

“How to create the happiest university in the world?” GIST invites Chairman Wook Son to hold a special lecture on ‘Korean (K) ESG’

- Wook Son, Chairman of Sejong Institute of National Management, delivers lecture on university organizational culture to GIST members “ESG management is in line with the spirit of Hongik human beings... It is important to spread a culture of positivity and happiness through gratitude and sharing, and humanities education is essential in the process of fostering future talents in science and technology.”
- President Kichul Lim, “Leading the spread of ESG management in the university sector by creating a happy organizational culture”



▲ Chairman Wook Son is giving a special lecture on the topic of ‘Creating the happiest university with K-ESG’ at GIST Oryong Hall.

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced that it invited Chairman Wook Son, Chairman of Sejong Institute of National Management and Advisory Committee Chairman of the Korea ESG Committee, to hold a special lecture by an ESG expert.

The special lecture held on this day was held for about 100 minutes in room 101 of GIST's Oryong Hall on the morning of May 31 (Friday) under the theme of 'Creating the happiest university with K-ESG' to create a happy workplace through the spread and establishment of ESG culture within universities.

About 100 GIST members, including President Kichul Lim, Vice President for Academic Affairs Sang-Don Kim, Vice President for R&DB Kwanghee Lee, and Vice President for External Affairs Yonghwa Chung, as well as management, faculty, staff, and students, listened to Chairman Wook Son's lecture.



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Chairman Wook Son graduated from Gyeonggi High School and the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Seoul National University and served as CEO and President of Samsung SDI, Director of Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, Director of Samsung Human Resources Development Institute, Vice President of the National Academy of Engineering of Korea, and CEO and Chairman of Nongshim Co., Ltd., and is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Sejong Institute of National Management, Korea. He serves as the chairman of the ESG Committee Advisory Committee and the honorary chairman of Happiness Sharing 125, and is focusing on creating happy individuals and organizations in our society through lectures and writing activities.

In the special lecture on this day, Chairman Son said, "ESG is in line with the code of heaven and earth, which encompasses earth (E, nature), people (S, community), and heaven (G, the meaning of heaven: justice and righteousness), and is in line with the spirit of hongikuman (弘益人間) for the common good of mankind. ESG is not just a tool or strategy; it is important to embrace it as an organization's culture and mind."

He also said, "If a culture of gratitude, sharing, positivity, and happiness is established through 1 good deed a day, 2 readings a day, 5 thank yous a day, and writing thank you notes, the positive psychological capital, which is the "hero" (Hope, Efficiency, Resilience, Optimism) in our hearts, will grow, and it will be the spark that creates a happy and creative organization, making GIST the happiest university in the world."

Chairman Son further proposed a combination of the GIST vision and the Hongik Ingan spirit to create better future value for humanity and lead K-ESG, and especially emphasized the importance of nurturing future talent with ▲ convergence creativity ▲ craftsmanship ▲ character and humanities.

In particular, the 'Chicago Plan', a classical reading education program implemented by Robert Maynard Hutchins (1929-1951), the 5th president of the University of Chicago, is considered to have greatly contributed to the University of Chicago's growth into the world-class university it is today. He mentioned that humanities education is absolutely necessary in the process of nurturing future talent in science and technology.

President Kichul Lim, "As the Chairman said, if each member of our university practices gratitude and sharing in their daily lives, we expect to create a culture of happiness throughout the organization and ultimately achieve a virtuous cycle of becoming a university that creates creative future value. As a central research institute in science and technology that leads the future of the innovative economy together with the region, GIST will take the lead in spreading ESG management in the university sector by creating a happy organizational culture."

GIST has been taking active steps to create a happy organizational culture based on ESG management, such as declaring ESG management through a letter from the president in March this year and establishing the ESG Committee, and recently held the first ESG Committee meeting to approve the 'GIST ESG Management Basic Plan' and share it with all employees.



▲ Chairman Son Wook is invited to give a special lecture on the theme of 'Creating the happiest university with K-ESG' and took a commemorative photo. (From left) Vice President for External Affairs Yonghwa Chung, Vice President for R&DB Kwanghee Lee, President Kichul Lim, Chairman Wook Son, Office of General Affairs and Safety Seunghee Oh, Planning Dean Hisam Kim, Vice President for Academic Affairs Sang-Don Kim, and Academic Affairs Dean Sukwon Hong.