April, 2016

To: The Faculty Assembly of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

From: Russell Ganim, Interim DEO, Asian and Slavic Languages, and Literatures, Director, Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Re: Proposal for a Minor in Korean Studies

**Background and Justification**

The Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures (ASLL) in the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DWLLC) has offered courses in Korean language since 1986. The UI is the only institution of higher learning in the state offering Korean. In the last three years, enrollment in Korean language has increased by more than 200%, with 151 students enrolled in Korean language classes during the fall 2015 semester. In fact, the increase of enrollment in Korean classes is a national trend. According to MLA report in 2015, Korean showed 44.7% growth in 2009-2013 period, which the highest growth rate among the languages taught in the United States. (Please see appendix A)

In order to ensure that students take courses beyond the second year, a minor needs to be created as an incentive. By virtue of having more students in third year, we added fourth year Korean. We also hope to develop more advanced Korean language courses, with a view to integrating them with offerings in History, Communication Studies and other related departments.

In this vein, the History Department regularly offers courses in Modern Korean History, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communications—either through their present or future offerings—could contribute courses toward the minor. Furthermore, the Office of International Program and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have approved a search to fill the Korean Studies chair that was recently vacated. Possible departments for the position include Anthropology, Journalism and Mass Communication, Political Science, and Religious Studies. We expect that there will be more courses in Korean-related fields once the new Korean Studies chair is hired.

Many students have asked that a minor be established, and we believe that the interdisciplinary nature of the minor will expand the base beyond that of language students. A minor in Korean Studies is necessary to accommodate the growing numbers of students taking Korean language courses as well as courses in other departments related to Korean history and culture. In addition, South Korea is the world’s 12th largest economy and Korean has been named a critical language by the U.S. Department of Defense.
Given the UI’s participation in the CIC’s Korean e-School (funded by the Korea Foundation) as well as previous applications for a Department of Education UISFL (Undergraduate International Study of Foreign Language) grant, a summer study abroad partnership with Ewha Womans University in Seoul, and the establishment of the King Sejong Institute which offers community-based language and culture courses, we can envision expansion of the program in a number of ways beyond the University of Iowa campus.

We have spoken with study abroad advisors in the Tippie College of Business, and will collaborate with this unit in promoting Korean-related initiatives. Overall, the addition of a minor will provide much-needed opportunities for students to build on their current interests.

**Structure:**

The minor in Korean Studies would consist of 15 hours from the following courses:

**Required Courses**

- **One or two of the following courses**
  
  Korean Language in Culture and Society: KORE 1135  
  Asian Humanities: Korea: KORE 1500

- **Two courses from the upper level language courses (6 s.h.)*:**

  Third Year Korean: First Semester: KORE 3101
  Third Year Korean: Second Semester: KORE 3102
  Fourth Year Korean: First Semester: KORE 4000
  Fourth Year Korean: Second Semester: KORE 4001

  *You can be exempt from this if you can prove your Korean ability is higher than Third Year Korean or have TOPIK level 3 or higher.

**Electives**

- **History** (up to 6 s.h.):

  Perspectives on Korea: HIST 2887
  Modern Korean History: HIST 4185
  Civilizations of Asia: Korea: HIST 2607
Courses offer from Ewha International Summer College or University of Seoul International Summer School (up to 6 s.h.)

A student who participates in Ewha International Summer College or University of Seoul International Summer School can take one or two courses per year. You need to consult Sang-Seok Yoon (sang-seok-yoon@uiowa.edu) for eligibility of the course.

Courses offered through CIC e-school (up to 6 s.h.)

One or two CIC Korean studies e-school courses can be offered from other big ten schools each academic year. In 2016-2017 year, “Two Koreas: Political Economy of Regional Rivalry” will be offered from OSU in Spring 2017 semester.

CONSISTENCY OF OFFERINGS AND STUDENT DEMAND

With respect to the rotation of courses, we have verified that the classes required for the minor in ASLL will be offered every semester for the foreseeable future. Similarly, ISIS indicates that the History courses have been offered regularly within last two years. No change is anticipated in this cycle.

Similarly, transfer credit from the study abroad program at Ewha Womans University (or other similarly accredited institutions) as well as the CIC’s Korean e-School can be applied to the Korean Studies minor when appropriate. In 2014 and 2015, there were 14 and 12 students, respectively, who enrolled in the Ewha International Summer college program. Many of them are anticipating using their credits for Korean minor. Given the choice and flexibility built into the minor, students will be able to complete it in two years after finishing the lower division GenEd coursework in Korean.

