

# GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL

[www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in](http://www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in)

## GTU Innovation Clubs (earlier known as Udisha Clubs)

Every GTU affiliated college is required to update the information about its GTU Innovation Clubs (formerly known as Udisha Clubs) online at

<http://projects.gtu.ac.in/InnovationClub/>

on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.

Please refer the Guidelines given at: <http://projects.gtu.ac.in/InnovationClub/Instruction.pdf> for help required.

You may communicate your query at: **s4@gtu.edu.in** or call at **07926300499/599**

Every college will have the current Principal/Director as Patron of the club. The Patron will appoint one Faculty Coordinator for the club. Every department will nominate one faculty members to this club for coordination of activities at the respective branch. Every department will also nominate one student from every year (1st-4<sup>th</sup> for degree engg and Pharm, 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> year for Diploma Engg and MCA and 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> year for the other Master's programs) as a part of this club. Every year the Club has to be rejuvenates by inducting new members.

GTU Innovation Council will coordinate the process of capacity building of these clubs and their members and provide necessary innovation toolkits. The role of these clubs has been to conceive, test, design local and central action agendas and implement them. These Innovation Clubs take care of efforts across the innovation and entrepreneurship value chain as defined by GTU Innovation Council. These clubs will also implement the agendas as described by National Innovation Clubs declared by Hon'ble President of India and available at

<http://presidentofindia.nic.in/sp070313-1.html>.

*\* Every college need to carefully select the members of the club who can organize the activities related to innovation at the College.*

**Appendix 1:** History of GTU Innovation Clubs (UDISHA Clubs) – pp 2-3

**Appendix 2:** A Note on National Innovation Club as declared by Hon'ble President of India – pp 4-6

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[www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in](http://www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in)

## Appendix 1: History of GTU Innovation Clubs (UDISHA Clubs):

Every College/ Institution/ Polytechnic, associated with GTU, is a Member of one of the 25 GTU Innovation Sankuls. Every College/ Institution/ Polytechnic is required to set up a GTU Innovation Club (UDISHA Club), which is to work closely with those members of the Sankul Committee, who are from the industries and businesses.

The first two responsibilities of the Clubs were (i) to establish a strong linkage with the industry by a continuous flow of industry professionals to the College and by organizing Shodh Yatras to the industries and (ii) to work jointly with the Training and Placement Officer of the College/ Institution for creating a student-driven Placement Cell. The Clubs are supposed to work closely with the Sankul leadership.

*The URL <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/11Jan/Udishash20Clubsh20Circular.pdf> shows the requirements and expectations from an UDISHA Club, when the Clubs were set up in January 2011. In addition at MBA Colleges, the Clubs are supposed to work for immersion studies and for the Global Country Study program.*

For MBA Colleges, on June 25, 2011, additional requirements were created when GTU established three Skills Councils- namely Financial Services Skills Council (GTU-FSSC); Council for Human Resource Studies and Organizational Structures (GTU-CHRSOS); Skills Council for Marketing (GTU-SCM) - with 25 Sectoral Panels. Every Club in an MBA College was required to develop active linkages with at least three Sectoral Panels.

For Engineering Colleges, some of the faculty members were trained through Faculty Development Programs organized through US Department of Energy-GCCI, German International Development Agency and GOI's Bureau of Energy Efficiency. So possibilities of helping SMEs through measuring boiler efficiencies, measuring air-water pollution and energy audit arose. The Clubs were advised about taking up the tasks, wherever appropriate trained faculty was available.

# GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL

[www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in](http://www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in)

*The Circular for UDISHA Clubs, issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2012 is available at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12Feb/Circular%20of%20Agenda%20for%20Udisha%20Clubs.pdf>.*

GTU has been working to establish an Open Source Technologies Club (OSTC) and a Mobile Technologies Club, as parts of the GTU Innovation Club at every one of its Degree Engineering and Diploma Engineering Colleges/ Institutions/ Polytechnics. On 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013, GTU has launched the idea of establishing an **S4 Extension Center, as a part of the Club** at every College.

GTU has been organizing workshops for sensitizing the GTU community about Active Learning and Creating Excitement (ALCE) in the laboratories, workshops and classes. It has also organized FDPs to create a framework for bringing design-orientation to the learning processes at GTU. The movement for the ALCE projects and design-orientation is designed to be a student-driven open movement, which should nurture creativity among the students and which draws in creative persons from the whole of the society to build a creative community associated with every Sankul. The Clubs in Colleges are supposed to lead the connectivity with the external world for intensifying the work of the ALCE project and for bringing design-orientation to the learning processes at GTU.

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## Appendix 2: A Note on National Innovation Club as declared by Hon'ble President of India

*Hon'ble President of India asked central university Vice-chancellors to set up National Innovation Club at their respective universities.*

<http://presidentofindia.nic.in/pr070213.html>

### National Innovation Clubs

During the current decade of innovation, Hon'ble President, Shri. Pranabh Mukherjee has exhorted the academia to set up National Innovation Clubs in every university and college. These clubs will promote inclusive innovations by linking the creativity in formal and informal sector. Primarily, the clubs will aim at four functions: [a] search, [b] spread, [c] sense and [d] celebrate.

