Catholic University Innovation Supporters

2026 Fall Semester Newsletter - Vol. 1

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II. Winning Projects from the Idea-thon
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가톨릭대학교 THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF KOREA | CUK 비전혁신원

Witnessing the University’s Transformation Through Student Perspectives

Greetings from the Catholic University Student Innovation Supporters.

We are a student-led organization dedicated to identifying institutional innovation initiatives based on student feedback, disseminating this information to the student body, and fostering active engagement.

Beginning in the second half of 2026, the Student Innovation Supporters are launching a new monthly newsletter. Through this publication, we aim to present various campus innovation programs, student participation milestones, and the meaningful developments resulting from these concerted efforts, from a student's perspective.

Each month, we will deliver updates on the structural and cultural changes unfolding across the university, as well as the active role students play in driving them. We kindly request your continued interest and support in our institution's ongoing evolution.

To ensure that innovative student ideas translate into tangible changes within the university, the Student Innovation Supporters remain committed to serving as a reliable bridge between the two.

@cuk_vision

STUDENT INNOVATION SUPPORTERS NEWSLETTER

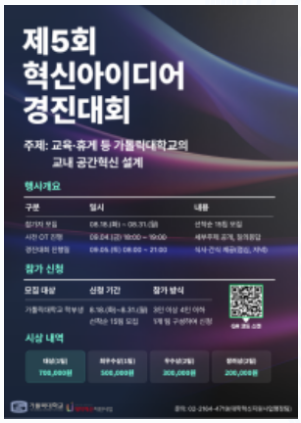
CUK SUPPORTERS

The Student Innovation Supporters is a student organization
under the CUK Vision Innovation Institute at The Catholic University of Korea.
Based on student-led opinion gathering,
it promotes, plans, and operates various innovation programs.
In line with the university's innovation vision,
<Design Yourself as a Professional DESIGNer>, the organization carries out various projects to transform students' ideas into meaningful changes across the university.

IDEATHON:
Exploring New Possibilities for Campus Spaces

The 5th CUK Innovation Idea Competition was held under the theme of “Campus Space Innovation” providing students at The Catholic University of Korea with an opportunity to explore ways to utilize campus spaces, envision the future of universities, and propose creative and practical innovation ideas.

In response to the rapidly changing educational environment, the competition explored various possibilities for future university innovation, including the spatial needs of campus members, the expansion of student experiences, and the application of AI technology.
It was a meaningful opportunity to discover outstanding ideas and turn them into tangible changes across the university.







1st Place

삐끼삐끼 팀 (Team Ppikki Ppikki)

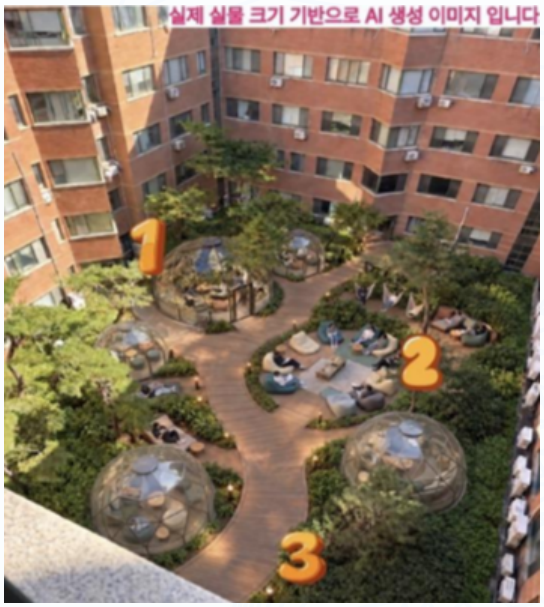
Dasol Hall Central Garden

Despite its generous size, Dasol Hall's central garden has seen limited use because it is not widely known and can be difficult to access.

This proposal builds on the garden's sheltered setting to create an inviting place for students to rest, spend time together and reconnect with nature.



Award Photos



Architectural Rendering

01 Building on the existing landscape
The design retains existing trees and natural features while adding wooden decking and landscaping. These improvements would make the garden a more comfortable place to spend time.

02 Flexible spaces for rest and conversation
Circular glass domes and beanbag seating would accommodate both quiet individual breaks and informal group conversations, giving students a choice of settings within one shared space.

03 Making the garden easier to find
Entrance signs and directional markings on the ground would help students locate the garden and navigate towards it, encouraging more frequent use.

