

## □ Brief History



Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) has developed into one of the best science and engineering colleges in Asia. KAIST was established under the name of Korea Advanced Institute of Science (KAIS) under a special law in February 16, 1971 as the first research oriented graduate school in science and engineering in Korea with the purpose of developing scientists and engineers to advance science and technology, develop R&D based on national policies and support national research/industries. In 1989, KAIST established the education/research system of special talents in science and engineering fields in bachelor, master and doctoral degrees, and KAIST has succeeded in greatly contributing to the innovation of science and technology and improving international competitiveness by serving as a model institute that advanced science and technology performs high-end research, and being the birthplace of venture companies.

KAIST was able to achieve its goals quickly by utilizing the tradition of special science and engineering fields, know-how and strengths accumulated on the basis of self-regulated and flexible academic affairs under the special law in a way to introduce the advance academic system that includes no-entrance exam applications, no class or department "core" system, research-oriented / quality-centered education, earth education, interdisciplinary education system operation, invited visitors of notable foreign professors, full lecture assessment system, stringent faculty personnel management by work assessment and others, obligatory publication of doctorate dissertation work in well known academic publications, minimal burden of lectures, research system, establishment of cyber university and other activities. KAIST has led other colleges and research institutions in Korea by its successful model operation and was verified by the ABET (USA, Higher Science Education Assessment Board) assessment (graduate course is within 10% of top US college level) in 1992, assessment of nationwide colleges by Joongang Ilbo (1995, 1998 ~ 2001: First position, 1995~2001: First in faculty and research fields for 7 consecutive years), and assessment of Asian colleges by Asiaweek (1999 ~ 2000: Number one in science and technology) and others.

For the past 30 years, KAIST has produced 7,018 bachelors, 15,624 masters, 5,758 doctorate holders (doctors under 30 years of age were 2,526, 44%) giving a total of 28,400 alumni. The thesis published in SCI (US, Science and Technology Quotation Thesis Search) journals reached approximately 4 articles per each faculty member, and the commissioned research grant was approximately 200 million won per each faculty, which is world-class level. The business start up by the alumni members reached approximately 368 companies in high-tech fields (as of Mar. 2003) and the famous scientific publications such as 「Nature」 (GB, July 1993) and 「Science」 (USA, October 1993) have assessed that, "KAIST has the potential to be the world best level education institution."

KAIST has established its vision for "World Class Research University" in a long-term development plan in 1994 for the structuring of research system and academic system in the future strategic field as well as developing the global leader of knowledge creation with international sense and competitiveness. Through the Vision 2010 initiative in December 2001 and foundation of the National Nano Lab in July 2002, the institution continues its commitment to the highest quality of education and research, achieving international level of education and research infrastructure, and securing core competency in national strategy-based technology to form KAIST into a world-class research-oriented university.

## □ Purpose

- ▷ Attracting the most talented students with great aptitude for science and technological fields and further cultivating their abilities, to create scientists and engineers who can develop new theories, models, and experiments to influence the world's understanding
- ▷ Fundamental and applied studies for national mid- to long-term R&D and developing stronger national science and technology
- ▷ Research support for other research institutions, industry and other establishments

## □ Educational Objective

By spearheading the effort to develop science and lead technological innovation through education and research, KAIST shall educate talents in science and technology fields to have excellent capacity and leadership so that they may contribute to the country and society, and display creative and practical minds.

## □ Timeline

- ▷ Feb. 16, 1971 Establishment of Korea Advanced Institute of Science (KAIS) (Hongneung Campus, Seoul)
- ▷ Mar. 05, 1973 First entrance ceremony for the master's program
- ▷ Aug. 20, 1975 First graduation ceremony for the master's program
- ▷ Sep. 12, 1975 First entrance ceremony for the doctoral program
- ▷ Aug. 19, 1978 First graduation ceremony for the doctoral program
- ▷ Dec. 31, 1980 Establishment of Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), in which KAIS is merged with KIST
- ▷ Dec. 31, 1984 Establishment of Korea Institute of Technology, newly added bachelor degree course
- ▷ Mar. 03, 1986 First entrance ceremony for Korea Institute of Technology
- ▷ Jun. 12, 1989 Separation from KIS
- ▷ Jul. 04, 1989 KAIST is merged with Korea Institute of Technology (relocation to Daedeok Campus)
- ▷ Dec. 17, 1990 First graduation ceremony for bachelor's program
- ▷ Oct. 01, 1996 Establishment of Korea Institute of Advanced Study