

GIST won the excellence award in the 2021 Science and Technology Specialized College Joint Start-up Contest

- Held on November 26 (Fri) at Daegu Hotel Suseong, Peony Hall



▲ GIST 'Sigorzavjong Team' won the excellence award

GIST (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, President Kiseon Kim) participated in a Start-up Competition for the five Science and Technology Specialized Universities, which was held on Friday, November 26, and won the excellence award.

This contest was held as a small event attended by a minimum number of people to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and was conducted online through YouTube Live, with five specialized universities (graduate schools) including GIST, KAIST, DGIST, POSTECH, and UNIST. The event was held for interested investors.

As it was affected by the pandemic this year as well as last year, the slogan of the '2021 X-IST Startups Competition' is 'restoration of the student start-up culture' after the pandemic. In addition, discussions continued on improving existing student entrepreneurship process and technology commercialization.

The contest was held on November 25th (Thursday), in which a total of 10 startup teams competed by selecting representatives of two teams from each science and technology university.

In a pre-event on the 25th, a total of 10 teams rehearsed their pitching the business plan in two rounds, and through the rehearsal, monitoring of presentation materials and mentoring of presentations by experts were held. In addition, start-up team members who attended the event had time to revise data and fix their weaknesses through presentation rehearsals.

As a result of the final finals held on the 26th, POSTECH's 'Tissen Biopharm Team (CEO Han Won-il Han)' won the grand prize for 'customized cultured meat and cultured meat smart farm made by artificial equipment developers.' The 'artificial intelligence-based pet clothing platform' from GIST's 'Sigorzavjong Team (CEO Joo-young Hong)' won the excellence award. KAIST's 'Dream2Real Team (CEO Myung-chul Kim)'s 'digital twin-based virtual data generation service for artificial intelligence learning' was also honored with an award.

The grand prize team was awarded with start-up capital of 5 million won and the Minister of Science and ICT Award, and the excellence award team was awarded by the head of the Digest Industry-Academic Cooperation Group with start-up capital of 2.5 million won.

Joo-Young Hong (senior in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) of GIST's 'Sigorzavjong Team,' which won the excellence award, started the 'GIST Start-up Idea Contest 2021' (the winner of 2021) and started the 'GIST Startup Program (GSS).' Ideas were materialized while conducting the project by participating in the Korean-style I-Core project.

CEO Joo-young Hong said, "Through this contest, we examined the level of start-up teams at other science and technology specialized universities. It was a good opportunity to form teamwork through mutual exchange."

The X-IST Startups Competition sparked a good-faith competition between universities specializing in science and technology. It has been held every year with the first session in 2014 to discover and support excellent start-up teams from each university, and the 2022 competition is scheduled to be held at UNIST (Ulsan).