[Expected Changes]

Greate Visibility | Expanded Rest Areas | Increased Interaction | Inviting Campus

[Towards a Sustainable Space]

Approx. KRW 70 Million | Free Access Without Reservations | Phased Expansion Based on Usage Data

2nd Place

공소짱 팀 (Team Gongsujjang)

A New Transformation of an Unused Space

Sumgumeong, meaning “a space to breathe,” proposes converting a former smoking area near the library into a soundproofed space for rest and conversation. Drawing on a site assessment and student feedback, the project seeks to give a neglected location a practical new role in campus life.



Award Photos

From an Abandoned Space to a Soundproofed relaxation space

01 Identifying the needs of the site

The site assessment found no clear indication of the structure’s purpose or who maintained it. Stored cleaning equipment, fallen leaves, obstructed sightlines and a lack of lighting highlighted the need for maintenance and improvements to conditions after dark.

02 Shaping the proposal through student feedback

A survey of 42 students found that more than half were not fully aware of the space. When asked about its potential use as a soundproof booth, 55% expressed interest. These responses informed the proposal to create a rest area suited to students’ needs.

03 Supporting safe use and ongoing activity

Lighting, clearer sightlines and regular maintenance would support safer, more comfortable use. Emotional expression activities and a slow-mail letter service are also proposed to help students pause, relieve stress and connect with others.

Site Photos



[A Safe, Comfortable, and Meaningful Space]

Lighting Installation

Improved Visibility & Maintenance

Emotional Expression Program

Slow Mailbox

3rd Place

이김좋다 팀 (Tem Ikimjota)

CUK Heritage & Welcome Center

Responding to student interest in a distinctive campus landmark, this proposal brings together a renewed entrance at Kim Sou-hwan Hall, a heritage and welcome center, and digital campus guidance. The aim is to make the university's history, culture and identity more visible and accessible to students and visitors.



Award Photos



01 A distinctive entrance at Kim Sou-hwan Hall

An outdoor photo spot featuring the university logo would create a recognisable focal point at the main entrance. Its prominent location would strengthen first impressions and give prospective students, international students and alumni a place to record their time on campus.



02 An open setting for heritage and welcome

The proposed center would welcome visitors into an open setting integrated with the surrounding landscape. Historical displays and university merchandise would communicate the institution's identity, creating a shared destination for students and visitors.



03 An NFC-enabled smart campus

The longer-term plan uses near-field communication (NFC) to provide convenient access to dining and shuttle information, university history and culture, and academic information. Universal design principles would support access for all users, including international students and students with disabilities.

3rd Place

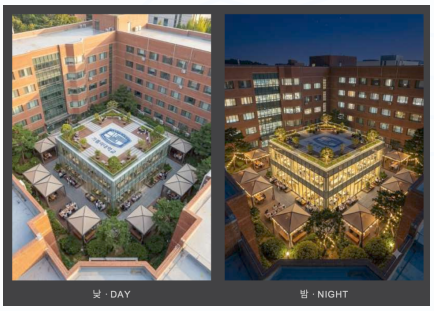
쓰리박 팀 (Team Three Park)

Dasolmaru

Dasolmaru proposes a new role for the underused courtyard at Dasol Hall: a place where students can eat, rest and spend time together. The concept builds on the courtyard's proximity to the building and its existing natural surroundings to support everyday student life.



Award Photos



Architectural Rendering



Architectural Drawings

01 A pavilion within the courtyard

A pavilion in the central garden would provide space for meals and breaks. The proposal adds practical uses to the courtyard while drawing on its open character and natural setting.

02 Developing the concept through drawings

Design drawings were prepared to examine the pavilion's form, spatial arrangement and potential application. They give the concept a more concrete basis for considering how the space could be developed.

03 Drawing on campus precedents

Courtyard buildings at Kyung Hee University's Global Campus and Université Laval in Canada informed the design direction. These precedents helped shape a proposal suited to Dasol Hall's courtyard.

[Expected Changes]

- Expanded Rest Areas
- Utilization of Common Spaces
- Improved Student Convenience
- Revitalized Unused Spaces

[Towards a Sustainable Space]

- Utilization of Existing Spaces
- Phased Expansion
- Student-Centered Space

Honorable Mention

현시기 팀 (Team Hyunsigi)

Making Better Use of Vacant Classes

Students often need a place to study or take a break while classrooms stand empty between scheduled classes.
This proposal focuses on that gap, introducing a system through which students could check availability and reserve classrooms during unused periods.



