

**GIST to host 'Integration and Innovation' forum on the 26th... Presents future vision for the integrated Jeonnam-Gwangju Special City**

- Under the slogan 'The Era of Super-Regional Integration Opened by Science and Technology,' Hyung-bae Min, mayor-elect of the Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special City, and National Assembly members In-chul Cho and Moon-young Lim attended to discuss regional growth strategies for the era of AI Transformation (AX)

- Held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of the 'Innovation & Startup Promotion Agency,' a hub for technology startups in regional strategic industries... Featuring presentations on topics such as AI semiconductors, super-regional innovation strategies, and the new AI civilization, as well as a 'Grand Talk'



**▲ Poster for the GIST 'Integration and Innovation' Forum**

The Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kichul Lim) announced that it will hold the “GIST ‘Integration and Innovation” forum on Friday, June 26, at 2:00 PM in the Multipurpose Hall on the 1st floor of Oryong Hall.

Under the slogan “The Era of Super-regional Integration Opened by Science and Technology, GIST Leading Regional Growth,” this forum was organized to discuss science and technology-based regional innovation strategies in the era of AI Transformation (AX) and super-regional integration, and to explore ways to foster regional growth through entrepreneurial innovation and industry-academia collaboration.

In particular, this forum is being held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of the GIST Institute for Startup Innovation. Launched in accordance with the government's policy to create startup cities centered on science and technology institutes, the Institute plans to strengthen support functions for technology-based startups and commercialization, and serve as a central hub for creating an innovative startup ecosystem linked to regional strategic industries such as AI, semiconductors, and energy.

With the launch of the Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special City approaching, and securing new growth engines centered on advanced strategic industries emerging as a key regional task, this forum holds added significance as a venue to share the region's future vision and development direction based on science and technology-based innovation capabilities.

The event will be attended by Hyung-bae Min, mayor-elect of the Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special City; National Assembly members In-cheol Cho (Gwangju Seo-gu Gap) and Moon-young Lim (Gwangju Gwangsan-gu Eul); National Assembly members from the Gwangju and Jeonnam regions; heads of local governments and elected local council members; officials from government and public institutions; and representatives from universities, research institutes, and industry to jointly explore the region's future growth strategies and directions for science and technology-based innovation.



▲ *Panoramic view of the GIST campus*

The forum will proceed in the following order: ▲ opening ceremony of the Korea Institute of Entrepreneurship & Innovation, ▲ welcome address and congratulatory remarks, ▲ keynote speech, ▲ celebratory performance, ▲ thematic presentations, and ▲ grand talk.

In the opening session, President Kichul Lim will introduce GIST's vision for regional innovation through a welcome address, and Hyung-bae Min, the mayor-elect of the Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special City, will deliver the keynote speech to present on the direction of regional development and the role of science and technology in the era of super-regional integration.

In the ensuing presentation sessions, key leaders and faculty members from GIST representing various fields will participate to deliver presentations on the themes of: ▲ The Engine of Economic Growth (Startup Innovation) ▲ The Map of Future Industries (AI Semiconductors) ▲ The Coordinates of an Innovative Nation (Multi-regional Innovation Strategy) ▲ The Spirit of the Times and Philosophy (Coexistence of the New AI Civilization and Humanity). Through these presentations, they will present the future growth vision of the Integrated Jeonnam-Gwangju Special City and GIST's role in regional development.

Specifically, ▲ Jae Gwan Kim, Director of the Korea Institute of Startup & Entrepreneurship (Professor of Biomedical Engineering), will present startup-based regional innovation strategies under the theme of ‘The Engine of Economic Growth: Startup Innovation and Building a Regional Ecosystem,’ while ▲ Kangwook Kim, Dean of the College of AI (Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science), will present the development direction of key industries in the AI era through ‘The Map of Future Industries: AI Semiconductors and Future Game Changers.’

In addition, ▲ Kihong Park, Director of the 4-Polar 3-Special Sciences Innovation Project Group (Professor of Environmental and Energy Engineering), will introduce national balanced development and regional innovation policies under the theme "Coordinates of an Innovative Nation: 4-Polar 3-Special Sciences and Trans-regional Innovation Strategies," while ▲ Jae-won Kwak, Distinguished Professor at the Graduate School of AI Policy & Strategy, will discuss the harmony between technological advancement and human-centered values under the theme "Zeitgeist and Philosophy: The New AI Civilization and Human Coexistence."

In the final session, the "Grand Talk," Vice President for Public Affairs Yonghwa Chung will serve as moderator and lead a dialogue with the presenters under the theme "The Wave of Integration: GIST's Bold Advance Beyond Regional Limitations." Attendees are expected to engage in an in-depth discussion regarding science and technology-based regional innovation, trans-regional cooperation, and the role and vision GIST must fulfill.



▲ *A panoramic view of GIST and the Gwangju Advanced Technology District*

President Kichul Lim stated, “This forum is a venue to collectively contemplate the role science and technology can play in the region’s future growth and the strengthening of national competitiveness amidst the epochal changes of AI transition and super-regional integration.” He added, “I hope this serves as an opportunity for the local community, industry, academia, research institutes, and government to cooperate to discover new growth engines and build an innovation ecosystem.”

Meanwhile, taking this forum as an opportunity, GIST plans to fully launch policies for entrepreneurship and industry-academia collaboration linked to the launch of the Korea Institute of Entrepreneurship & Innovation, and further strengthen its role as a science and technology-based regional innovation hub. In particular, leveraging its research capabilities in AI, semiconductors, and energy, as well as its foundation for nurturing talent, GIST intends to actively participate in establishing future growth strategies for the Jeonnam-Gwangju Integrated Special City and creating an advanced industrial ecosystem, aiming to establish itself as a hub for science and technology innovation that drives regional and national competitiveness.