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Circular

To,

The Principal/Director/HoD/GTU Coordinators/Project Coordinators/DE Coordinators/Student Innovators & Start-ups of GTU affiliated institutes as well as Innovators and Start-ups other than GTU system

Find below the Guidelines, Eligibility Criteria and Support mechanism under DIC Scheme in appendix 1 and apply for various supports through the scheme to convert your idea/prototype into useful marketable products.

About Design Innovation Centre (DIC) – A MHRD funded Scheme at GTU:

Design-centred innovation is a force multiplier that can help the country move up the value chain, making Indian industry globally competitive. In this context, Ministry of Human Resource Development proposes to launch a National Initiative for Design Innovation in the Twelfth Plan. Under this initiative, **20 new Design Innovation Centres (DIC)**, one Open Design School (ODS) and a National Design Innovation Network (NDIN), linking together all these schools, would be set up. ODS would ensure maximum reach of design education and practice in the country through various collaborative education programmes (linking a broad spectrum of educational institutions), and free sharing of its courseware through the Internet.

GTU has received the grant from MHRD to establish Design Innovation Centre having Hub & Spoke model to promote, nurture and advance the culture of design, innovation, creative problem solving and entrepreneurship among young minds by supporting their innovative ideas/projects under this scheme. GTU premise being a Hub would have full fledged FabLab (Fabrication/Prototype facilities) and other support system and other 3 institutes as spokes (AVPTI College Rajkot- Spoke 1, Dr. S. & S. S. Ghandhy College of Engineering & Technology – Spoke 2 and GEC Modasa – Spoke 3) to cover entire state, also would support innovations and projects at their premise.

Objective of DIC:

-) **Promote a culture of innovation and creative problem solving;**
-) Promote knowledge sharing and collaboration amongst industry, academia, Government Institutions, research laboratories, etc;
-) To serve as a location for the industrial collaborators to encourage their new Product Development in the campus using in-house facilities.

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-) To serve as a place that imparts design-based education and practice systematic design through projects.
-) To enhance interdisciplinary design-focused innovation and creativity.
-) To facilitate interdisciplinary design-focused education, research and entrepreneurial activities in order to create commercial opportunities and build partnerships between academics and industry.
-) To promote, nurture and advance the culture of design and innovation in the country leading to significant contributions and breakthroughs impacting quality of human life.
-) To create an ecosystem facilitating students and faculty to take their innovative ideas from classrooms/labs to market/people.
-) To facilitate evolution of new models of academia-industry interactions as well as academia-social interactions and develop institutional networks for innovations in the thematic areas.

For more information, kindly visit:

Design Innovation Centre – Hub

Shed 2, GTU Chandkheda, Ahmedabad.

Webpage: <http://dic.gtu.ac.in>

For any query, kindly contact: dic@gtu.edu.in

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Sd/-
Registrar



Appendix 1:

A. Guidelines to Invite Projects/Ideas for DIC support:

GTU – DIC is inviting projects/ideas of students, faculty members, researchers of GTU affiliated colleges in UG/PG/Ph.D. as well as Innovators and Start-ups other than GTU system to get further support in converting ideas into products through design, prototyping, fabrication, IPR, etc.

Procedure to send project entry by Innovators:

1. Students/Innovators shall submit their Innovative projects/idea by visiting the given link and fill the project entry form in detail.

Link: <http://dic.gtu.ac.in/apply>

2. The documentation of report must follow below details:
 - i. Identification of problems and list of unmet needs/requirements of the user (analysis and synthesis of problems)
 - ii. Prior Art Search summary
 - iii. Problem definition in details with all constraints
 - iv. List of ideas through Ideation to solve the problem/s and prioritization of the final concept
 - v. Photographs and details of rough prototype if any
 - vi. Roadmap ahead and support required from DIC to deploy solution in the market
3. Nominated Projects will be scrutinized by experts committee at various level and selected projects would be announced as per below timeline. Project team members have to present with their project details during scrutiny process as and when required at Hub/Spoke of DIC.

Criteria for project scrutiny:

- i. Appropriate/Clear knowledge of Problem Statement/area
 - ii. Prior Art Search summary
 - iii. Novelty/Innovativeness
 - iv. Impact of your solution to society/industry/market
 - v. Readiness to convert your project/idea into start-up/enterprise
4. Selected innovative projects will be supported by design & development support to convert into useful marketable solutions, successful Start-ups, patent filing etc. and after support and handholding of the projects, central Innovation fair would be organized by Hub.
 5. Selected projects should complete design course of DIC.

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6. Selected projects will be awarded through fellowship from DIC Grant.
7. The stakeholders of all selected projects will be allowed to attend any free events organized by DIC to take their ideas to next level.
8. All supported projects under DIC scheme, must acknowledge GTU in their report, news, award event, media interactions, IP filling etc.
9. Preference would be given to granted/supported projects/start-ups/ideas from any of GTU initiative (Like SSIP, NI, AIC, Design Engineering, CiC3 etc.) under DIC scheme.
10. Design Innovation Centre may support research publication, IP filling, and also support to attend conference with prior permission.

Important dates:

Below timelines are to be observed by all interested stakeholders and strictly adhered to it.

