

SOOJUNG HAM

Summary Experienced industrial designer and educator with comprehensive knowledge of numerous technologies and consumer markets: soft goods, luxury goods, desktop accessories, consumer electronics, wearable technologies, grooming products, UX/UI.

Expertise

- User needs, Market research & strategies, Commercialization, Innovative concept development, Creative problem solving, Project management and team leadership, Storytelling.
- Strong ability to develop concepts from 2D sketches to 3D modeling with hands-on prototype and computational simulations.
- Computer skills: Alias, SolidWorks, Fusion 360 CAD & CAM, SensAble FreeForm, Rhino and Grasshopper, Cinema 4D, Adobe CS, Flash, XD, Figma, Maxwell Render, Keyshot, HTML, Arduino, TouchDesigner.

Education 1989 - 1992
Rhode Island School of Design - Providence, RI
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Industrial Design

1985 - 1989
Ewha Women's University - Seoul, Korea
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting

Awards/Jury/Patent

2025	U.S. Patent pending, Publication 20250093060 and PCT/US2024/045908
2016	K-Design Award Jury
2015 - 2016	IDEA Jury
2010 - 2011	Eleven Korean design patents at Samsung Electronics.
1992 - 2010	Twenty design patents and four utility patents.
2010	Won IDSA Award, Design of the Decade : Gillette Venus
2002	Won Bronze Award, IDEA : Cross Matrix Multi-functional Pen
1992	IDSA student Merit Award - Industrial Design

Public Speaking

2025	The Technarte conference in Spain: Designing the Future
2024	SusTech in China : Knowing my audience
2017	UST in S. Korea: Future Design and Education
2014	Core77 Interview: D-School Futures

Professional experiences and activities

Sep 2025 - Present
RISD BROWN MADE Program
Co-teaching the fall studio and the spring studio.

July 2024 - June 2025
Took a sabbatical leave.

Professional experiences and activities

September 2024 -Present

Research Collaboration with Dr. Benjamin Kimia, Engineering at Brown University.

- Developing a wearable system to assist visually impaired individuals in navigating indoor environments by providing mapping and guidance through an open-source community effort.
- Developing a laparoscope design to improve visualization in minimally invasive surgery.

July 2023 - 2024

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI

Dual Department Headship - Head of Operation

July 2020 - present

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI

Professor

- Taught Interactions and Connections for the Human Mind, Fusion360 CAD to CAM workshop.
- Taught Thesis Making, Spirit of ProductDesign, and Designing for Users and Resp. Environment, Solidworks.
- Co-taught an interdisciplinary studio on entrepreneurship with Bill Foulkes, combining product design and business strategy.
- Co-taught Adaptive Ecologies, a sponsored studio by Hyundai Motors. As an Interdisciplinary studies in Arch. + ID, the course focused on how nature, technologies, and social interactions can redefine smart cities as adaptive ecologies.

November 2018 - 2019

Research Collaboration with Geoff Capraro, MD, MPH, Hasbro ED and NxTech Inc.

- Built social initiatives and UX/UI business platform and design strategy.
- Developed prototypes for a biometric wearable device.

Jan 2017 - Present

Personal Research Project: Future HVAC

- May 2025: Presented at Technarte conference, Bilbao Spain.
- Jan 2020 - 2024: Residency at Autodesk Technology Centers, Boston MA
- Sept 2023: U.S. Provisional Patent, HVAC system with wind turbines to generate and harvest energy
- Dec 2022, Dec 2020: Received The Professional Fund from RISD Research.
- Building a full scale prototype with a sensory environment and simulating experiences.
- Experimenting with projection mapping techniques and working with various light patterns.
- November 5, 2020: An exhibition at the RISD ID gallery, showing the personal research work.
- Investigated IoT technology with physical computing and built a kinetic model to test concept.

July 2017 - June 2018

Took a sabbatical leave.

May 2018

Participated in the Soft Office cluster at the Smart Geometry Bi-annual workshop: Machine Minds at the University of Toronto, Canada.

Professional
experiences
and activities

March 2017

- Taught a 4-week design workshop in the Architecture department at the China Academy of Art (CAA), in Hangzhou, China.

Oct 2017 - Dec 2017

- Taught a special elective course in the Industrial Design department at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), in Daejeon, Korea

March 2016 - May 2019

Independent academic research projects - Providence, RI

- 2018: Collaborating with Dr. Geoff capraro and Dr. Leo Kobayashi at Brown Emergency Medicine to improve users' experience when engaging with hardware needed for video acquisition for vital signs.
- 2016: Collaborated with Dr. Geoff Capraro, an emergency medicine physician at Hasbro Children's Hospital/ Brown Emergency Medicine to design a product and a system to provide easy access for bystander responders to the Naloxone medication to save lives from opioid overdose.

