

Student Startup Support System (S4)

The First Meeting: Creating S4 Extension Centers at Colleges

31st August, 2013

for faculty representatives of Engineering and MBA Colleges, affiliated with GTU

Time: 10.00 a.m- 5.00 p.m

Venue: Conference hall, GTU, Chandkheda

BACKGROUND:

GTU has taken pioneering steps to foster innovation culture at all strata in its affiliated institutes. GTU Innovation Council is engaged at very grassroots level to develop framework and implement them involving students, faculty members, industries and public bodies. By now two cohorts of students have successfully completed their final year projects, a large majority of which have been based on industry defined problems. The third cohort of students is now working for their projects. Due to these successes, Jyoti Industries, Rajkot has come forward to give stipends to 25 students of the third cohort. These students will work at the industry on Saturdays and Sundays for their final year project at the industry. (It may be noted that last year, a Pilot Project with 7 students was conducted at Jyoti Industries. The students were completely regular in that there was not a single case of absenteeism.)

S4 was started to help those students, who wanted to convert their final year project as the starting point of their business venture. On May 1, 2013, the Student Startup Support System: Co-Creation Center (S4-C3) started functioning. It is located at the Ahmedabad Campus of Gujarat Technological University, 2nd floor, ACPC building, LDCE complex, Ahmedabad -380015. S4-C3 is designed to create an ecosystem for the budding student entrepreneurs.

This is 1st of its kind university based co-creation space where early stage student start-ups get handholding support and physical space to work on their innovation driven initiatives. Students who have passed in the past 3 batches have been welcomed to take part in this initiative.

To inculcate the ideas of entrepreneurship, GTU wants to set up extension centers of S4 in Engineering and MBA colleges. We expect that the S4 Extension Centers will be associated with the GTU UDISHA clubs in each College.

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MEETING OF 31ST AUGUST 2013:

we have arranged a day long program for all faculty representatives of Eng and MBA colleges on 31st August 2013 at GTU, Chandkheda. Every MBA and Engineering College should send 1 or 2 faculty representatives to participate in this sensitization program. The Faculty members will be able to develop insights about what is expected from an S4 Extension Center. After the daylong event, the Colleges should establish an S4 Extension Center and kick off activities at their campuses to scout and upscale student start up modules.

The faculty representative who will participate and coordinate such entrepreneurial activities will be nominated as S4 coordinators in their respective campuses. We are inviting all lead incubators/accelerators and formal and informal entrepreneurial networks to share their thoughts towards creating a GTU-wide distributed system of scouting and supporting student start-ups. This daylong event will have discussions for jointly creating a framework to implement the target.

Faculty members having interest in innovation and entrepreneurial activities can self-nominate or get nominated by the Principal/ Director of their College/ Institute to participate in this day long program.

Please register online at goo.gl/LnSBSL .

Schedule for the day

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- 9:30** Registration & Registration Kit and Tea
 - 10:00** Inauguration
Introduction to different Entrepreneurship program formats: Entrepreneurship Talks, Ideation Sessions, Weekend Programs, Hackathons
 - 11:00** Presentation by MICA Comcubator, MICA
 - 12:00** Presentation by Venture Studio, AES
 - 1:00** Lunch Break
 - 2:00** Presentation by CIIE, IIMA

 - 3:00** Highlights of Co-Creation Workshops and Weekend programs for Entrepreneurship for students
 - 3:30** Discussion & Suggestion for conducting programs in GTU institutes by the participants
 - 4:30** Conclusions
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A few Lines on GTU's work in Entrepreneurship

GTU has worked to build a culture of innovation and R & D amongst its faculties and students. It has encouraged the students to work on ideas that would benefit the society at large, through its GTU Innovation Sankuls. During the academic year 2011-12, 73% of 17,000 Final Year projects were based on problems in SMEs. After the projects were completed in May 2012, 1900 industries gave the feedback that they had benefited from the work of GTU's Final Year students during 2011-12. GTU has also invited the grass-root innovators, to inter-act with the students and faculty members for mutual advantage.

GTU is the first Technology University to have taken up training of faculty members through its Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Patenting mission. During the academic year 2011-12, 1104 faculty members have participated in two-day IPR workshops, organized by GTU. Another 1430 faculty members were trained through one-day IPR workshops. This mission has led to filing of 177 patents, based on student-projects, by the students, faculty members, Colleges and the MSEs.

