

Love for Humans, Peace to All Humankind

Kyung Hee University

Global Service Corps (GSC)



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Why Global Service?

“Universities in these days face a new challenge. They must go beyond the ivory tower to narrow the gap between destitution and affluence, alienation and tolerance, and suffering and compassion. They must also open ‘a new intellectual space for reflective humans’ while leading the way to deep scholarly pursuit and dialogue with an open universe. The harmonious bonding of academe and global practice as well as each individual’s ‘transcendental engagement’ should lie at the heart of all such endeavors.”

President Inwon Choue, Kyung Hee University
In his keynote speech at the UNAI-Kyung Hee International Symposium (2011)

Kyung Hee University is paving the way to a new stage of intellectual social responsibility. Since its founding, Kyung Hee has engaged in public service and is now seeking to sublimate the university’s accumulated educational and research capacity into a creative and dynamic energy for the future of global society. Kyung Hee’s global service begins with “Scholarship and Peace,” the long tradition and vision of Kyung Hee.

Kyung Hee seeks to share its intellectual assets with local communities and global society. Kyung Hee’s social and global praxis is the process of seeking answers to what a university can and should do for “better education and a better human society.”

While fostering individuals to lead society in the future, a university must constantly create universal values that lead to the construction of a sustainable human civilization. If a university settles for the ivory tower far from reality, the university is denying its identity. The moment a university loses its ability to communicate with the world, the future of humanity becomes unrealizable. A university takes on its true image when it cultivates a heart of compassion, empathy, peace, and co-prosperity, and actively practices sharing and dedication for a better world.

Everything is interconnected. Every existence on Earth closely influences one another. From poverty, famine, disease, climate change, energy deprivation, and conflict of civilizations to the safety of what we consume daily, global issues are mutually connected. This calls for the expansion of empathy and solidarity to a global scale beyond a regional range. In this regard, compassion should be felt at the global level and sharing should also be carried out at the global level. A “global imagination” is in dire need.

Kyung Hee’s global service aims for peace. Peace does not signify the mere absence of war. True peace is only realized when political, social, economic, and cultural alienation and conflicts are resolved at the global level. The “peace of the future” pursued by Kyung Hee is one in which each individual, freed from all threats of violence, poverty, famine, disease, oppression of human rights, cultural discrimination, and environmental destruction, can independently enjoy “Beautiful, Affluent, and Rewarding” (BAR) lives. As members of a global society, we all must strive to achieve global peace. We must actively take part in resolving issues affecting humans and the world.

Kyung Hee “Global Service Corps” is taking its first steps toward the future of universities and the future of humanity.

Kyung Hee Global Service Corps

A Model of Global Praxis for “Sharing and Dedication” A New Paradigm of Social Service with a Creative Integration of Education, Research, and Practice

Kyung Hee Global Service Corps (GSC) is a global service organization at the pan-university level.

Intellectual social responsibility is maximized when it is able to creatively integrate education and research with practice programs. Kyung Hee seeks to continuously and systematically fulfill the global responsibility of a university by constructing a social service network that puts learning into practice. Instead of settling as an academic institution that searches for truth through research and fosters intellectuals through education, Kyung Hee also hopes to become a social institution that contributes to both regional communities and global society.

Kyung Hee’s social service has continued throughout the 63-year history of the university. In the mid-1950s, shortly after the Korean War, Kyung Hee carried out various community service activities, such as the Rural Enlightenment Movement and the Better Life Movement. Then, spearheaded by the creation of the International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) in the mid-1960s, Kyung Hee began various movements for a peaceful global society. In 1999, Kyung Hee hosted the International Conference of NGOs in Seoul. And in 2009, which marked the university’s 60th anniversary, Kyung Hee hosted the World Civic Forum (WCF) and the World Civic Youth Forum (WCYF) in cooperation with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

