

# **New national secondary science curriculum reform in Korea and trends and issues of international science curriculum for the 21st century**

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There have been seven revisions of the national curriculum since 1948 in Korea. Each revised national curriculum was strongly influenced by educational trends and issues. A new 7th revised curriculum will gradually come into effect for all grades from March 2000 through March 2004. The purpose of this study will be to investigate the major components of the 7th national secondary science curriculum and to describe international trends and issues in secondary science education.

The method of this study will be descriptive research. The direction, goals, and organization of the 7th secondary science curriculum will be analyzed and compared with 6th national science curriculum. In addition, the major components, trends, and issues of the secondary science curriculum for the 21st century will be described by the survey with the worldwide geoscience educators who will participate in the 3rd International conference on geoscience education in Australia in January 2000.

The questionnaires will be collected using direct contacts with the conference participants, and be e-mailed after the conference. Responses to the questions will analyzed as follows: (a) the items in each question will be rank ordered by mean scores and a calculated Spearman rank-order correlation (*rho*), and (b) responses to the trends and issues of the curriculum will be analyzed by content analysis.