



# 2023 KOREA VIETNAM

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Alabama Educators International Convention  
July 24 - August 2, 2023

# THANK YOU FROM G.E.I.

Dear Alabama Delegates,

I am the chief Executive Director and a founder of the Global Education Institute (GEI) in Alabama. As a co-coordinator of the 2023 Alabama Educators International Convention (AEIC), I want to express my sincere gratitude for your participation in the recent visit to Korea and Vietnam. It was a great honor and privilege to have your participation in this important mission to strengthen our economic and cultural ties with these two dynamic and fast-growing countries.

Your presence and contributions were invaluable in making this Convention and visit successful. You demonstrated the best of Alabama's spirit, innovation, and leadership in every meeting, event, and interaction. You also showed genuine interest and respect for Korea and Vietnam's people, culture, and history, which our hosts and partners greatly appreciated.

I hope you enjoyed the visit as much as I did and that you gained new insights, connections, and opportunities that will benefit your organizations in the future. I also hope you had some fun and memorable experiences along the way. Thank you again for your participation and support. You are vital to Alabama's global outreach and engagement, and I look forward to working with you on future initiatives.

Global Education Institute LLC (GEI) is a newly formed Recruiting Agency in Waverly, Alabama, with liaison offices in Korea and Vietnam. GEI works as an international recruiting and marketing agency in partnership with the Alabama International Education and Economic Partnership, AIEEP, formerly known as AKEEP, a few selected Alabama Universities and private K12 schools to bring students to study in Alabama.





# THANK YOU FROM AIEEP/AKEEP

Dear All,

I am Meesoon Han, Executive Director and co-founder of Alabama Korea Education and Economic Partnership (AKEEP) and Alabama International Education and Economic Partnership (AIEEP). I appreciate numerous professionals' facilitation, delegates' enthusiastic participation, and host organizations' hospitalities that made the 2023 International Convention a success. The most gratitude should go to the other co-founder and retired Senator Gerald Dial for making the Convention smooth despite challenges! His care for the education of and for immigrants and international business' economic prosperity in Alabama has been critical to the mission and proven through AKEEP's successful outcome over the decade.

Working with the Korean Ministry of Education brought successful development of the STEM Educators Program, and the joint projects between Korean national universities and Alabama universities have produced fruitful outcomes and continue. Still, such partnerships have been limited to national universities. For the 2023 International Convention, I have decided to work with a private recruiting and marketing company to establish new partnerships with private universities in Korea, to open untapped international markets, including Vietnam, and to work effectively and efficiently in unknown international markets.

Global Education Institution (GEI) is an Alabama business whose primary mission is supporting Alabama's organizations and resides in Waverly, Alabama. Choosing GEI was not only to share recruiting and marketing responsibilities, but working with GEI became more critical when facing unforeseen challenges during the Convention period. Therefore, I was able to share unforeseen responsibilities with GEI.

Thanks to cohesive 2023 delegate members, the 2023 Convention was truly successful, experienced miracles of resurrection, and established strong new partnerships with private and public universities in Korea and Vietnam. Again, I appreciate everyone's renewed support for continued success.



# STRENGTHENING DELEGATES



**Mr. Arthur Orr**  
**State Senator**

Chairman of the Committee  
for the State Finance  
Taxation, Education, and  
General Funds



**Dr. Tim Melson**  
**State Senator**

Former Chairman of  
the Committee for the  
Education Policy and  
Current Chairman of  
Healthcare



**Mr. Bobby Singleton**  
**State Senator**

Minority Leader of the Senate  
and the Ranking Member of  
the Committee for the  
Agriculture, Forestry, and  
Conservation



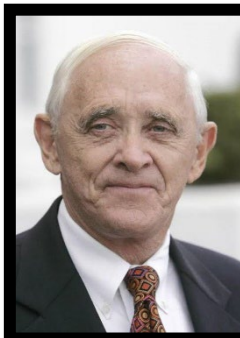
**Mr. Steve Livingston**  
**State Senator**

Chairman of the Permanent  
Joint Legislative  
Committee on Finance &  
Budget and Confirmations



**Mr. Donnie Chesteen**  
**State Senator**

Chairman of the Committee  
for the Education Policy and  
Vice Chair for the Veterans  
and Military Affairs



**Mr. Gerald Dial**  
**Senate, Retired**

Served in the Senate for 40  
years, Retired Brigadier  
General, and AIEEP /  
AKEEP Co-Founder



