

Report on the

Efforts at GTU Regional Innovation & Startup Center - Vadodara

GTU Innovation Council has started the regional center for Innovation and Start-up at Rajkot, Baroda, Ahmedabad and Surat. GTU Innovation Council aim to nurture creativity and innovation within the University community and has been designed to act as a catalyst of change for the whole of the society. GTU has its own incubation center with more than 30 Startup incubated and 17 Startups have got Rs. 1.25 Cr as Financial Assistance for Prototype Development under Startup Policy of the Gujarat State.

To ensure that every creative student irrespective of his education, location get access to support to take their ideas and innovation to next stage. GTU has established very structured mechanism by now for the above and established "regional innovation & startup center" in Vadodara. The purpose of setting up regional innovation & start-up center is to decentralize the student innovation & start-up support system so that innovators can fetch benefits at their doorstep. We are setting up both physical centers and virtual helping mechanism for the above purpose. Innovation clubs of nearby institutes and all others stakeholders will play crucial role in creating regional ecosystem. We are keen to keep the efforts student centric so that so that students can not only be the beneficiary but also they can help co-creating various interventions to help student innovators and start-ups.

To continue this efforts, GTU Innovation council has been started its 'Regional center for innovation & startups' for V. V. Nagar-Vadodara in March 2018. Currently sensitized more than 200 students, and more than 55 Innovators and Entrepreneurs are integral part of the GIC Regional Ecosystem in Vadodara. We have initiated the "Startup Mentoring Drive" to support & guide young Entrepreneurs and Innovators, by providing primary mentorship for the ventures that are nascent stage. The centre is accessible to people of all age groups who have the zest in them to gain knowledge on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and as per the responsibility of creating a support system for their unique initiatives multiple state government policy level sensitization is being provided. To find such Innovative startups and projects that solve some problem of the industry/ society, we also did a 'SSIP Project Screening Drive'. We are committed to Guide them to take the selected projects & startups from primary/initial level to the growth stage through systematic process.

References:

<http://www.gtu.ac.in/uploads/Circular%20Final%20for%20VV%20Nagar%20GIC%20workshop%20.pdf>

<http://www.gtu.ac.in/uploads/Circular%20%20Zone%20activities.pdf>

Startup Counseling & Mentoring Drive

To support & guide young entrepreneurs and innovators we have started Startup Counseling-Mentoring Drive. Educational Institutions & Academic Incubators are one of the most important stakeholders in the startup ecosystem, and have the potential to create the most impact. This program helps in getting a full-fledged guidance from experienced professionals in the field of technology space to build something innovative through structured processes. It will enable students, entrepreneurs and innovators to learn from industry & academic experts to create a culture that celebrates risks taking and views failure as an opportunity to learn.

So far, in Vadodara, it has been started to guiding young entrepreneurs, students & innovators through this initiative, which includes 'Zetrica Motars', 'I-Unleashed', 'PrinkIT' and 'Pramukh Agro Hydroponic System' ventures.



[One to One Individual Start-up Mentoring & Product Validation Support]

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SSIP Project Screening Drive – Vadodara Region

Date: 26th March 2018, Monday

Time: 09:30 AM – 5:00 PM

About SSIP at GTU:

In 2010, the Gujarat Technological University (GTU) started an experiment to incentivize students academically. Under the experiment, the students were asked to identify a problem at any place, village, industry or organization during their summer vacation. The experiment became popular among other universities in Gujarat as well.

Gujarat Education Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama in association with Vice Chancellors of the University to form a state-level Student Start-up Innovation Policy (SSIP). The policy was needed to create resources for start-ups, to support the mandate for Student Start-ups in the State. The idea is to provide a system to support pre-incubation phase of Entrepreneurship. To bridge the gap of students that wish to apply for the Startup Gujarat Policy (GTU is the recognized Nodal Incubation center) in manufacturing field needed at least Rs. 10,000 to develop a prototype, and more funds for a better one. To reach the stage to receive Rs. 21 lakhs fund, the start-up needs to have at least Rs 50,000 or 1 lakh rupee to convert a strong Proof of Concept into a prototype or a product.

About SSIP Screening Drive at Vadodara:

In order to support student startup & innovation as per the Student Startup & Innovation Policy (SSIP); GTU Regional Center for Innovation & Startup, Vadodara organized Mega SSIP Project Screening drive at Sigma Polytechnic Vadodara.

At the Screening, about 50 student startup and innovative projects were present. The event started with an introductory note on GTU Innovation Council - Regional Center & SSIP. After that, jury members were welcomed; which included academic & industrial experts like Mr. Jatin Kataria (Serial Entrepreneur, Strategist & Mentor), Mr. Kunal Fadnis (Industry Expert & Management Professional), Mr. P Raja Rao (Principal, Sigma Institute of Engineering) & GIC Regional Coordinator Nikhil Suthar. After that the project's reviewing was started, and it included the following criteria.

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1. Clarity & understanding of the problem definition and solution proposed.
2. Potential impact if the proof of concept is a possible implementable solution
3. Impact if field work has been done during the course of innovation.
4. Trying to solve a challenge which has not got traction by now but having potential of impact and change.
5. Team efforts if it's a team based nomination & Depth of efforts and hard work
6. Quality of the thought process and novelty proposed and utility of the POC
7. Innovation in any form of product, process, institutional or social interventions will be dealt with equal stress but potential impact would matter/actual impact.
8. Competition & Uniqueness / USP

Based on these criteria, we've identified SSIP projects into following categories mentoring sessions, patent support, resource - funding support & incubation. From Adjustable Walker to Hover-bike and from Smart Mirror to Smog Free Tower; Innovative Projects were presented in this drive. And we've been started giving phase-wise mentoring support to selected SSIP projects.



[Experts and Mentors giving their tips & suggestions to participants]

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[Students presented their innovative projects in front of 'SSIP Project Screening Committee']

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