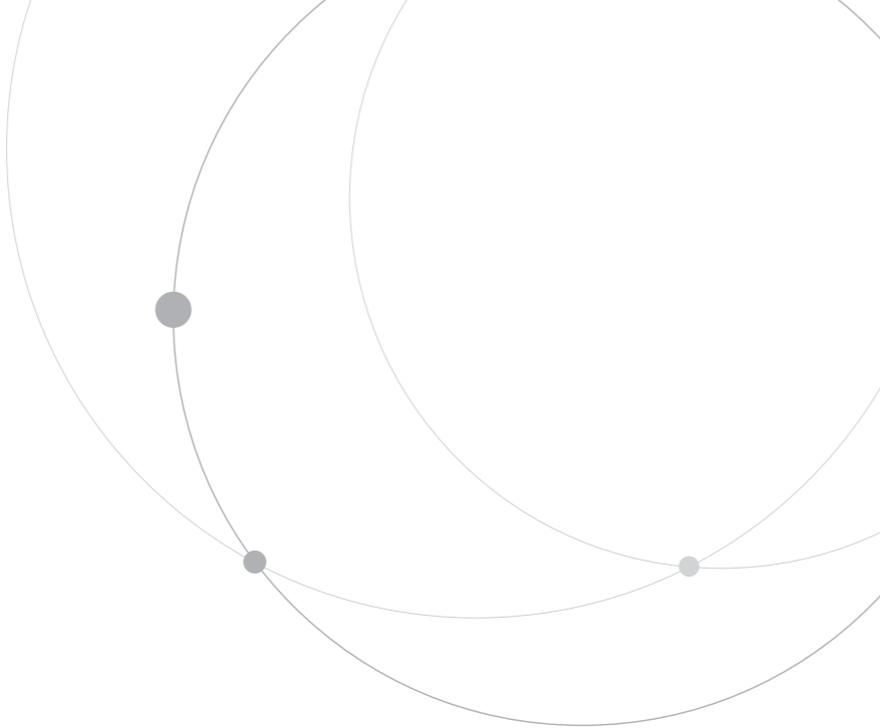
Kyung Hee established the Global Service Corps (GSC) as a pan-university organization for public practice to fulfill the calling of a “true university of the future” in the 21st century while also carrying on its tradition of social service. Through GSC, Kyung Hee will respond to the requests of global society by working towards global eminence. Based on the voluntary participation of its members, Kyung Hee GSC is a new governance structure that comprehensively, systematically, and sustainably utilizes, supports, and manages the various resources of the university for social service.

Universities should pursue humanitarian and global values.

Historically, the basic principles of a university are research, education, and social service. For years, we have been told that a university, as “a hall of truth,” should pursue and practice humanitarian and global values. Concerns about global aporia and dedication to the socially weak are central to intellectual social responsibility and are the reasons for its existence.

Social service is an important part of university education. Our society calls for “rational citizens” with rational intellect and a correct historical view; “caring neighbours” with the virtues of empathy, goodwill, consideration, and sharing; and “global citizens” who have unique nationalities but are open to global society. Social service is about rational and compassionate global citizens who actively participate in resolving society’s issues. It is about sharing the benefits of higher education with those in need within the neighbourhood, the region, the state, and the world. Sharing and dedication are the obligations of all intellectuals who desire a better humanity and a better world.

Social service increases knowledge, understanding, and experience about humans, regional society, and global society. Breaking free of the prejudice of narrow individualism, the scope of rational faculty and life expands to the global level. Through social service activities, one can better understand humanitarian projects and communicate with the world while working together with international organizations, NGOs, government agencies, businesses, and the media. Social service activities for global society also become “education for the global community.”



INTELLECTUAL SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Significance of Intellectual Social Responsibility

Universities should make every effort to fulfill their social and global duties along with their search for truth. This is the path for universities to recover their principal values and is what society expects of universities at this juncture.

An ideal university promotes altruistic lives and a transcendental sublimity in humans. In the twelfth century when a university was first introduced in Europe, it served as an academic community for teachers and students who thirsted for an open search of truth. The educational goal of the early university was to educate and train “cultured individuals” who would contribute to the community and society. Thereafter, as universities changed and developed through time, they became higher educational institutions in charge of scholarship and education required by society.

