

## Student Startup Support System (S4)

### Young Entrepreneurs for S4 (YES4)

#### Invitation to join as a Member in the Board of YES4:

S4 (Student Startup Support System) is GTU's initiative to develop and seed entrepreneurial culture among the students of GTU and the local ecosystem in general. Under S4 GTU has been able to take up a variety of programs that are steering the course of University in this direction. Programs such as week-end co-creation workshops, startup showcases, mentoring sessions have been taken up. The ripple effect of the S4 programs is now also visible in the S4 Extension Centers at constituent colleges for building more localized programs at the grassroots level.

As is crucial to all enterprise and venture development processes around the world, mentorship and sharing of industry knowledge are very important building blocks of startup nurturing. S4, therefore, wants to provide this crucial input to the participants of the S4 program. To this end S4 invites young entrepreneurs in Gujarat and in the entrepreneurial community beyond too to be a part of the S4 network that will provide mentorship to the startups/students through various S4 programs. The network will be known as **YES4**, reflecting both the positive energy of the word yes and the spirit of S4 initiative.

GTU has a large network of entrepreneurs, who are connected with it through its GTU Innovation Sankuls program. So GTU expects to be able to obtain the help of a large number of young entrepreneurs for mentoring its budding entrepreneurs.

INVITAION: The individuals who wish to be a part of the mentor network are invited to get in touch with us through:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QnyybfFLDTsUvNfR6t4UgUxDnu\\_nUaIH1EEXCQkZJqc/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QnyybfFLDTsUvNfR6t4UgUxDnu_nUaIH1EEXCQkZJqc/viewform)

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### *A Note 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. The first cohort of 4-Year degree engineering and pharmacy students entered the Final Year during the academic year 2011-12. During that year, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010, GTU began the GTU Innovation Council ( Today it is, 'by a long long shot' the most active Innovation Council in the country.)
- On 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011, students of VGEC and a few faculty members went on the first Shodh Yatra to Naroda industrial estate, as a pilot. It proved to be highly successful.

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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 projects. 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 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Apr/22042013_GTU.pdf). ) Another one-day workshop was organized on 19<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> 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>. )

Efforts to introduce Design orientation into different subjects of engineering were initiated. (Please see [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/DDA\\_Workshop.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/DDA_Workshop.pdf))

Earlier in November-December 2011, two sessions of 2-hours each had been taken by Dr Vikram Parmar for the Final Year students, who were working on their projects.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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>

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Report:

[http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU\\_inovation\\_sankul/Entrepreneurship Works hop 25th Event Report- GIC Format.pdf](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](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLTHz_vBkSE&feature=relmfu)

<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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU\\_inovation\\_sankul/4612.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU_inovation_sankul/4612.pdf);  
Brochure at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU\\_inovation\\_sankul/28512.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/GTU_inovation_sankul/28512.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. (Report at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12SEP/12092012.pdf>.)

- CKSVM, Vadodara organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12NOV/19112012_06.pdf).

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- “Start-Ups 2020” on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2013.

The announcement is available at:

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

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

(Report at [http://gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Apr/S4\\_3-5May%202013.pdf](http://gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Apr/S4_3-5May%202013.pdf))

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, ACPC building, LDCE complex, Ahmedabad -380015. Within the very 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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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 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.

The circular for S4-C3 Center was issued through [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13June/S4\\_Circular-7th%20June%202013%20for%20students\\_faculties\\_GTU.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13June/S4_Circular-7th%20June%202013%20for%20students_faculties_GTU.pdf) and [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12Aug/13082012\\_02.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/12Aug/13082012_02.pdf).

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>.

- S4 hosted TLabs Mixer of TOI group to connect students to seed funding agencies on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at S4-C3.

(Report at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13June/17062013.pdf>)

- The first meeting for creating S4 Extension centers was organized on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013.

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(Report at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/Report\\_31st\\_Aug\\_2013.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/Report_31st_Aug_2013.pdf); Brochure at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Aug/27082013.pdf>)

- S4 Entre Week-end was organized on 13-15 September 2013 at G4-C3.  
(Report at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Oct/01102013\\_01.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Oct/01102013_01.pdf); Brochure at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/04092013.pdf>)
- On 20-21 September, 2013, an S4 extension center was established at Parulk Group of Institutions.  
(Report at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/Revised\\_report\\_cc.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/Revised_report_cc.pdf))
- S4 Student Start-up Showcase Stage (S4-S4) for student entrepreneurs was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 at the Chandkheda campus.  
(Brochure at [http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/S4-S4\\_Ver%202.pdf](http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Sept/S4-S4_Ver%202.pdf))
- NEN Coordinated Workshop for capacity building of S4 Extension centers was organized on October 12, 2013.  
(Brochure at <http://www.gtu.ac.in/circulars/13Oct/NENWorkshop-12Oct2013.pdf>)

Thus S4 movement is spreading fast and GTU hopes to be able to establish active S4 Extension centers in 25 Colleges by the end of the academic year.