

2025 GIST SUSTAINABLE PATHWAYS

COMPANY ADDRESS

123 Cheomdan Gwagiro, Buk-gu, Gwangju, 61005

2026.3.

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C H A P T E R

01

Environmental Impact

GIST is committed to reducing environmental impact through sustainable practices, carbon neutrality initiatives, and climate-focused innovation.

Declaration on ESG Management

President's voice

"It is time to embrace in our minds and hearts
the noble task of resolving society's great challenges and
finding a path to sustainable prosperity
for future generations."

In March 2024, GIST announced its official commitment to ESG management, launching a new ESG Committee led by the President. ESG is now a core initiative under GIST's long-term vision for sustainability, responsibility, and innovation. The university will actively promote transparency and ethical practices while sharing progress through its official website.

This declaration reflects GIST's determination to address global challenges and grow together with future generations.

Detailed goals for each area—Environmental, Social, and Governance—can be found in the image on the right.

2024

Concept of
ESG management

ESG management emphasizes management strategies focusing on Sustainable Environment (E), Social Responsibility (S), and Ethical Governance (G).



Environment	Social	Governance
• Climate change response and carbon neutrality • environmental management and pollution prevention • environmental education and research	• Safety and health • community contribution and co-prosperity • labor environment improvement and life-long learning	• Ethical human rights management • board and management diversity • institutional operational transparency

ESG Governance

GIST is strengthening management activities to preemptively identify and eliminate Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) related risk factors. The institution aims to transition from being a good university to a great one by strategically applying various ESG principles. Based on ESG governance, key issues are regularly discussed by the ESG Committee, which is the highest decision-making body.



Expanding ESG Commitment Through Community and Policy Engagement

GIST is broadening its ESG commitment beyond institutional governance by actively engaging with local communities and national stakeholders.

Following the establishment of the ESG Committee in March 2024, the university has participated in key policy briefings and environmental exhibitions to contribute to carbon neutrality, energy efficiency, and climate resilience.

These efforts reflect GIST's proactive role in shaping sustainable solutions in partnership with government bodies and regional innovation groups.

From policy to practice: ESG begins with community

“정책에서 실천으로, ESG는 공동체에서 시작됩니다”



"Finding the Answer to Industrial Complex RE100 Transition in Gwangju" GIST hosts energy innovation conference: Gwangju Energy Innovation Conference in conjunction with BIXPO 2025

[> View Details](#)



GIST holds 'Blue Technology and Economic Symposium'... Illuminating the interface between technology and philosophy for a sustainable future

[> View Details](#)



GIST successfully operated the 'G-Energy OnCall' program (KEET 2025) to strengthen the technological competitiveness of regional energy companies and create a sustainable network.

[> View Details](#)

Dedicated training on Environment aspect of Sustainability

GIST integrates comprehensive ESG education into its institutional framework, offering mandatory training for staff and structured sustainability learning pathways for students. Through diverse programs, including K-ESG lectures, climate and technology-focused seminars, and curricular requirements, GIST cultivates a campus-wide culture of sustainability and future-readiness.

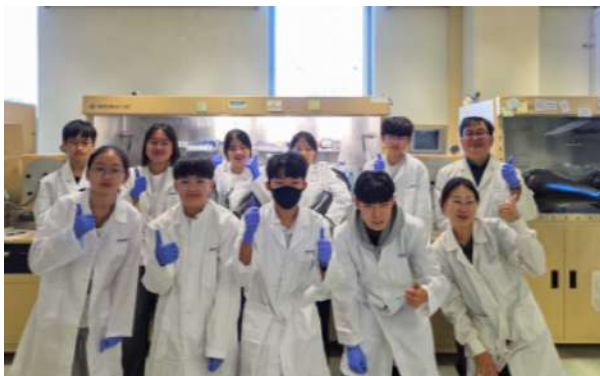
GIST operates eco-friendly energy experience booths



"Efforts to spread science and culture for a sustainable future" GIST operates eco-friendly energy experience booths for the local residents at the '2025 Gwangju Science Invention Festival'

[> View Details](#)

GIST hosts 'Solar Energy Literacy & Makerthon' for children and youth



GIST hosts 'Solar Energy Literacy & Makerthon' for children and youth. This program aims to foster collaboration between local communities and universities to discover future energy talent and promote scientific culture.

[> View Details](#)

GIST offers specialized graduate school in the 'AI Circular Economy'



GIST has further strengthened its status as a leading university in education and research in the field of environmental and energy convergence utilizing AI technology. In addition, it is expected to establish itself as a key base for the cultivation of specialized talents for the realization of a carbon-neutral society.

[> View Details](#)



Student Society for Sustainability

'ONSAEMIRO'

Onsaemiro is a native Korean word meaning “just as it is in nature.”

As the name suggests, the society was created to raise awareness of the value of nature and the urgency of environmental issues, especially for future generations.

The group carries out various campaigns to promote environmental awareness, including events aligned with international environmental days, and conducts educational volunteer activities focused on ecology and environmental science.

Our Environmental Protection Campaigns

Onsaemiro organizes environmental campaigns on days such as World Water Day, World Environment Day, and Car-Free Day. Activities include donation drives, online events, waste reduction efforts, and digital carbon footprint certification. Recently, they partnered with GIST for a campus-wide Car-Free Day campaign. To boost participation, they also run a year-round “Eco Mileage” program with small rewards.

Looking ahead, Onsaemiro plans to expand into topics like biodiversity, plant-based diets, recycling education, and resource circulation. The group aims to host offline events—such as upcycling workshops, plastic tray drives, and eco-themed snack sharing—to engage the GIST community and raise awareness of the link between daily life and the environment.

Our Message to GIST

We thank the GIST community for supporting and participating in Onsaemiro’s activities. We will continue addressing various environmental issues through small actions that lead to meaningful change. Your interest and engagement are what keep our efforts growing.



Shampoo Bar DIY



Climate and Sustainability in Our Curriculum

[> Site Link](#)

Department of Environment and Energy Engineering

We aim to train experts who can address complex environmental problems
and safeguard the harmony between people and nature.

