

# Mind Keepers safeguard students' mental health

By Park Kyoung-eun

An independent student body to safeguard students' mental health was newly constituted. Ewha Mind Keepers, consisting of 17 students from sophomore to senior, officially set off on Feb. 25.

The Mind Keepers will be working on two major events throughout the year. One is organizing a couple of events in two booths during 2015 Mental Health Counseling Fair on April 8 and 9. The other is holding an event during Mental Health Week in October. In addition, Mind Keepers will have reading and discussion sessions about counseling throughout the year and invite students who have endured psychological hardships for special lectures.

All activities or events will be organized and promoted by the student group with the support of Ewha Student Counseling Center (ESCC).

"We initiated the Mind Keeper program to encourage more students to pay more attention to their mental health and to create an atmosphere where students can freely create programs related to counseling," said Lee Eun-jin, an official of ESCC. "The importance of this program lies in students' own efforts to organize events and programs to understand other students' psychological problems."

The ESCC has recruited 24 students to be Mind Keepers throughout two semesters. It first recruited seven students for the fall semester of 2014, who worked for one semester. Then, 17 more students newly joined for the spring semester of 2015, who will be working for one year.

Participants were limited to students who have attended the special lecture on suicide prevention in either liberal arts or major classes, and those who are

interested in suicide prevention and mental health. The eligibility rule was made as the special lecture provided in specific classes was the first training course mandatory to be Mind Keepers.

"Since we recruited a small number of students for the first semester, we decided to count all students recruited in both semesters as our first Mind Keepers," Lee said.

After its official launch on Feb. 25, Seodaemun-gu Health Center provided second mandatory lecture on suicide prevention for Mind Keepers on the same day. Mind Keepers held orientations on March 3, 4 and 5 to discuss specific themes of events that will take place in the 2015 Mental Health Counseling Fair.

"I have learned a lot more than what I had known about suicide prevention and mental health through lectures," An Tae-young (Psychology, 3) said. "Moreover, it was interesting to share my ideas on counseling with many students who are also interested in this topic. Since the group will last for a year, from now on, I expect that more interaction would take place among Mind Keepers."

The ESCC stated that all officials are willing to provide financial support, for example, in purchasing materials needed for preparing booths in the events. In addition, all officials in the center, who are experts in counseling, would provide needed advices for Mind Keepers.

"Students are living in a time of fierce competition, often resulting in excessive stress," Lee said. "At this time, taking care of mental health on campus is crucial. We hope for Mind Keepers to play a leading role in encouraging others to look back on their busy lives and pay more attention to their mental health."

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Ewha Mind keepers are listening to a mandatory lecture about suicide prevention on Feb. 25. Photo provided by Student Counseling Center

## By-election to be held

By Huh Ryun-jung

By-election for the 47th Student Government Association (SGA) president will be held from March 24 to 25. The by-election will take place as the winner of the 47th SGA election Park Yu-jin (Composition, 2) was dismissed from the university in January due to repeated academic probation. The Ewha Central By-election Commission for the 47th SGA will manage the overall election process.

Currently, Son Sol (Psychology, 3) of Be Ewha is the sole candidate running for the 47th SGA presidential election, which will lead to a pro-con voting. Unless 50 percent or more of the voters disapprove of Son, she will be elected.

Son and vice-presidential candidate Kim Se-young (Philosophy, 4) hope to discuss college restructuring with the school and lower tuition.

"We will ask the school to reconsider college reconstruction and creation of colleges," they said.

The election campaign will be held after chapel from March 16 to

20. Public campaigns will also take place on March 18 and 23 in front of the Centennial Museum, where the party will give a speech on its pledges.

In addition to the campaign, an administrative hearing will be held on March 19. Students will be able to ask questions to the candidate during the event.

As for the SGA's electoral regulations, little has been changed in comparison to the last election. In fact, the rules established by the commission still diverge from the school regulation which allows only students with a GPA of 2.0 or higher to register for student government candidacy.

"We had considered setting a grade restriction," said Woo Ji-su (Physics, 3), the head of the Ewha Central By-election Commission. "However, we decided that it is wrong to judge one's future by her grade."

Meanwhile, the election results will be announced on March 26 once the ballot counting is finished. However, re-election will occur if less than 50 percent of electorates cast their ballot.

