

## **GTU set to hit century of patents applications**

Large scale training in patent process pays off; The faculty, students and colleges, affiliated with GTU, continue to file patents.

Gujarat Technological University's largest ever exercise in training its faculty in obtaining patents has paid off. Its students, faculty and Colleges have filed for 75 patents for their products and solutions during the last six months.

Hiranmay Mahanta, Managing Director of Techpedia.com expects that the patent applications will hit 100 by March 2013. "We are awaiting the result of our applications, but filing for such a large number of patents is an achievement in itself," Dr Akshai Aggarwal, GTU Vice Chancellor, told Ahmedabad Mirror.

In engineering education, the Final Year project is considered as the capstone, since while working on the project, a student applies the knowledge, that he/ she may have acquired in many different subjects, to develop a new or an improved product or process. Usually the project is done either by taking the help of the industry-experience of some of the faculty members or by taking the help of some industry for finalizing the project.

The first cohort of 4-year degree engineering students were to enter the Final Year in August 2011. So GTU launched GTU Innovation Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010, so that a relationship could be built with the industries. On Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 2011, the first group of students, accompanied by some faculty members visited some industries in the GTU Innovation Sankul, Naroda. This was the first or the 'pilot' 'Shodh Yatra' (i.e. Research Journey). Shri Shaileshbhai Patwari, the Co-Chair (Industry) of the Sankul Committee provided a strong support from the industries.

During the summer of 2011, all the 50,010 Final Year Engineering students went on Shodh Yatras to the industries all over the State. When the students started working on their Final Year projects in August 2011, it was found that 73% of the 17,000 Final Year projects were based on Industry Defined Problems.

According to Dr Aggarwal, the university decided to encourage patenting after the success of its academia-industry cooperation. On September 3-4, 2011 was organized the first two-day workshop on "Patenting in Pharmaceutical Sciences". 140 Faculty members participated in the workshop at AMA, Ahmedabad. It was followed by five 2-days workshops on "Patenting in

# GTU INNOVATION COUNCIL

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

Engineering”, held during the period from September 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> March 2012. These five workshops at Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Baroda, Mehsana and Surat attracted 840 Faculty members. On April 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 and on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012 were organized a 2-days Advanced workshop on “Patent Search & Drafting of Provisional Application” and a 1-day workshop on “Filing of Provisional Patent Application” *respectively*. 149 faculty members took advantage of the two workshops.

Dr Manish Rachchh, the Resource Person and the organizer of the Patenting Workshops said, “The workshops helped save money in patenting costs. It costs up to Rs 60,000 to get a patent if applied through an expert. However, after training, researchers could file for patent on their own and these costs them just about Rs 20,000.” Dr Rachchh added that stress on filing patents leads to more innovations in students’ project and helps boost up R & D culture in the Colleges and at the University. “This,” he said, “will also contribute to improving the Global Innovation Index of our country, which has been declining for the last 2 years.”

When the Final Year projects in Engineering were completed in May 2012, 1900 industries said that the projects by the young Final year students of GTU Colleges had helped the industries. Mr Hiranmay Mahanta estimated the accumulated saving to SMEs to be of the order of Rs 4 crore in an year.

During the academic year 2012-13, the University has decided to ask the Final Year students to do patent search in the area of their Final Year project. From 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2012, GTU organized eight 1-day workshops on “Patent Search Methodology”. 1,405 Faculty members participated in the eight workshops. “This will lead to more innovative and patentable projects,” said Dr Akshai Aggarwal.

The University has asked every Final Year student to prepare a presentation about the patent literature he/ she studies and to show it at a meeting of all the Final Year and Pre-Final Year students of his Branch at his/ her College. Dr Akshai Aggarwal said that all such presentations will be put on the University’s web-site so that every one may be able to access the information mined by the students. As an initial output of patent search, students of L J Institute of Engineering have analyzed nearly 500 patents by now.

The University has set up the Student Start-up Support System (S4) for helping its new alumni to prepare a proto-type and to seek funding from angel investors and venture capitalists. It has signed an agreement with EQDC so that facilities for manufacturing sophisticated sub-assemblies can be prepared by students, if required. GTU is planning to set up an IPR cell for

helping students, faculty members, Colleges and industries with ethical policies and with financial support for patenting, if the funds become available for the purpose.

Reference: <http://epaper.timesofindia.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=MIRRORNEW&BaseHref=AMIR%2F2012%2F12%2F06&ViewMode=GIF&PageLabel=2&EntityId=Ar00200&AppName=1>

CITY

NIFT GANDHINAGAR TO HOLD ITS FIRST INDEPENDENT CONVOCATION ON FRIDAY


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For the first time, NIFT Gandhinagar will hold its first independent convocation on Friday, when it will give out its first degree. The convocation will be held at the Gandhinagar campus. The first convocation will be held on Friday, December 7, 2012. The convocation will be held at the Gandhinagar campus. The first convocation will be held on Friday, December 7, 2012. The convocation will be held at the Gandhinagar campus.

# GTU set to hit century of patents applications

**Large scale training in patent process pays off; varsity faculty, students have filed for 75 patents in six months and aim to hit century by March next year**

WATER-BASED MOBILE CHARGER



It is a small size mobile charger which can be used to charge any mobile phone. It is a small size mobile charger which can be used to charge any mobile phone. It is a small size mobile charger which can be used to charge any mobile phone.

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ujarat Technological University's largest ever success in training in faculty in obtaining patents has paid off. In six months, faculty have filed for 75 patents for their products and solutions in the six months and plan to hit a century by March next year.

"While awaiting the final of our applications, we filed for such a large number of patents from achievements in field," GTU Vice-Chancellor and Member Approval and Administration Mr. J. K. Patel said.

The university had established Innovation Council, whose aim is to encourage students and faculty to come up with research and product ideas and submit them to the council. The council has 250 members in patent and patent search in this country.

The university also provides training to students and faculty to get a patent. It charges Rs. 40,000 to get a patent. It charges Rs. 40,000 to get a patent. It charges Rs. 40,000 to get a patent.

An initial corpus of patents research, a number of 1,100 patents have been filed. The university will continue to file patents as and when necessary. The university will continue to file patents as and when necessary. The university will continue to file patents as and when necessary.


According to Dr. Aggarwal, the university decided to encourage patenting after the success of its academic industry cooperation. The research and faculty had developed about 100 projects as part of collaborative programmes of six months and eight months. These projects were found useful to the industry, most of them being medium and small scale units. Their success in obtaining patents is estimated to have been about 40 per cent, the university claims.

"Looking at the quality of the solutions, the university decided to get them patented so that the students and faculty could reap the benefits of their work. We selected 400 of them for registration. The faculty and students have filed for patent for more than 75 patents in the last six months. We expect about 25 more applications by March 2013 that will bring the number to 100 in a year," said Dr. Aggarwal.

The filing of patents was an educational experience for the university. In the process, the students realized that many of products they were producing were patentable. "We realized that many of the products we were developing were patentable. We realized that many of the products we were developing were patentable."


According to him, in the university, the biggest challenge is to get the necessary support. The university is also getting support from Tech parks in training the researchers, Dr. Aggarwal said.

WATER-POWERED BATTERY




The water-powered battery consists of two cells. It is a water-powered battery. It is a water-powered battery. It is a water-powered battery.

LPG-BASED REFRIGERATOR



It is a small size refrigerator which can be used to store food. It is a small size refrigerator which can be used to store food. It is a small size refrigerator which can be used to store food.

ELECTRICITY THROUGH SPEED-BREAKER



It is a small size speed-breaker which can be used to generate electricity. It is a small size speed-breaker which can be used to generate electricity. It is a small size speed-breaker which can be used to generate electricity.

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