But in the twentieth century, universities that should have remained as a “hall of truth” were becoming involved in research for the state’s industrial development and for business profit, serving as nothing more than institutions producing ready-to-work individuals responding to economic logic. Universities themselves have failed to secure a critical distance with the era and, consequently, lost their own ideals. The values and identity of universities were shaken by the current of the times.

The knowledge society of the twenty-first century is facing dramatic changes. Along with the information revolution, the phenomenon of universities’ monopoly on expertise has come to an end, which in turn calls for universities to reset the directions of education. Universities are now at a point where they must reflect upon the reason for their existence while seeking answers to what is required by future society. It is time for universities to discover what a true university of the future should be.

The twenty-first century demands universities to foster well-rounded intellectuals who care about the problems of the future and contribute to the global community. Universities of the future must go beyond the demands of the state and businesses to become halls of truth that seek universal values on the basis of love for humanity while also becoming institutions that educate and cultivate cultured individuals with the ability to serve the world and humanity. In doing so, universities will restore their true reason for existence and be reborn as universities of the future.

When universities fulfill their social and global responsibilities, the future of universities and the future of humanity can be promised. Only when global values are sought and sustainable peace and co-prosperity are actively pursued will true universities of the future be realized. This is the very reason behind intellectual social responsibility that integrates scholarship and practice.

GSC introduces a new paradigm for intellectual social responsibility.

Kyung Hee’s social service is different. It will contribute to realizing the “peace of the future” through social service programs that creatively integrate education, research, and practice. Kyung Hee’s global service will not just be limited to basic volunteer work; instead it will introduce a new level of social service only possible by a university as an institution of higher education.

In order to successfully carry out social service activities, voluntary participation and service by all members are crucial. For this, GSC will develop a pan-university social service system and various programs as well as support the voluntary participation of professors, students, staff members, alumni, and parents.

For local community service, GSC will create a social service network with NGOs, local governments, corporate volunteers, the media, and government agencies. It will also establish a global network with the United Nations and its subsidiary organizations—UNESCO, UNDP, UN Academic Impact, UN Global Impact—as well as KOICA, international NGOs, and overseas universities. More opportunities for global praxis will also be provided within this realm of cooperation.

Kyung Hee's Founding Ideals and Social Service

“...Therefore, [the university’s] mission cannot be fulfilled by being the reservoir or transmission belt of old knowledge. A university should be a place where new knowledge is being created through the inner synthesis of man, world, and nature, and through the research into the phenomena of things in their changing and formative nature.

In addition, it should take the initiative in eliminating such old foes of man as war, poverty, disease, disaster, ignorance and grievance; and it must educate future leaders so oriented. It is not enough, therefore, for a university merely to produce civil servants, lawyers, scholars and technicians who are equipped with highly specialized knowledge. Rather, the goal of university education should be directed toward producing an active ‘total man’ who is gentle and broad-minded, a responsible ‘social man’ possessing the love of freedom, justice and truth, and a cooperative ‘democratic man’ imbued with the spirit of tolerance, understanding and social service.”

Chancellor Choue Young Seek, Kyung Hee University
In his Keynote Speech at World Congress of University Presidents,
Rectors and Vice-Chancellors (1971)

Kyung Hee's Founding Ideal and Educational Philosophy

Kyung Hee's founding ideal is one of “Creating a Civilized World.” In the heart of a civilized world lies Kyung Hee's tradition of “Scholarship and Peace.” As a “hall of scholarship,” Kyung Hee has made every effort for education and research. In addition, as a “hall of peace,” it has faithfully fulfilled its social responsibility to realize the co-existence and co-prosperity of human society.

A university is where academic pursuits take place. Academic pursuits take form in research and education, and a university's research achievements and educational programs permeate society through practice. This is why a university is bound to carry out social roles and responsibilities.

In addition, scholarship creates culture as a way of human life. Today, various forms of conflict and inequality call for a new “Creation of a Civilized World.” This would only be possible through a culture of peace that seeks harmony, social equality, co-prosperity, and the happiness of humanity. In this regard, Kyung Hee's ultimate goal for education is “Scholarship and Peace.”