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## In Brief

### CDC holds 2015 Ewha Career Festa

Ewha Career Development Center (CDC) held the 2015 Ewha Career Festa from March 10 to 11 in front of the Lee San Bong Hall in the Ewha Campus Complex from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The fair was mandatory for freshmen to encourage them to find their future careers and receive advice from senior mentors. The fair introduced official school programs that students can participate in, including national exam preparation class, internships, and foreign exchange programs.

### Campus Leaders holds 2015 Between Class Tour for freshmen

Ewha Campus Leaders held the 2015 Between Class Tour for freshmen on campus from March 9 to 13. Students who wished to participate in the tour registered in advance at the Campus Leaders booth located in the Student Union Building and Ewha-POSCO Building. The Campus Leaders guided freshmen around campus and introduced tips on university life to help freshmen adjust to the school's campus. Students were also introduced to the 129 year history of Ewha.

### EMI holds music forum

Ewha Music Institute (EMI) held a music forum under the title of "Contents Planning and Storytelling Strategy" at Room 501 of the Ewha-Samsung Education Culture Building on March 4. The forum was instructed by professor Han Hye-won (Division of Digital Media, Graduate School).

### Department of Pharmacy holds White Coat Ceremony

The College of Pharmacy held a White Coat Ceremony at the Lee San-Bong hall in the Ewha Campus Complex on Feb. 27. The ceremony was held for pharmacy students who are moving on from classroom to actual practice sites. The students' parents and professors helped the students into their coats as a meaning of congratulation and encouragement.

### School library holds freshmen library tour

Ewha Womans University library held a freshmen library tour from March 9 to 13 to help freshmen use the library effectively. At the tour, freshmen learned the overall way to use the library, including the services and reference rooms. They were also introduced to methods to use the study hall, the equipment and facilities. The one-hour tour was held twice a day and was open to all freshmen applicants.

# School library makes changes to increase convenience

By Kim Ji-woon

The school library has altered its policies and systems regarding opening hours, borrowing and returning books, and seat reservations in the reading rooms.

Starting from 2015 spring semester, opening hours for the stacks in the Centennial Library have been extended by one hour, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., to increase the time students can access the books they need. Previously, the stacks for the Centennial Library were only available between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the semester.

In addition, the system for issuing seats in the reading rooms and PC room of the Centennial Library has changed. On account of students' lower use of the reading room in the Law library, the library has newly included its reading room section in the seat allocation machine. However, unlike other reading rooms, the seats in the Law

library can only be issued by the seat allocation machine, and not by the mobile application. Also, the use of seats in the PC room can be extended once so that students can use the area for a longer period.

Such changes have been made to match students' demands, following the survey conducted by the library in November 2014. The major request from many students was the extension of the stacks' opening hours and expansion of the capacity in the reading rooms and PC room. In response, the library employed various policies to promote the convenience of the users.

Another change the library has brought is the added convenience facilities in returning books that are in reservation. At its west entrance, the library has installed an automatic book dropbox to enable returning reserved books even after the library has closed. Previously, students could only return reserved books manually to the return desk during

library hours. Such method had been preferred for the reason that reserved books must be kept separately from other books for those who have made reservations.

"It is much better now that we do not have to match the time of the opening hours," Kim Joo-hee (Political Science, 2) said. "Now, even after the library has closed, we can return books regardless of whether the books have been reserved or not."

In addition, the library has also introduced new policies to deal with its chronic problems including unreturned overdue book.

Students who have not returned books over 60 days will not be able to enter the library. Moreover, references attached to books are now imposed of separate late fees, 100 won per day. Furthermore, in case of course reserved books, which are only available inside the library or through loans over-night, a late fee will be charged of 500 won per day.

Regarding course reserves, a recall system has been established where course reserved books which are at loan will have to be returned in a week after a notification is sent to their borrowers.

Apart from systematic changes, the library has also refurbished the 2nd floor hall of the Centennial Library. A special section arranging new arrivals and a collection of books written by the Ewha faculties is newly installed. The books in the special section can be used freely throughout the area but cannot be borrowed. Students who wish to loan the books will have to find the same books in the stacks.

"Through the survey, we found out that many students wanted to freely browse around in the library," said Kim Sun-mi, the Deputy General Manager of the library. "In attempt to help students satisfy their demands, we made a corner for the Ewha Collection."

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