**Mr. Erik Estill**  
**Executive Director**

LEAD Academy,  
Montgomery  
1st Public Charter School  
in Montgomery, Alabama



**Dr. Ken Tucker**  
**President**

President of the  
University of West  
Alabama (UWA)





**Dr. Mark Davis**  
**Dean**

International Affairs,  
University of West  
Alabama (UWA)



**Dr. Stacye  
Fraser  
Thompson**  
**Coordinator**

International Programs,  
Jefferson State  
Community College

## ORGANIZER



**Ms. Meesoon Han**  
**Executive Director**

Alabama International Education and Economic Partnership  
Alabama Korea Education and Economic Partnership  
(AIEEP / AKEEP)

## Facilitation and Marketing Agency



**Ms. Grace  
EJ Lee**  
**CEO/Founder**  
Global Education  
Institute (GEI)  
Alabama,  
USA Headquarters



**Mr. Paul Cho**  
**Korea Representative**  
Global Education  
Institute ASIA  
Headquarters  
GEI ASIA –  
Recruiting Agent



**Mr. In Jun Choi**  
**Vietnam GEI**  
Representative  
**Recruiter**



**Ms. An Hai An**  
**Vietnam GEI**  
Coordinator







## OBJECTIVES OF THE ALABAMA EDUCATORS CONVENTION

- ✓ To introduce Alabama K-12 Education and Higher Education systems.
- ✓ To introduce Alabama International Education and Economic Partnership, including AIEEP / AKEEP Programs and STEAM Educators Program.
- ✓ To strengthen existing partnerships.
- ✓ To improve career opportunities and benefit economic prosperities.
- ✓ To improve the educational environment and benefit the students and communities.

## GOALS OF THE 2023 ALABAMA EDUCATORS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN KOREA & VIETNAM

- ✓ To establish new educational partnerships in Korea and Vietnam.
- ✓ To demonstrate collaborative efforts to and for potential partners.
- ✓ To enrich relationships with partner institutions in Korea and Vietnam.
- ✓ To strengthen ongoing programs to harvest productive outcomes.
- ✓ To recruit and exchange educators and interns for the AIEEP's mission.





## 2023 HIGHLIGHT PRESENTERS

The President, Dr. Ken Tucker, and the Dean, Dr. Mark Davis, attended and presented highlights of the UWA programs and academic programs to hosting universities and institutions in Korea and Vietnam.



*The* UNIVERSITY of  
WEST ALABAMA

UWA established a new partner relationship with SahmYook University and AKEEP, a 3-way MOU, during the International Convention on August 25, 2023. Dr. Mark Davis stressed the teacher shortage in the United States and Alabama during his UWA presentation.

Ms. Meesoon Han presented the mission and programs of AIEEP/AKEEP, especially the STEM Educators Program, which lays out pathways to convert their Foreign Teaching Certificates to Alabama's

Teaching Certificates and improve their global career opportunities.



**A-KEEP**  
ALABAMA-KOREA  
EDUCATION AND  
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP







## 2023 PRESENTERS



Mr. Erik Estill is the Executive Director and Headmaster of LEAD Academy (LEAD), the first public charter school in Montgomery County and the third public charter school in Alabama.

LEAD's mission is to provide innovative programs designed to spark curiosity, maximize learning potential, and continuously improve student achievement by empowering them with 21st-century skills. LEAD partners with AKEEP/AIEEP and supports various programs. They assist in Korean Educator Programs, including teacher internship programs, summer camp programs, and

regular academic semesters. He presented the Alabama K12 education.

During his presentation, he shared various facts about Alabama, Alabama's public education system, including student demographics and geographic perspectives, educational and financial data sources – the overall K-12 Education System, and the Shortage of STEAM field teachers in Alabama and the rest of the U.S.A.

LEAD Academy has adopted Korean as its official foreign language, while most Alabama public schools provide Spanish as their primary foreign language. They also host and sponsor the National Security Agency's K-Wave Club for all interested students beyond their students without boundaries.







## 2023 PRESENTERS

### Jefferson State Community College



Dr. Stacye Fraser Thompson is a Coordinator of International Student Services at the Jefferson State Community College in Birmingham, Alabama. She presented JSCC's programs designed on a foundational common core for transfer for Alabama Universities for the Bachelor tracking to professional programs (2+2). She added that Jefferson SCC is perfect for international students to stay focused on academic goals and enjoy Alabama's beautiful nature and Southern cultures.

