

GM and Partners Opens PACE Center at Kookmin University

- 5th university in Korea to have PACE center

- Invested over KRW 400 billion

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PACE (Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education), organized by global companies including GM to foster future automotive engineers and designers through industrial-educational cooperation programs, chose Kookmin University for the 5th Korean university to establish the PACE center. In celebration of the establishment, Kookmin University held an opening ceremony at the Grand Hilton hotel in Seoul today, joined by GM Korea Engineering executives including Greg Tyus, Vice President of GM Korea Engineering.

“The objective of PACE is to prepare students for jobs in the industry and make sure they are ‘hitting the ground running’ when recruited”, said the Vice President.

“Out of 2,500 engineers that joined Vehicle Engineering, Propulsion Systems and Design at GM Korea for the past 10 years, around 200 of them graduated from Kookmin University, and we expect the PACE center to educate more talented students for the automotive industry given the fact that GM is the biggest partner for PACE”

Established to educate future engineers for the Korean automotive industry, the PACE center will provide the students unprecedented research opportunities through highly expensive and crucial vehicle design software including NX, Alias Automotive, LS-DYNA and MSC Nastran & MSC Adams, and various engineering equipment.

Kookmin University successfully managed the RSMS (Reconfigurable Shared-Use Mobility Systems) project from August 2014 to June 2016. The University is currently working on the PUMA (Personal Urban Mobility Access) project, which began in August 2016 with a due date of July 2018.

“Since establishing Korea's first Automotive Engineering Department in 1992, the University has become the best automotive specialization university with both automotive IT and automotive design related departments” said, Ji-soo Yu, President of Kookmin University. “Through the PACE program, we are aiming to be an international model university for specialized education” .

PACE has been implementing diversified projects specified for each university's specialized education curriculums. The very first PACE center in Korea established in 2005 at Hongik University led design and engineering focused projects. In 2006, Korea University opened the second PACE center designed for engineering while Sungkyunkwan University was joined by the manufacturing engineering focused PACE center. The PACE center built at Inha University in 2010 features chassis/powertrain.

Investments have been made on a large scale to meet the global companies' standards. PACE invested KRW216.3 billion (\$211 million) in Hongik University in 2005. In 2006, KRW 177.6 billion (\$186 million) and KRW 272.1 billion have been invested in Korea University and Sungkyunkwan University respectively. Inha University attracted an investment of KRW 400 billion (\$340 million) in 2010. The newest PACE center at Kookmin University cost KRW 465 billion (\$398 million).

PACE was jointly established in 1999 by GM, EDS and Sun Microsystems to cultivate engineering and design capacities that are highly required in the real world automotive industry. Currently led by 5 big partner firms including GM, who plays a leading role, and Autodesk, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Siemens and Oracle, PACE also has 18 contributors from various industries who support the organization including Wacom and The Foundry. So far 65 centers have been established across 12 countries.

"As manufacturing company's worldwide move closer to Industry 4.0, it is more important than ever for academic institutions and educators to move beyond only CAD software and embed digitalization into their curriculum. Siemens PLM Software brings the world's leading technologies to students in Korea giving them a solid platform to pioneer the development of digital and intelligent manufacturing throughout the world." - Doo Hyun Kim, Vice President STS, Siemens PLM Software

"Autodesk congratulates Kookmin University in joining PACE. With access to the same design, visualization and virtual reality software from Autodesk used by every major automotive OEM worldwide, Kookmin University can now give students relevant skills and experience for their future careers. We are delighted to work with Kookmin University and General Motors to empower the next generation of engineers, manufacturers and product designers." - Andreas Kempenich, senior director global automotive team

"Hewlett Packard Enterprise's Product Lifecycle Management Practice is a long term partner in PACE, offering full support of the mission of PACE, and PLM services to clients world-wide serving customers across their eco-systems. HPE is pleased to expand our involvement in PACE with project management services to the PACE teams." - Rob Link, Executive Director, PLM Practice

Oracle VP of Sales Consulting Sanghyun Kim said, "Oracle congratulates Kookmin University on being selected to join PACE as 5th University in Korea. PACE has been at the forefront of transforming undergraduate Design and Engineering education

by applying intentional engagement with interdisciplinary and international collaboration, to create dynamic and exciting contexts for teaching, learning, and skill development. We believe the academic and industry collaboration will provide students with access to real-world technologies and experience and also providing a more complete educational experience that prepares them for their future careers.”

About GM Korea Company

GM Korea Company (GM Korea), which is based in Incheon, Korea, was established in 2002 and has about 17,000 employees. It operates four manufacturing facilities in Korea and represents one of only seven fully integrated design, engineering and manufacturing operations within GM. In 2015, GM Korea sold 158,404 units in Korea and exported about 1.3 million complete vehicles and vehicle kits to about 140 markets around the world. Since its launch, GM Korea has been contributing to Korea’s society and economy by investing more than KRW 1 trillion annually in new product development and facilities. GM Korea’s product lineup includes a range of Chevrolet products and the Damas and Labo mini-commercial vehicles. Additional information on GM Korea and its products can be found on the company’s website at www.gm-korea.co.kr.

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