

Remarks by the President of the Seoul National University

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Ladies and gentlemen! I sincerely would like to congratulate on this remarkable opportunity to hold the symposium with great scholars including Director Kim, K.H. in commemoration of the 20th founding of Communication Research Institute at Seoul National University.

I think communication is not only the basic interaction between individual and society but indispensable social process in maintaining and developing society.

Especially when we come to realize all cultural contents of human beings have been spring up and developed through communication between people, it's natural to have social scientific research's interests in communication phenomena.

Because the necessity of studies for the communication phenomena has been recognized earlier even before the communication science began in Korea, the institute as the 1st special research one in our country could have been established at SNU in 1963.

At that time, the method of legal and historical approach was the main current in the communication science field of Korea. But as SNU Communication Research Institute introduced scientific and empirical research method, empirical studies climate like content analysis and survey could be constituted. Indeed it set up the epoch-making milestone for the communication history of Korea.

Since foundation, it has published the bulletin of Communication Research Institute and maintained the system of international research cooperation through holding various important symposium and intimate academic interchange.

Besides these vigorous activities, it has made every endeavour for the maturity and aboriginality of our country's communication science, and also carried on retraining program for the improvement of active journalists qualities.

Out of these, I can say that this institute's achievements are really enormous.

After Communication Research Institute was founded as a direct statutory one of SNU at Dongsungdong campus, the former campus in 1963, it became the institute attached

to the Graduate School of Communication in 1968.

Subsequently as the department of communication replaced the Graduate School of Communication according to the reform of the school system in 1975, it changed into the annex institute of the College of Social Sciences.

Even though there were so many environmental changes like above, it's a matter for felicitation that Communication Research Institute has developed noticeable research activities continuously thanks to the enthusiasm of the persons concerned including Director Kim, K.H.

But the necessity of interdisciplinary participation in theory and research process as well as the inducement and increase of international academic exchange has been required urgently.

In this connection, at last in 1982, the institute was promoted to status of under the direct control of Seoul National University.

Now I think, this is very meaningful and significant for communication research institute facing the 20th founding to examine the results of studies and problems concerned, and also to hold the international science meeting like this one for researching the study's direction and tasks to be solved under the title of communication as social science.

Finally I honestly expect this occasion will be the chance to prepare the turning point of communication research. And I also hope everything will be coming up roser for Communication Research Institute. Thank you!