

Student Associates from GTU Innovation Council actively participated in TiEcon, 2018 - Ahmedabad

Date: 9th March, 2018

Venue: Hyatt Regency, Ahmedabad

TiEcon:

TiEcon is a yearly flagship event by TiE, presenting the largest and most exciting platform for entrepreneurs and investors to come together, innovate and move ahead, together. TiEcon is one of the largest entrepreneurial conferences with the consideration to aggregate the entrepreneurs from the established economy with the new age economy. TiEcon provides the platform to network and learn from Industry Luminaries, VCs, successful entrepreneurs and experienced executives. Delegates gather to create and examine the evolving businesses and new models that are radically transforming the landscape of entrepreneurship & organizations. A forum to get connected with the mentors, to identify co-founders, to showcase ideas, get inspired and motivated.

A total of 20 associates attended the event and networked with more than 50 people, contributing a small part to the ecosystem. The main objective was to learn from experienced people, interact with them and expand their horizon.

ABOUT THE EVENT:

The event mainly focused on sectors like Fin Tech, Industry 4.0, Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Story sessions, investments, etc. Experts from various fields having immense knowledge were given a platform to share their views in front of great entrepreneurs, startups, business people and those willing to contribute something to the society of innovation.

The event commenced with a welcome session by Mr. Chirag Patel (President and Founder and CEO at Net4Nuts, TiE Ahmedabad) followed by a session with Mr. Parthiv Patel (Indian

Cricketer). The next session included the discussion of story of QuickHeal AntiVirus by Mr. Kailash Katkar (Founder, QuickHeal). He started on how he had started learning hardware at a very small age and the immense support he received since he was handed over the firm which his chief had owned. The struggle he had faced when his interest shifted from hardware to software was worth noting. The most inspiring thing about the story was that he never said NO to learning.

FINTASTIC – INNOVATIONS IN FINTECH:

The session was a panel discussion regarding Fin Tech taken over by Mr. Sumit Karanji (Co-founder, Don't Scratch Your Head), Mr. Rohit Agrawal (Vice President, Head e-commerce Business, Kotak Mahindra Bank), Mr. Mihir Joshi (CEO, GVFL) and Mr. Satyen Kothari (Founder, Cube, an award winning mobile banking service). The discussion included various scenarios in Fin Tech and how they can be looked at. In a world where users are overwhelmed by innovative digital products and services, what we believe is there's a need to simplify the complexity by offering reliable and accessible information, in order to put technology at the service of people and help them choose what really meets their needs and to bring consumers and businesses closer to Fintech. That can be achieved by classifying innovative financial services in categories that meet the real needs of people. It included things like finding leakages on e-commerce platform and try to solve them and in turn help their clients, how they can manage money with zero efforts, etc.

INDUSTRY 4.0 – FUTURE OF FACTORIES:

This session was regarding a growing topic in the present world 'Industry 4.0'. It was a discussion amongst Mr. Khalil Nathani (Rockwell Automation), Mr. Santosh Bannur (Head of Technical services, TATA motors), Mr. Shirish Divgi (MD, Milacron India Pvt. Ltd.) and Mr. Yatindra Sharma (MD, KHS India). Industry 4.0 describes a new way of organizing the means of production setting up "smart" factories, where everything is done through interactions between products and machines, and between the machines themselves, all linked together over a network that is, in turn, connected to the outside world (instantaneous, continuous communication).The

most important message was ‘To excel, innovation and marketing always helps’. Many new inventions have been done since past 10 years and among them are Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, etc. and those are considered the elements of Industry 4.0. IOT will play a major role in generating solutions for more machines in near future. They discussed how it all started as a fancy but gradually, real business challenges were faced in the industry and they can only be solved if the information reaches right people at the right time in the right form.

BIG DATA AND ANALYTICS – HYPE VS REALITY:

It was a panel discussion on “Big Data and Analytics” and how a big hype is generated in this sector and what the actual reality is. The speakers of this session were Mr. Aakash Shah (Director Sales, eClinicalWorks), Mr. Debjit Roy (Associate Professor, IIM Ahmedabad), Mr. Hindol Basu (CEO, Actify Data labs) and Mr. Rajeev Baphna (Founder & CEO, Analyttica Datalab Inc.). The current mindset that concepts like Bigdata, AI & ML, etc. are newer was opposed by them. They explained the use of such concepts since last hundreds of years. The main objective of using such inventions in business is to use data for thriving outcomes, enhance revenue or residual cost and many more. The fact of the matter is big data is not new. Enterprise organizations have been working with extremely large data sets for decades, combing through the mountains of information contained within their repositories to gain insight into customers, their buying habits and demographics. Mr. Debjit talked about the linkages between data and business and how can they come up with rules to leverage and create newer and better business models. Once big data is analyzed, trends can be revealed, correlations can be determined and business can run more efficiently. Mr. Aakash threw a light on the economic value of data by taking some use cases like use of GPS for driver safety, reduce accidents and not just the original use. Topics like predictive data, role of technology, interoperability, value of ML in technology, etc was also talked about.

MANAGING STARTUPS IN A VUCA WORLD:

Post the big data and analytics session, after a lunch break and some interaction of the anchor with attendees, Mr. Pramod SadarJoshi (Sr. Director- APAC HCM Strategy & Transformation, Oracle India Pvt. Ltd.) took over a session on how to “Manage startups in a VUCA world”. He started with a simple video which helped everyone understand the meaning of VUCA i.e. (V-Volatility, U-Uncertainty, C-Complexity, A-Ambiguity). It relates to how people view these conditions under which they make decisions, plan forward, manage risks, foster change and solve problems. It was really inspiring how someone can be so perfect in giving examples, engaging audience and making them understand the actual situation.