March 2014- present

STUDIO DUURI - Providence, RI

Founder / Director

- 2016: Managed a research project, Making Neutural Meaningful for Samsung electronics: megatrend research, concept development, focus group, visual elements, prototypes.
- 2014: Managed a research project, Wearable Concepts and UX Roadmap for Samsung Electronics: market research, concept development, focus group, wearable concepts, UX Scenarios.

July 2013 - June 2015

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI

Department Head

June 2012 - Aug 2012

SHAVELOGIC - Dallas, Texas & Seoul, Korea

Design Consulting as a Sr. Design Strategist and a communication liaison.

- Advised for concept development and engineering application for mass production in Korea.
- Translated between Korean and English for manufacturing in Seoul and design & engineering in U.S.

July 2010 - June 2011

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS - Seoul, Korea

Design Consulting as a Creative Director at Next Generation Group.

- Directed 3-4 R&D projects and developed communication toolkits for design methodology.
- Taught a product design class at Samsung Art & Design Institute.
- Has eleven design patents.

July 2010 - June 2011

Took a sabbatical leave.

Professional
experiences
and activities

July 2009 - Dec 2016
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI
Associate Professor

- Co-taught Entrepreneurship, Wearable Experiences, Future Scenarios, Basic CAD, Design Principles II, Next Generation Wearables, Business and Product Design.
- Taught Senior Studio, Next Manufacturing Paradigm, Designing with Polygonal Modeling, Design Communication Methods, Designing with Rhino, Introduction to ID, Spirit of Product, Design, Next Generation Wearables.
- Took sabbatical leave during the 2010-11 academic year.
- Taught CAD for Concept Development, Design Principles II, Business for Product Design.

Sept 2004 - June 2009
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI
Assistant Professor

- Taught Basic Studios: Design Principles I & II, Presentation I, Introduction to ID, Manufacturing, Techniques, CAD, Advanced CAD.
- Taught Advanced Studios: Senior Studio, Spirit of Product Design, Sponsorship studio by INTEL.
- Managed a summer Sponsorship program by INTEL corp.:
Mobile/Health/Entertainment/Technology

July - Aug 2008
TELLART LLC - Providence, RI
Design Consulting

- Researched and developed wearable concepts for FitLinxx Company.

Summer, 2005 - 2008
GILLETTE Company - Boston, MA
Design Consulting

- Designed the Art of Shaving Fusion Chrome Collection Power Razor.
- Designed Gillette razors and packages for Venus Disposables, Venus Vibrance, Venus Breeze.
- Won Men's Health Grooming Award 2008: the Art of Shaving Fusion Chrome Collection Power Razor.
- Helped the ID department recruitment processes for two designer positions.
- Has 2 design patents.

Dec 2002 - Aug 2004
GILLETTE Company - Boston, MA
Senior Designer

- Managed the development of designs in the wet shaving market, market research, concepts, 2D & 3D, ergonomics, manufacturing, and colors & materials.
- Managed the programs of both premium systems and disposable product categories.
- Has 8 design patents.

Professional
experiences
and activities

Sept 2001 - June 2002
RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN - Providence, RI
Adjunct Professor

- Taught Basic Studios: Design Principles, Manufacturing Techniques, CAD
- Taught Advanced Studio - Collaboration w/MIT agelab: new product development for Aging groups.

Sept 2001 - March 2002
A.T. CROSS Company - Lincoln, RI
Design Consulting

- Developed new desktop accessory concepts.
- Developed new design concepts for future business plans.
- Helped the ID department recruitment process for a new designer position.

May 1995 - Sept 2001
A.T. CROSS Company - Lincoln, RI
Senior Designer

- Established company's strategic market plans and new brand images:
 - Built the consumer psychograph map and developed new product lines.
 - Developed innovative ideas in new lifestyle for extending market places.
- Managed development of design projects of writing instruments, timepieces, computing pens, desktop accessories and packages:
 - Collaborated with engineering and marketing to develop the best product focused on the target market.
- Maintained awareness of international trends as well as competitive products:
 - Attended color conferences, international trade show, market research, and focus group.
 - Introduced new materials and developed yearly palette in colors, patterns and finishes.
- Developed designs for growing OEM business:
 - Various companies for OEM including ; David Yurman, Coach, Tiffany, Seiko, IBM
- Has 2 utility patent and 12 design patents.

Sept 1992 - May 1995
Samsonite / American Tourister Incorporated - Warren, RI
Designer

- Completed design projects of softside and hardside luggage lines:
 - Managed all project interacting closely with engineering and marketing.
- Cut lead time in development by introducing more efficient sourcing process:
 - Developed yearly color palette, tapestry patterns and mechanisms in Far East.
 - Managed development in internal sample resources and factories located in Far East.
- Brought fresh ideas and new ways of effective product development:
 - Introduced new innovative ideas of packing and new life style of traveling.
- Has 2 utility patents.