Since the early 1950s when the concept of democracy was barely understood, Kyung Hee pushed forward with its spirit of “Creative Efforts, Progressive Spirits, and Productive Cooperation,” based on its educational philosophy of “Democratization of School, Democratization of Thought, and Democratization of Living.” While educating and cultivating well-rounded humans to lead a peaceful society, Kyung Hee has continually carried out its research, education, and public practice to realize global peace.

SOCIAL SERVICE

In terms of sustainability and extensiveness, Kyung Hee's social service is unprecedented in the world history of universities. Since the mid-1950s, the early stages of the university, Kyung Hee has been carrying out various social service activities including diverse volunteer programs for local communities: the Global Common Society (GCS) Movement, the Movement for the Reconstruction of Human Society, the Neo-Renaissance Movement, and the Future Peace Movement.

1950 s	Rural Enlightenment Movement Afforestation Movement
1960 s	1963 Kyung Hee Family Movement 1965 Better Life Movement 1968 Hosted the 2nd IAUP Conference
1970 s	1975 Declaration of the Global Common Society Movement
1980 s	1981 Declaration of the UN International Day and Year of Peace 1987 Edited <i>World Encyclopedia of Peace</i>
1990 s	1993 Recipient of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education 1995 Development of the Neo-Renaissance Movement 1999 Hosted the Seoul International Conference of NGOs
2000 s	2009 Hosted the World Civic Forum 2010 Launched the Global Service Corps 2011 Hosted the UNAI-Kyung Hee International Conference

Kyung Hee's social service has evolved and developed over time in response to the needs of society.

Its future social service will also be expanded and intensified in line with new changes and demands.

1950 s

Rural Enlightenment Movement



1960 s

Better Life Movement



1970 s

Restoration of Humanity and the Global Common Society Movement



1980 s

Contributions to World Peace



1990 s

Neo-Renaissance Movement



2000 s

Future Peace Movement



GSC: Vision, Values, and Principles

Vision

“Love for Humans, Peace for Humanity”

Kyung Hee Global Service Corps seeks to take part in Kyung Hee’s efforts in realizing sustainable peace for humanity and a global society based on Kyung Hee’s history and tradition of “Scholarship and Peace.” For this reason, GSC aims to create a new university identity of global eminence through sharing, contribution, and dedication under the slogan of “Love for Humans, Peace for Humanity.” Together with the members of our university, local communities, the state, and global civil society, GSC will expand its purpose worldwide.

Values

“Responsibility for a better human”

“Responsibility for a brighter society”

“Responsibility for a more open history”

“Responsibility for a more peaceful civilization”

GSC chose the following core values to realize its vision. These values begin with an understanding of and responsibility for humans. All Kyung Hee members share a passion and responsibility for a better human, a brighter society, a more open history, and a more peaceful civilization based on these values.

Principles

GSC has established the following five principles to support Kyung Hee’s social service.

Principles of Kyung Hee Social Service

Principle of Voluntarism and Sustainability Kyung Hee’s social service is based on the individual’s voluntary participation and sustainable practice. Going beyond involuntary and one-time volunteer activities, social service must be dedicated to the community. It requires continuous practice based on voluntary willingness and creative participation.

Principle of Reciprocity Kyung Hee’s social service pursues the spirit of not a unilateral dispensation but consideration and mutual respect. Reciprocity is possible only when one can respect differences and sympathize with others’ pain and achievements. The formation of a reciprocal relationship is indeed the starting point of creating the spirit of co-existence and symbiosis in recognition that we are all interconnected.

Principle of Global Citizenship Kyung Hee must serve the common good of global society. A state’s citizenship becomes more valuable when it reconciles and co-exists with global citizenship. Also, true social service can take place when our lives are connected to global society as a whole. Global citizenship is about expanding the notion of altruism to a global level by respecting others and living together in harmony on the basis of reciprocity and solidarity. A sophisticated global imagination, tolerance and respect for others, and empathy and solidarity that go beyond borders are the key values and principles to solving global issues.

Principle of Creative Integration of Education, Research, and Practice A university’s social service seeks a creative integration of scholarship and practice. A university’s social and global significance lies in how effectively it can integrate its capacities for research and education with social practice. Social service programs that creatively integrate education, research, and practice will be created to address ongoing struggles in resolving global issues.

