

Regarding the report on “GIST, President’s Misconduct Reported, Controversy Over Rejection of Gratitude and Transfer of Person in Charge to Other Department” (July 3, 2025 / Segye Ilbo Online Report)



▲ Panoramic view of GIST Administrative Building

☐ Report content

◦ In April of this year, a professor at GIST reported suspicions about the president to the Auditor Office via email. There were suspicions that there was an internal cover-up attempt as the head of the Auditor Office was suddenly transferred to another department on June 1 without properly conducting an audit. Another professor claimed that the lecturer had been complaining to those around him about the misconduct related to the president. Meanwhile, the lecturer is scheduled to renew his contract without any employment interruption after the expiration of his two-year contract.

☐ Related facts

① Audit procedures and personnel transfers

◦ Regarding the matter, the Auditor Office conducted an internal verification procedure in May through interviews with relevant parties, etc., and the matter was closed at the level of an internal investigation as the lecturer in question clearly stated that he “no longer wishes

to have this matter mentioned or made public.” The professor who sent the email to the Auditor Office was verbally informed of the results via a phone call on June 5.

- The fact that the investigation was in progress was not reported to the president according to the wishes of the parties involved, and the president became aware of the matter after June.

- The personnel transfer of the Director of the Auditor Office on June 1 was decided in a completely separate context from this matter. In order to respond to the external audit scheduled for the second half of the year and to fill the vacancy in the Director of the Startup Acceleration Center for large-scale projects such as RISE and Global University 30, a small-scale job rotation was carried out in the following order: ▲ Director of the Office of Academic Support → Director of the Auditor Office ▲ Director of the Auditor Office → Director of the Office of Academic Support ▲ Director of the Office of Academic Support → Director of the Startup Acceleration Center.

② Speeches and circumstances

- On Thursday, April 17, the president had a meeting with the director of the Language Education Center and the teaching staff on the topic of “Mandatory Korean language learning for foreign students,” and had dinner with them that evening. During this meeting, the president, who also lives in the international building, said, “You live in the same (international building) as me. The vice president for external affairs also lives in the international building, so it would be great if the three of us could have some wine together sometime.” One of the people present at the time confirmed, “The atmosphere was not uncomfortable at all.” The president, who was feeling burdened by English conversation ahead of attending the Korea-European Conference on Science and Technology (EKC 2025) scheduled for August, told the instructor, “I will contact you soon to ask about English learning methods.”

- On Thursday, April 17, the president heard during a meeting and dinner that the instructor was the only one among the foreign language instructors at the Language Education Center who taught Korean in English to foreign students, and thought that he would have a different teaching method from the average English instructor. Accordingly, he publicly expressed his desire to learn English learning techniques and asked the Team Leader of the Office of Future Strategy for the instructor’s contact information. Later, when he had time, he politely asked the instructor if he could “have a cup of coffee and hear the ‘secrets’ of English learning.” After that, the president and the instructor met in front of the International Hall at around 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 27 according to the instructor’s schedule, walked to a cafe near GIST recommended by the instructor, talked for about an hour, and returned. The main topics of the conversation that day were ▲ English speaking learning techniques ▲ improving the treatment of foreign language instructors at the Language Education Center.

- The president did not encourage the instructor to meet or make any other inappropriate requests.

③ Renewal of contract

- The instructor in question is a doctoral degree holder and is an exception to the 2-year employment period restriction under the Fixed-term Employment Act. He has received

excellent evaluations from fellow instructors and the director of the language education center, and is scheduled to be renewed normally.

□ GIST's position

- Our university expresses deep regret for the malicious reporting of false information to the outside regarding this matter and the fact that the information was reported in the media in a situation that the parties did not want.
- In particular, our university sincerely provided detailed answers to the press agency's inquiries that sufficiently explained the facts, but the article reflected the relevant content very limitedly and contained provocative expressions and inaccurate descriptions based on one-sided claims, which we express serious concerns about.