#### **Search:**

Unless young students go out into the field, villages, urban workshops, slums and other MSME clusters to find out innovations by common people as well as others, they would not know the creative potential that already exists in our country. They can mobilise ideas from school children, college students, roadside mechanics, farmers, artisans, homemakers and others for solving various problems or improving the quality of life through incremental innovations. Every time a hidden innovation is brought to surface, many more people feel encouraged and may start trying to solve problems through their own genius. If every college and university starts mapping creativity in its hinterland, the whole society will bristle with positive energy and unleash tremendous dynamism in the economy.

The innovations in different fields such as technology, education, institutions, public services, private enterprises, cultural creativity, governance at different levels, etc., will be documented first in a synoptic way and then detailed documentation will be taken up of the more significant ideas. In different courses, these ideas and their documentation can be incorporated as a part of curriculum. The social, cultural, ecological, industrial and institutional connect are extremely important for overcoming possible alienation of people in certain areas.

#### **Spread:**

Diffusion of existing innovations whether sourced from Honey Bee Network and National Innovation Foundation [NIF] or other depositories have to be shared with the local communities in a systematic manner through various creative pedagogies and performances.

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[www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in](http://www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in)

In fact, searching innovations without sharing may neither appear very credible nor even ethical. In the process of sharing, the students and faculty will themselves become aware of how creative our country is and how limited is the support extended to these people/communities by the formal sector including academia. Such a realization will do more to trigger introspection and generate empathetic culture for blending ideas from formal and informal sector. The students can organize exhibitions, have street theatre performances or follow other means of creating awareness about innovations in the nearby villages, schools, communities, clusters of industry, government departments, etc.

## **Sense:**

There are a lot of problems in our society which have remained unsolved for long. Unless we benchmark the persistent problems and try to address them within the means available, we may develop an attitude of living with them indefinitely. Such an attitude will never let our society progress in the long term. Idea here is that students from different discipline should benchmark unsolved problems or challenges in different sectors, at various scales affecting numerous social groups. In technology institutions, third year students can go to both MSME clusters and units and informal rural and urban sector and benchmark the problems to be addressed. They can be given credit for identifying the problem and writing a synopsis on it. In the final year, they can take up projects to address these problems in one or two terms. Accordingly, they can get credit for that too. Practical examples of such a process are given at [www.techpedia.in](http://www.techpedia.in). The innovative solutions can be given prizes at university level and also at national level through competitions like Gandhian Young Technological Awards [[techpedia.in/award](http://techpedia.in/award)]. In social sciences, one can identify gender and other cultural problems and address them likewise through action research approach. Language related students can help improve the linguistic skills of school children and develop innovative pedagogies. If every student develops one lesson for any one topic and for any class, a huge repository of open source local language lessons for school children can be developed to overcome the asymmetry in access to basic education. Different challenges can be sensed and responded.

## **Celebrate:**

During the interactions with different social and institutional segments, a lot of outstanding achievers will be identified in the hinterland. There may be an outstanding doctor who may have contributed in a big way for making the communities almost disease free or a teacher who has created a very rich learning environment in a school or an innovator who has solved a

## *GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL*

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problem or a public or private functionary who has created public goods for larger social development. There may also be outstanding artists, writers or other change agents who need to be invited in the universities to inspire students and create an insatiable desire to excel and serve society.

National Innovation Clubs can be coordinated by the students under the oversight of empathetic faculty members. Students should have as much flexibility and freedom as possible. They should organize interactions with the innovators in different fields and try to add value where possible, help in diffusion, create markets, provide linkages with other innovators and stakeholders and forge a knowledge network around innovations. They should not remain restricted only with local innovations. They should also mobilise ideas from outside for local development and vice versa. If a few sessions can be organized in different courses to rigorously analyse the heuristics, triggers, motivations, outcomes and ecosystem characteristics, more and more students may feel encouraged to take risk and try new ideas.

NIF will support the value chain development in the case of innovations from informal sector and by school children. The mandate of NIF is restricted to support ideas, innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge practices from the unorganized sector by individuals or communities who have not received any professional training or support. The educational, cultural, institutional and other governance related innovations will be pooled by Society for Research and Initiatives for Technologies and Institutions [srsti.org] and linked to various other programmes. In due course, support may be mobilised to give traction to these ideas. At present, the major contribution will be to give voice and visibility to the innovative ideas in various sectors.

Volunteers from among faculty, staff and students will hopefully join hands with the innovators at different levels and in different sectors to ensure widest application for creative and compassionate ideas. Collaborative culture is likely to emerge when learning across formal and informal boundaries get reinforced. During the visit of the Hon'ble President, such clubs can be inaugurated and the team of volunteers can be blessed by the President so as to motivate them to excel in search, spread, sense and celebrate the creativity and innovation in our country.