Principle of Interconnectivity between Major Fields of Study and Interdisciplinary Integration The interdisciplinary and integrative approach is crucial for putting the pursuit of truth into social practice. We must realize the complexity of problems and take multidisciplinary research measures and approaches with creative reasoning and participation. Interdisciplinary integration is essential to understand the complexity and various causes of global aporia. This is a role that can and should only be fulfilled by a university.

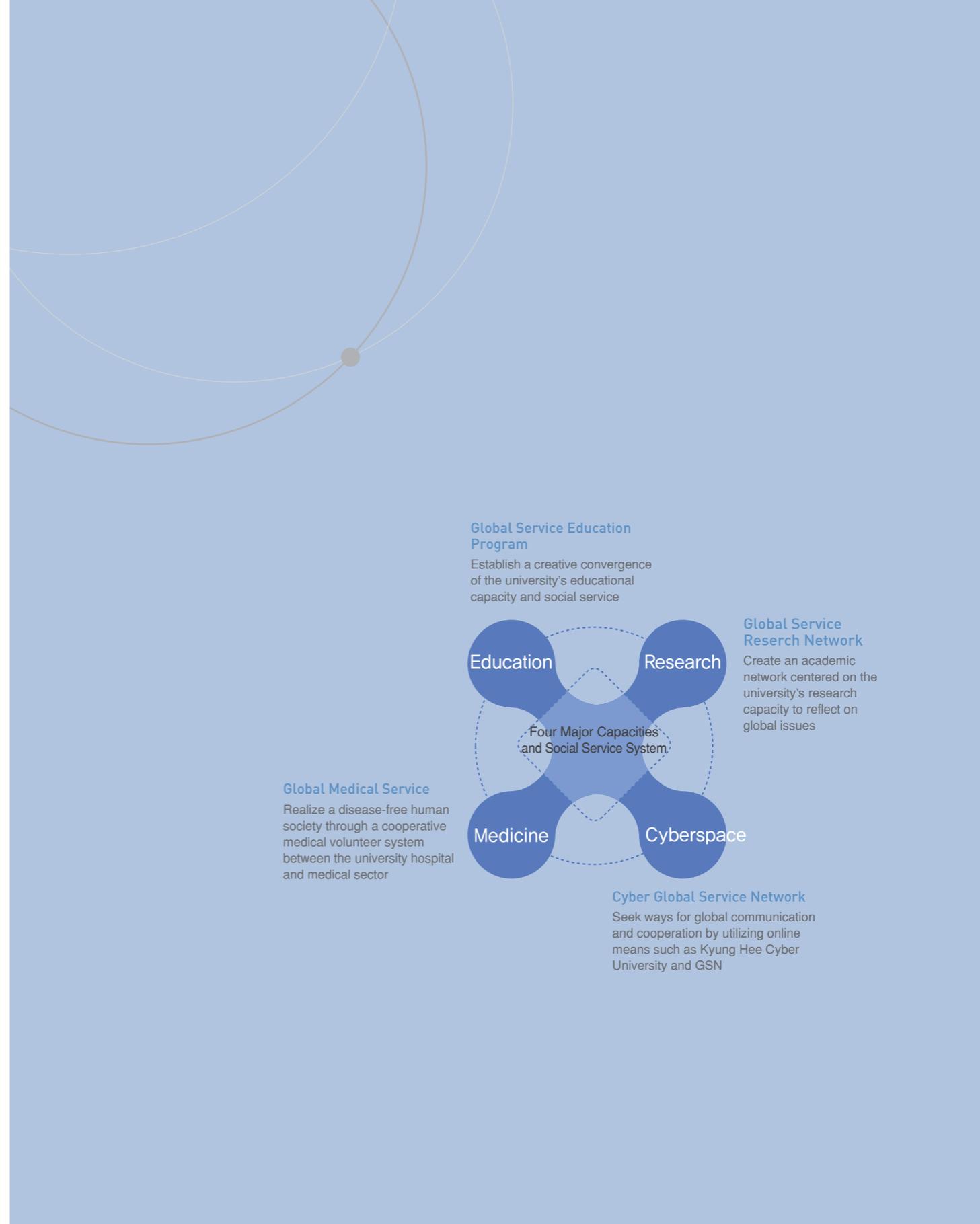
PROGRAM

Programs

A Creative Integration of the University's Capacity and Social Service

Since its foundation, Kyung Hee has made significant achievements in four major areas: education, research, medicine, and cyberspace. Kyung Hee has produced numerous talented graduates who meet the expectations of regional and global society and its research achievements are of a global level. In the areas of medicine and Oriental medicine, Kyung Hee boasts a leading comprehensive medical center with dedicated practitioners. In cyberspace, Kyung Hee Cyber