### Study Alabama

*"With 21 colleges and universities and over 500 foreign direct investment businesses, Alabama is an ideal setting for students and scholars worldwide."*



Dr. Stacye Fraser Thompson has enjoyed every day of the Convention, visiting universities and institutions in Korea and Vietnam to establish partnerships for future collaboration opportunities to advance global participation in this organization's missions.







# HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS

## SAHMYOOK UNIVERSITY

SahmYook University partnered with over a hundred universities and schools worldwide to benefit their students. We prepared for this solid opportunity and partnership over several months and concluded a 3-way official MOU between SahmYook, AKEEP, and UWA during the Convention.

After the meeting and signing the educational MOU ceremony, the delegates enjoyed a tour of the beautiful, historical, and eco-friendly campus.



Dr. Ken Tucker of UWA and Dr. Mark Davis have had extensive discussions with SahmYook for joint programs. President Dr. In Mok Kim of SahmYook University has extended a warm welcome to our AIEC delegates. SahmYook students cooked innovative and nutritious vegan lunches for the delegates.

The University of West Alabama is the new partner of SahmYook University, and we look forward to enriching the educational benefits.







# HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS



## Dong Seoul University (DSU)

DSU is a 2-year college with concentrations in innovative technologies and on-the-job training in

partner corporations in Seoul, Korea. Their "holistic education with both personality and technology" brings their graduates successful careers.

This career-oriented college provided opportunities to partner with Alabama's colleges and universities for 2+2 and other programs.



## Woong Jin "Think Big"

"WoongjinThinkBig" strives to create new values in the educational culture through creativity and innovation with the motto: a 10-year look-ahead.

Woongin's AR (Augmented Reality) and AI software, educational tools, is a well-developed program for children of all ages, including STEAM education for Alabama schools. Their demonstration impressed all delegate members with how far Korea's STEM education has advanced.







# Cultural Experiences



The 8-day trip was packed with meeting schedules, but we couldn't miss out on cultural experiences of sightseeing, shopping, and tasting authentic Korean and Vietnamese FOOD!

**Kukkiwon**, the World Taekwondo Headquarters, offered a special demonstration, and their performance was a thrilling treat for us!







# HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS

## HCMC University of Education



AIEC visited Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to introduce the Alabama International Education and Economic Partnership and the University of West Alabama and establish a partnership. All delegates appreciated the hospitality from four (4) hosting universities and institutions. They are all eager to learn about Alabama and the United States educational system and provide their students with global career opportunities via the AIEEP STEM Educator Program.

The meeting with the President, faculty, and staff of HCMC (Ho Chi Minh City) University of Education successfully established a partner relationship with Alabama.

HCMC University of Education influences and contributes to Vietnam's teacher training and implements the online learning system in Vietnam. E-Portal supports Student Training, Teacher Training, Staff Training, and Public Training.

We look forward to collaborating for mutual benefit.







# HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS

## FPT University

FPT University, operated by the FPT Corporation, is one of the largest private universities in Vietnam, with campuses throughout Vietnam. FPT Universities have over 50,000 students, and 100% have international experiences and foreign internship semesters before graduating with a Bachelor's Degree.



**MOU  
signing  
Ceremony.  
AIEEP, GEI,  
and FPT  
University**







# HOSTING ORGANIZATIONS

## Industrial University, Ho Chi Minh City

Industrial University, Ho Chi Minh students must take foreign languages and computer science courses and retain the skills.

Being close to industry, students have opportunities to practice at partner businesses and corporations, especially at foreign-invested companies, where they can directly see new technologies applied in manufacturing, develop practical skills, and be familiar with the modern working environment.



## Vietnam Association of Higher Education



The Institute of Communication and Human Resource Development, a unit under the Vietnam Association of Universities and Colleges with over 400 members nationwide, which is equal to the Commission on Higher Education in the United States, established an educational relationship with AIEEP.

Communication and Training for International Cooperation and Career Development is the unit's primary mission and function.



We established another great relationship and agreed to strengthen cooperation and benefit each other by providing career opportunities and improving education.



2023  
KOREA  
VIETNAM



## Alabama Educators International Convention Contributors



**TRƯỜNG ĐẠI HỌC FPT**

