strengthening educational cooperation while further solidifying the ongoing university-industry collaboration with Solvay.

PHYSICS MAJOR PROFESSOR ANDREAS HEINRICH PRESENTS THE WORLD’S SMALLEST STORAGE MEDIUM

Professor Andreas Heinrich, the Director of Ewha’s Center for Quantum Nanoscience (QNS), presented a storage medium theoretically proven to be the smallest in the world. Professor Heinrich is a world-class researcher leading the field of single atom position and quantum state control.

Despite “Moore’s Law,” which was presented in 1965, the miniaturization of electronic devices was put on hold due to the limitations of silicon. However, when one bit (the smallest unit of data in a computer) of data is stored in a single atom, the innovative miniaturization of storage mediums becomes possible.

Professor Heinrich succeeded in reading and writing one bit on a single holmium (Ho) atom stably. Currently, commercialized memory devices use approximately 100,000 atoms to store a single bit of information. It is virtually impossible to create a memory unit smaller than Professor Heinrich’s research result. The research was conducted together with the IBM Almaden Research Center, using a scanning tunneling microscope (STM). The research results were published on the online version of ‘Nature,’ a multidisciplinary scientific journal.

The success of this research is expected to help overcome the limits of the development of silicon electronics and also function as a foundation for further studies on qubit.
The closing ceremony for the ‘2017 Ewha International Co-Ed Summer College (ISC)’ was held on July 18 at the Lee San-bong Hall on campus. Students from Ewha as well as 75 universities from 13 countries participated in the program which started on June 20. The students took various classes offered in English, along with field trips held every Friday and Saturday.

At the closing ceremony, Prof. Won-Mog Choi, the Dean of the Ewha ISC, gave a congratulatory address where he mentioned he hoped the program had been a great chance for each student to learn about Korea and build good memories. He also conveyed his gratitude to Ms. Helen Hwang, a participant from the 2004 Ewha ISC, for her donation to the program. Following his speech, special performances by the participants took place, and the students watched a video of their lives during the program, reminiscing the past 4 weeks.

The Ewha ISC has a tradition of over 40 years and is the first summer college program in Korea.

For Helen Hwang, the Ewha ISC she participated in 2004 was an unforgettable experience. Having immigrated to the US at the age of three, she had a difficult time understanding her Korean heritage. However, through the Ewha ISC, she realized for the first time in her life how valuable it is to trace back her identity and unite with students from the country she was born.

In July 2017, Helen Hwang came back to Korea and made a donation to the Ewha ISC. She wished to show her gratitude towards all the hospitality she received 13 years ago through the program.
FAREWELL CEREMONY HELD FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND VISITING STUDENTS OF 2017 SPRING SEMESTER

The farewell ceremony for the international exchange and visiting students of the 2017 spring semester was held on June 9. Among a total of 489 foreign students enrolled this semester, 44 students remained at Ewha to continue study until the end of the 2017 fall semester.

During the ceremony, picture slides capturing the special moments at Ewha and in Korea were shown to the students who were given their own photographs as souvenirs after the event ended.

Furuya Risako from Tokyo Seitoku University in Japan and Philipp Staab from University of Tuebingen in Germany received certificates on behalf of the students. As a representative student, Meng Lan from Shandong University in China expressed her gratitude, saying “I was able to gain unforgettable experiences thanks to the outstanding and warm-hearted professors, and the great academic atmosphere of Ewha.”

EWHA STUDY-ABROAD PROGRAMS STRENGTHEN GLOBAL COMPETENCE

Ewha students from various majors had the opportunity to strengthen their global competence through several study-abroad programs. During the winter of 2016, 11 teams participated in joint lectures taught by distinguished scholars from different fields and regions including Asia, Europe and the US.

Diverse majors from the College of Engineering, the College of Education, and the College of Liberal Arts participated in the programs visiting countries related to their majors, and the students gained valuable experience in their fields of interest.

Since 2008, Ewha has been promoting varied study-abroad programs for the students on their path to become global leaders. Moreover, the program is popular among students as the credits obtained are transferable to Ewha.

LEARNING ABOUT REUNIFICATION OF KOREAN PENINSULA IN GERMANY, ‘THE 3RD EWHA-ROSTOCK SARU PROGRAM’

The ‘Ewha-Rostock SARU (Summer Academy Reunification) Program,’ co-hosted by Ewha Womans University and the University of Rostock in Germany, was held in Rostock from July 5 to 17 to enhance understanding of the reunification of the Korean Peninsula. 10 Ewha students from various majors participated in this year’s program along with students from Seoul National University, Sungkyunkwan University, University of Georgia (USA), Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia), University of Latvia (Latvia), and University of Rostock. Participants were able to take special lectures from experts and visited important sites related to reunification in Germany.

In commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the reunification of Germany, the program was launched by the University of Rostock partnering with Ewha Womans University, for Korean university students to analyze and learn from the changes Germany had gone through in terms of politics, history, economy, and language after their reunification.
Ewha Womans University held its first “Ewha Dialogue with Global Leaders” where Jennifer Morgan, the Executive Director of Greenpeace International, was invited as a keynote speaker. Under the theme of “Positive Change Through Direct Action: How People Power Wins,” Jennifer Morgan delivered a message on the people power which is the driving force of the Greenpeace environmental protection campaign.

The lecture was followed by Q&A and free speech sessions, which were hosted by Prof. Won-Mog Choi, Vice President for International Affairs at Ewha. In these sessions, participants discussed various issues including denuclearization policies, cause for people power, and women in solving environmental problems.

Ewha and Greenpeace have also signed MOU for bilateral collaboration through internship opportunities for Ewha students, joint community service programs, and collaborative research activities.

Chancellor Howard Gillman of University of California, Irvine (UCI) visited Ewha Womans University on June 23, accompanied by a delegation including Prof. Victoria Jones, Dean of Global Affairs and Prof. Shin Hye-won, Director of Korea Relations, to promote cooperation between the two institutions.

The MOU between UCI and Ewha was first signed in 2013 to foster institutional exchanges at faculty and student levels and to carry out joint research. Since then, the two universities have maintained a collaborative relationship at various levels. In 2015, UCI also agreed with Ewha’s College of Pharmacy to boost research cooperation and student exchanges.

Both parties discussed further cooperation possibilities for faculty and student exchanges, innovative research activities, and continuing education programs.

Chulalongkorn University, the only royal university and the most prestigious university in Thailand, adopts the Korean language as its official major in 2018. This feat is attributable to the efforts of Thai Professor Supaporn Boonrung who was appointed at Chulalongkorn University upon graduating from the Department of Korean Studies at Ewha Womans University. The steadfast support from the Graduate School of International Studies at Ewha has also been instrumental.

Supaporn Boonrung received a master’s degree in Korean Studies at Ewha in 2007 and was appointed as professor of the Korean language course at Chulalongkorn University. After becoming a professor in Thailand, she entered the Ph.D. program at Ewha in March 2010 and completed her studies in 2012.

At Chulalongkorn University, over 500 students are taking the Korean language as one of their liberal arts courses. The establishment of the Korean language major has opened an opportunity to produce Korean language graduates from the most prestigious university in Thailand.
The delegation of the Free University of Berlin led by its chancellor, Peter-André Alt, visited Ewha on March 3. The delegation and the officials of Ewha discussed measures to promote collaboration between the two universities. Chancellor Alt, who visited Korea for the first time after his inauguration in 2010, specifically inquired about the history, the research performances, the educational infrastructure, and the global network of Ewha Womans University.

Since the exchange student agreement in 2009, Ewha and the Free University of Berlin have continued to exchange students, and 21 students from Ewha participated in the program with scholarships. Through this visit, the collaboration between the two institutions will be further expanded.

On April 14, under the theme of “Building Friendship in the Scent of Books,” the Chinese Embassy hosted a book donation ceremony for the enhancement of friendship between Korea and China. At the event, Chinese ambassador to Korea, Qiu Guohong, donated approximately 500 books to Ewha Womans University to promote mutual friendship. The donated books comprising various genres including Chinese classics are expected to be of good help in getting a deeper understanding of China.

The Chinese Embassy donated 10,000 books to Seoul National University in 2014 when the Chinese President Xi Jinping visited Korea, and since then, it has been donating books to many Korean university libraries and media organizations each year. This year, the Chinese Embassy donated 10,000 books to over 20 organizations including Ewha.

There are about 900 Chinese students currently studying at Ewha and the university will continue to work closely with the Chinese Embassy making efforts to attract top Chinese students to Ewha.

Ewha signed MOU with the University of South Carolina to expand collaboration between the two universities. Paul Allen Miller, Vice Provost and Director of Global Carolina, visited Ewha on March 9 and gave a special lecture to Ewha students under the theme of, ‘Theory Does not Exist.’

Since the beginning of the partnership through an institutional agreement between the colleges of education of the two universities in 2009, the scope of the exchange has been expanded to the entire university level through the recent MOU. Currently, an active partnership with the Department of English Language and Literature of Ewha is underway, and a ‘three-party joint conference’ for the academic exchange, including National Taiwan University, is set to be held this autumn.