DEEE Research Areas

EARTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

기후·대기

- Research on securing sustainable energy sources through greenhouse gas reduction and treatment technology, eco-friendly decarbonization and biofuel cell technology, and catalyst development for high-efficiency energy storage

WATER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

물·생태

- Research on securing water resources through nanotechnology and physicochemical water treatment, integrated water resource management, conversion of water pollutants using microorganisms, and membrane-based seawater desalination
- Research on the fate of micropollutants in water and soil, remediation of contaminants using bio- and nano-technology, ecosystem modeling as a response to climate change, and securing biological resources

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

지속가능 에너지

- Research on preparing for environmental and climate changes through climate modeling, transport and fate study of air pollutants, and the development of air pollutant purification catalysts

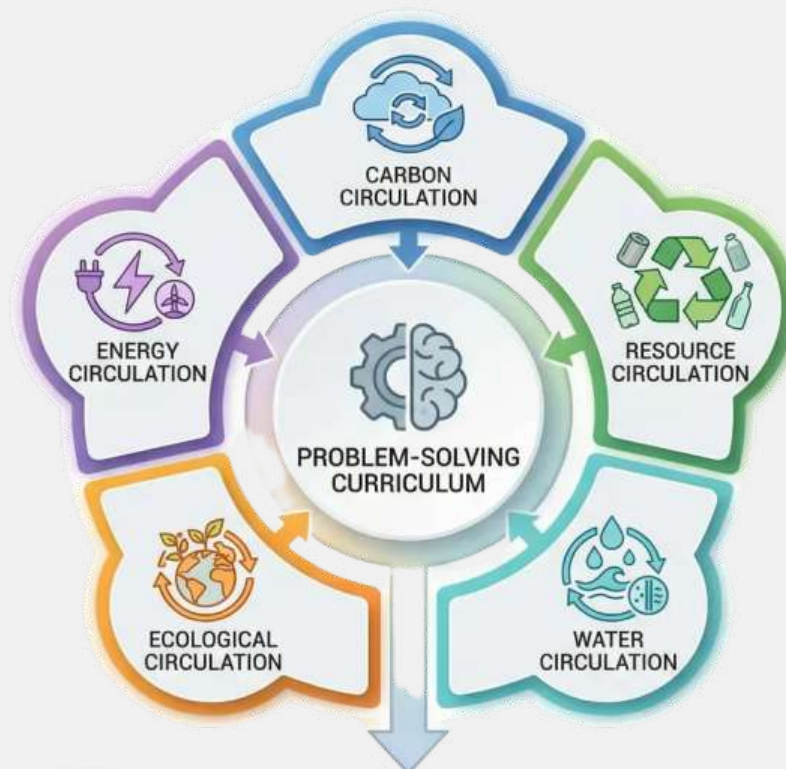
Climate and Sustainability in Our Curriculum

[> Site Link](#)

AI Circular Economy Specialized Graduate School

We aim to leap forward as a circular economy education and research hub incorporating AI and big data technologies. To realize a carbon-neutral society, we are operating customized education programs and strengthening industry-academia cooperation.

Curriculum



FIELD-ORIENTED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



PRACTICAL COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS
Companies & Research Institutes



EXPANDING ACADEMIC EXCHANGES
Home & Abroad



PROPOSING POLICIES
Based on International Standards

Lecture and Seminar Series for Undergraduates

GIST provides mandatory undergraduate courses, alongside a diverse range of major and liberal arts classes, that address key themes in sustainability each semester. These courses help cultivate awareness of sustainable development among students.

Semester	Criteria	Title
2025-1	Colloquium	Seawater Desalination: Technology for saving Mankind
2025-1	Colloquium	Climate Action in South Korea: Challenges and Future Tasks
2025-1	Colloquium	The Commons: The Foundation of Coexistence and Mutual Prosperity
2025-1	Lecture	Next-generation energy technologies for achieving carbon neutrality and RE100
2025-1	Lecture	Environmental Literacy
2025-1	Lecture	The Beautiful Planet Earth
2025-1	Lecture	Understanding Climate Change
2025-2	Colloquium	Technology Trends in Vehicle Electrification and Autonomous Driving
2025-2	Lecture	Introduction to Earth Science and Environmental Engineering
2025-2	Lecture	The age of sustainable development
2025-2	Lecture	Environmental Pollution
2025-2	Lecture	Environmental Monitoring
2025-2	Lecture	Atmospheric Chemistry & Climate Change



Lecture and Seminar Series for Graduates

The School of Environment and Energy Engineering offers sustainability-focused seminars each semester for graduate students. These are mandatory and available without departmental restrictions.

2025 1st Department of Environment and Energy Engineering SEMINAR

THU DEEE #210



환경-에너지공학과 세미나

- | | | | |
|--|---|----------|---------|
| 03.06. | Speaker 이윤기 교수 경상국립대학교 | Host 주종훈 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Sodium Beta-Alumina Batteries : Recent Progress and Technical Challenges in Affordable and Safe Energy Storage Solutions | | |
| 03.13. | Speaker 김상철 변리사 특허법인 이상 | Host 강성봉 | Korean |
| 16:00 | 소재 / 환경 기술의 사업화 | | |
| 03.20. | Speaker 김선동 책임연구원 한국에너지기술연구원 | Host 주종훈 | Korean |
| 16:00 | SOEC Clean Hydrogen Manufacturing Technologies and National Hydrogen Hub Laboratory | | |
| 03.27. | Speaker 김철용 교수 인천대학교 | Host 김창우 | English |
| 16:00 | Stoichiometry in Environmental Redox Processes : Approaches and Implications | | |
| 04.03. | Speaker 심은중 실장 한국수자원조사기술원 | Host 김형록 | English |
| 16:00 | Introduction to the Shift in the Hydrological Survey Paradigm at KIHS in Korea | | |
| 04.10. | Speaker 한동욱 교수 가톨릭대학교명교수(사)에코코리(PGA생태연구소소장 | Host 김문석 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Take a look KMGBF and Biodiversity, Climate Change: Can KMGBF catch two rabbits at the same time? | | |
| 04.17. | Speaker 김신용 박사 안전성평가연구소 | Host 김태영 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Environmental and ecological complexity dependent changes in microplastic effects on soil functions | | |
| 17:00 | Speaker 채유은 박사 안전성평가연구소 | Host 김태영 | Korean |
| Assessing aquatic and terrestrial ecological impacts of microplastics using trophic levels | | | |
| 05.08. | Speaker 이선용 선임연구원 한국지질자원연구원 | Host 황희정 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Environmental Remediation Using Minerals : Importance of Fundamental Understanding on The Mineral Physicochemical Properties and Interfacial Geochemistry | | |
| 05.15. | Speaker 남궁선이 선임연구원 한국원자력연구원 | Host 황희정 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Interfacial reactions on mineral surfaces and their role in geochemical processes : From Lab to Application | | |
| 05.22. | Speaker 권혁재 박사(Research Master) 삼성종합기술원(Air Science Research Center) | Host 김성봉 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Advanced Environmental Technologies for Sustainable Semiconductor FAB | | |
| 05.29. | Speaker 김한신 교수 전북대학교 | Host 김창우 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Advanced Strategies for Biofilm Control through Microbial Metabolic Regulation | | |
| 06.05. | Speaker 권용환 책임연구원 차세대수치예보모델개발사업단 | Host 김형록 | Korean |
| 16:00 | Snow data assimilation methods in a land surface model | | |

Lecture and Seminar Series for Graduates

The School of Environment and Energy Engineering offers sustainability-focused seminars each semester for graduate students. These are mandatory and available without departmental restrictions.