University has been setting the global standard for e-learning, and Global Studio Network (GSN), which is an online academic community where the entire world comes together as one, is operated.

GSC aims to develop and run new social and global service programs that are not only possible by institutions of higher education but also transcend the boundaries of the university. In so doing, Kyung Hee will fully utilize its intellectual assets and capacities.



Sectors of Practice

GSC unfolds its practice from the areas of “creation,” “sharing,” and “communication.” Kyung Hee’s social service starts from “the area of creation” in exploring the awareness of global issues, “the area of sharing” in putting ideas into practice, and “the area of communication” in establishing a global network.

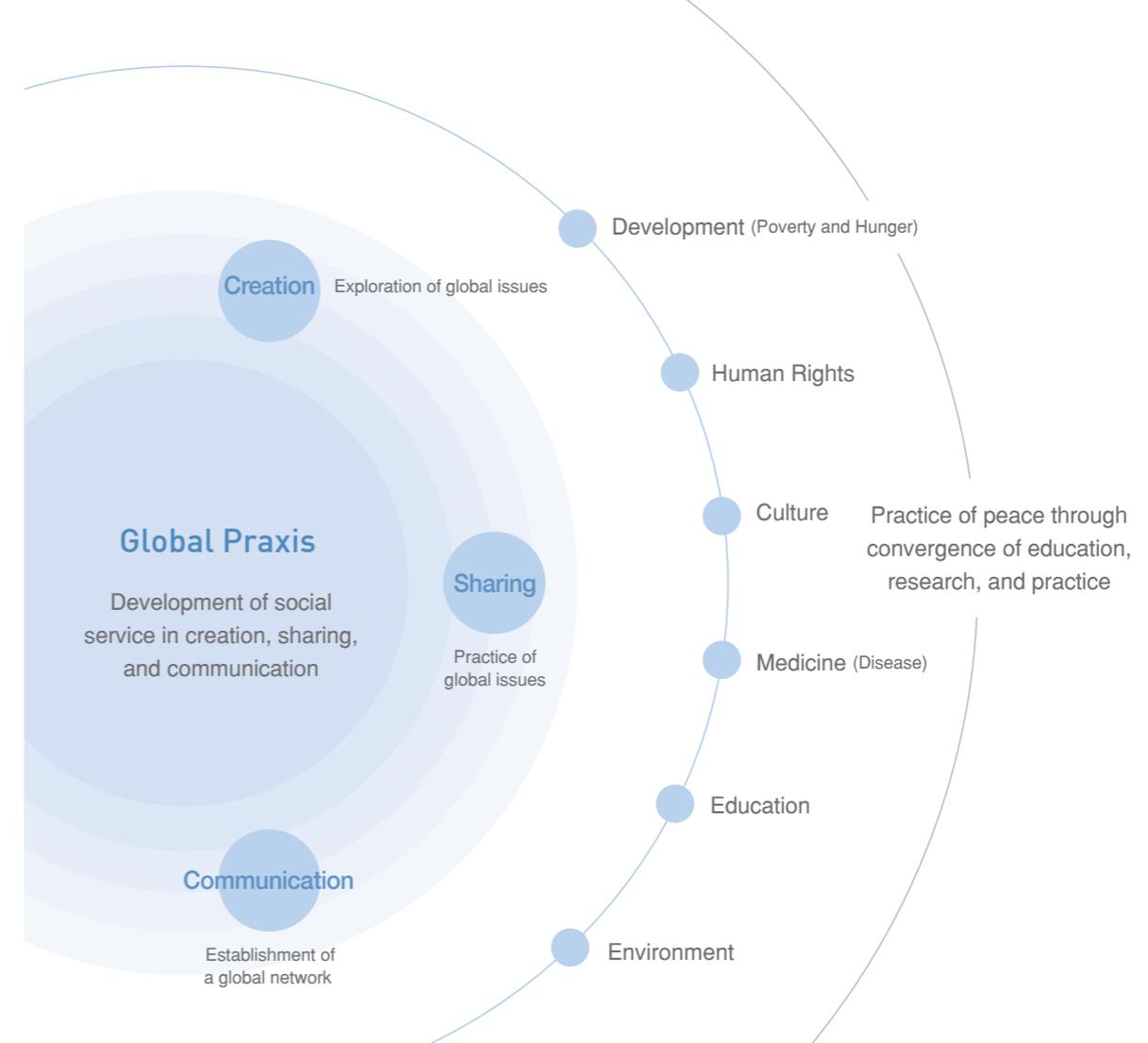
By creating a mutually-connected system among the areas of creation, sharing, and communication, various social service programs to resolve global agenda such as development (poverty and hunger), human rights, culture, medicine (disease), education, and environment, will be created.

