

JULY  
2025

# ISUS UOS NEWSLETTER

International School of Urban Sciences  
University of Seoul

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# 01. ISUS: 97th Urban Infra Forum



On June 18, 2025, ISUS held the 97th and final Urban Infra Forum of the Spring Semester, offering a meaningful close to the season's series of expert-led discussions. This session focused on a relevant and thoughtful theme: *"The Current Status and Future Direction of Korea's Overseas Construction Industry."* Dr. Man-Hee Han, Chairman of the International Contractors Association of Korea and Former Dean of ISUS, served as the keynote speaker and shared his extensive expertise on the topic.



Dr. Han explored the evolution of Korea's overseas construction sector, tracing its growth from early development projects to its current status as a globally recognized player in infrastructure and engineering. He highlighted some of the industry's most significant achievements, including high-profile projects in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Africa. In addition, Dr. Han addressed key challenges now facing the sector—rising international competition, shifting economic conditions, and the growing demand for sustainable, tech-driven solutions.



His talk concluded with forward-looking strategies aimed at strengthening Korea's position in the global market, including sustainability initiatives and new regional partnerships. The forum concluded with an engaging Q&A session, capping off the spring series with thoughtful dialogue and fresh perspectives on the future of Korean infrastructure abroad. (J.T)

## 02.

## MUAP-17 Students Visit Yeosu for a Final Field Trip



As their unforgettable academic journey in Korea drew to a close, MUAP students set out on a final, heartfelt adventure to Yeosu on June 24, 2025. More than just a getaway, this field trip became a celebration of growth, friendship and the countless memories they had created over one year, and a gentle farewell to the country they had come to call a second home.

The trip began at the scenic Suncheon Bay National Garden and Wetland Reserve, where students immersed themselves in the serenity of one of Korea's most beloved ecological treasures. From there, the journey shifted from natural beauty to industrial marvels with an exciting tour of POSCO Gwangyang Steelworks.





After visiting feats of engineering at the Yi Sun-sin Bridge Exhibition Center and the Gwangyang Port Authority, a peaceful yacht tour along the coast offered a new perspective of Yeosu's beauty from the sea. Later, at Musulmok Beach, students laughed and played along the shoreline, creating moments that would linger long after the trip was over. The trip concluded at Aqua Planet Yeosu, where they were transported into the wonders of the underwater world.

The Yeosu trip wasn't just a final field trip, but it was a quiet, beautiful closing chapter marked by learning, laughter and lasting memories that would live on long beyond their journey together. (K.B)



# 03. MUDSIP Field Trip to Jeju Island



On July 2, 2025, MUDSIP students embarked on a three-day field trip to Jeju Island—an engaging conclusion to their semester. Planned as a distinct experience outside the classroom, the trip began with a scenic drive along the Dodu-dong Rainbow Coastal Road, where breathtaking views and Jeju’s unique coastal charm set the tone for the days ahead.

Beyond the scenery, the group visited the Jeju Free International City Development Center to learn how urban policy and planning are shaping the island’s future. The session led to meaningful conversations around sustainable development and regional strategy.





Cultural and recreational highlights rounded out the experience, including stops at the Jeju Aerospace Museum and the lush Osulloc Green Tea Garden, where students explored local industries in a more relaxed setting. The final visit to Seongsidol Ranch offered a peaceful glimpse into Jeju's rural landscape.

The field trip provided a thoughtful wrap-up to the semester—a chance to connect ideas from the program with real-world settings while enjoying one of Korea's most distinctive regions. (J.T)



# 04.

## MUD-8 Students Explore Nature, Culture and Innovation in Jeju



As summer vacation began, MUD students went on a memorable three-day field trip to Jeju Island from June 22 to 24, 2025. Known for its unique landscape and forward-thinking initiatives, Jeju offered the perfect setting for students to explore its cultural heritage and scenic beauty while enjoying time together.

The trip kicked off with immersive visits to the Arte Museum and the Bijarim Forest, where students experienced the harmony between nature, art and technology. At Seongsan Ilchulbong, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, they hiked to the crater's edge and took in breathtaking views of Jeju's coastal beauty. A visit to Eco Land provided another look into the island's preserved ecosystems and sustainable tourism practices.



Beyond the natural beauty, students dove deep into real-world examples of urban development and energy transition during visits to Aqua Planet and the Jeju Energy Corporation's CFI Energy Future Center.

From scenic hikes up Jeju's iconic Oreums to engaging discussions on innovative energy solutions, this field trip enhanced their understanding of cultural and environmental resources through on-site exploration of Jeju's major natural and urban development sites, making the experience both inspiring and educational. (K.B)



## 05. MGLEP Field Trip to Jeju Island



From July 3 to 5, 2025, MGLEP 10 and 11 cohorts traveled to Jeju Island for a three-day field trip that blended environmental learning with time in nature. The itinerary included guided visits to the Jeju Resource Circulation Center and the CFI Energy Hall, where students explored the island's renewable energy initiatives and waste management systems. These site visits sparked thoughtful discussions on how Jeju is addressing sustainability at the local level.





In between the educational stops, the group explored Eco Land by train and hiked up Seongsan Ilchulbong, a volcanic peak known for its sunrise views and geological significance. Both outings added a practical dimension to the themes of nature and development introduced earlier in the trip.