GTU's Student Start-up Support System (S4): GTU has built an ambitious S4 program for its students. With this program GTU aims to give an experiential learning of entrepreneurship to its students.

The Incubation Cycle may be distributed into three steps:

1. Ideas to proof of concepts
2. Proof of concepts to products
3. Products to markets.

GTU wants to encourage its students and graduates through the entire cycle. The report of GTU's activities, in this direction, is as follows:

- On 2nd August 2010, GTU began the GTU Innovation Council (Today it is, 'by a long long shot' the most active Innovation Council in the country.)

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- During the summer of 2011, the first cohort of our degree engineering students, who were to enter their Final Year of studies in August 2011, as well as the Diploma engineering students went on Shodh Yatras all over the state to search out a problem for their Final Year project. 50,000 students started working on 17,000 projects in Aug 2011. 73% of the projects were anchored in the industry and were designed to improve a product or a process in the participating industry.
About 1,900 industries have said in the preliminary report that they have benefited from the projects, **done by the students.**

IPR and PATENTING of INNOVATIVE IDEAS: We have learnt about that more than 177 **patents, based on the projects, have already been filed,** (with zero support from the Innovation system in the country.)

Such an effort has never before been made by any University anywhere. This program has been taken up under the GTU Innovation Council.

For immersion studies in our MBA program, we have set up three Skills councils (Marketing, HR and Finance) with 25 Sectoral Panels (7, 8 and 10 Sectoral Panels respectively for the Marketing, HR and Finance Councils respectively.)

- On September 3, 2011, GTU started workshops on Intellectual property Rights. The objective was that the faculty members should be able to spot a patentable idea and advise their students, the college and the industry about desirability of applying for a patent and about the ethical practices in each case. The following Workshops were conducted during 2011-12:
 - 2-days workshop on “Patenting in Pharmaceutical Sciences”: 140 Faculty members
 - Five 2-days workshops on “Patenting in Engineering”: 840 Faculty members
 - 2-days Advanced workshop on “Patent Search & Drafting of Provisional Application”: 124 Faculty members
 - 1-day workshop on “Filing of Provisional Patent Application”: 25 Faculty members
 - Eight 1-day workshops on “Patent Search Methodology”: 1,405 Faculty members

Half-day awareness workshops were conducted for students at Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot. The details of these workshops are as follows:

- Total no. of Awareness workshop conducted for students : 10
- Approximate no. of students, trained in the workshops : **3000**

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During the academic year 2012-13, the University has conducted many workshops for students on Prior Art Search.

137 groups have registered with Student Start-up Support System (S4 Cell) of the University for setting up new enterprises on the basis of their projects.

DESIGN WORKSHOPS:

- When the students projects were reaching completion, we organized two Design Workshops.

GTU organized a 4-day workshop on 27th & 28th April 2013, 4th & 5th May 2013. (The Call for the 4-day Workshop is at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Jul/3072013.pdf>. Its report is available at http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Apr/22042013_GTU.pdf.) Another one-day workshop was organized on 19th July 2013. (Its report was published at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Jul/29072013.pdf>.) It was followed by a two-day workshop on 29th -30th July 2013 for creating a framework for Final Year Engineering projects. (The report is available at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Aug/26082013.pdf>.)

S4 WORKSHOPS:

- Two Student Startup Support System(S4) workshops were organized so that our students may be able to become successful entrepreneurs.
 - S4 Workshop on 25th February 2012: The workshop was attended by over 100 students and faculty members. A few entrepreneurs also spoke at the function and share their stories of entrepreneurship. The workshop also conducted an idea generation session among the students.

Announcement:

<http://gtu.ac.in/circulars/12Feb/Entrepreneurship%20workshop%2025th%20circular.pdf>

Report:

http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU_inovation_sankul/Entrepreneurship_Workshop_25th_Event_Report- GIC Format.pdf

The Highlights of the student activities at the workshop in video format are available here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yAHaXmJWZZw>
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLTHz_vBkSE&feature=relmfu

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v98juQnEd0E&feature=relmfu>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9ccnKIB3qI&feature=relmfu>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vY1ks0acfBQ&feature=relmfu>

- S4 Workshop on 2nd June 2012: This Workshop was organized after the Final Exams. 137 groups of students working in the fields of IT, Mobile Computing etc came together to learn about entrepreneurship along with some leading entrepreneurs in Ahmedabad. The workshop organized panel discussions with the entrepreneurs.

