

Dear Second, Third, and Fourth Year students,

Every day we enjoy autumn sunshine, yet it has been sensed that cold wintertime is approaching fast. Hope that all of the students of IUT are healthy and safe under the circumstances of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

As has been so far, it is the eighth week of the Fall semester when we are all scheduled to take the mid-term exams. The only difference in this semester is that all the exams are held online due to the viral impact of COVID-19. There have been lots of discussion among professors together with the Academic Affairs department since the beginning of the Fall semester in order to continue to hold the midterm and final exams as fair as possible. Based on the discussions, the midterm exams were specially designed and prepared to meet the requirements of IUT academic rules and regulations, aiming to keep the fairness of exams despite the fact that the midterm exams are held online. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank all IUT professors for their full efforts and dedication toward achieving the goal of a prestigious university with high quality of education.

Despite these committed efforts of professors and staff, it was a very disappointing and devastating incident that many first-year students have been involved in misconduct behaviors and academic cheating while taking their first-ever midterm exams at IUT. They shared and even openly published the answers to the midterm exams through the official Telegram channel of IUT, which is absolutely not tolerable at all.

Please be informed that due to this unexpected and disgraceful incident, the decision for the first-year courses (both SOCIE and SOL) was made to cancel the remaining midterm exams and nullify those exams taken Monday and Tuesday. **Please further note that the remaining midterm exams for higher-year courses (2nd, 3rd, and 4th-year courses) shall be taking place as scheduled.** I would like to ask for your understanding and support for the decision we made.

We will make a full investigation of this case in a quick and clear manner and then take appropriate and necessary measures for the students involved in the misconducts and academic cheating.

Sincerely yours,

First Vice Rector

Dongwon Lee