

GCOPA-National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP)

Version-Dec. 2020

1.VISION

To establish a vibrant innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem to develop indigenous and sustainable solutions for addressing the societal needs

2.MISSION

To create a strong innovation ecosystem encompassing young innovative minds of students and the research experience of faculty members to develop indigenous and sustainable solutions for addressing the societal needs. To promote entrepreneurship in the key thrust areas of science and Technology by strengthening industry- institute collaboration. To partner with government, industry, alumni network, angel investors and venture capitalists to facilitate smooth realization of innovations from ideation to commercialization stage.

Long Term Objectives:

1. To establish an innovation hub with world class pre-incubation facilities in collaboration with government funding agencies and ecosystem enablers.
2. To inculcate a culture of innovation and strong entrepreneurship capabilities among students and faculty members to incubate successful startups through institution's incubation facility
3. To facilitate good number of technology transfers, technology licensing and commercialization of technologies developed by faculty members and students.
4. Optimizing the use of resources towards innovation and entrepreneurship leading to attainment of higher ranks in various rankings of Government of India and other reputed agencies.

Short Term Objectives:

1. To encourage participation of students in various competitions involving innovation and business plan competitions and organize boot camps /Hackathons in campus at least twice a year.
2. To encourage faculty members to attend and organize workshops /trainings /certificate courses on innovations, entrepreneurship, IPR and venture development.
3. To develop a performance matrix to assess the contributions of faculty members/staff towards innovation and entrepreneurship and incentivize / reward the top performers on annual basis.
4. To connect academic processes with innovation and entrepreneurship.

3.GOVERNANCE AND OPERATION

3.1 Institution Innovation Council The institution has established an Institution Innovation Council (IIC) as per the guidelines of MHRD Innovation Cell to promote and streamline the Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I & E) activities among the faculty members and students of the institution. The IIC and its functions are approved by the Principal, GCOP, Amravati.

3.2 Responsibilities One of the primary objectives of the IIC is to develop and implement Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I & E) strategy and policy for the entire institute in order to integrate the entrepreneurial activities across various centers, departments and faculties within the institute, integrating several disciplines of study. The major responsibilities of the IIC shall include, but are not limited to:

- organizing entrepreneurship promotion activities and events
- supporting student and faculty members who work on entrepreneurial fronts with seed funding and organize review meetings to monitor the progress of innovation and entrepreneurship activities

- organizing networking events to create a platform for the budding entrepreneurs to meet investors and pitch their ideas, in coordination with GCOP, Amravati Wherever necessary
- coordinating with the GCOPA- IPR Cell for IP licensing
- coordinating with GCOP- Entrepreneurship Cell, Amravati for incubation related activities

4. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The institution shall support the staff members and the students in innovation and entrepreneurship related activities in the form of seed funding, mentoring, motivation and incentives as detailed in the following sub sections.

4.1 Use of College Resources and IP Rights

4.1.1 Use of Resources by college staff and students

The staff members and students are allowed to use the college resources such as laboratories, research centers and other such facilities for their innovation and entrepreneurship activities. Certain facilities and instruments which are highly specialized will be charged nominally through IRG Cell. The use of space, resources and incubation facilities availed at GCOP, Amravati will be governed as per the norms of the Director of Technical Education, Mumbai if used.

4.1.2 Use of Resources by External Agencies and Alumni

The internal resources of the college are generally not accessible to anyone who is not associated with the college either as an employee or a student. When involving external agencies and collaborators, permission from the faculty in charge or department head will be required duly forwarded by IRG Cell. This is applicable for the alumni of the college as well.

4.2 Seed funding

The institution may provide funding support in the form of seed grant to aspiring student innovators to develop early stage prototypes. The ideas for funding will be identified through an Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I & E) expert committee set up for the purpose and the funds will be channelized through IIC. IIC will be provided with a budget by the college to manage the activities. This allocation will be reflected in the college budget.

4.2.1 Inter-disciplinary clusters Cross departmental linkages shall be given special preference while selecting the ideas for seed funding described in section 4.2. Hence, it is encouraged to form inter-disciplinary innovation clusters in order to gain maximum utilization of internal resources and knowledge.