Tasks	Timeline
Accepting Project entry	Round the year
Scrutiny at various level	3 rd – 4 th Week of Every Month (Based on Application)
Announcement of selected ideas for support at DIC	1 st week of Month
Support to convert Ideas (POC) to Prototype/Product	Round the year
Innovation Fair	April/May OR Sept/Oct
Workshop/Training/Events	Round the year

Support areas for an innovator at DIC centers:

1. FabLab and Innovation Studio to convert their ideas into marketable solutions
2. Strategic mentoring
3. Workshop for Skill development
4. Product Design and Development support
5. IP(Intellectual Property) protection

B. Applicant Profile:

-) The Innovator/ Entrepreneur can be a student in any Academic institution (preference would be provided for the GTU students), and can apply irrespective

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of his/her field, only criteria would be the student should be dedicated and working upon an innovative or a novel idea.

- J The Innovator/ Entrepreneur can be an alumni, but should not have graduated before 5 years.
- J A financial model isn't necessary for the screening process but a priority would be provided to the students that would have plans to commercialize the technology.
- J While having a team formation the team needs to agree upon what they wish to work and select a team lead that would primarily be the point of contact. Need to have atleast one member from the discipline under which the project/innovation can be categorized.
- J Should be ready to create a startup/ enterprise after the project/ innovation is validated after the tenure and create Employment.

Eligibility Criteria:

- J Prior knowledge for the field is a primary necessity for selection.
- J A clear definition of what is the problem that they are trying to solve and how is their solution/approach unique from others in that domain.
- J Preference would be provided to the students that have create a better working model before application for the DIC scheme, which would let the University have a clear idea upon your approach towards solving the problem.
- J The project/innovation should involve physical or hardware based product development for which they would be provided resources at FabLab.
- J If the innovator is based upon primary research then support for Patents would only be granted, and if the innovator has ample proof to execute the project/ innovation then they would be provided financial resource based support for the same.
- J If the innovator wishes to work from his said institution then a regular reporting would be mandatory.
- J The project idea should not be implemented or available in the market/ public domain, although effective upgrades upon the available solutions would still be considered to be selected in the DIC support.
- J The student/innovator should completely be focused upon the specified project and work rigorously to implement it. Monthly progress report would be submitted by each project team and further support based on review/feedback from DIC committee will be decided.

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- J It is ideal to identify suitable mentor that can handhold the project/ innovation till its executed/ implemented appropriately. DIC will also provide some sort of mentorship as per need.
- J It is mandatory to share all the financial support or any kind of support that the project/ innovation has achieved, if any before applying to DIC support.
- J The innovator should have worked for atleast 3 months on the project to have a deep insight in the specified field of innovation.

C. Support and Offerings at DIC Centres:

- J Work-space with FabLab facilities and Innovation focused Studio access.
- J Internet and Library(physical and digital) that the university and the affiliated Institutions possesses
- J Collaboration with other labs of importance and a chance to work there would also be provided if necessary.
- J A multi-faceted Mentor panel to facilitate student needs.
- J Design & Development support to convert Idea/prototype into useful marketable products/solutions
- J Financial support in IP filling and evaluating the projects for IPR related
- J Access to the proprietary CAD/CAE and other available software, PatSeer for Patent Search and related Analytics, Tracxn which tracks and curates data of millions of start-ups.
- J The list of machines, tooling, consumables, softwares and hardwares and other facilities under DIC will be updated soon on DIC portal

3 Easy step Policy for Machine & Tooling Access of DIC centres for Innovators:

1. Every innovators must attend the training for accessing FabLab.
 - o Register yourself for FabLab training: [Link](#)
2. CAD/Design File and application form submission and approval:
 - o Please send your duly filled form and CAD/Design file at: dic@gtu.edu.in
 - o Application form to utilize FabLab: PDF file
3. Slot Booking for utilization of Fablab: <http://dic.gtu.ac.in/slotbooking>
 - J Machine training is mandatory for every innovators to access FabLab facilities. Every month various training would be provided by DIC centres, so Innovators need to attend the appropriate session as per their convenience.
 - J One user can book maximum two slots per day.

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- J One user can work on single machine at a time. User cannot book more than one machines at the same time.
- J File approval should be done 24 hours before the slot booking and as per standard format only. File will be approved only if innovator meet design requirements of specific machines as instructed in machine training.
- J Indiscipline at any means will result into immediate cancellation of FabLab access and any further support by DIC scheme.
- J GTU - DIC centre reserve all rights to cancel/modify/reschedule any slot/support scheme/guidelines under specific circumstances.
- J If the resources are not utilised optimally the support would be halted or in extreme cases terminated.
- J Costly modules or tools or machineries would be purchased by the university if the need is felt in multiple projects and would be set up at the DIC Centres across Gujarat.
- J Resources once provided to the innovator, can claim upon all the resources, but cannot commercialise the use of any of the resources, if such case is found it would be prone to legal action against the registered innovator.
- J All the resources are subjected to approval from the DIC head/coordinators/committee only with prior permission by innovators.
- J Some resources which are not available at DIC centres if required by the innovators shall be rented if the mode is cost-effective.

D. Monitoring Mechanism:

Every month 4th Saturday monitoring would be carried out for all the ventures that are receiving support through DIC to understand the individual progress of the projects/innovations. And along with that they would also be required to define the goals that they would achieve by the upcoming monitoring session. If it is found that the project/innovation is not able to cope up with the tasks pertaining to the prototype development then appropriate mentorship would be provided, and in extreme conditions the resource provision can be terminated over which all the resources would be needed to be submitted back to the university.

DIC centres will also work closely with Industries and other organization to provide complete ecosystem to innovators under one roof. Also it invites consultancy projects from MSME, Government organization or anyone who requires supports in the areas like design research, identification of real problems, Ideation, Product Design & Development, Prototyping building and testing, Business Model, Patent and IPR support etc.