Korea SNU, STEPI seminar

Wednesday, February 19, 2020
1:30 pm – 3:00pm | MC 4-140

Chair

- William Maloney, Chief Economist, Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions
- Denis Medvedev, Practice Manager, Firms, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation, FCI

Presenters

- Chi Ung Song, Senior Research Fellow and Vice President of Korea’s Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI)
- Junseok Hwang, Professor of Information Science and Telecommunications at Seoul National University (SNU) and Director in SNU’s College of Engineering

Discussants

- Roberta V. Gatti, Chief Economist, Human Development

Overview

Korea is one of the few countries that successfully developed from among the poorest countries in the world to become a high income and knowledge-intensive economy. Once a poor, agrarian economy and then an assembly manufacturer, Korea is now known for high-tech companies that export memory chips, smart phones and advanced ships. It is now a global leader in innovation and technology, considered the world’s most innovative country according to the Bloomberg Innovation Index (2019).
and having the second highest level of human capital according to the World Bank’s Human Capital Index. The country’s transformation was made possible by prioritizing the promotion of innovation and technology and by investing in human capital, in particular in science and technology and tertiary education. Vice President Chiung Song of Korea’s Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI) will talk about Korea’s science and technology policies and the promotion of technological innovations. Professor Junseok Hwang of Seoul National University’s School of Engineering and the director of the technology management program will address SNU’s science and technology programs and ongoing efforts to prepare its student to rapid technology advancements. STEPI and SNU are both participating in the ongoing Korea Innovation Week.

About the Speakers

Chi Ung Song is the Senior Research Fellow and Vice President of Korea’s Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI). Previously, he was the Chief Director of Division for Global Innovation Strategy of STEPI. Vice President Song specializes in global cooperation in science, technology and innovation and the economics of technology and innovation. He was a visiting scholar at CISTP (Center for International Science and Technology Policy) of the George Washington University in 2014. Vice President Song has been a key member of various academic societies, including the Korea Productivity Association (editorial board), the Korea Society for Innovation Management and Economics (member of board) and International Association of Area Studies (Vice President), and he also served as an expert advisor for Presidential Advisory Council on Education, Science and Technology.

Junseok Hwang is a professor of Information Science and Telecommunications at Seoul National University (SNU) and Director of the International Technology Professional Program, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program of Technology Management Economics and Policy in SNU’s College of Engineering. Professor Hwang works on global ICT trends and policies and promotion of entrepreneurship. He recently authored a seven book series (in Korean), Digitalogy. He is the program director of SNU’s International Technology Professional Program (ITPP) in SNU, an education and training program for technology policy and management aimed at developing countries.

For questions, please contact Suran KC Shrestha <sshrestha8@worldbank.org>