4.3 Mentorship and Guidance Institution will provide necessary mentorship and guidance for supporting innovation and entrepreneurship through IIC. An ICT based Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I & E) Toolkit will be developed and made available for public access to faculty members and students of the institution through web and mobile user interfaces. IIC will create and maintain a collaborative online platform for linking student start-ups so that they may be able to share their challenges, to link with suitable mentors and to catalyze cross pollination of innovative ideas and to leverage complimentary resources and skill sets.

4.4 Licensing of IPR to Startups

Ideally the students are expected to create their startup based on the technology developed or co-developed by them. Alternatively, they may also use the technology that is owned by the college, by means of taking a license on the said invention, by paying an one-time license fees by following the existing norms of IRG Cell

4.5 IP Rights and Ownership

Any IP developed by the incubated company while using college resources through CSRC procedures shall be the property of the company. However, before filing such IP application, the permission of the IPR cell of the college is necessary. Besides, the incubated company is

expected to grant non-exclusive, royalty-free license to the college to the IP generated by the company, so that the college can demonstrate them for noncommercial purposes and academic recognitions.

5. ENTREPRENEURIAL ENGAGEMENT OF FACULTY MEMBERS

- Supporting students in innovation and entrepreneurship related activities will be considered as a legitimate activity of the faculty members of the institution in addition to teaching, R&D projects, industrial consultancy and other administrative duties. Senior faculty members are encouraged to mentor at least one startup in a year. Faculty members participation in workshops / training programmes / certificate courses on Innovations, Entrepreneurship, IPR and venture development would be encouraged so that they get better equipped to mentor the aspiring student entrepreneurs.
- Product development and commercialization as well as nurturing of startups would be added to a bucket of faculty duties and such mentoring activities will be suitably motivated, rewarded and reflected in annual performance appraisal policy of the institution. The role of the faculty members in student startups may vary from being mentors, expert consultants or as technical advisors.
- Depending on the kind of support provided by the faculty members, they may take their mentoring /consultation fee from the student startups in terms of profit share from the student startups after they start making profits. Such payments will be executed through IRG Cell as per the prevailing norms of the institution.
- Faculty members may dedicate up to four working days per month for the start-up related activities with due permission from the concerned Head of the Department and the Head of the Institution. However, it is to be ensured that academic work of teaching, assessments, examinations and research activities are not affected at any cost.

6. NORMS FOR STUDENT STARTUPS

The college will allow the students to work on their innovative projects and setting up technology based start-ups or work as an intern in startups. During their enrolment, the students will be allowed to be owners of the companies, be a Director on the Board or be employed in a staff member led company. Also, they may be free to play an operational role like Technical Advisor, CEO, CTO, MD etc. However, academic work is not to be compromised and startup related activities are permissible towards final year of their studies. The designation used are notional and do not change the status of student for any other purpose.

6.1 Student Engagement in Start-ups and Academic

Benefits In order to prepare the interested students to transform themselves as budding entrepreneurs, integration of innovation and entrepreneurship activities with academic processes will be exercised in a slow and steady pace with due diligence. Students are free to dedicate any time outside their regular academic hours and duties towards their companies.

Besides, student entrepreneurs may earn academic credits for their efforts in working on innovative prototypes / business models with an intent of setting up a start-up with a possible incubation under GCOP, Amravati. They will be allowed to earn credits by opting for startup related activities in place of the courses under the category of Employability Enhancement Courses (EEC) in UG and PG curriculum. Interdisciplinary / multidisciplinary areas will be given special preference in such cases as described in section 4.2.1. This has to be approved by the I&E expert committee and subsequently ratified by the Academic Council. It is advised that such teams are to be formed from various disciplines and a single discipline is generally discouraged.

The I & E expert committee will review the startup/ innovation proposals submitted by students and give approval for credit conversion. Such proposals should clearly define the objectives and the expected tangible outcomes in a clear and objective manner. At the end of the designated semester, the student teams are expected to make a presentation on the progress to the I & E expert committee which will then recommend grades based on the level of attainment of the stated objectives. Apart from undergraduate and post graduate students, PhD scholars may be allowed to base their startup on their theses or dissertation with due approval from their respective supervisors.

6.2 Use of College owned IP

If a staff or a student intends to base their Startup on the college owned IP for which they may or may not be the inventors, they will be required to incubate their company by taking licensing of the IP with due consent and approval from the concerned inventors and IRG Cell. The financial commitments are to be followed as per the norms of IRG Cell of the College.

