

## AMH Receives “Excellent” Rating in HK+ Comprehensive Evaluation

Since its selection for the Humanities Korea Plus (HK+) programme in 2018, the **Academy of Mobility Humanities (AMH)** has, over seven years, systematically established *Mobility Humanities* as a new academic field and led its academic and social expansion both in Korea and internationally by integrating research, education, and public engagement. The evaluation committee praised the Institute for laying “a solid foundation for growth as a research hub” and highlighted the publication of a substantial body of work in internationally recognised journals as an exceptionally rare and

outstanding achievement.

The Institute focused on consolidating the theoretical foundations of Mobility Humanities during Phase 1 (2018–2020), before shifting in Phase 2 (2021–2025) towards practical application and societal dissemination through interdisciplinary collaboration and engagement with real-world contexts. Key outcomes include the Scopus indexing of its international journal, *Mobility Humanities*, in 2024, the planning and publication of 62 volumes in the *Mobility Humanities* book series, and the establishment of the Global Mobility Humanities Conference (GMHC) as a major annual international event attracting researchers from over 20 countries. Following the successful completion of the HK+ programme in April 2025, the AMH was newly

selected for the Humanities Korea 3.0 (HK3.0) programme with *Infrastructure Humanities* as its core agenda.

## AMH Receives “Excellent” Rating in Konkuk University Internal Research Institute Evaluation

The AMH received an “Excellent” rating in the 2024 academic year internal evaluation of research institutes at Konkuk University. Designated as a university-funded research institute in 2018, the Institute achieved an average score of over 90 points across both quantitative and qualitative assessments and will consequently receive institutional funding to support improvements to its research environment.

## AMH Successfully Completed the 2025 GMHC

The AMH at Konkuk University successfully hosted the 2025 Global Mobility Humanities Conference (GMHC) on 5–6 December at the College of Law Building. Since its launch in 2019, GMHC has remained the world’s only regular international conference dedicated to mobility humanities, serving as a key platform for examining the social, cultural, and infrastructural dimensions of mobility.

The 2025 conference was held under the theme *Mobility Infrastructures of Humans, Non-humans, and More-than-humans* and brought together over 60 scholars from 20 countries to share emerging research trends and pressing debates. The keynote lecture was delivered by Professor Ole B. Jensen of Aalborg University, Denmark, who spoke on *Infrastructures, Power, and Social Change*, examining how infrastructural design and policy can disadvantage particular groups even before mobility opportunities become visible, thereby revealing deep structural inequalities embedded at the



design stage.

In addition to the keynote, it also included a book forum dedicated to recent publications, as well as sessions for postgraduate and early-career researchers, fostering lively intellectual exchange across academic generations and further expanding the scope of mobility humanities.

## IDCC Retains KCI Accreditation in 2025 Journal Re-evaluation

The *International Journal of Diaspora & Cultural Criticism* (IDCC), published by the Academy of Mobility Humanities, has retained its status as a Korea Citation Index (KCI)-accredited journal following the 2025 re-evaluation by the National Research Foundation of Korea. Since its initial accreditation in 2022, IDCC has demonstrated consistent academic quality, receiving strong evaluations across all categories, including article quality, editorial expertise, peer-review rigour, journal coherence, and research ethics.

IDCC is an international, peer-reviewed journal that advances interdisciplinary scholarship on diaspora and cultural criticism, addressing key contemporary issues such as mobility, transnational networks, immobility, and de-globalisation. Through themed issues and links with academic conferences, the journal functions as an open critical platform that connects diaspora studies with broader global debates. The AMH will continue to develop IDCC as an international hub for inclusive and globally engaged research, with particular attention to amplifying voices from non-Western contexts.



## Infrastructure Humanities Academy "The Empowerment" Reading Seminar

The AMH operated the *Infrastructure Humanities Reading Seminar "The Empowerment"* as part of its efforts to advance collaborative research in Infrastructure Humanities and to foster early-career scholars. The programme was organised under the Infrastructure Humanities Academy initiative and aimed to strengthen the theoretical foundations of Infrastructure Humanities through the collective study of key texts in the humanities and social sciences related to infrastructure.

In 2025, the reading group was held once a month from June to December and brought together members of the Institute, including student researchers. The sessions were conducted as an interdisciplinary research forum in which participants read and critically discussed major theoretical works in Infrastructure Humanities.



## Infrastructure Humanities Fair

### ① <The Mobility of Things Festival 2025>



The Humanities Education Centre at the Academy of Mobility Humanities will host the *Mobility of Things Festival 2025*, a public event dedicated to sharing, reuse, and resource circulation. The festival invites participants to pass on unused items to those who need them, promoting everyday practices of sustainability while highlighting the value of sharing in response to contemporary environmental challenges.

By focusing on the movement and redistribution of objects, the festival seeks to draw attention to climate change as an emerging infrastructural crisis and to expand public engagement with the agenda of infrastructure humanities. Through this initiative, AMH aims to encourage reflection on how ordinary material practices intersect with larger questions of mobility, responsibility, and environmental futures. All members of the community are warmly invited to participate.

### ② <Infrastructure Humanities Café>

The Humanities Education Centre is pleased to share that the third Infrastructure Humanities Café, a collaborative humanities discussion series titled *Art, Engineered*, was successfully held across three sessions on 25 November, 2 December, and 9 December. Designed to foster critical reflection on the intersections of art, technology, and infrastructure, the series invited participants to reconsider how aesthetic practices engage with the material and technical conditions of contemporary society.

Held over three consecutive Tuesday sessions, the programme provided an inclusive space for dialogue, reflection, and shared learning, bringing together diverse perspectives on the cultural and infrastructural dimensions of art. Through collective discussion, participants explored how artistic practices both shape and are shaped by technological systems and mobility infrastructures.