

February 28th, 2012

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I thank you for considering my request to attend the fall semester of 2012 at Korea University. If selected, I will be a fourth year student in Mathematics.

I want to participate in an international exchange for various reasons. This is a unique opportunity for me to live in another country and immerse myself in a different culture and language. I am particularly interested in travelling to Korea because of the richness of its culture and for its reputation for welcoming international visitors. Their unique history and the separation of the two Koreas are of great interest to me, as well as more recent Korean culture, such as K-Pop. Contrary to Canadian society, South Korea's population is very homogeneous, as there is only one Korean ethnicity and there are few foreigners. Seoul will also be a great place to observe the clash between the highly traditional and modern sides of South Korean society.

I chose Korea University because it is one of the highest ranked universities in the country, and it is located in Seoul. Attending this university will help me learn to work in another way, and to appreciate how Korean schools approach mathematics. Although mathematics is the same internationally, schools abroad teach it in various ways, which in turn will increase my capacity to adapt to different teaching methods. This was particularly important to me, as I have always wanted to teach mathematics abroad. This exchange program is therefore the opportunity of a lifetime to observe how teaching is done in East Asia. Korea University also offers courses in my field of study which are not available at the University of Ottawa, such as Bayesian Statistics.

I have always been a highly motivated person, as is apparent through my academic success. This summer, I will work on a research project in statistics with one of my university professors. Finally, I have travelled internationally with family and friends on numerous occasions and am fully confident that these experiences and my open-mindedness make me the ideal candidate for the exchange program.

I thank you for taking the time to consider my application. I am looking forward to hearing from you. Please feel free to contact me at the email address given below at any time.

Signature

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