

**Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology**

**Official Press Release (https://www.gist.ac.kr/)**

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**GIST Learning Zone holds 16th opening ceremony**

□ GIST (President Kiseon Kim) – The 16th iteration of the GIST Learning Zone \* held its official opening ceremony on March 29, 2019, at the GIST Library with about 50 participants, including students and representatives of Haeyang City Gas Company.

\* The GIST Learning Zone is a knowledge-sharing volunteer program for GIST students to visit local children's centers once a week to teach after-school activities. Held every year, the purpose of the program is to help the kids at the children's centers.

□ Starting in 2010 with 9 centers, the GIST Learning Zone has since expanded to 27 centers that are visited by GIST student volunteers. In particular, the program has been expanded since 2018 to include children's center located in Gwangsan-gu and Buk-gu.

□ Hope Sharing Children's Center Director Young-joo Kim said, "I was touched by the warm-hearted care and consideration of the GIST student volunteers as they make extra time to help the children at our center with their studies."

□ Eden Children's Center Director Sung-ja Kim said, "Rather than going to private study academies, the children at our center are always looking forward to when the GIST student volunteers visit. Thanks to the GIST student volunteers, I am happy to see how our children have become more confident and interested in learning."

□ Dean of International and Public Affairs Yong-Chul Kim said, "The GIST Learning Zone is representative of GIST's social contribution activity, and we created the GIST Social Contribution Team in 2017 to strengthen ties and development opportunities with the local community and region. Through the GIST Learning Zone, GIST will actively provide the necessary support to help nurture the minds of underprivileged children."

□ The GIST Social Contribution Team was created in 2017 and is actively engaged in various projects to support the local community, including: GIST Science School, science book donations, the Hope Water Purifier, Global Science Camp (international), Science Camp (domestic), GIST Science Outreach Program, ICT Volunteer program, and a program for children from remote Korean islands.

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