

# GIST hosted the Korean Association for the Study of Pain Winter Workshop

- Discussed the latest research trends and new ways to overcome pain under the theme of 'Innovation in pain science'
- Chung Eui-heon, Director of the HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center  
Director Euiheon Chung: "Collaboration with experts such as neuroscientists, brain engineers, and clinicians is needed to resolve pain caused by abnormal nervous system signal transmission."

▲ The '2024 Korean Association for the Study of Pain Winter Workshop' was held at GIST Dasan Building, and attendees are taking commemorative photos. (From the third from the left in the front row, HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center Director Euiheon Chung, GIST Professor Hyoung-ihl Kim, President of the Korean Association for the Study of Pain Dong-Guk Ahn, and Kyungpook Dental University Professor Yong-cheol Bae)

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced that it held the 'Korean Association for the Study of Pain Winter Workshop' on January 11th and 12th, hosted by the Department of Biomedical Science and Engineering.

The Korean Association for the Study of Pain, founded in 2010, is an academic organization of basic researchers in the field of pain, and hosted the 'Asia Pain Symposium', an international academic conference, in Korea in 2019.

The workshop was held under the theme of 'Exploring Pain Pathways from Peripheral Nerves to the Brain' and was co-hosted by the Korean Association for the Study of Pain (President Dong-Guk Ahn, Professor, Kyungpook National University of Dental Medicine), HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center (Director Euiheon Chung, Professor, GIST), the Pain Research Section of the Korean Society for Cerebral Neuroscience, and the GIST Department of Biomedical Science and Engineering.

On this day, the latest research trends on the topic of innovation in pain science, including special lectures by GIST Department of Biomedical Science and Engineering Professor Hyoung-ihl Kim and Kyungpook Dental University Professor Yong-cheol Bae, as well as research presentations by new researchers, and this was an opportunity for fruitful academic exchange through presentations about new ways to overcome pain.

The integrated study of the 'pain mechanism' through the pathways from the peripheral nerves to the central nerves and the brain is a very advanced research method. In particular, the HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center is the only one in the world to research the mechanisms of nerve transmission pathways, including not only pain but also sensory nerve abnormalities.

GIST Department of Biomedical Science and Engineering Dean and HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center Director Euiheon Chung said, "In order to solve chronic pain for which narcotic painkillers are the only treatment and pain caused by abnormal nervous system signal transmission for which there is currently no specific treatment, cooperation between experts such as brain scientists, brain engineers, clinicians, and medical device companies is needed. This workshop was a meaningful event where various practitioners related to pain research gathered together to exchange opinions from various perspectives on the topic of innovation in pain science and to explore the possibility of future joint research."

The 'HYPE Perceptual Neuroscience Research Center' was selected as part of the national scientific challenge convergence research and development project and was officially opened at GIST in November last year. The name of the research center, 'HYPE', means that it is a group that passionately researches the 'hyperexcitable' nervous system and the 'hypersensitive' perceptual phenomenon, and is a phenomenon in which the perceptual system exaggerates negative information due to abnormalities in the nervous system, such as autism symptoms, which are intensively studied.