환경·에너지공학과 세미나

SEMINAR

2025 Fall semester

Department of Environment and Energy Engineering

🕒 Thursday

📍 DEEE(S6) #210

광주과학기술원
Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

09.11.	Speaker 우중제 센터장 한국에너지기술연구원 광주친환경에너지연구센터 Host 주종훈 Korean
16:00	From Challenges to Innovation: Advanced Battery Recycling Technologies
09.18.	Speaker 송우철 교수 포항공과대학교 환경공학부 Korean Host 김형록
16:00	MOF water harvester : extracting drinking water from Death Valley desert air in ambient sunlight
09.25.	Speaker 이보름 교수 전남대학교 환경에너지공학과 Korean Host 김창우
16:00	Policy-Engineering Nexus of Clean Energy-Greenhouse Gas Protocol : Scope Analysis
10. 02.	Speaker 박정하 교수 홍익대학교 토목공학과 Korean Host 김형록
16:00	Introduction to Stochastic Rainfall Generation Models and Their Application in Climate Change Studies
10. 16.	Speaker 송호경 교수 조선대학교 환경공학과 English Host 허호길
16:00	From Microbial Source Tracking to Environmental Big Data-Based Monitoring of Fecal Pollution in Freshwater Environments
10. 23.	Speaker 이원호 본부장 그리너리 English Host 박영준
16:00	GHG Emission Monitoring : Life Cycle Assessment
10. 30.	Speaker 김희정 연구원 Brown University English Host 민경은
16:00	Atmospheric Nitrate Chemistry and Response to Emissions Reductions in the Northeastern US.
11. 06.	Speaker 최현중 소장 (주)단단 Korean Host 주종훈
16:00	Advanced Ceramics & Ceramic Coating
11. 13.	Speaker 부찬희 교수 카이스트 건설및환경공학과 Korean Host 김창우
16:00	Membrane-based Resource Recovery from Industrial Wastewaters
11. 27.	Speaker 이원석 소장 영산강물환경연구소 Korean Host 이윤호
16:00	환경시험분석의 이해
12. 04.	Speaker 신태호 본부장 한국세라믹기술원 연구혁신본부 Korean Host 주종훈
16:00	Advanced Ceramics : A Key Material for a Sustainable Future
문의	Office 062)715-2432 E-mail pgj@gist.ac.kr Web http://env1.gist.ac.kr/ev1/

* All seminar lectures will include English subtitles

Lecture and Seminar Series for Graduates

The AI Circular Economy Clustering Program officially launched in the Fall semester of 2025. Through this program, the following courses were offered in 2025, which are available not only to students registered in the program but also to any interested graduate students.

Semester	Criteria	Title
2025-2	Lecture	Theories and Cases of AI Innovation and Strategy
2025-2	Lecture	Introduction to AI and Big Data for the Circular Economy
2025-2	Lecture	Resource cycle and Circular Economy
2025-2	Lecture	Carbon cycle and Circular Economy

※ The curriculum will be expanded to include additional courses like 'AI Basics for the Circular Economy' and 'AI SDGs Policy and Strategy'

In addition to the aforementioned lectures, various regular courses and special lectures focusing on the environment and sustainability are offered to graduate students, featuring insights from invited scientific experts.

Semester	Criteria	Title
2025-1	Colloquium	Organic redox flow batteries for long-duration energy storages
2025-1	Colloquium	Performance-Tailored Magnetic Materials for the Development of Next-Generation Magnets for Future Mobility
2025-1	Lecture	Next-generation energy technologies for achieving carbon neutrality and RE100
2025-2	Colloquium	Next Generation Photovoltaics
2025-2	Colloquium	Solar-Driven Photoelectrochemical Organic Upgrading
2025-2	Colloquium	Toward Next-Generation Sustainable Batteries with Organic Electrode Materials

GIST's Commitment through Specialized Research Institutes

Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST) demonstrates its strong commitment to environmental sustainability through two dedicated research institutes: the International Environmental Research Institute (IERI) and the Research Institute for Solar and Sustainable Energies (RISE).

International Environmental Research Institute

[> Site Link](#)

IERI advances research in sustainable technologies, with a particular focus on solving environmental challenges in developing countries. It also plays an educational role by training future climate experts and enhancing global competitiveness.

Purpose & Strategy of the IERI

Increasing the environmental sustainability of developing countries

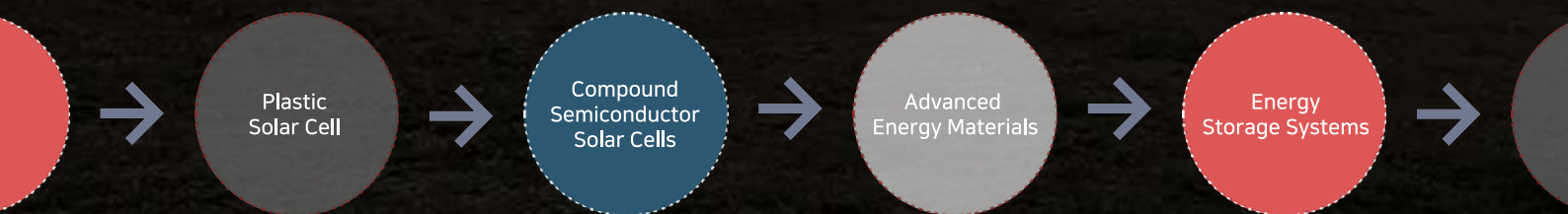


Research Institute for Solar and Sustainable Energies

[> Site Link](#)

Established in January 2009, the Research Institute for Solar and Sustainable Energies (RISE) is a GIST-affiliated research center dedicated to advancing future studies in new and renewable energy. RISE supports national and regional strategic industries by developing core technologies for next-generation energy solutions.

Development of the core source technology for future energy



Sustainable and Inclusive Procurement at GIST

Green Product Procurement

2023	170,758,000 KRW	}	23.6% increase! in green product purchases from 2023 GIST continues to expand its green product procurement in line with national sustainability goals.
2024	211,100,230 KRW		

Green Products Include:

- * Eco-labeled products (with superior environmental performance)
- * Excellent Recycled (GR) products (certified for quality among recycled goods)
- * Low-carbon products (recognized for reduced greenhouse gas emissions)

Ethical and Sustainable Consumption

In 2025, GIST's three main student cafeterias promoted ethical and sustainable consumption by introducing vegetarian days, expanding the use of local food, and reducing food waste. Carbon reduction and student satisfaction were enhanced through improved menus and ingredient sourcing, with active communication via digital boards.

Location	Eco-friendly consumption	Local food sourcing	Food waste reduction
Cafeteria1-1st Floor	12 times a year	40% of grain and vegetable purchases	12times a year
Cafeteria1-2nd Floor	-	42% of grain and vegetable purchases	-
Cafeteria2-1st Floor	4 times a year	90% of agricultural product purchases	5 times a year

Responsible Procurement

GIST actively encourages the monthly procurement of products from facilities employing persons with severe disabilities, in line with national policy.

The Contract Team has long maintained this practice by issuing monthly notices to all members, reinforcing GIST's commitment

Investing in Sustainability through R&D

GIST supports and invests in research initiatives aligned with sustainability, including funding programs dedicated to related themes. These efforts reflect the institution's ongoing interest in advancing sustainability through a broad range of research and innovation.