Report :

http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU_inovation_sankul/4612.pdf

- The first TiE over Coffee meeting with Shri Arvind Patel founder of Sahajanand Laser Technology and Dr. Akshai Aggarwal, the Honorable VC, GTU was organized on September 1, 2012. Its Report was published at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12SEP/12092012.pdf>.
- CKSVM, Vadodara organized on 2nd October 2012, a **Women Entrepreneurship Development Program**. For its Report, please see: <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12Oct/Report%20on%20Women%20Entrepreneurship%20Development%20Program%20on%202nd%20Oct%202012.pdf>.
- S4 organized on 12th October 2012 TiE over Coffee meeting with Mr Mihir Joshi and other authorities from GVFL and other financial institutions. The TiE team consisted of Rushina Doctor, Sr. Executive TiE Ahmedabad and Anu Sutaria Executive Director from TiE, Ahmedabad . The Report can be accessed at: http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12NOV/19112012_06.pdf.
- “Start-Ups 2020” on 3rd to 5th May 2013: Gujarat Technological University (GTU), jointly with Dewang Mehta Foundation and NASSCOM’s 10 K Start-Ups organized “Start-Ups 2020” competition for the young graduates/ senior students of Engineering and Management disciplines from 3rd to 5th May, 2013.

The announcement is available at:

<http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Apr/03052013.pdf>.

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The Start-Ups 2020 focused on taking the ideation and innovation outcomes towards commercialization stage. The aim of the weekend program, of 3-5 May 2013 was to inculcate the practice of co-creation leading to innovation, through its structure aimed. Start-Up 2020 was supported by experts and successful entrepreneurs who worked as mentors to the young in their ideation for setting up new enterprises. The young, who wanted to become entrepreneurs, came together on Friday, 3rd of May 2013. Many of them met at the venue for the first time. They formed teams around an idea of their choice and worked through Saturday and Sunday to make a presentation in front of a Panel of judges who selected the top three ideas, which had a potential to be incubated as Start Ups.

Yash Saxena, who is the honorary coordinator of S4 Project, handled the organization of the startup 20/20 program.

The GIC and S4 team continues to inter-act intensively with all those students and alumni, who are interested in establishing their own new enterprises.

A New Initiative under S4:

S4: Co-Creation Center (S4-C3)

The Student Startup Support System: Co-Creation Center (S4-C3) is located at the Ahmedabad Campus of Gujarat Technological University, 2nd floor, ACPC building, LDCE complex, Ahmedabad -380015. Within the very 1st month of its kick off, S4-C3 has created buzz and impact. This center has been truly a co-creation space where young student startups from various GTU affiliated colleges are working together. The efforts at S4 are truly inclusive as it has virtually linked to all entrepreneurial ecosystems existing in and around and lead entrepreneurs are regularly mentoring the future startups. S4 is holding regular sessions involving existing startups and their ecosystems.

This co-creation has been unique in terms of giving access to potential teams and providing the necessary infrastructure. Mr. Yash saxena and other coordinators have organized a series of

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activities targeting various sections of startup value chain and started guiding the teams. This co-creation center is bringing designers, engineers, fabricators, market persons and mentors together on a regular basis. S4-C3 is providing tangible and intangible support system to the new entrepreneurs. All the activities have been prototyped and are being implemented at central level in the first round. GTU plans to scale it up to the GTU Innovation Sankuls.

Having a wide access to a pool of skilled students, having links with a large faculty community for technical support, having a penetration to the existing start up ecosystem and possessing an open and flexible approach in collaboration, S4 is poised to define new pedagogy of co-creation environment within an affiliated type technology university. Though students are meeting all through the day and through S4-C3 is buzzing with youthful energy every day, some of the distinctive activities are reported on the next few pages.

A Report of the first set of activities of the Co-Creation Center has been published at:

<http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Aug/ReportofS4EventsInJune-July-2013.pdf>.