Award Photos

01 Recognising space that is already available

The project considers both underused spaces along student routes and fully equipped classrooms that are vacant between classes. It seeks to address the shortage of study and rest areas by making better use of existing facilities.

02 A clear process for finding and booking a room

Through the proposed Teum · CUK SPACE app or kiosk, students would view available rooms and times, verify their student status and select a booking. At the end of the session, a notification would prompt users to tidy the room and leave.











03 Phased development across campus

The proposal identifies three initial hubs: the first floor of Nichols Hall, the second floor of Dasol Hall and the area in front of Café Harang. These would connect places for rest and study with classroom bookings, with usage data guiding expansion to other buildings and activity spaces.

Honorable Mention

미정 팀 (Team Mijeong)

Bambino Hall: A New Space for Rest

Students need places to recharge as well as places to study. This proposal reimagines an underused area on the first floor of Bambino Hall as a combination of private capsule-style rest pods and a shared lounge, offering a comfortable setting for breaks between classes.



Award Photos



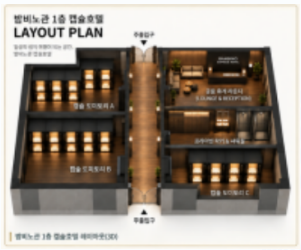


Before - After

01 Responding to everyday needs for rest

Ageing facilities, inconvenient access to amenities and a shortage of study and rest areas informed the proposal. It focuses on giving students a comfortable place to spend even short breaks in their timetable.





Layout Plan

02 Combining privacy with shared space

The layout brings together individual capsule-style pods and a communal lounge within the existing first-floor space. This combination would allow students to choose a setting that suits their need for privacy or shared use.

03 Making breaks a chance to recharge

Rest areas and supporting amenities would be arranged together so students could comfortably recharge between classes. The proposal makes use of an existing space and allows for phased expansion around student needs.

[Expected Changes]

- Expanded Rest Areas
- Better Use of Break Times
- Improved Student Convenience
- Revitalized Unused Spaces

[Towards a Sustainable Space]

- Utilization of Existing Spaces
- Phased Expansion
- Student-Centered Space

AI BOOTCAMP
FROM IDEA TO WEB SERVICE

From Idea to Reality with AI

The program was launched with the goal of “starting with just one idea and creating a web service with a real, accessible URL within two days.”* Throughout the program, participants used AI tools to develop their ideas and turn them into functioning web services. Regardless of their major or prior development experience, participants had the opportunity to work with AI and gain hands-on experience creating tangible results through an intensive, project-based learning process.





Plan. Build. Deploy.

Participants gained hands-on experience with the key stages of web service development, including pair programming with Codex, PRD and prompt writing, database and schema design, Supabase integration, login implementation, external API and Git integration, and deployment through Vercel.
Rather than simply learning how to use AI tools, the program focused on turning ideas into tangible services and bringing them to life through actual implementation. Even students with limited development experience were able to work alongside AI to solve problems and navigate the entire process of building a web service—from planning and development to deployment.







Hands-on Practice | Teamwork | Workshop

AI BOOTCAMP
FROM IDEA TO WEB SERVICE

A Two-Day Challenge, Culminating in Demo Day

After completing two days of intensive hands-on training, participants took part in Demo Day, where they presented the web services they had created themselves. They shared their projects with one another, explaining everything from the initial idea to the key features and development process.
By turning an idea into a real-world service within a short period of time, participants experienced not only the technical aspects of development, but also the entire process of defining a problem, designing the necessary features, and presenting their finished work to others.



Service Demonstration



Idea Presentation



Project Showcase

From Using AI to Creating with AI

Through this AI Bootcamp, participants experienced AI not simply as a tool for information search or task assistance, but as a collaborative tool for turning their own ideas into tangible outcomes.
From developing their ideas and building them into actual projects to deploying accessible web services and presenting them to others, students gained hands-on experience creating something of their own by leveraging new technologies throughout the two-day program.
Career DESIGN will continue to offer a variety of programs that empower students to actively adapt to the rapidly changing technological landscape and turn their own ideas into reality.



Sharing the Results



Looking back on Two Days

Catholic University Innovation Supporters

September Newsletter