GIST and MIT sign a joint research MOU on human-centered physical AI, initiating full-scale AI convergence research collaboration

- Building on the trust-based foundation of joint research between the two universities since 2021, the university-level collaboration system will be formalized... Comprehensive cooperation will be promoted, including exchanges of professors, students, and researchers, joint research projects, and symposiums

- Intensive research in human-computer interaction (HCI) and physical AI will be conducted based on support from the Ministry of Science and ICT's "Overseas Excellent Research Institutes Collaboration Hub Construction Project" (KRW 7.7 billion over six years)... Accelerating the development of a global research hub and fostering next-generation AI talent

▲ GIST-MIT Joint Workshop for the Establishment of a Human-Centered Physical AI Research Center. At the "GIST-MIT Joint HCI+AI Workshop for Human-Centered Physical AI" held at MIT CSAIL in May, researchers from both institutions shared their research findings and discussed future plans for expanding joint research. (Top right photo) Professor SeungJun Kim of the Department of AI Convergence at GIST; (Top row right photo) Director Daniela L. Rus of MIT CSAIL

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced on Tuesday, September 23rd, that it will begin joint research in the field of artificial intelligence with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL).

The agreement officially took effect on September 2nd, when GIST Vice President for R&DB Yong-Chul Kim signed it, and on September 13th, when MIT CSAIL Director Daniela L. Rus signed it. The agreement period is two years and can be extended by mutual agreement.

GIST and MIT CSAIL, which have built trust through joint research since 2021, have formalized their collaboration at the university level to mark their fifth year of collaboration.

Through this MOU, the two universities will pursue comprehensive collaboration, including faculty exchanges, student and researcher exchange programs, and joint research projects and symposiums. Joint research in the fields of human-computer interaction (HCI) and physical AI is particularly noteworthy.

This agreement also solidifies the foundation of the GIST-MIT Human-Centered Physical AI Interaction Research Center, operated by GIST as the lead institution.

GIST was recently selected for the Ministry of Science and ICT's "Overseas Excellent Research Institution Collaboration Hub Construction Project," receiving KRW 7.7 billion in support over the next six years. This collaboration with MIT is expected to gain further momentum.

Professor SeungJun Kim of the Department of AI Convergence (Director of the Overseas Collaboration Hub Project) stated, "The joint research achievements and trust built over the past five years have borne fruit in this agreement," adding, "This agreement solidifies a more systematic and sustainable long-term partnership."

GIST plans to establish itself as a global hub for research collaboration in the field of physical AI and, through the GIST-MIT talent exchange, contribute to the development of next-generation global AI talent. Furthermore, the two universities will establish a working group to implement the agreement and promote the results of their joint research, focusing on international conferences.

Vice President for R&DB Yong-Chul Kim emphasized, "The collaboration between GIST and MIT CSAIL goes beyond simple research exchange to become a strategic partnership that will drive future AI technological innovation. This will serve as an opportunity to leap forward as a global leader in the development of human-centered AI technology."

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