

A Program for the Development of the  
Social Sciences, Law and Public Administration  
at the National University of Seoul

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The National University of Seoul, Korea, would like to establish a center for the development of social science, law, and public administration, in cooperation with the Center for Applied Social Research of New York University. The proposed Center at Seoul is regarded by the Universities concerned as the appropriate and adequate response to several grave disabilities facing the Korean nation. Korean higher education in the social sciences and law suffered continuous persecution under Japanese rule, which sought to suppress the rise of a Korean elite. Successive post-liberation disasters have stamped out attempts to build a new foundation; the division of the country, the bloody Korean war and the "crisis State" government has made progress extremely slow. Finally, the traditions and spirit of learning are imitative of the Japanese and indirectly and directly of German and French academia, which are ill-suited to a country that is now related to the United States in many ways, including its constitutional and legal system. The poverty of the country and the inability of its government presently to support and give prolonged objective attention to the social sciences and law are known to all observers.

Yet the University of Seoul feels, and New York University agrees, that those conditions, while grave, cannot be remedied by any and every kind of help. The help given must be careful and intelligent.

For this reason, the University believes that a conventional exchange of professors and students would not prove to be very useful. Rather, the very foundations of Korean society have to be examined in order to lay the basis for creating and teaching social science, law, and administration in a meaningful way. Therefore, the University of Seoul, in cooperation with New York University, proposes to carry out a program of research and action in twelve phases of natural (sociological) development.

1. In the first phase, a New York University research team would gather materials on Korean society essential to the teaching of the social sciences, law, and public administration, in Korea to Koreans. These materials at the present time are mostly unavailable and are not geared to the culture and experiences of Korean students (or professors). The basic sciences of economics, sociology-anthropology, psychology, and political science are referred to here. The team might consist of six senior scientists, each from a different discipline, and several clerk-typists as assistants. They would do most of the work within the first year, but a small research and evaluation operation would continue thereafter.

2. Six internships would be provided each year to Korean graduate students who show promise of writing and teaching. The interns would work with the research team.

3. The social science, legal, and administration collections at the National University of Seoul are weak. Hundreds of basic works and

essential periodicals should be purchased immediately if the preparation of the teaching staff is to go forward and if the new students are to enjoy appropriate reading matter.

4. A Korean translating and publishing program in the social sciences is necessary. A set of basic social science works suited to Korean needs would be translated into Korean and published. In addition suitable, specially written Korean works and syllabi might be published.

5. Owing to the transformation of the Korean legal system, little of value in the legal literature is available to Korean professors and students. In addition, the Korean "corpus Juric" is in its infancy, is uncollected, and is chaotic. Commentaries on the law are vitally necessary and it is proposed to ask a panel of authorities to write treatises on different branches of law for the use of professors, students, government authorities, the courts, and the legal profession. These would be published by the University. They would naturally draw upon and follow after the compilation of materials in the basic social sciences. Much may be hoped for here in the way of a constructive, pragmatic, sociological statement of Korean law.

6. Somewhat the same task, though a less extensive and complicated one, should be done in the field of public administration.

7, 8, and 9. From the second to the fourth year, the preparation and promulgation of a curriculum should take place in the social sciences, law and public administration. This would be the official curriculum of the National University in these fields. It should be done with great care, if only because it will be destined to last for many years.

10. In the tenth phase, seminars should be held for all the Korean and American faculty that will be charged with the new educational program in the social sciences, law, and administration. The aim of these seminars, to be held prior to the first and third years of the full instructional program is to orient, inform, and integrate the new faculty in terms of the materials developed and prepared in the first two years of the program. It is expected that most of these groups will consist of professors who will not have been part of the early researches and publications, although as many as possible of the earlier experienced group would be retained to give instruction. It is also expected that turnover will be high enough to necessitate a second seminar in the fifth and final year of the program.

11. In the third, fourth and fifth years of the program, a full curriculum in the four basic social sciences, law, and public administration will be offered to the ordinary student body of the National University of Seoul.

12. The final phases of the program will see a group of Korean professors and students, qualified by research, study, and course work in the earlier phases of the program, attending New York University. In the case of the students, they will be regularly qualified as graduate students in the first year of graduate work; in the case of professors, they will pursue special programs of research and study jointly approved by the program authorities.

It is probable that the program will be thoroughly integrated into the structure and functioning of the National

University of Seoul by the end of the fifth year, and that thenceforth, adequate financial provision on a permanent basis will have been made by the University and Korean Government.

Policy for the proposed program would be made cooperatively by the Dean of Faculties at the University of Seoul and the Center for Applied Social Research of New York University. Finances would be administered by the latter.

The costs and timing of the twelve phases of the program would be as follows:

Phase	Total Cost	Distribution of cost over five years				
		1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
1. Basic Research	160,000	120,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
2. Korean Interns	36,000	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,200
3. Library Purchases	20,000	15,000	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
4. Publications in Korean and English	30,000	5,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
5. Legal Commentaries	30,000	--	15,000	15,000	--	--
6. Public Administration Manuals	8,000	--	--	5,000	3,000	--
7. Social Science Curriculum	10,000	--	8,000	2,000	--	--
8. Legal Curriculum	3,000	--	--	3,000	--	--
9. Public Administration Curriculum	3,000	--	--	--	3,000	--
10. U.S.A.-Korean Professors' education	50,000	--	--	25,000	--	25,000
11. Instruction in Social Science, Law, and Administration	300,000	--	--	100,000	100,000	100,000
12. Korean Professors-Students Study in U.S.A	<u>225,000</u>	--	--	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
TOTALS	875,000	147,200	52,200	218,200	204,200	223,200