

Professor Jang-Soo Chun received the 16th Asan Medical Award

- Identification of the molecular biological pathogenesis of degenerative arthritis... Selected as an award-winner in the basic medicine category
- The Asan Social Welfare Foundation will hold an awards ceremony on March 21st (Tuesday) at the Westin Chosun Hotel in Seoul.



▲ GIST School of Life Sciences Professor Jang-Soo Chun

GIST (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, President Kiseon Kim) School of Life Sciences Professor Jang-Soo Chun has been selected as the recipient of the 16th Asan Medical Award awarded by the Asan Social Welfare Foundation (Chairman Mongjoon Chung).

Professor Jang-Soo Chun, who was selected as the recipient of the 'Basic Medicine' category, has been recognized for leading the field of degenerative arthritis basic research over the past 23 years with world-class research to identify the molecular biological cause of degenerative arthritis.

Professor Jang-Soo Chun studied cell signal transduction systems at Massachusetts State University and Harvard Medical School, USA. He joined GIST as a professor in the School of Life Sciences in 2000 and has been researching cartilage degeneration and degenerative arthritis.

In particular, in 2014, he published in the international journal *Cell* that zinc ions activate proteins that cause cartilage degeneration in cells. In 2019, he published the world's first correlation between cholesterol and degenerative arthritis through *Nature*.

In addition, based on follow-up research on identifying the cause of degenerative arthritis, in 2022, the research results of discovering new compounds that can inhibit the onset and progression of degenerative arthritis were published in *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage*. He is leading the entire research field of degenerative arthritis worldwide, ranging from the pathogenesis of degenerative arthritis, derivation of targets for suppression of degenerative arthritis, and discovery of substances that inhibit the occurrence of degenerative arthritis.

In addition, he has contributed greatly to the establishment of a network related to degenerative arthritis research in Korea by participating in the founding of the Korean Society of Cartilage and Osteoarthritis, which is composed of degenerative arthritis clinicians and basic researchers, and is serving as its president.

The Asan Social Welfare Foundation established the Asan Medical Award in 2008 to encourage medical scientists who have made outstanding achievements in the fields of basic and clinical medicine, judging consistency and originality of research through the review process of the review committee and steering committee. The winners of the 16th Asan Medical Award were selected after a comprehensive evaluation of domestic and international influence and contribution to the development of medical science.

The 16th Asan Medical Award Ceremony will be held on March 21 (Tuesday) at the Westin Chosun Hotel in Sogong-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul.