GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL

Student Start-up Support System (S4)

GTU invites suggestions and inputs from all stakeholders and start-up enthusiasts for developing 1st of its kind Student Start-up Policy in an affiliating-type university

In September 2003, Dr. Lawrence Summers, the president of Harvard University addressed the Massachusetts Life sciences summit meeting and told that John Kenneth Galbraith observed a few years ago that universities are to be 21st century economy what banks were to the 20th century economy. They are the place where the important kind of capital is, and is made available…

GTU has done extensive efforts in building an innovation and entrepreneurial culture across its affiliated colleges during the last 4 years. We have developed organic interventions for making students' projects innovative so that these may lead to student start-ups. GTU wishes to create a structured process to harness the fullest potential of creative and entrepreneurial students.

India needs 1 million job creations per month for the next 20 years for its students. Job creation in public and matured private industries is very less. Student start-ups and new ventures are the only hopes to tackle these challenges. All over the world, relevant pedagogic interventions at university level have led to technology start-ups. In India, GTU is the 1st large technological university, which wishes to develop its own student start-up policy. The policy will be based upon learning from GTU's own efforts and it can use the Best Practices from all other stakeholders across India and abroad.

To have insights about our earlier roundtables around this theme, please visit:

a) http://gtu.ac.in/circulars/14Apr/10042014_02.pdf

b) http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/14Aug/13082014.pdf

c) http://files.gtu.ac.in/circulars/14Oct/07102014_03.pdf

d) http://gtu.ac.in/15042014/S4%20debate_2_friday_18th%20April%202014.pdf

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Why we think affiliated type universities like GTU need a unique innovation and start-up policy for students.

A) Missing links in Inclusive innovation ecosystem: More than 94 % of engineering students are now in affiliated- type universities in India. On the other hand all the national innovation and start-up policies cater to the segment of single campus/ residential engineering campuses like IITs, NITs etc. By a simple proportional method, it may be interpreted as the policies for an India of 8 crore people out of 120 crore. It is only GTU, which has been working to develop an innovation system for the whole of the GTU system. GTU accounts for about 95% of the engineering seats in the State. Using the same methodology, this single effort would bring 6 crores to the 8 crore people by the entire non-GTU effort. However till other affiliating-type universities are also brought into the eco-system of innovation, we shall continue to exclude 106 crore people of Bharat from the innovation system, the nation is building. *(Very recently the state governments of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka have developed aggressive innovation policies. We hope the Universities in the four states would become actively involved. Reports of the participation from the Universities in these states may become available only by the end of the academic year 2014-15.)*

B) Urgent requirement of job creation: To satisfy the need of university graduates, India needs to create nearly 1 million jobs every month for the next 20 years. The public sector industries and large private sector industries can satisfy a very small fraction of the required number of jobs. For creating such humongous number of jobs, India needs to promote student start-up culture across universities.

C) Huge requirement of skill up gradation: The Union and state governments are focusing on skilled India. It has been observed that those, who go through an experience of entrepreneurial endeavors, are motivated to up-grade their skills and become better employees, if they choose to go for a job. A study by UK govt. proves that enterprise education and employment possibility are correlated.   If the students become self-motivated to acquire better skills, it can contribute significantly to the skilled India mission of honorable PM.

To have an idea about the efforts by other States, please refer to the following:

https://drive.google.com/a/adhishpatel.com/folderview?id=0B1RkdmAQ7684WW1QTnVJZVotbGc&usp=drive_web

You may specifically have a glance at the following two documents:

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www.gtuinnovationcouncil.ac.in

- http://www.keralacm.gov.in/images/stories/docs/Student_entrepreneurship_scheme.pdf

- http://www.ap.gov.in/Other%20Docs/AP%20Innovation%20and%20Startup%20Policy%202014-2020.pdf

While sharing your inputs and suggestions, kindly remember that we want to take your inputs for developing interventions in policies for academic pedagogy for entrepreneurial studies, infrastructural, financing, common resource/operation, mission mode approach etc. You may also discuss how a stakeholder - either as student, start-up, innovator, faculty member, college authority, industry persons, mentors, incubators, funding agencies or policy maker may contribute to this effort.

We shall jointly explore tools, processes, interventions and similar endeavors which can influence the following three things to start with.

1. Pedagogical Inputs (in classrooms, laboratories and workshops)

2. Extra/Co- Curricular Inputs (Beyond classrooms but in the larger academic theatre): from official/semi-official student bodies, from technology clubs and through participation in competitions

3. Community Inputs from the extended community of a student (including family, friends and alumni)

Our focus would be less dependent on new infra-structure creation but it will focus on leveraging the existing infrastructures with our stakeholders like colleges, departments etc. We wish that every student, department and college should attempt a minimum set of efforts as activities. We wish to create a set of indicators and to develop a utilization process to benchmark innovative processes.

While interacting with various stakeholders inside GTU colleges we have got few early suggestions as bare minimum efforts to serve the purpose to start with as activity-based interventions. These are:

Component A:

Every college could have a minimum 3000 square ft. of co-creation space/S4 extension center with basic infra facility like that at S4-C3.

Component B:

Every college could have a min (tentatively) of 5 activities out of 15 specified by GIC. Each activity may have certain score point which GTU may consider in gauging campuses in this area.

Component C:

There could be an on line platform where on real time basis every campus will upload their efforts and impact and score will be displayed. This will create networking and competitiveness. This will have some more functional features to support student start-ups.

Component D:

A practical student start-up policy which will create conducive environment within and across campuses both within academic and co-curricular preview.

You may share your inputs independently of the above-mentioned suggestions. You may specifically look at

http://files.gtu.ac.in/circulars/14Oct/07102014_03.pdf

(These set of suggestions were shared by Honorable VC GTU with AICTE chairman and other stakeholders during

http://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/final_Conclave%20Schedule_110914.pdf)

You may share your suggestions at the following link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1JbMpK8l7rTkGNJtbSX5ImrvkRgapYykvCOu3TR5s5L4/viewform

For any suggestions and query you may write to HIranmay Mahanta, Honorary Director, GTU Innovation Council, MD Techpedia, hiranmay@techpedia.in, gic@gtu.edu.in