

Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

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Section of

Mi-Yeon Kim Section Chief Nayeong Lee

Public Affairs

(+82) 62-715-2020

Senior Administrator (+82) 62-715-2024

Contact Person

for this Article

Ji-hoon Kim, Administrator

Section of Undergraduate Administration Services

(+82) 62-715-3603

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GIST College students Yeonho Kim and Seung-young Yoo advance to the national round of the 2019 FameLab Korea competition as top 10 finalists

- ☐ GIST (President Kiseon Kim) College (Dean Yong-Ju Lee) student Yeonho Kim (2nd year physics major) and Seung-young Yoo (3rd year physics major) advance to the national round of the 2019 FameLab Korea competition as top 10 finalists.
 - The finalists will participate in a two-day training course starting on April 26 and will compete in the finals on May 10.
- ☐ The 2019 FameLab Korea * qualifying round was held on March 29 at GIST's Oryong Hall. After the preliminary round on March 29, the regional qualification was held on April 12 where the 10 finalists were selected.
 - * FameLab Korea is a competition for communicating with the public through a threeminute presentation on topics in science, mathematics, and engineering. Anyone who is 20 years of age or older can participate in this competition. Participants should use words, body language, and props to share science with the public.
 - FameLab is a combination of the word 'fame' and 'laboratory.' In 2005, the first FameLab was held at the Cheltenham Festival in England, and the international competition was held in cooperation

with the British Council since 2007. Currently, more than 50 countries participate in international competition, and FameLab has been held in Korea every year since 2014.

□ Ji-hoon Kim, a senior administrative officer with the Section of Undergraduate Administration Services who was responsible for having the preliminary round for the Honam region to be held at GIST this year, said, "In Korea, science communicators is still considered an additional activity and not as a career. However, in foreign countries, scientific communicators is already recognized as a profession."

☐ The top 10 finalists learned a variety of practical skills from April 26 to 27, including ways to share science creatively and effectively through a one-night, two-day training course. This year, British science communicator James Piercy participated in the training.

- The top three winners will be awarded prizes and will be eligible to participate in the international science festival in Cheltenham, England, in June. The grand prize winner qualifies for the Korean national team at the international convention.
- Additionally, finalists will be members of the International FameLab Network, which will be given the opportunity from the Ministry of Science and ICT to communicate with the public and the scientific community throughout the year. These science communicators will do activities such as ▲ science busking performances with science experiments on the streets and stage ▲ speaking to middle and high school students ▲ advising scientific articles and YouTube science channels ▲ science communication program (Toxin) for middle and high school students ▲ activities such as science club performances such as SNL (Science Night Live).

☐ GIST College student Sang-hyun Oh (4th year physics major) who was a FameLab finalist last year said, "The FameLab competition and its subsequent activities were both new and valuable experiences. If we

combine academic and scientific communication activities, we will have a chance to grow in many ways."

• FameLab Korea's main competition will be held on May 10 at 7 pm at KT Square Dream Hall, Gwanghwamun, Seoul and will be broadcast live on Naver TV (https://tv.naver.com/l/26644).



▲ (From left): Yeonho Kim (2nd year physics major) and Seung-young Yoo (3rd year physics major)