Breakdown of GIST-Funded Sustainability Projects

In 2025, GIST directly supported 62 research projects aimed at advancing sustainability, including 5 teams selected through a dedicated funding call for sustainability-focused themes. A total of KRW 5,551,885,494 was allocated to these projects through GIST's internal research funding program.

(in KRW)

Category	Number of Projects	Funding Amount
Public Health Crisis	48	4,211,198,000
Pharmaceuticals	9	696,687,494
Environment	5	644,000,000
Total	62	5,551,885,494

Related Sustainability Initiatives at GIST

GIST holds 'G.E.T. & Re:Born' technology exchange meeting



To accelerate sustainable energy innovation, GIST's 'G.E.T. & Re:Born' event united about 150 industry stakeholders. The gathering highlighted green investment opportunities through IR presentations by promising energy startups.

[> View Details](#)

GIST hosts energy innovation conference: BIXPO 2025



In its continued commitment to sustainability, GIST hosted this conference to explore specific implementation strategies for strengthening the competitiveness of local industries and achieving carbon neutrality. The event successfully facilitated active discussions among approximately 100 participants from industry, academia, research institutes, and government agencies regarding the RE100 transition strategy and the establishment of a sustainable energy ecosystem.

[> View Details](#)

Global Climate Partnerships and Capacity Building

Led by the International Environmental Research Institute (IERI), GIST is actively engaged in global initiatives to address climate change and support environmental capacity building. The following projects demonstrate IERI's commitment to international collaboration and sustainable education in developing countries.

Empowering Future Climate Leaders through IPCC Insights

IPCC AR6

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment Report 6th

보고서의 이해와 확산을 위한 간담회

2025. 9. 12. (금)

14:00 ~ 16:00

실용과학기술원(KIST) 오펜홀 101호 (서울 강남구 테헤란로 122)

참석대상

광주 내 모든 과학자, RIST (과기정통부, 시민, 광주)에 종속 100명

주요내용

- IPCC 기반 소개 및 참여 방법 설명
- IPCC AR6 보고서의 소개 및 핵심소식점 전체 시사회 설명

이 희 선 KIST장(총장)

한국과학기술연구원 대표
전국 과학영재학교 대표
지구 환경보전사업단장, 기후변화
실용 과학자(과기정통부) 협력연구단장
세계과학기술자협회(IAST) 회장
IPCC-회원

세부일정

구분	주요내용	비고
14:00 ~ 14:10 (10분)	참석자 소개 및 인사말씀	대외부
14:10 ~ 14:20 (10분)	IPCC 기반 소개 - 모든 과학자(학부)의 참여 방법	김진미 (박사)
14:20 ~ 15:20 (60분)	IPCC AR6 보고서 주요 내용 발표 - 우리나라 탄소중립 정책과 주는 시사점	이희선 KIST IPCC 의장
15:20 ~ 15:55 (35분)	질문시간	
15:55 ~ 16:00 (5분)	폐회 및 기념촬영	

주최: KIST

주최: KIST

협력: ieri, cnc

To foster future climate experts and strengthen international cooperation, GIST's International Environmental Research Institute (IERI) co-sponsored the "2025 1st Seminar for Young Scientists." Featuring experts who contributed to the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), the seminar aimed to build the capacity of graduate students and early-career scientists. By sharing practical experiences and key findings from the IPCC, the event successfully encouraged the next generation's active participation in global climate initiatives and international research.

GIST sends IT volunteers to Laos and Cambodia



GIST dispatched 28 undergraduate IT volunteers to Laos and Cambodia in 2025 to bridge the digital education gap. The teams provided specialized training in AI, coding, and Korean culture to approximately 200 local students, supported by 5 million won in donated educational supplies. This initiative, with 172 volunteers sent since 2014, reinforces GIST's commitment to global social responsibility.

[View Details](#)

> View Details



C H A P T E R

02

Social Impact

GIST promotes social impact through inclusive education, community outreach, and sustainable partnerships.

GIST Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI): Policies and Cultural Initiatives

GIST enforces a comprehensive and active Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) policy. While our core inclusive values are rooted in the 'Human Rights Management Declaration' announced in 2019, our operational and legally binding guidelines are strictly governed by the 'GIST Code of Conduct for Employees.' Crucially, this Code was most recently revised and enacted in December 2024, ensuring our policies remain highly up-to-date. Specifically, Article 5 of the Code explicitly prohibits any form of discrimination or unfair treatment, guaranteeing a fully inclusive campus environment regardless of age, gender, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, or background

Declaration of Human Rights Governance

since 2019

Declaration of Human Rights Governance at the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

As an organization, the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST) contributes to Korea's national development through its world-class education and research capabilities. To protect the human rights of everyone at GIST in the areas of education, research, and work, this "Declaration of Human Rights Governance at the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology" promulgates the following principles and standards of human rights that should be adhered to by every member of GIST.

GIST shall respect and abide by the Constitution of the Republic of Korea and to international human rights conventions ratified by the Republic of Korea.

GIST shall establish and implement necessary systems and policies to safeguard and promote the values and principles of human rights for everyone at GIST.

GIST shall strive to prevent any human rights violations and shall promptly redress any such violations.

GIST shall respect diversity and shall not discriminate based on gender, age, race, disability, or nationality in the selection of students or in the hiring of employees.

GIST shall safeguard everyone's right to study and work in a safe environment that is free from the risks of physical, verbal, or sexual abuse.

GIST shall safeguard everyone's freedom of assembly, freedom of association, and right to collective bargaining.

GIST shall prohibit forced labor and shall abide by all of the labor principles recommended by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the Korean government.

GIST shall protect access to personal information and people's right to privacy in accordance with Korean laws.

All Members of the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

Human Rights-Friendly Research Lab Contest

GIST held the "2025 GIST Human Rights-Friendly Research Lab Contest" to foster a healthy research culture. This contest was designed to discover and share various examples of practices to foster a human rights-friendly culture, such as mutual respect and communication among lab members, and fair operation.

[> View Details](#)



Empowering Global Talent and Supporting Career Integration

GIST is dedicated to building an inclusive ecosystem where international researchers from diverse cultural backgrounds can stabilize their lives and demonstrate their full potential within the domestic research field. Moving beyond simple academic assistance, we provide a "full-cycle" career development framework to ensure that global scientists grow into key human resources for both Korean society and the global R&D stage

Spotlight: "Supporting the growth and settlement of foreign researchers"

GIST Participates in the 'Science and Engineering Career Exploration Program'



In collaboration with the Korea Institute for Human Resources Development in Science and Technology (KIRD), GIST operates specialized programs to support the career development and settlement of international master's and doctoral students. Serving as the hub partner organization for the Gwangju-Jeolla region in 2025, GIST focuses on practical integration into the domestic R&D sector.

