

2024 GKS* Year-End Celebration

“Building a Bright Future with GKS Scholars”

- Over 170 participants attend the 2024 GKS Year-End Celebration, including GKS scholars, representatives from embassies in Seoul and universities.
- The event is a platform for recognizing academic excellence, showcasing student talent, and fostering global connections among GKS scholars.

* Global Korea Scholarship

The Ministry of Education (led by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Lee Ju-Ho) and the NIIED, National Institute of International Education (President Han Sang-shin) will organize the 2024 GKS Night of Year-End Celebration at the National Institute of International Education on December 18, 2024.

The Global Korea Scholarship, GKS, is the Korean government's flagship scholarship program that invites international students to obtain a higher education degree in Korea. Since its launch in 1967, it has supported over 17,532 students from 160 countries around the world by 2024.

The GKS Night of Year-End Celebration is held annually to both promote GKS scholars' pride and provide an opportunity for interaction among scholars, universities, and other stakeholders. This year's event will be attended by 170 foreign scholars, as well as ambassadors and diplomats from 15 countries, and university officials. It will include an award ceremony to celebrate and encourage the scholars' academic achievements, a special performance by the scholars themselves, a dialogue with alumni, and a dinner.

First, students with outstanding academic achievements this year will be

honored, and merit awards will be presented to outstanding partner institutions, such as universities. In addition, NIIED will also award the winners of "Study in Korea Promotion Video (short-form videos) Contest," organized by NIIED to spread positive awareness about studying in Korea.

※ Academic awards: three Grand Prizes, three representatives of the First Prize; Contest: one Grand Prize, and one First Prize

The event will be followed by a special K-pop performance given by the scholarship beneficiaries and a conversation with alumni who will share their experiences of studying abroad. It will conclude with a dinner where attendees can interact with each other.

< Quotes from award acceptance speeches >

| Award | Awardee (Institution) | Comment |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Academic Achievement Award | DAS ASHIM KUMAR, (Bangladesh, Kyungbuk National University) | <i>"Thank you so much for awarding me this great prize for my academic and research efforts. I will continue to dedicate myself to contributing to the international community."</i> |
| Institutional Achievement Award | Ajou University | <i>"Thanks to GKS, universities in Korea now have a greater opportunity to invite many more talented individuals from all around the world. Going forward, Ajou University will remain committed to thoroughly supporting international students' adjustment and their academic success throughout their stay in Korea."</i> |

President Han Sang-shin of NIIED said, "I hope this event serves as a platform where GKS scholars are celebrated for their achievements for this year, and an opportunity for them to renew their commitment to academic success in Korea by warmly engaging with one another."

Vice Minister Oh Seok-hwan of the Ministry of Education said in his congratulatory remarks that, "Korea is sharing its economic and societal development experiences, built through the power of education, with the

rest of the world to contribute to the development of human capital in the international community. Through GKS, we hope that the beneficiaries will contribute to the development of both countries and become leaders in global cooperation."

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