

POLAR-AI Research Center

**(Physical-AI Operated Locomotion and Autonomous Robotics
in Extreme Environments)**

**Postdoctoral Researcher
Recruitment Announcement**

April 2026

1 Appointment Overview

The InnoCORE Leading Research Consortium seeks to recruit outstanding domestic and international talent to help establish an effective R&D ecosystem for national strategic technologies through collaboration between the Science and Technology Institutes and general universities.

○ Recruitment Plan for Postdoctoral Researchers

Research Consortium	Consortium Director	Total Positions
Physical-AI Operated Locomotion and Autonomous Robotics in Extreme Environments (POLAR-AI Research Center)	Prof. Hyo Sung Ahn	25
Total		25

○ Mandatory Eligibility Requirements for LOI Submission

Category	Details
Position Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Postdoctoral Research Fellow: Must have received a doctoral degree within the past 5 years ※ Candidates whose doctoral degree was conferred more than five years ago may be considered exceptionally if they possess outstanding capabilities in the relevant field, subject to internal review by the Program Operations Committee.
Foreign National Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must meet eligibility requirements for E-3 visa application ※ (Eligibility) Holder of, or expected recipient of, a doctoral degree
General Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No restrictions on age or gender ○ Must have completed or been exempted from military service obligations as of the application deadline ※ For postdoctoral fellows, individuals meeting the criteria for transfer to specialized research personnel may apply, including those currently serving as specialized research personnel at a Science and Technology Institute through automatic transfer. ○ No legal barriers to overseas travel ○ Must not fall under disqualification provisions in the Science and Technology Institute personnel regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Individuals subject to Article 33 of the State Public Officials Act – Individuals subject to employment restrictions under Article 56 of the Act on the Protection of Children and Juveniles from Sexual Abuse – Individuals subject to employment restrictions under Article 82 of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission Act

Category	Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individuals who have not completed military service (excluding those with special exemptions), or those who have failed to fulfill military obligations under Article 76 of the Military Service Act - Individuals whose appointment was canceled or who were dismissed from another public institution due to fraudulent hiring, where fewer than five years have passed since such cancellation or dismissal

○ Preferential Consideration for International Talent

Category	Details
Preferred Candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ International Talent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Researchers who obtained a doctoral degree from an overseas university or research institution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e.g., MIT, ETH Zurich, and the University of Tokyo • as determined by the degree-awarding institution - Researchers currently or recently affiliated with an overseas institution (university, research institute, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • including postdoctoral fellows, research professors, and visiting researchers • including those planning to return to Korea or willing to enter Korea upon confirmation of appointment - Foreign nationals or former international students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those holding foreign nationality are regarded as international talent regardless of their current location. • - Domestic doctoral graduates who spent a substantial period (e.g., one year or more) at an overseas institution during their doctoral studies through joint research, internships, dual-degree programs, etc.

○ Important Notes for LOI Submission

Category	Details
Applicable Candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Postdoctoral researchers and non-tenure-track faculty affiliated with domestic universities ○ Contract researchers at government-funded research institutes
Submission Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Researchers currently affiliated with a domestic research institution may submit an LOI only with consent from their current institution. ○ LOI submission is permitted if one of the following conditions is met: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ① Current contract with the existing institution is set to expire within 3 months ② Current contract extends beyond 3 months but written consent from the existing institution (e.g., supervisor, PI, department head) has been obtained ※ Appointment may proceed only after the employment contract with the previous

Category	Details
	<p>institution has been fully terminated.</p> <p>→ Any overlap in working days between two institutions may be treated as unauthorized concurrent employment, and dual enrollment information in the national pension and health insurance systems is automatically reported, which may result in administrative penalties.</p>

○ Additional Notes

Category	Details
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The LOI submission process is managed separately by each Science and Technology Institute (KAIST, GIST, DGIST, and UNIST). Applicants must use the LOI submission link (POLAR-AI Research Center). ○ Applicants may submit LOIs to multiple research consortia; however, final appointment is limited to one InnoCORE consortium/project, and participation in two or more InnoCORE consortia/projects is not permitted.