- Practical Career Support: The initiative offers job skill enhancement, 1:1 career consulting, and professional networking tailored to the Korean research environment.
- Success Story Networking: GIST alumnus Dr. Nayan Chandra Das, now at Samsung Electronics, shared practical insights on navigating the Korean industry as a global researcher.
- Institutional Commitment: President Kichul Lim emphasized that GIST will remain a steadfast sponsor, supporting international talent until they achieve leadership roles in the global R&D community.

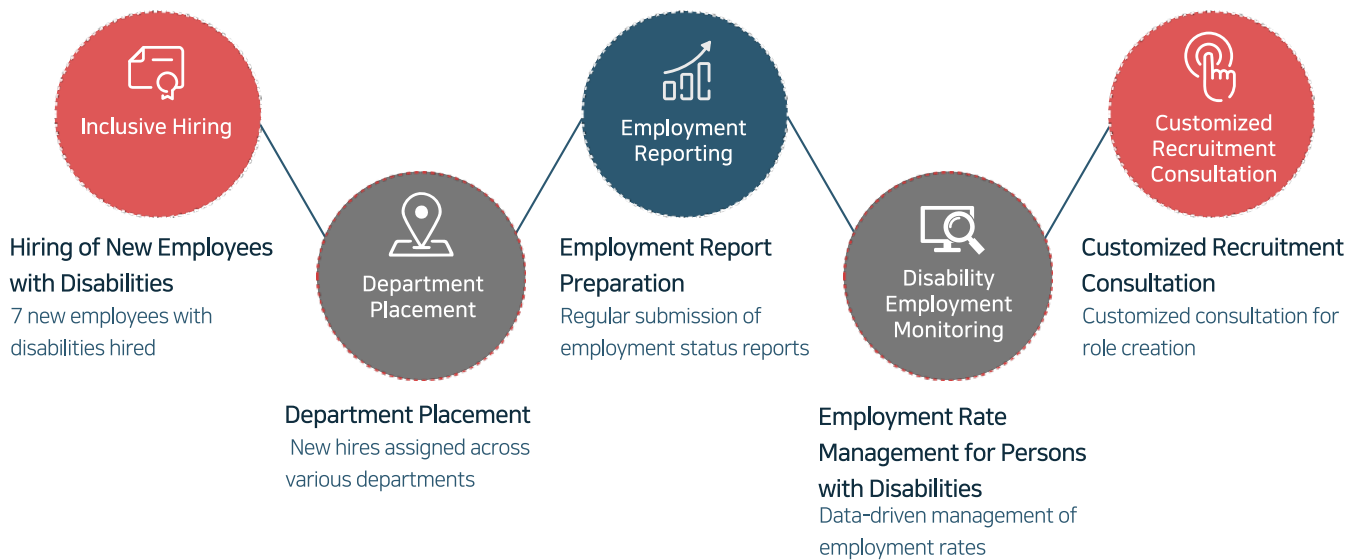
[> View Details](#)

GIST's Commitment to Inclusion

GIST is committed to fostering an inclusive campus environment where persons with disabilities can learn, work, and thrive without barriers. Through structured support systems, accessible infrastructure, and inclusive employment strategies, GIST continues to promote disability inclusion as a core part of its institutional values.

Strategic Framework for Inclusive Employment of Persons with Disabilities

GIST strictly complies with public sector recruitment standards and guidelines throughout all hiring processes, ensuring fairness, transparency, and institutional accountability.



Inclusive Student Support Services



GIST offers tailored support for students with disabilities through annual planning, academic assistance, and mentoring. Examples include extended exam time, note-taking support, and assistive devices. On-campus housing provides rooms specifically designed for accessibility and independent living, while all buildings include accessible restrooms and braille signage.

The Human Resources Team and the Center for Human Rights further promote inclusion through information access services and disability awareness training.

Stories of Accessibility in Action

Enhancing Accessibility: GIST's Customized Assistive Devices for Independent Living



GIST has launched a collaborative R&D project to develop customized assistive devices that empower people with disabilities and the elderly to live independently. In 2024, the team successfully created practical, user-centered tools, including wrist tongs for patients with cervical spinal cord injuries and kiosk touch sticks. Building on this, GIST plans to introduce three additional device kits in 2025. Through this initiative, GIST continues to foster an inclusive environment by providing accessible solutions for everyday independence.

[> View Details](#)

: Autonomous Robots and Haptic Technology for the Visually Impaired



GIST demonstrated a "Personalized Exhibition Concierge Service" at the Gwangju National Science Museum to enhance cultural inclusion. Combining autonomous guiding robots with advanced haptic gloves, the system allows visually impaired visitors to safely navigate and physically "feel" exhibits. This innovative IT application paves the way for universally accessible environments.

[> View Details](#)

Breaking Barriers: Invisible AI-Powered Oral Hearing Aids



To address the psychological barriers often associated with visible hearing devices, GIST has developed an innovative "Oral Hearing Aid and Hearing Restoration Technology". Created by the AI Graduate School, this new-concept assistance device is designed to be inserted directly into the mouth, seamlessly combining the functions of a dental prosthesis and a hearing aid. Because it is completely invisible from the outside, it provides a discreet and highly practical solution for individuals with hearing impairments. Through this inclusive design, GIST is actively breaking down social stigma and enhancing accessible communication for all.

[> View Details](#)

GIST's Multifaceted Approach to Social Sustainability Education

GIST delivers a wide range of educational programs to foster a socially sustainable campus. From mandatory annual training on core social issues to customized workshops for leadership and inclusive cultural experiences, these efforts reflect GIST's commitment to creating an informed, respectful, and inclusive academic environment.

GIST Hosts Hope Room to Raise Disability Awareness



To improve awareness of disabled individuals in the workplace, GIST hosted a moving musical performance featuring the Hope Room Orchestra, an ensemble of musicians with developmental disabilities. Organized by the GIST Human Rights Center, this cultural experience-based education program utilized art to effectively break down prejudices. Through this initiative, GIST actively fosters an inclusive community culture grounded in mutual understanding and empathy.

[> View Details](#)

GIST conducts sexual harassment and violence prevention training for employees



To foster a human rights-friendly campus, GIST provides customized, case-based violence prevention training for its community, including top leadership such as the President. Led by a legal expert, the specialized sessions focus on grievance procedures, victim support systems, and preventing secondary damage. Through this strong top-down commitment, GIST actively raises human rights sensitivity and builds a safe environment founded on mutual trust and respect.