7. DISPUTE

7.1 Violation. Breach of the provisions of this policy shall be dealt with under the normal procedures of the college and in accordance with the relevant provisions of laws and regulations as prescribed by the Higher and Technical Education Department, Govt. of Maharashtra.

7.2 Dispute Resolution.

7.2.1 Any internal disputes or questions of interpretation arising under this Policy must in the first instance be referred to IIC.

7.2.2 If the matter cannot be resolved by the IIC within their purview of operation, then the dispute or question of interpretation must be referred to the I & E committee for mediation. In case of IPR related disputes, IPR Cell will be consulted.

7.2.3 If the matter cannot be resolved by the I & E committee, it may decide to refer the matter to Chairman of Governing Council, who will have a final say on the matter of dispute.

7.2.4 It's the sole discretion of the Chairman of Governing Council to refer the matter to an independent committee for arbitration as final arbiter of any disputed issues or for final decision.

8. REVIEW

This policy is as per the MHRD's National Innovation and Startup policy 2019 for students and faculty members and Maharashtra Government startup policy 2018-23 based on the change in these policies time to time. This policy is subject to the review once in 3 years. However, minor amendments can be done as and when necessary and whenever policy changes are introduced in the central and state government start up policies. The college is empowered to make suitable changes in policies and introduce new policies as and when found necessary.

9. REFERENCES

1. National Innovation and Startup Policy 2019 for Students and Faculty MHRD, GOI www.mhrd.gov.in / www.mic.gov.in
2. Maharashtra state Innovative start-up Policy – 2018 Maharashtra State Innovation Society (MSInS), Department of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of Maharashtra



Principal
Govt. College of Pharmacy
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Govt. College of Pharmacy, Amravati Maharashtra

GCOPA-National Innovation and Startup Policy (NISP)

Version-Oct. 2021

The 'National Student and Faculty Startup Policy-2019' is initiated by MHRD's Innovation Cell and AICTE. It is a guiding framework to envision an educational system oriented towards start-ups and entrepreneurship opportunities for student and faculties.

The guidelines provide ways for developing entrepreneurial agenda, managing Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) ownership, technology licensing and equity sharing in Start-ups or enterprises established by faculty and student and encourage them to actively pursue path of innovation and entrepreneurship

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Investment in the entrepreneurial activities should be a part of the institutional financial strategy. Minimum 1% fund of the total annual budget of the institution should be allocated for funding and supporting innovation and startups related activities through creation of separate 'Innovation fund'.

The strategy should also involve raising funds from diverse sources to reduce dependency on the public funding. Bringing in external funding through government (state and central) such as DST, DBT, MHRD, AICTE, TDB, TIFAC, DSIR, CSIR, BIRAC, NSTEDB, NRDC, Startup India, Invest India, MeitY, MSDE, MSME, etc. and non-government sources should be encouraged.

Institute may also raise funding through sponsorships and donations. Institute should actively engage alumni network for promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship (I&E).

4.2.1 Inter-disciplinary clusters Cross departmental linkages shall be given special preference while selecting the ideas for seed funding described in section 4.2. Hence, it is encouraged to form inter-disciplinary innovation clusters in order to gain maximum utilization of internal resources and knowledge.

4.3 Mentorship and Guidance Institution will provide necessary mentoring and other relevant services through Pre-incubation/Incubation units in-return for fees, equity sharing and (or) zero payment basis through IIC. An ICT based Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I & E) Toolkit will be developed and made available for public access to faculty members and students of the institution through web and mobile user interfaces. IIC will create and maintain a collaborative online platform for linking student start-ups so that they may be able to share their challenges, to link with suitable mentors and to catalyze cross pollination of innovative ideas and to leverage complimentary resources and skill sets.

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Student support will be as follows:

- Induction program about the importance of I&E to be conducted the first year students. So that freshly inducted students are made aware about the entrepreneurial agenda of the institute and available support systems
- Supporting the students in terms of providing address for their Incubation cell, Semester break, attendance and accommodation.
- Student clubs/ bodies/ departments must be created for organizing competitions, boot camps, workshops, awards, etc.
- 'Innovation & Entrepreneurship Award' to recognize outstanding ideas, successful enterprises and contributors
- Innovation champions would be nominated within the students/ faculty/ staff for each department/ stream of study

6.2 Use of College owned IP

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