

The Korean Institute at Columbus State

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Mission & Focus

KICS promotes a deep understanding of Korean studies through innovative academic programs, noteworthy cultural exchanges, and extensive community engagement. The institute seeks to enhance Columbus State students' professional prospects by fostering connections within the Georgia-South Korea economic partnership, with a strong emphasis on cultural exchange.



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Interdisciplinary Approach

KICS integrates business, technology, political science, history, geography, Asian Studies, language, international relations/global studies, military studies, and the arts, KICS fosters collaboration between Columbus State University, Fort Benning, and academic partners in South Korea.

KICS' Strategic Initiatives

- **Academic Exchanges:** Student and faculty exchanges, visiting scholars, and joint research initiatives.
- **Cultural Programs:** Language workshops, festivals, symposia, and conferences to enhance cultural and academic partnerships.
- **Industry Connections:** Internships and career opportunities with South Korean businesses.
- **Community Outreach:** Public forums, alumni engagement, and support for the Korea Defense Veterans Association (KDVA) Campus Club to foster U.S.-Korea military and diplomatic relations.
- **Grant Applications:** Pursue funding opportunities through programs like the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS), the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) Program, and other relevant grants to support KICS initiatives.

Economic & Diplomatic Engagement

- KICS enhances Georgia's economic ties with South Korea by engaging South Korean businesses across various sectors, such as semiconductors, automobiles, and other key industries present in Columbus, GA. Through strategic partnerships, including initiatives like Choose Columbus, KICS positions Columbus as a significant player in fostering U.S.-South Korea collaboration across multiple industries.
- In collaboration with Columbus State University and Muscogee County's K-12 system, KICS plays a pivotal role in workforce development by equipping local students with essential language skills, enhancing their future employment opportunities in global industries.
- KICS works closely with the Consulate General in Atlanta, to promote diplomatic and cultural exchanges, fostering stronger bilateral relations and deeper cultural understanding.



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