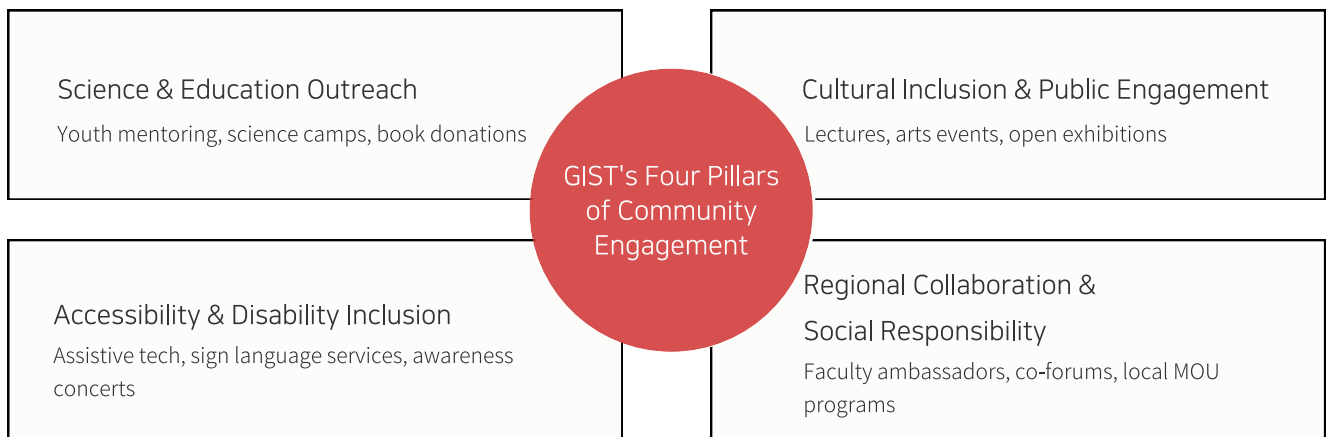
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GIST's Commitment to Inclusive and Sustainable Community Engagement

GIST is deeply engaged in building a socially inclusive and scientifically empowered community. Through long-term outreach programs, disability-inclusive initiatives, regional partnerships, and cultural exchanges, GIST continues to serve as a key driver of local innovation, access to education, and shared sustainability.

This section highlights GIST's multifaceted efforts across four key areas of engagement.



Community Engagement through Science and Education

GIST is committed to promoting equitable access to science education by offering youth-centered, hands-on programs that foster curiosity and empower future generations. Through long-standing outreach, regional partnerships, and educational donations, GIST continues to strengthen its ties with the local community.

Youth Science Outreach

Empowering Future Scientists: Open GIST Science Lab



To support local STEM education, GIST hosted the 'Open GIST Science Lab' for high school students in the Honam region. Ninety-four students from 52 schools participated in hands-on experiments across six major fields, guided by laboratory instructors, and received direct mentoring from GIST students. This initiative provides practical career exploration opportunities, highlighting GIST's commitment to nurturing local youth and expanding accessible science education. [> View Details](#)

GIST's AI Science Camp for Youth: Inspiring Future Innovators



To nurture future talent, GIST's Social Contribution Group hosted an AI Science Camp for local elementary students. The program provided hands-on university experiences, including building self-driving car kits with student mentors, attending special AI lectures, and touring the Supercomputing Center. This initiative highlights GIST's commitment to expanding accessible science education and inspiring the next generation within the community. [> View Details](#)

Science Festivals & Exhibitions

Cultivating Energy Literacy: GIST's Solar-Powered Robot Experience



To enhance local energy literacy, GIST operated an eco-friendly energy booth at the 2025 Art Science Festival. Over 300 students and parents participated in the interactive program, assembling solar-powered robots to learn the principles of renewable energy conversion firsthand. This hands-on initiative highlights GIST's dedication to expanding participatory science education and fostering sustainability awareness within the community. [> View Details](#)

Science Book Donation

GIST Donates Science Books for 23 Consecutive Years to Inspire Young Minds



GIST and PIUM have consistently donated science books to local elementary schools in Jeonnam, nurturing curiosity and supporting equitable science education since 2002. [> View Details](#)

Cultural Inclusion and Lifelong Learning

Beyond STEM, GIST fosters a vibrant cultural environment by offering public lectures, performances, and exhibitions that are accessible to both campus members and the local community. These events aim to cultivate empathy, creativity, and inclusive values.

Public Lectures

GIST holds special lecture on 'Appreciation and Investment in Art'



GIST successfully hosted a special lecture by Chairman Yun-seop Kim on "Appreciation and Investment in Artworks." This event provided citizens with new insights into art, exploring everything from the joy of everyday appreciation to its economic value from an investment perspective.

[> View Details](#)

The GIST Opera Salon: A night where science and art meet



The "GIST Opera Salon: Where Science and Art Meet" was successfully held at Dasan Hall in GIST's Oryong Building, featuring a collaborative performance by the Gwangju City Opera and the Camerata Jeonnam Orchestra. This open autumn night festival invited alumni, donors, and citizens to enjoy opera masterpieces, beautifully embodying GIST's vision of being an "open university" that connects with the local community through the harmony of science and art.

[> View Details](#)

"Blowing the Wind to Convey Your Heart" GIST hosts interactive digital exhibition

<Metamorph>



9 interactive media artworks created by GIST AI graduate students will be simultaneously exhibited at the GIST Central Library and Chonnam National University Hwasun Hospital until Friday the 19th. These audience-participatory works combine technology and senses to offer a unique cultural experience, specifically aiming to expand public value within a medical environment.

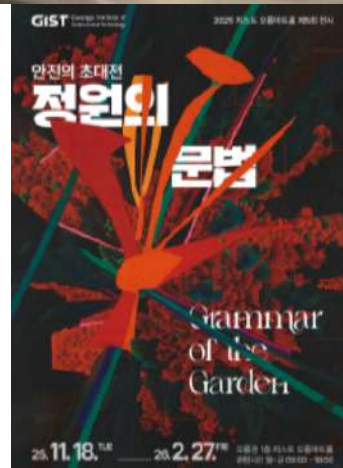
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Art & Performance Programs

In 2025, GIST hosted a total of six fine art exhibitions designed to provide enriching cultural experiences for both internal campus members and local residents. The exhibitions reflect GIST's mission to foster local engagement through accessible and thought-provoking cultural programs. The Oryong Art Hall continues to serve as a space for ongoing exhibitions that promote creativity and community connection, embodying the university's commitment to sharing the value of art with the public.

[> View Details](#)



Sustainable Regional Cooperation

Strengthening Regional Partnerships through Science and Innovation

GIST is actively fostering mutual growth with local governments across Jeollanam-do through formal collaborations, science diplomacy, and tailored engagement programs. By aligning its research strengths with the key industries of each region, GIST advances sustainable development and supports place-based innovation ecosystems.

Science & Technology Ambassadors

To support regional innovation, GIST appointed 15 professors as Science and Technology Ambassadors to 10 cities and counties across Jeonnam. Each ambassador offers expert support in alignment with local strategic industries, facilitating technological consultation and knowledge exchange.

Regional Deployment Overview			
Region (City/County)	Strategic Industry Focus	Region (City/County)	Strategic Industry Focus
Suncheon	Culture, Tourism	Jangheung	Bio, Food
Jangseong	Advanced Medical & Health Foods	Haenam	Agriculture, Fisheries, Culture, Tourism
Goheung	Aerospace, Aviation, Drones	Damyang	High-Value Agriculture, Tourism
Yeongam	Marine Energy, Hydrogen Industry, Aviation	Hwasun	Biomedical, Vaccines
Gwangyang	Secondary Batteries, Hydrogen, Data Industries	Wando	Seaweed Bio Industry

GIST-Local Government MoU

In 2025, GIST signed two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to deepen collaboration and support regional industrial advancement.