Resources

This proposal includes no costs in addition to the Department’s regular teaching and advising duties, currently funded by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. If approved, we expect approximately 20-25 students who will declare minors by 2016-17. This number should increase to more than 30 within the next 2-3 years. Given growing interest in Korean language and culture, as well as Korea’s continued importance in East Asia and the Pacific Rim, the creation of a minor in Korean Studies will provide a valuable asset to our students and to the state as a whole.

Thank you for considering this proposal.
Appendix A: Language Enrollments and Percentage Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Change from 2002-06 (%)</th>
<th>Change from 2006-09 (%)</th>
<th>Change from 2009-13 (%)</th>
<th>2013 Enrollment (students)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>+10.3</td>
<td>+4.7</td>
<td>-8.2</td>
<td>790,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>+2.0</td>
<td>+4.5</td>
<td>-8.1</td>
<td>197,757</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Sign</td>
<td>+31.1</td>
<td>+15.5</td>
<td>+19.1</td>
<td>109,577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>+3.3</td>
<td>+1.6</td>
<td>-9.3</td>
<td>86,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>+22.3</td>
<td>+2.7</td>
<td>-11.3</td>
<td>71,285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>+25.2</td>
<td>+10.6</td>
<td>-7.8</td>
<td>66,740</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>+50.4</td>
<td>+16.5</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>61,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>+126.6</td>
<td>+45.5</td>
<td>-7.5</td>
<td>32,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>+7.8</td>
<td>+0.9</td>
<td>-16.2</td>
<td>27,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>+3.5</td>
<td>+8.0</td>
<td>-17.9</td>
<td>21,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancient Greek</td>
<td>+12</td>
<td>-12.2</td>
<td>-35.5</td>
<td>12,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biblical Hebrew</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
<td>-8.7</td>
<td>12,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>+23</td>
<td>+9.3</td>
<td>+10.1</td>
<td>12,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>+37.1</td>
<td>+18.2</td>
<td>+44.7</td>
<td>12,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Hebrew</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>-13.6</td>
<td>-19.4</td>
<td>6,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other languages</td>
<td>33.6</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>-2.6</td>
<td>40,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>+12.9</td>
<td>+6.2</td>
<td>-6.7</td>
<td>1,562,179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2015 MLA report)

Appendix B: Courses offer from Ewha International Summer College

http://summer.ewha.ac.kr/session-i/courses-syllabus

Gender Studies
  Gender Relations in Korea
  Sex, Gender, Sexuality in Korea

History
  History of Korean Tradition and Folk Culture
  Modern History of Korea
  Women’s History of Korea
  Introduction to Asian Art History

International Studies
  East Asian Culture and Thought
  Introduction to International Relations
  Politics in Korea and East Asia
  Globalization and Culture
  East Asian History and Civilization

Korean Studies
  Pop Goes Korea: Korean Media & Culture
  Contemporary Korean and Korean American Fiction
  Living World Religions in Seoul
  Korean Language in Contemporary Pop Culture

Music & Art
  Korean Ceramics (Studio-type)
  Korean Traditional Music (Studio-type)
  Korean Traditional Painting (Studio-type)
  Korean Ceramics (Studio-type)

North Korean Studies
  International Relations of North Korea with East Asian Countries
  North Korean Studies on Society & Culture

Social Science
  Globalization and Society through Cinema
  Mass Communication and Society
  Elections and Party Politics
  Social Stratification and Inequality
  Popular Culture of the Korean Society
Appendix C: Courses offered through CIC e-school

http://www.ii.umich.edu/ncks/academics/ciceschool/eschoolcourses

2016 Spring (Courses may be different depending on the year.)

Cold War Cultures in Korea—University of Minnesota
Controversies in Contemporary Korea—University of Michigan
Korean History, 1945 to Present—University of Wisconsin
Language and Culture in Everyday Life: Korean Discourse as a Window Into Culture, Perception, Cognition, Identity, and Taste—Penn State University
Language and Society of the Two Koreas—University of Minnesota
Performance Traditions of Korea P’ansori, Text and Performance—Ohio State University
Two Koreas: Political Economy of Regional Rivalry—Ohio State University