

# Congratulatory Speech

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Superintendent of GMOE

I would like to give my earnest and heartfelt congratulations to the 2011 Global English Teachers' Association Conference. It is my honor to give a congratulatory speech on this conference.

Global English Teachers' Association, also known as GETA, was founded in 1995. The mission has been to help ESL scholars, as well as elementary and secondary school teachers, to promote English education in Korea. Since then, GETA has contributed greatly to the development of English education in and around Korea. As Superintendent of Gwangju Metropolitan Office of Education, I would like to express my gratitude for the assistance that GETA has provided to English teachers in the city of Gwangju.

To promote the development of English education, Gwangju Metropolitan Office of Education has built an English-friendly learning environment. For example, English Experience classrooms and English Only classrooms at elementary schools and secondary schools. These facilities help the students learn English in a comfortable atmosphere. In addition, we have a variety of English Immersion Camps and Distance Video English classes that help develop students' communication skills.

GMOE also has promoted effective training programs for English teachers. These programs, which have been continuously implemented, also further develop English teachers' communication skills. This will help promote the practice of teaching English in English as well.

The strengthening of English education cannot be done by the endeavors of one person alone. It will only become successful when everyone involved comes together to share their time, experiences and effort. I believe this conference will play an important role in building an English education system that all parents, students and teachers can be proud of.

Once again, It is my honor to congratulate all of you on the 2011 GETA International Conference. I sincerely hope that you will find this conference informative and enjoyable. Thank you.