Forum	Theme
GIST-Jangseong-gun and local high schools	to foster creative and convergent talents
GIST-Mokpo Catholic University	to heal 'addiction' in local communities



Promoting Health and Well-being at GIST

GIST fosters a healthy, inclusive campus through affordable nutrition, accessible healthcare, and holistic well-being services that support both students and staff.

Affordable Nutrition: The 1 Dollar Meal Initiative

To support student well-being, GIST provides nutritious meals at highly subsidized prices. Now successfully running for three consecutive years, the representative "Thousand Won Breakfast" project offers breakfast at just 1,000 KRW, contributing to the formation of healthy eating habits and improved academic concentration. This initiative goes beyond simple welfare, providing practical benefits that students can truly feel.

- Operated by professional nutritionists
- Available to all students every morning
- Inclusive menus including Halal options and allergen info
- Supported by GIST Development Foundation

[> View Details](#)



Comprehensive Health & Wellness Services

GIST provides a full range of health and wellness support for both physical and mental well-being, ensuring a safe and inclusive learning environment for all.



- Fitness center, swimming pool, climbing wall
- Mandatory PE for freshmen
- Regular health education and emergency training

- Campus-wide sexual harassment reporting system
- Preventive education and support counseling

- Campus-wide sexual harassment reporting system
- Preventive education and support counseling



C H A P T E R

03

Governance

GIST builds an ethical and inclusive governance framework through transparency, human rights protection, and shared decision-making.

Institutional Architecture for Ethical and Sustainable Governance

GIST's governance structure is supported by specialized bodies that advance human rights, transparency, and sustainability. This multi-dimensional framework includes dedicated offices and committees that uphold ethical conduct and ensure responsible institutional operations.

Center for Human Rights and Legal Affairs



Drives human rights policy implementation, DEI programming, and legal advisory functions.

Audit Office



Oversees compliance, internal control, and ethical practices across the institution.

International Environmental Research Institute (IERI)



Established in 2001, IERI advances GIST's climate strategy and global environmental research agenda.

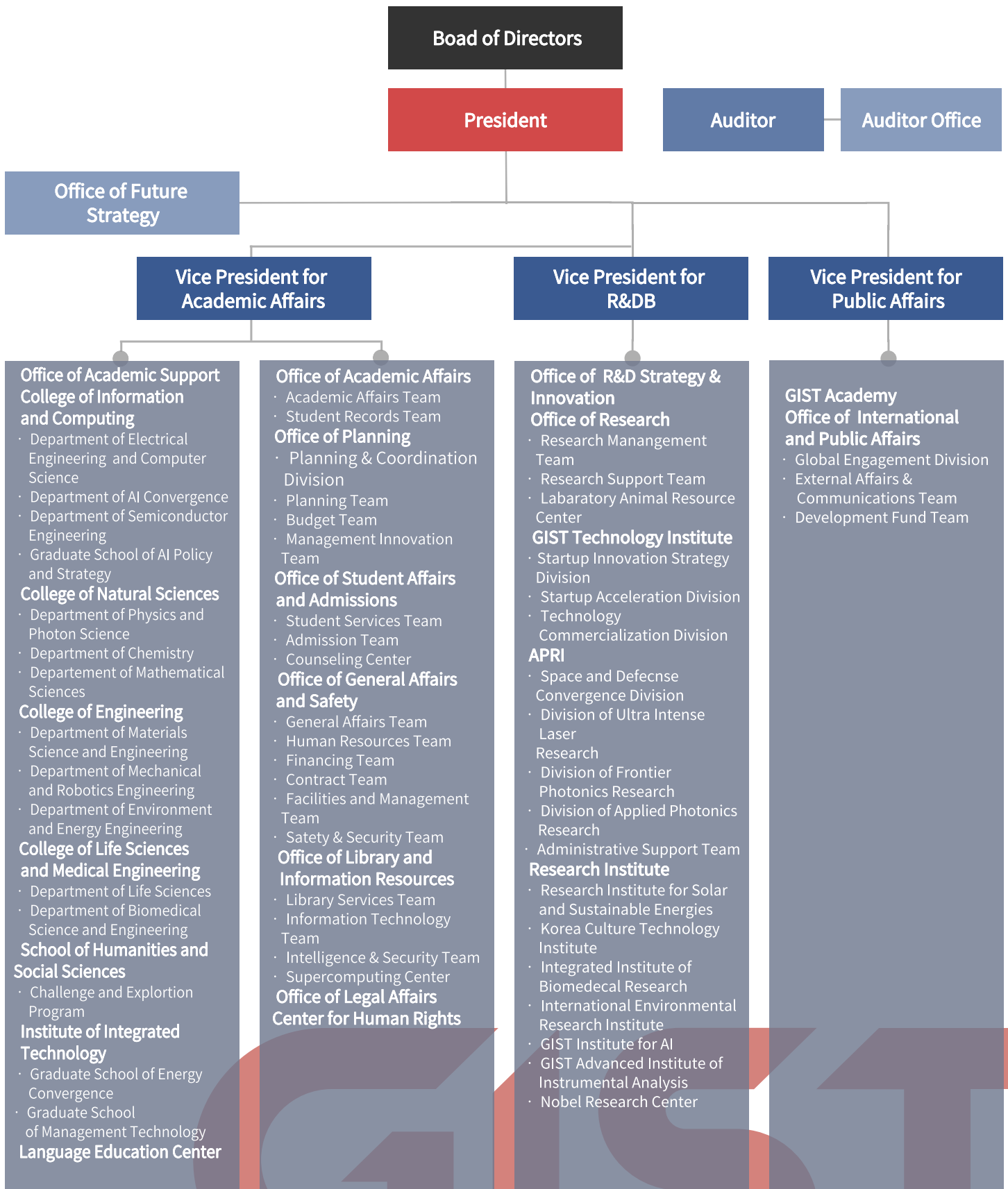
ESG Committee (chaired by the President)



Chaired by the President, leading institution-wide sustainability governance across three domains: Environment, Social Responsibility, and Ethics.

[> View Details](#)

GIST Organizational Chart



Institutional Integrity and Ethical Governance

GIST ensures institutional integrity through clearly defined anti-corruption policies and leadership-driven ethical practices. From mandatory training and high-level committees to participatory campus campaigns, a culture of integrity is embedded across all levels of the organization. Furthermore, these strict ethical standards extend to our research activities, ensuring comprehensive and responsible governance.

Anti-Corruption Code of Conduct

Applicable to all employees, including faculty and their families. Defines ethical standards and behaviors across the institution. [> View Details](#)

Integrity Training for All Faculty and Staff at GIST



GIST held its first anti-corruption and integrity education of 2025 for about 310 participants, including President Kichul Lim. Led by Hyo-kwang Kim from the Integrity and Human Rights Management Research Institute, the session covered key integrity laws to help establish a transparent organizational culture and strengthen ethical awareness.