On the final day, the group gathered for a picnic at Jeolmul Forest Recreation Area—a leisurely way to end the semester and enjoy the fresh air. With a good mix of structured learning and time to connect outdoors, the field trip offered a memorable change of pace from the classroom and an opportunity to experience the beauty of South Korea’s most-visited island. (J.T)



## 06. GULP Completion Ceremony

In early July, participants of the Global Urban Leaders Program (GULP) gathered for a formal ceremony to celebrate the successful completion of their program. Held at the premises of Seoul Metropolitan Government, the event marked the end of an intensive academic and professional journey focused on urban policy, leadership, and sustainable development.



Some faculty members attended the ceremony to honor the participants' achievements. Speeches highlighted the cohort's collaborative spirit, commitment to learning, and engagement with real-world urban challenges. The event also served as a moment of reflection, as participants looked back on key milestones—from classroom discussions to extracurricular activities, especially with international students in other programs.

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The ceremony concluded with the presentation of certificates and a closing address by Dean Shin Lee, who urged graduates to apply the knowledge and perspective they had developed throughout the program. As they return to their respective countries and professional roles, GULP participants are now well-prepared to take on leadership in advancing more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development around the world. (J.T)



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## 07. MGLEP Students Participate in the 36th ISCET Program



From June 25 to 30, selected MGLEP students joined the 36th International Specialized Course on Environmental Technology (ISCET), organized by Korea's National Institute of Environmental Human Resources Development. Focusing on integrated water management, the program combined expert lectures and site visits to highlight practical, policy-linked solutions. The week-long training offered MGLEP participants valuable insights into sustainable water governance and encouraged reflection on applying adaptable strategies in their home countries. (J.T)



## 08. MUAP & GULP Meeting with Seoul Metropolitan Council

On July 4, 2025, MUAP and GULP international public officials participated in a special meeting with the Seoul Metropolitan Council held at Seoul City Hall. The visit provided students with valuable insight into local governance, the role of city council members and the intersection of policy and urban development.

The session opened with a warm welcome and introductions, followed by remarks from Professor Shin Lee, Dean of ISUS, and Councilor Sangwook Lee of the Seoul Metropolitan Council. The program featured discussions, Q&A sessions and engaging presentations from MUAP and GULP representatives Dolly Anne Zoluaga, Yohanes Andreas and Lovia Afoakwa.

The event was an opportunity for participants to exchange knowledge and engage in meaningful dialogue with Seoul's city leaders, and to strengthen international collaboration and public policy understanding. (K.B)



# 09.

## Alum of the Month: Jin PARK (GC 6)

Jin Park, who graduated from ISUS in 2021 with a major in Global Construction Management, has been working in the Philippines since May 2025 as Deputy Representative of the Overseas Business Division at Saman Corporation. He is engaged in infrastructure development projects and actively promotes knowledge sharing through seminars and training programs with local institutions.



### 1. We heard that you are currently working in the Philippines. Could you briefly introduce your current work and your role there?

Thank you for your kind request and an opportunity to share my daily work and life here in the Philippines. I am a deputy representative of our branch office, trying to develop infrastructure projects with various stakeholders and MDSs. Also, I am taking care of our branch office management and various issues arise during carrying out projects such as employing local engineers and corresponding unfamiliar requirements like tax issues.

Adding to a conventional work scope mentioned above, I am trying to share ideas and references what we have experiences in Korea and our efforts to innovate domestic construction industry by conducting technology seminars and training sessions with authorities like DPWH and Universities such as PUP.



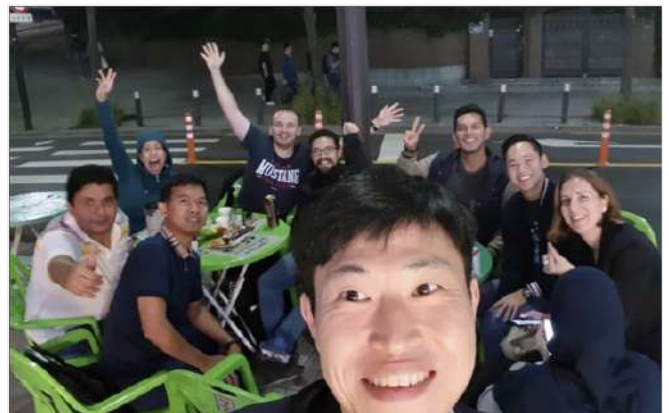
## 2. Have you encountered any particular challenges while working abroad?

Fortunately, there was no challenges encountered until now. Everything is new to me, but everyone is kind and supportive. Oh, some food does not work with me but I am not so sure what exactly it is. That is only one challenge which requires time and endurance.



## 3. How did your experience at ISUS help prepare you for the work you are doing now?

During the time with ISUS, I was able to gain basic and practical knowledge about a variety of aspects of infrastructure industry which I was not able to experience at my workplace unless I am actually carrying out as my role and responsibility. Based on this foundation, I managed to communicate with partners corresponding different interest and concerns they have and figure out solutions based on the experiences learning and communicating with our friends of ISUS.



**4. Do you have any plans or ideas for building stronger ISUS alumni connections in your region?**

I met former dean of ISUS, Prof. Han before coming in to the Philippines, and was told that it is needed to establish a regular meeting with our alumni in the Philippines. I found it is not easy to organize remotely from Korea, so I have requested alumni contact list to our faculty and sent Email to start communicate with them in here directly. We will start ISUS regional meeting with whom replied to me first and it will be expanded covering all alumni here in the Philippines.

**5. Lastly, is there anything you'd like to share with fellow alumni, current students, or ISUS faculty?**

I would like to say that everything learning from ISUS is a real even though we may have not experienced at our workplace. And our network is stronger than we might have expected in Seoul. Let us be a part of designing and making a new path way connecting the globe with shared idea and passion at the heart of ISUS.



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