2 Appointment Conditions

Category	Details
Work Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct employment under a labor contract with GIST; duties to be carried out in coordination with the assigned faculty mentor ※ Temporary assignment to a domestic partner university may be permitted for a specified period for collaborative research
Position (Grade)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full-time Postdoctoral Researcher ※ Annual contract, renewable for up to five years; the initial contract period will run through the end of December 2026
Compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KRW 90,000,000 per year (inclusive of statutory employer contributions, such as the four major social insurance premiums)
Expected Start Date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expected appointment from May 2026 onward
Mandatory Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No disqualifying factors under the applicable regulations

3 Appointment Procedure

- **Process: Steps ①–⑤ will be conducted on a rolling basis until the recruitment target of 25 positions is met.**

Stage	Description	Remarks
Stage ①: LOI Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete and submit the Letter of Intent (LOI) Submission Link: : https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TKM1zpBY46FGKfe2zUKUANOK4nK06faZ2uJ8hs2CI54/viewform?hl=ko&hl=ko&edit_requested=true 	Online Submission
Stage ②: Internal Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of submitted LOIs to determine interview candidates Consult on the assignment or reassignment of faculty mentors, as necessary If a disproportionate number of applicants are concentrated with a single faculty mentor, adjustments may be made through consultation between the consortium and the applicant. 	-
Stage ③: Interview Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interview schedules will be communicated individually after candidates are confirmed Interview candidates must submit additional documents, including a CV, research proposal, and letters of recommendation 	To Be Notified Individually
Stage ④: Consortium Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews will be conducted by the consortium (one to two rounds are planned) 	-
Stage ⑤: Final Candidate Selection and Verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final candidates confirmed and notified based on interview results Candidates must provide supporting documentation for the information stated in the LOI and CV The consortium will verify the authenticity of documents and review any disqualifying factors 	To Be Notified Individually
Stage ⑥: Final Appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment will proceed in accordance with the procedures of the institution with which the faculty mentor is affiliated Appointment documents and related information will be communicated individually 	

○ Required Documents

Document	Description	Remarks	
LOI	1 copy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete and submit the Google Form available through the submission portal electronically (POLAR-AI Link) 	All Applicants
Curriculum Vitae / CV	1 copy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free-format submission is acceptable in addition to the provided template 	Interview Candidates Only
Research	1 copy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free-format submission is acceptable in addition to the 	

Proposal		provided template								
Letters of Recommendation	2-3 copies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free-format submission is acceptable in addition to the provided template ※ A personal information collection and consent form is mandatory for letters of recommendation 								
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Eligible Recommenders (Examples)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Postdoctoral researcher at domestic university</td> <td>Supervisor, Principal Investigator (PI), Department Chair, or other relevant academic administrator</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-tenure-track faculty</td> <td>Department Chair or Principal Investigator (PI) at the institution</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contract researcher at government-funded institute</td> <td>Division head or institutional officer</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Eligible Recommenders (Examples)	Postdoctoral researcher at domestic university	Supervisor, Principal Investigator (PI), Department Chair, or other relevant academic administrator	Non-tenure-track faculty	Department Chair or Principal Investigator (PI) at the institution	Contract researcher at government-funded institute	Division head or institutional officer
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4 Final Appointment

Category	Details
Pre-appointment Verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The career history and any disqualifying factors of appointment candidates will be reviewed, and candidates without issues will be appointed as final hires. Candidates with identified issues may have their appointments rescinded. Even after final appointment confirmation or after the appointment date, the appointment may be cancelled if falsified career information, forged supporting documents, or grounds for disqualification under Article 33 of the State Public Officials Act are discovered. If a confirmed candidate becomes unreachable or is otherwise unable to complete the normal appointment procedures, the candidate will be deemed to have forfeited the appointment.
Final Appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postdoctoral researchers in the InnoCORE consortium will enter into a direct contract with the Science and Technology Institute of their choice and will be appointed in accordance with the personnel regulations and appointment procedures of that institution.

5 General Precautions

- **The LOI submission link may close early without prior notice depending on the status of postdoctoral recruitment.**
- **Once the LOI has been finally submitted, no modifications are possible. Please ensure that all personal information, the research consortium of interest, and all stated career details are accurate and can be substantiated before submission.**

- Applicants bear full responsibility for any disadvantages arising from errors or omissions in the LOI, failure to meet eligibility requirements, inability to be contacted, or failure to confirm interview notifications.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit the LOI in advance. Applicants bear responsibility for any submission failure due to system access errors or other technical issues.
- If the information stated in the LOI or CV does not match the supporting documents, if required supporting documents cannot be submitted, or if falsified supporting documents are submitted, the candidate may be removed from consideration or the appointment may be cancelled.

6 Contact Information

Research Consortium	Inquiries	Contact
POLAR-AI	polar-ai@gist.ac.kr	062-715-2779

Appendix

Detailed Information on the Research Consortium

Consortium Name	(POLAR-AI) Physical-AI Operated Locomotion and Autonomous Robotics in Extreme Environments		
Consortium Director	Prof. Hyo Sung Ahn (GIST)	Research Fields	Robot + Sensor + Battery + Communication
Participating Faculty Mentors	Prof. Ayoung Hong (Chonnam National University), Prof. Ki-Yong Oh (Hanyang University), Prof. Hyungbo Shim (Seoul National University) etc.		
Appointment Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Autonomous robot mobility ○ Sensors and PHM ○ Energy management system ○ Communication and system integration 		