[> View Details](#)

GIST holds special committee chaired by the president to improve integrity



To spread integrity awareness and prevent corruption, GIST held the '1st Integrity Improvement Special Committee,' directly chaired by the President and attended by student, faculty, and researcher representatives. In preparation for the 2025 Comprehensive Integrity Evaluation, the meeting focused on discussing four major strategies and detailed implementation tasks to build a trusted university through everyday integrity practices.

[> View Details](#)

GIST ranks one tier higher in overall integrity



GIST ranks one tier higher in overall integrity. Improvements achieved through institutional reforms: In the public university sector, the integrity effort index rose two tiers from Grade 3 to Grade 2.

[> View Details](#)

Institutional Integrity and Ethical Governance

GIST ensures institutional integrity through clearly defined anti-corruption policies and leadership-driven ethical practices. From mandatory training and high-level committees to participatory campus campaigns, a culture of integrity is embedded across all levels of the organization. Furthermore, these strict ethical standards extend to our research activities, ensuring comprehensive and responsible governance.

"Practicing integrity, cool in summer" GIST opens 'Integrity Day' campaign



GIST hosted the "Clean (Cold) Day - Lowering the Temperature of Corruption" campaign, led by President Kichul Lim. The event aimed to promote a culture of integrity by distributing ice cream and cooling patches with anti-corruption messages, encouraging all members to recognize and voluntarily practice ethical principles in their daily lives.

[> View Details](#)

GIST's "Integrity Focus Week" concluded with a positive response from all members



GIST held its "2025 Integrity Focus Week" from September 1st to 5th, under the theme "Integrity, Speaking with Codes". The week featured interactive daily programs, including integrity self-assessments, legal consultations, and a photo zone with President Kichul Lim, to embed ethical values and a transparent organizational culture into the daily lives of all GIST constituents.

[> View Details](#)

GIST's Animal Experiment Ethics Committee selected as an "Excellent Institution"



The GIST Animal Experiment Ethics Committee was named a 2025 "Excellent Institution" by the Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency. GIST was recognized for balancing scientific research with strict animal welfare standards—including the 3R Principle and PAM system—and promoting bioethical values locally.

[> View Details](#)

Human Rights Protection and Inclusive Campus Culture

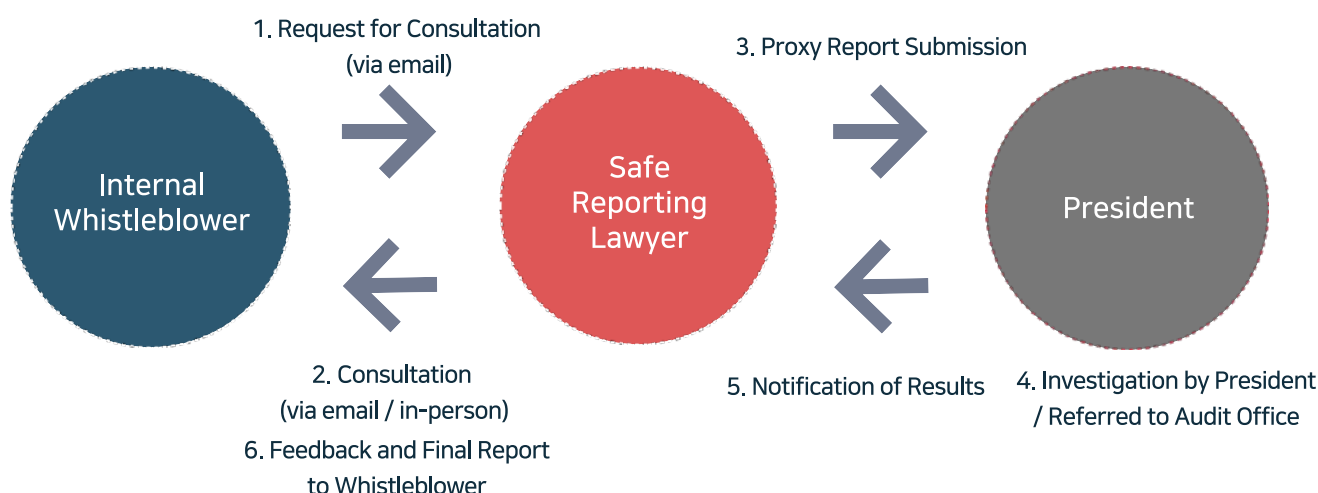
GIST fosters a safe and inclusive campus culture through comprehensive human rights protection systems and institutional support. Accessible reporting channels, legal advisory services, and open forums for dialogue empower members to speak out and engage in shaping a more respectful academic environment.

Institutional Support and Reporting Systems

Safe Reporting Lawyer Program

GIST ensures whistleblower anonymity through a lawyer who submits reports on their behalf. The lawyer provides legal advice and handles non-identifiable reporting, including for corruption, bribery, and public interest violations.

This system protects individuals while promoting ethical accountability.



Workplace Harassment
Counseling & Report



[> View Details](#)

Human Rights Infringement
Counseling & Report



[> View Details](#)

Sexual Abuse/Harassment
Counseling & Report



[> View Details](#)

Student Representation and Shared Governance

GIST values student voices across both autonomous governance and formal institutional decision-making. Through elected student councils and official participation in the University Senate, students actively contribute to shaping campus life, policy, and academic development.

Formal Representation: University Senate

GIST University Senate

Established in 2024, the University Senate at GIST is a formal deliberative body responsible for reviewing key matters concerning long-term institutional development, academic programs, research, and the welfare of faculty, researchers, staff, and students. The Senate consists of elected representatives from each group—including faculty, researchers, staff, students, and alumni—as well as individuals with expertise in university governance. Two student representatives serve as full voting members, ensuring inclusive participation in institutional decision-making.

Autonomous Student Governance

Undergraduate Student Council



[> View Details](#)

- General Student Council
- Dormitory Steering Committee
- Women's Representative
- Club Union
- Cultural Events Committee

Graduate Student Council



[> View Details](#)

- Graduate Council
- Dormitory Committee
- Married Student Apartment Committee

1st GIST University Senate Members

(Term: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025)

GIST 평의회

제1기 평의원 명단



성명 송철한 (의장)
구성단위 교원
소속 환경-에너지공학과



성명 기철식 (부의장)
구성단위 연구원
소속 고동광기술연구소



성명 안진희
구성단위 교원
소속 화학과



성명 김철민
구성단위 연구원
소속 고동광기술연구소



성명 오창명
구성단위 교원
소속 의생명공학과



성명 박안철
구성단위 직원
소속 교무팀



성명 이병근
구성단위 교원
소속 전기전자컴퓨터공학과



성명 남주영
구성단위 직원
소속 시설운영팀



성명 이주형
구성단위 교원
소속 신소재공학과



성명 하태일
구성단위 학생(대학원)
소속 AI융합학과

Student member



성명 석영웅
구성단위 외부
소속 전남대 생물공학과 조교수



성명 김성우
구성단위 학생(대학)
소속 환경-에너지공학과

Student member

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