

GIST School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering selected for preliminary Phase 4 BK21

- 'Climate, Environment, and Energy Convergence Technology Education Research Group'... Research funding will be provided for 3 years and 6 months from March 2024



▲ Panoramic view of the GIST School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering building

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced on Friday (Feb. 22) that its School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering (Dean Professor Yunho Lee) has been preliminarily selected for preliminary Phase 4 of the Brain Korea (BK)21 project, a government program to foster world-class research universities.

According to the announcement of the preliminary selection results for the '4th phase BK21 project' by the Ministry of Education and the National Research Foundation of Korea on Monday the 18th, 53 of the existing 369 education research groups (teams) were eliminated, 57 new education research groups (teams), including the GIST research team at the School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering, were preliminarily selected.

The GIST School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering supported the 'Climate, Environment, and Energy Convergence Technology Education and Research Group' (Director of the Education and Research Center: Professor Yunho Lee) on a

national level for 'Focused Application 1' and 'Energy Field', and it received excellent reviews while competing with existing research groups.

The educational research centers were selected after careful evaluation of various research and education indicators, including (1) Composition, vision, and goals of the Educational Research Centers, (2) Curriculum composition and operation, (3) Human resource development plan and support direction, (4) Operation of budding researchers, (5) Teaching capabilities of participating professors, (6) Internationalization strategy of education and research, and (7) Research capacity indicators.

The 'BK21 Project' is a project that supports the operation of an educational research group (team) and graduate school innovation to foster master's and doctoral level experts across all academic fields and foster world-class research-oriented universities.

This 4th phase project began in September 2020, and the final selected education research group (team) will receive support to provide research funds such as graduate student research scholarships, new research personnel labor costs, curriculum development costs, and internationalization expenses from March next year to August 2027.

GIST School of Earth Sciences and Environmental Engineering Dean Professor Yunho Lee said, "Our department is currently recognized domestically and internationally as a top-level professional education and research institution in the field of climate, environment, and energy convergence. Through this BK21 project, we expect to contribute greatly to the development of sustainable environmental convergence technology as well as to nurturing wise and creative experts."