Creation

Activities in the “creation” sector seek changes in the awareness of the self and society while reflecting on the causes and solutions of global issues. Some questions under consideration are: “What are the global problems that we face today?”; “What causes such problems?”; and “What are the solutions?” This sector, which aims to discover the connectivity between these problems and “myself,” is a stepping stone to the sectors of sharing and communication.

Sharing

Activities in the “sharing” sector search independently for the solutions to various global issues and to contribute one’s passion and skills through hands-on participation. Volunteer activities take place at home and abroad on issues related to poverty, hunger, human rights, culture, medicine, education, environment, etc. Through sharing, one can experience the values of empathy, trust, solidarity, co-existence, and harmony.



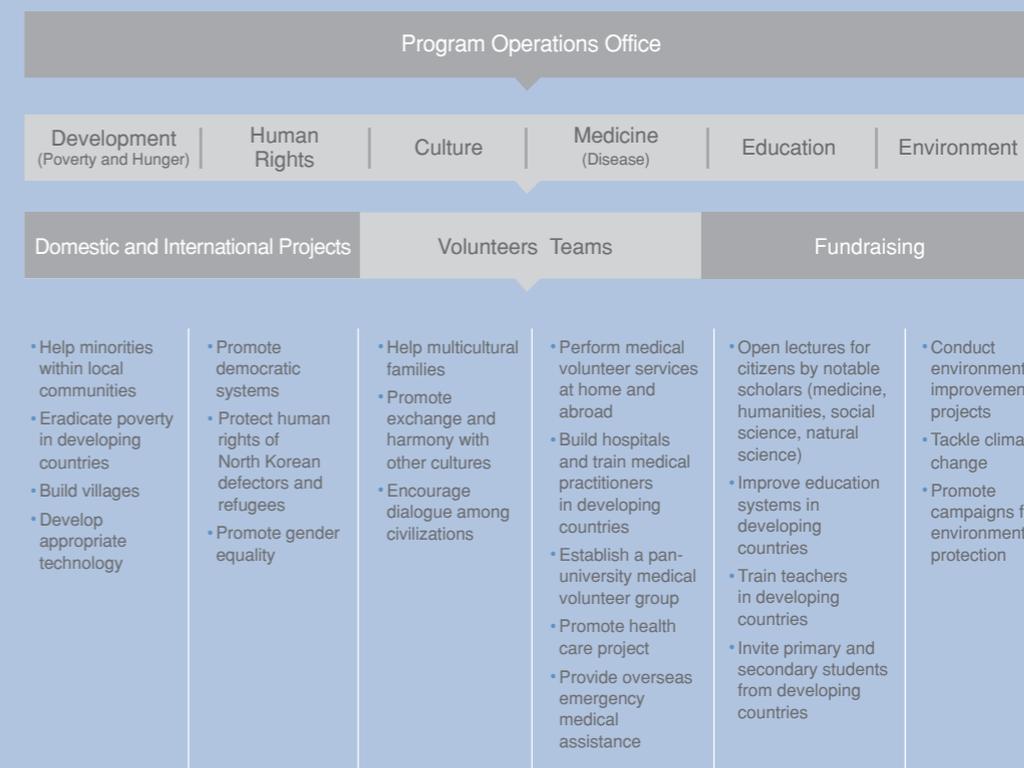
Communication

Activities in the “communication” sector respond to global issues by joining hands with other like-minded individuals and groups at home and abroad. This is also where the achievements of research, education, and practice are shared and further expanded. A global network will be established in cooperation with international organizations including the United Nations, KOICA, NGOs from home and abroad, businesses, and the media.

Programs by Issue

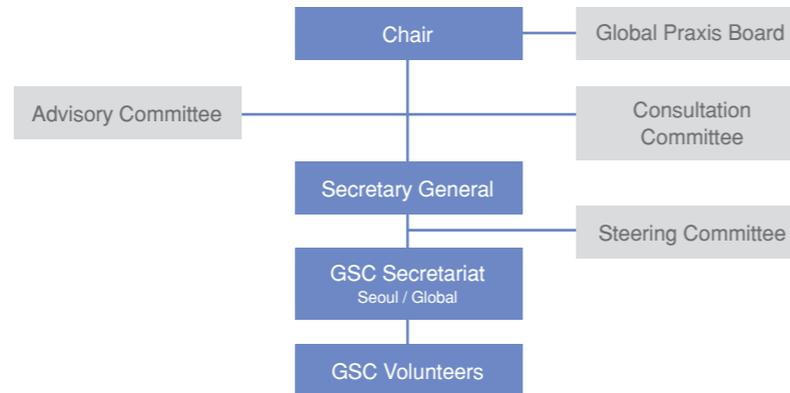
After reorganizing its volunteer activities which have been carried out in various activities for many years, the Global Service Corps will be operated as follows in order to create and support new programs:

- By supporting independent volunteer activities that have been carried out within the university, the synergetic effects of social service will be maximized.
- Various social service programs are being planned and implemented through civic education courses at Humanitas College. Support will be provided to link some of the top programs to GSC's social service programs for ongoing activities.
