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GIST Young Scientist Pilot Project for producing new Ph.Ds science and engineering

- GIST (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, President Kiseon Kim) is building a research collaboration network with businesses to produce new Ph.Ds in science and engineering to overcome the regional economic crisis caused by the recent COVID-19 crisis.
 - While the overseas outflow of Korean science and engineering specialists is a serious social problem due to excessive short-term performance and research independence issues, the 'GIST Young Scientist Pilot Project' was designed to encourage outstanding Koreans (new Ph.Ds and post-docs) to conduct independent research within GIST and focus on research.
 - The purpose of this pilot project is to support new Ph.Ds by having them solve the technical difficulties of companies through collaborative research with local companies and helping local businesses overcome the difficulties caused by COVID-19.
- This project will be designed as a support structure for young science and engineering Ph.Ds to directly propose and carry out research tasks, so that they can grow into independent researchers with GIST professors and researchers helping the new Ph.Ds with their independent research as facilitators. In order to concentrate on the research work of new Ph.Ds, GIST is not only directly supporting research and labor costs but is also actively considering residence support (such as dormitories) and administrative support.

- Also, a new doctoral-oriented research group will be formed at GIST and a platform will be established to cooperate with companies with plans to proactively discover the future demands of the industry to provide new Ph.Ds with the opportunity to improve their capabilities and to conduct technology-related and collaborative research with various companies, including local companies.

- GIST Vice President for R&DB In S. Kim said, "The role of new Ph.Ds is very important in leading national initiatives such as a Korean version of the New Deal in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Through this pilot project, GIST will actively take the lead in overcoming the current crisis by creating an optimal environment where up-and-coming researchers can focus only on research by establishing a network of cooperation with local businesses in need."

- The project period of the "GIST Young Scientist Pilot Project" will be about two years from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022, and a total of 800 million won will be provided to four up-and-coming researchers selected during the project.

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