

Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

Position: Vice President

Name: Min Huh

Affiliation: Chonnam National University, Republic of Korea

Nominating Organization:
Geological Society of Korea



Biography:

I am Dr. Min Huh, a professor in the Department of Geology at Chonnam National University in the Republic of Korea. My educational journey in geology began at Chonnam National University, where I received my bachelor's degree in 1982. I continued my studies at Seoul National University, earning an MS in Sedimentology in 1986, followed by a Ph.D. in Paleontology from Korea University in 1991. After completing my doctoral studies, I undertook a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Wales in the UK. My research interests focus on vertebrate paleontology, particularly studies on dinosaur and pterosaur fossils, as well as microfossils such as ostracods. I am also deeply committed to natural heritage, actively engaging in geopark investigation and conservation. My work encompasses diverse areas including geoparks, world heritage sustainability, and climatic environmental studies.

Throughout my career, I have authored over a hundred academic publications in paleontology and geology. Currently, I am the Director of the Korea Dinosaur Research Center at Chonnam National University and hold the title of Honorary Fellow at the Geological Society of London. I also serve as an Honorary Professor at the College of Paleontology at Shenyang Normal University, China. My leadership roles have included serving as President of both the Paleontological Society of Korea and the Geological Society of Korea, as well as Vice President of Chonnam National University. My expertise in geoparks is recognized through my roles as a geopark expert at the Ministry of Environment in Korea and a national representative of the Korea Geoparks Network.

My international involvement includes serving as Co-Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the 37th International Geological Congress 2024, where I played a

key role in securing Busan, Korea, as the host city. I have also been deeply involved in various UNESCO projects, including my roles as Co-Director and Scientific Advisor of Mudeungsan UNESCO Global Geopark since 2018, and previously as President of the Revalidation Committee of UNESCO Jeju Global Geopark in 2014. Since 2010, I have advised on the evaluation and revalidation of several National and Global Geoparks, such as Jeju UGGp, and aspiring geoparks in Busan, Korea, the Gobi Desert in Mongolia, and Mount Popa in Myanmar. My recent missions have included evaluations in Cabo de Gata-Nijar UGGp in Spain, Lixia and Leye-Fengshan UGGps in China, and I am a current member of the Advisory Committee of the Asia Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN).

Statement:

I, Min Huh, am honored to be nominated as Vice-President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). My commitment is to represent the global geological community with dedication, bridging academic and non-academic groups. Drawing upon my extensive experience with UNESCO projects and my roles within international geological circles, I am uniquely positioned to enhance collaborations between IUGS and UNESCO-affiliated geological entities. If elected, my priority will be to foster robust international cooperation, leveraging these relationships to advance our collective goals in geoscience education, conservation, and sustainable development.