

GIST, which is about to establish a new Department of Mathematical Sciences in January next year, successfully holds the 'Mathematical Sciences Challenges and Opportunities' forum

- About 90 people including academics and Gwangju Science High School students attended... Invited lectures and panel discussions by Professor Jong-il Park of Seoul National University (President of the University Mathematics Society) and Professor Si-jong Kwak of KAIST (Dean of the College of Natural Sciences)
- Keynote speeches by Distinguished Professor Jong-hae Geum of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology and IBS President Do-Young Noh, followed by a public lecture by Distinguished Professor Hyung-ju Park of Ajou University...
"GIST Department of Mathematical Sciences will present a new paradigm for mathematics research and education"



▲ On the 6th (Friday), a forum was held at GIST Oryong Hall with the theme of 'New Horizons for Korean Mathematics: GIST's Challenges and Opportunities in Mathematical Sciences' to discuss the establishment and development of GIST's Department of Mathematical Sciences. Attendees are taking a commemorative photo. (Front row) GIST Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences Chair Jeong Ok Choi (middle) / (Back row) Invited lecturers and IBS Director Do-Young Noh (third from the left) and President Kichul Lim (middle)

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST) announced that it successfully held a forum to discuss the establishment and development of GIST's Department of Mathematical Sciences under the theme of "New Horizons for Korean Mathematics: Challenges and Opportunities in Mathematical Sciences at GIST" at Oryong Hall on Friday, September 6.

This forum was held to establish a mid- to long-term development strategy for the Department of Mathematical Sciences at GIST, which is scheduled to be established in January next year, and to discuss in depth ways to strengthen the international status of mathematics in Korea. Key figures from the scientific community, including mathematics, participated in the forum.

In his keynote speech that day, Professor Jong-hae Geum of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology emphasized that "mathematics must maintain its

unchanging essence even as times change and become a solid academic foundation for future generations," and he looked back on the fundamental importance of mathematics as a basic science and the positive influence that mathematics has on society and science.

In his subsequent keynote speech, IBS Director Do-Young Noh (professor at GIST Department of Physics and Photon Science) said, "Mathematical sciences are the foundation of scientific and technological innovation," and "Basic sciences are the starting point of all applications and innovations, and the GIST Department of Mathematical Sciences should take the lead in this role."



▲ IBS Director Do-Young Noh (professor at GIST Department of Physics and Photon Science) is giving a keynote speech.

The invited speakers for the forum included: ▲ Professor Jong-il Park of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Seoul National University, who is the 27th President of the Korean Mathematical Society; ▲ Professor Si-jong Kwak of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) (Dean of the College of Natural Sciences); and ▲ Professor Seong-geum Hong of the Department of Mathematics at Chosun University.

In his invited lecture, Professor Jong-il Park emphasized the importance of mathematics education in the AI era and the need for basic mathematics research, while Professors Si-jong Kwak and Seong-geum Hong discussed the establishment of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at GIST and the importance of academic development in the Honam region.

They went beyond the scheduled time in the panel discussion and had a heated discussion on the future of mathematics education in Korea, starting with the establishment of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at GIST.



▲ The expert panel discussion is heatedly discussing the international status of Korean mathematics and GIST's role in the mathematical sciences.

Professor Hyung-Joo Park (former president) of the Department of Mathematics at Ajou University, widely known for his in-depth writings and lectures that are accessible to the general public, gave the closing lecture of the forum, giving a public lecture titled "Panorama of Korean Mathematics" in which he looked into the historical development of Korean mathematics and its achievements on the global stage.

Professor Park chose Professors Hak Im, Deok-sang Im, and Kyung-hwan Kwon as notable names in modern Korean mathematics, and while introducing their personal connections, he gave an interesting explanation of how Korean mathematics entered the world stage through them.

He emphasized that "mathematics plays an important role in solving social problems beyond the academic domain," and emphasized the need for efforts to popularize mathematics and raise the international status of Korean mathematics.

About 90 people, including academics from all over the country and students from Gwangju Science High School, attended the forum that day.

One of the attendees said, "It was a time to newly recognize the importance of mathematics and basic science, and it raised expectations for the future of mathematics in Korea."

President Kichul Lim in his congratulatory speech said, "The establishment of the GIST Department of Mathematical Sciences will be a turning point that will lead to practical applications and industrial innovation beyond mere academic achievements."



▲ President Kichul Lim is giving a congratulatory speech at the 'GIST's Mathematical Science Challenges and Opportunities' event.

GIST Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences Chair Jeong Ok Choi, who hosted this forum, said, "This forum will serve as an opportunity to establish a mathematical science department and present a new paradigm for mathematical research and education, while also preparing to leap forward as a global center for mathematical research."