INVESTOR PANEL – INSIGHTS INTO STARTUP FUNDING

The session was taken over by Mr. Anirudh Damani (Managing Partner, Artha Venture Fund), Mr. Arjun Handa (VC and MD, Claris Lifesciences), Ms. Neha Agrawal (Head of Startups, HDFC bank) and Mr. Prashant Halari (Co-founder & CEO, Synoverge Technologies Private Limited). Neha Agrawal introduced SmartUp as a tool to assist someone in achieving their startup goals with smart financial tools, smart advisory services and technology. Mr. Anirudh Damani gave the reports of the fund launch surfaced a few months back in 2017, the fund is still awaiting the final nod of SEBI to receive a category - I license and how his Venture have already received over 100 startup investment proposals, which we are hoping to convert into 10-12 investments in a year. They talked about the factors which an investor wants in a startup so that they get maximum returns and the most important thing they note is the vision, clarity and capability of the startup. An example of OYO rooms was taken, how the investor-startup relation should be even after having market valuation of \$100 billion.

STORY OF GUJARAT EXITS

The interaction was with Mr. Ankit Chona (MD, Havmor), Mr. Kaushal Mehta (Founder & CEO, Motif Inc.), Mr. Praful Shroff (Founder & CEO, eInfoChips) and Mr. Chirag Patel (TiE Ahmedabad) about “Story of Gujarat Exits”. They discussed about the right time for a company to exit the market when they can earn the maximum profit keeping in mind their future value

where they may run into loss. It is important to know the present market situation and exit accordingly. Mr. Ankit told about Havmor exiting the market and Lotte taking over the chain.

RISE OF DIGITAL – TRANSFORMING BUSINESSES

Mr. Aditya Rath (Partner, KPMG India), Mr. Mukul Sachan (Co-founder, LendingKart) and Mr. Sandip Shah (Senior Advisor, Deloitte) took over the discussion on. Digital Transformation is changing every aspect of the business landscape, provided that leaders are ready to embrace it. We are already experiencing a period of digital transformation, and the businesses that already acknowledge it enjoy its benefits. But what can we expect from the next few years, and how can businesses keep pace with the changes affecting their industry? It started with how e-commerce has already entered the market and we cannot ignore the fact that technology is must in making a profitable business. A balance needs to be made among humans and technology to survive in the market.

BLOCKCHAIN – BEYOND CRYPTOCURRENCIES:

The next session was taken over by Mrs. Gayathri Parthsarathy (Head of financial services, Advisory at KPMG), Mr. Mahin Gupta (Co-founder, ZebPay), Mr. Rajesh Dhuddu (Senior VP Market development, Quattrro Global Services) and Mr. Sreeram Upendran (General manager, technology, Experian). Block chain is not just limited to crypto currency but it has a wide distribution. The objective is to integrate the smallest possible data using block chain. But a big question comes here, who will take the ownership of data? At the end of the day, you are the owner of your data and you should understand where and how much data should float by.

EVENING KEYNOTE – ERA OF EXPONENTIAL INNOVATION

The last informative session was by Debjani Ghosh (President-Designate, NASSCOM). Higher GDP per capita income can be achieved only when we allow exponential growth in all the sectors including business and startups. Only those who can handle exponential growth can survive in such a big and competitive market.

The pre-ending closing remarks and thanking session was taken over by Mr. Saurabh Mehta (Founder & CEO, Avani Cimcon Technologies Inc.). He concluded all the sessions and their respective importance in the life of entrepreneurs and other learners. The event ended with a hilarious standup comedy by Mr. Manan Desai (Standup comedian).

CONCLUSION:

In this era of innovation, it is very important to remain updated with all the market trends to prosper. Not only the idea, but technology is also important to gain profit and stand at the top in any situation. What can motivate is not people's success story; they can only make you feel happy, but the idea that you can do something will always be the key factor for an individual's success. Connection with mentors having vast knowledge, networking with alike entrepreneurs, business people and co-founders can help in sharing ideas, generating contacts and a lot more. TiEcon proves to be a successful networking medium between various entrepreneurs.

PHOTO GALLERY:



Associates with the President of TiE



Mr. Parthiv Patel



Mr. Pramod Sadarjoshi talking about VUCA



Story of QuickHeal AntiVirus

FEEDBACKS:

“The entire day was full of positivity. Mr. Kailash Katkar was inspiring, informative and his method of delivery was so easy to receive.”

-Bhavya Raoulji

“It was great to hear from industry experts about their point of view on various aspects of innovation. This was an excellent place to network with such great people. Not just the sessions, but I even liked the idea of putting ‘I offer’ and ‘I am looking for’ boards where people can find respective help from others just by writing their need on sticky notes. Great idea to communicate. And, the event covered quite many points which proved useful in some or the other way.”

-Anushka Shah

“TiEcon was an event worth attending. The sessions were really interactive and informative. Talks on various factors affecting the ecosystem including flow and control of big data, applications of blockchain technology, effects of digitalization, as well as point of view of the investors were really worth knowing. The event covered several aspects which were major takeaways. Overall the event was great and had a lot of valuable takeaways for everyone.”

-Shwet Thaker

“Such an informative conference and gained knowledge about business techniques as well as strategies in various areas. Me being a computer science student, learnt a lot about AI and ML, its demand and future.”

-Hetang Bhavsar

“A fabulous experience, knowing more about the world of entrepreneurship, interacting with people from different industries and positions and their perspectives. Glad to have such opportunities which provide such level of exposure. Thanks to GTU Innovation Council !!”

-Vivek Kewalramani

“It was really an amazing experience to attend one of the best event. The best session was the Industry 4.0 which enlightened the topic of new trends and technologies which are nowadays adopted by industries, involving automation in each and every sector. Overall, a knowledgeable experience.”

-Nishit Sharma

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