Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

Official Press Release (https://www.gist.ac.kr/)

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1st Science & Technology Future Scenario Competition Contest held

☐ Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST, President Kiseon Kim) hosted the 1st Science & Technology Future Scenario Competition Contest on February 19, 2020, which was organized by the Ministry of Science and ICT.

※ (Date/Location) 2020.02.19 at 10:30 am in Seoul

∘ This contest was selected by GIST as part of Ministry of Science and ICT's 'Leading Technology Initiative (Science and Technology Projects to Open the Future),' which intends to create societal consensus and national science and technology related policies that will be needed for the future by imagining a future society in 2050.

∘ A public contest was held last year to stir people's interest in future technologies by imagining how economic/social situations may change with the development of science and technology.

☐ For this competition, a total of 413 possible scenarios were received, confirming the public's high interest in future technologies, and the final 10 winners were selected after a total of three stages of evaluation.

- 105 scenarios were selected after the first stage of expert evaluations, and 10 scenarios were selected through the second stage of expert evaluations, and the final ranking was determined through an online survey (1,045 participants).

☐ The grand prize (Minister of Science and ICT) was △ 'The Virtual Reality Artificial Intelligence (AI) that You Want,' which allows elderly people to escape from their sense of helplessness and depression through virtual reality-experience machines that provide virtual experience of difficult or desired situations.

  ◦ Additionally, works featuring various future technologies were selected among the 10 finalists, such as △ improving athletic ability by transplanting an artificial arm (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology Presidents's award) △ the utilization of an artificial uterus to solve the infertility problem △ reducing the gap between the rich and the poor (Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Creativity award).

☐ Meanwhile, GIST and the Ministry of Science and ICT will analyze the future technologies of the 431 proposed scenarios received through the contest in conjunction with existing prior research (future forecast reports, science fiction/film/drama analysis, etc.) to derive future focus technology development areas that reflect the needs of the people.

  ◦ The future technology sector will be used to establish science and technology policies, including planning new projects and deriving policy support.

☐ GIST President Kiseon Kim said, "This contest is of great significance to increase science and technology interest as well as creating policies that can be supported by the people and lead to a prosperous future society."

  ◦ He added, "I hope that science and technology will not only solve the various problems that are predicted for a future society but will also lead to policy support that has a good influence on the human race."

☐ GIST Dr. Dukjo Kong, who organized the contest, said, "Social conflict and uncertainty will increase in the future with the rapid development of science and technology. As a result, there is an urgent need to develop 'technologies for all,' which is not confined to just science and technology."

  ◦ He added, "I will work with the people to predict the future of society and solve future social problems with science and technology to create a happy future for everyone."

☐ Grand prize winner Bo-mi Kim said, "Whenever I am challenged by a new situation, I always thought it would be nice to practice so that I can prepare myself. I hope science and technology will continue to be developed to help many people."

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