- GSC will take suggestions for new programs in the "creation", "sharing," and "communication" sectors to discover creative social service programs (the development of appropriate technology, the establishment of NGOs, the construction of villages, projects for the eradication of poverty and for development, etc.). Volunteer groups will be formed to carry out these programs.
- To raise funds for social service, various fundraising campaigns such as small-sum donations, campaigns for external fundraising, and KOICA projects will be conducted.
- Education, research, and social service will be integrated and organic cooperation between programs by issue will be promoted by placing the "Program Operations Office" under the GSC Secretariat.



ORGANIZATION

Organization



Global Praxis Board

A practical and advisory network of world-renowned figures to work with GSC (e.g., UN Secretary-General, NGO representatives, and prominent figures and scholars from Korea and abroad)

Advisory Committee

An advisory group of social service experts in government agencies, NGOs, the media, etc.

Consultation Committee

A consultative body composed of university offices, faculty representatives, and the Kyung Hee medical schools and hospitals (Vice President, Chair of the Faculty Council, Chair of the Labor Union, a student representative, Rector and deans of Humanities College, Director-General of the Medical Center and directors of affiliated hospitals, etc.)

Steering Committee

A group of representatives from five areas: domestic, international, medical, academic research, and public relations

GSC Secretariat

The office in charge of GSC's administrative tasks

GSC Volunteers

Various volunteer teams based on individual programs, main areas of focus, organizations, members, etc.

Show the Flag!

Show the flag that all may see
That you serve humanity
Show the flag and let it fly,
Cheering every passer-by,
Men that may have stepped aside,
May have lost their old-time pride,
May behold it there, and then,
Consecrate themselves again.

—Edgar A. Guest