

"1,000 future leaders of science and technology in Korea gather in Gwangju to build friendships" The 7th STadium, a festival of unity among six science and technology-specialized universities, opens at GIST

- Approximately 1,000 students from six science and technology universities across the country participated, competing fiercely across five sports: soccer, basketball, baseball, badminton, and e-sports... KAIST dominated basketball, soccer, and baseball, UNIST won e-sports, and GIST won the mixed men's and women's badminton championship
- Student-focused programs, including club booths, performances, and hands-on experiences, expanded, and the 3:3 meeting program "STa-ting" received a positive response... "I'm happy to be able to fully express my passion and interact face-to-face"



▲ The opening ceremony of the 7th STadium took place on the GIST campus on November 8th.

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced that the 7th STadium, a sports competition featuring students from six science and technology universities nationwide, was held on November 8th on the GIST campus in Buk-gu, Gwangju.

STadium is a sports competition designed to foster unity among South Korea's science and technology talent through sports and cultural exchange. It is voluntarily planned and operated by students from six science and technology universities nationwide.

Since the inaugural competition in 2017 on the DGIST (Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology) campus in Dalseong-gun, Daegu, each school has hosted the event sequentially. This marks the second time in seven years that the competition has been held at GIST, following its 2018 debut.

Approximately 1,000 students from four major science and technology research institutes, including GIST, DGIST, KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology), and UNIST (Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology), as well as six science and technology specialized universities, including

POSTECH (Pohang University of Science and Technology) and KENTECH (Korea Institute of Energy Technology) participated in this competition.



▲ On November 8th, GIST Vice President for Academic Affairs Sungho Jeong delivers a welcoming address at the 7th Stadium event held on the GIST campus.

Competitions were held across five sports: ▲ soccer, ▲ basketball, ▲ baseball, ▲ badminton, and ▲ e-sports (the online game League of Legends). Representative athletes from each school competed in a friendly competition that fostered camaraderie and friendship beyond victory or defeat.

Last year, soccer and baseball games were held off-campus, making them somewhat less accessible. However, this year, all games were held on campus, making participation more convenient for participating students.





▲ On November 8th, the 7th STadium, a sports competition featuring students from six science and technology universities across the country, was held on the GIST campus in Buk-gu, Gwangju.

In preparation for this competition, the STadium Executive Committee strengthened student-led events under the theme of "participation and communication." Reflecting on feedback raised last year that "content diversity was lacking," the committee expanded student-participatory side events, including club booths, performances, and experiential programs.

In particular, "STa-ting," a program that arranged 3:3 meetings between male and female students from the six science and technology universities, was very well-received. Using pre-prepared question cards and a balance game where participants chose from multiple options, the program was designed to encourage natural conversation and a fun time getting to know each other.

As a result, GIST won the mixed badminton category and finished second in basketball. KAIST swept the soccer, basketball, baseball, and badminton women's doubles categories, while UNIST won the men's badminton doubles and eSports.

A member of POSTECH's hip-hop club, P-funk, said, "This is my third time participating in the stadium, and I was able to experience active exchanges between schools through various performances and competitions. I am inspired and stimulated by seeing other schools perform."

UNIST Student Council Director of External Cooperation Hwan-gyo Jeong said, "While I was responsible for budget planning and overall management this year, I felt a great sense of accomplishment seeing my fellow students enjoying themselves."

GIST Club Association President Chan-beom Park, who organized the STadium event, said, "Preparations were challenging due to the limited number of participants, but the students' cooperation and effort made it a success. I am happy that STadium allowed students to fully express their passion and interact face-to-face. I hope all my friends return home with fond memories."

GIST Admissions Office Director Soo Jong Lee, who supported the event, said, "The STadium, which is in its 7th year, is not only a meaningful place for students to interact and build friendships through sports and culture, but also a place for students who will grow in the fields of science and technology to gain experience in understanding and cooperating with each other." She added, "I am very pleased that GIST can support students' proactive activities as the host."