

Campus Talk with Ewha Voice

Ewha students hold 1st Relay Seminar “Who Stole My Pie?”

By Lee Young-in

From March 12 to 21, six organizations – Ewha Searcheye, Ewha Student Minority Council, Stranger Ewha, Ewha Independent Library, Byunnal, and Solchan – came together to open the 1st Relay Seminar, “Who Stole My Pie?” Throughout the six-day period, each organization took turns holding a seminar on the rights of the disabled, sexual minorities, and immigrants.

“After the surge of interest in women’s rights last year, there have been several attempts in Korea to discuss agendas on social minorities,” said one of the organizers of the seminar. “However, the discussions were held in a confined atmosphere where there was a certain presumption of what was considered ‘normal.’ So, we wanted to organize seminars where students could freely talk about such agendas without constraints and seek solutions for social issues together.”

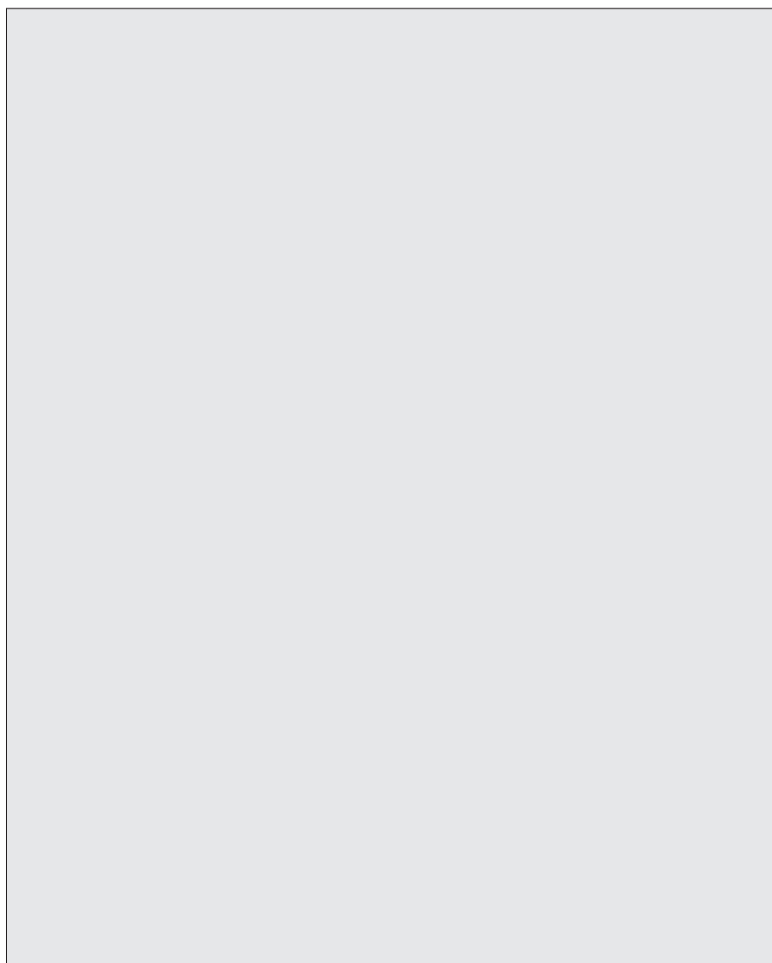
Ewha Voice attended two seminars, “Coming out + Outing” and “Animal as a Woman, Woman as an Animal.”

Should “Outing” be Banned?

On March 19, Ewha LGBTQ+ student club Byunnal started the seminar by presenting the definitions of “coming out” and “outing” and the relation between the two.

A member of Byunnal explained that in Korea, the common understanding of “coming out” is a person’s self-disclosure of sexual identity, while “outing” is a disclosure without the person’s consent. However, in the U.S., the term “outing” is frequently used when exposing the sexual orientation of public figures, such as politicians, in order to reveal their hypocritical attitude towards LGBTQ+ communities. Suppose a politician who is homosexual but has yet to come out to the public is promoting anti-gay legislations or actions. When someone publicly discloses his sexuality in order to criticize his behavior and to protect the rights of sexual minorities, it is called “outing.” There are such differing definitions and opinions towards this act as it can be seen as a violation of one’s privacy and, at the same time, can be one of many ways to prevent constant discrimination of sexual minorities. In order to have a chance to consider such conflict, the presenter of the seminar raised a challenging question on whether banning outing would actually improve the rights of sexual minorities.

“Mostly when one is ‘outed’ by someone, it follows that the person has come out to at least



Solchan, a club that promotes vegetarianism and animal rights, held the discussion on the correlation of feminism and veganism on March 20. Photo provided by Solchan

one person,” said the member of Byunnal. “This can mean that in order for sexual minorities to avoid being ‘outed’ publicly, they have to keep their sexuality a secret, not letting a single person acknowledge it. That makes it more difficult for minorities to freely express themselves. We have to change the current perception of societies where they are treated unfairly and prone to possible hate-crimes. Simply criminalizing outing to prevent potential damage results in the inability to see the correlation between coming out and outing.”

After the presentation of the agenda, more than 15 people carried a heated discussion on outing. One of the participants said that she realized how passive she was in promoting minorities’ rights.

“Although the two-hour seminar wasn’t enough to fully understand their experiences, it surely was an opportunity for me to look back on myself and share the passion of making a better world with other participants,” she said.

The Correlation between Veganism and Feminism

The seminar began with a video of a man inviting his neighbors over for a delicious meal, but after the neighbors realized that they were eating a golden retriever, they all stopped eating. The video intended to criticize people having inconsistent attitudes towards different species of animals, those who may agree with consuming chicken or pork

but not dogs, while all animals are sentient beings. This concept is called “carnism,” a belief system that allows people to eat certain animals.

“Our schema confines our thoughts by categorizing animals into ‘animals we can eat’ and ‘animals we shouldn’t eat,’” said a member of Solchan. “If we link veganism and feminism here and switch the word ‘animals’ to ‘women,’ it becomes evident that this categorization is nonsense. It is like the concept that there’s no woman that can be raped!”

Also, the presenter stated that when looking at the production process of milk and eggs, we can easily find violence.

“Milk is a product that only comes from pregnant cows, which means that cows are exposed to rape, unwanted pregnancy, and unwanted separation from their babies,” she said. “In the case of eggs, they are cultivated from mutated chickens that produce 30 eggs a month, which is three times the amount of eggs that they normally produce. These animals are constantly being exploited, and their sole purpose in life is to keep producing food for humans.”

The seminar further talked about the correlation of feminism and veganism and how paradoxical viewpoints humans have.

“Veganism is not a preference; rather, it is an issue of morality,” one of the participants said. “In order to truly care for the rights of animals, we should change our diets to vegan.”

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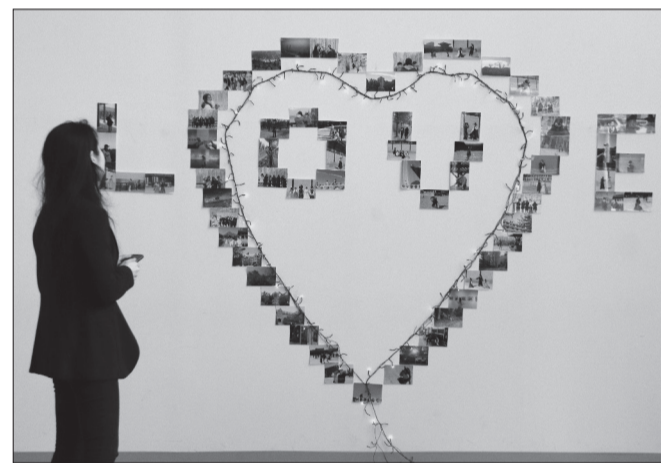
In Brief

Happy Hour Open for International Students Seeking Assistance



Happy Hour is a program for international students searching for student network within Ewha. The semester-long program is organized by the Office of International Affairs. International students were matched on a 1:1 basis with Ewha Mates, who are Korean student-volunteers who help international students with their adjustment to life in Korea and at Ewha Womans University. Matched groups are expected to attend both OIA-lead events such as field trips, and engage in spontaneous activities within Korea. The program had its first session on March 27.

Photo Trace hosts 16th Newcomer Exhibition



Ewha’s central club, Photo Trace held its 16th Newcomer Exhibition on March 20 to 24 at ECC. The exhibition portrayed how people in their twenties constantly wander in search of their dream on the road of their life, continuing to move forward. The club also hosted various events such as giving out free notes and stickers to all visitors. The exhibition consisted of the works produced by the club’s newcomers. The exhibition was faithful to the club’s description on Ewha’s homepage, “Finding life’s beauty through the lens”.

Ewha Volunteer Group recruit participants for the 2019 U.S education volunteer program

Ewha Volunteer Services recruited new participants from March 19 to 31 for the international volunteer placement program to Camp Chosun in Minnesota, United States, and Sejong academy camp. Selected students will go abroad on June 28 to July 12. Until then, the students will meet every week and prepare for the program. The main focus of the volunteer work is to educate and exchange culture with adopted Korean children or children of Korean immigrants. This program counts as one credit and provides an authentication certificate of volunteering.

Ewha offers tailored career counseling

A Multinational Company Coordination was held in order to give students the opportunity to receive advice from multinational consultants on March 25 at the ECC. Three sessions were organized, and each session offered seven seats. Students registered beforehand on THE Portfolio and were accepted in a first-come, first-serve manner. The instructor Park So-Hyun, a consultant from Rookies Campus, led the session by explaining about foreign businesses and specific employee duties in-depth, advising on resume and interview, as well as sharing examples in the hiring process.

Ewha Womans University Library hosts a special back to school event

Ewha Womans University Library held a special back to school event from March 18 to 29. The purpose of the event was to encourage graduate and undergraduate students in utilizing the services and facilities the library provides. Students had to visit the library and collect at least seven stamps at the designated locations, like a treasure hunt. 200 students who joined the event will be randomly picked as prize-winners for library logo printed eco bags. The results are to be announced on April 5.