WOMEN'S EDUCATION SOCIETY'S
SMT. MANORAMABAI MUNDLE
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

# INNOVATION AND START-UP POLICY 2020

# W.E.S's Smt.Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture

## INNOVATION AND START-UP POLICY

## Introduction

Discovery, Creativity, and Innovation are hallmarks of SMMCA. As one of the India's premier architecture institutes, imparting education to girl students only, it is committed to ensuring excellence through creativity and innovation. In doing so, SMMCA advances knowledge, addresses pressing societal needs and creates an academic environment enriched through diverse perspectives where all individuals can flourish. We seek to serve society through both teaching and scholarship, to educate successive generations of leaders, and to pass on to students a renewable set of skills and commitment to social engagement.

SMMCA endeavours to integrate education, research, and service so that each enriches and extends the others. This integration promotes academic excellence and nurtures innovation and scholarly development.

We are committed to overall academic excellence through exploration of diverse contexts and innovations through collaborative research. Respect for cultural and social diversities is linked to academic excellence. We hold ourselves to the highest standards of ethics, as a beacon for our community and the world. Through education, we emphasize the power of discovery and the foundation of critical and analytic thinking. We foster creativity, challenge the boundaries of knowledge, and cultivate independence of mind through unique interdisciplinary partnerships. Ours is a proud culture of innovation, collaboration and discovery that has transformational impact on the society.

In tune with the global trends in higher technological education, SMMCA is keen to encourage entrepreneurship amongst its faculty members, research scholars, and post-graduate as well as undergraduate students. It will benefit both the Institute as well as society at large.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the Start-Up Action plan in January 2016 with the intention of building a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and start-ups across the country. To encourage innovation and entrepreneurship related activities among students/faculties, Government of India has released the National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019 for students and faculty of Higher Education Institutions. It is guiding framework to enable the Institutes to actively engage students, faculties and staff in innovation and entrepreneurship related activities.

Taking into consideration the recommendations made by MAHARASHTRA STATE INNOVATIVE START-UP POLICY 2018 , Govt. of India's National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019 for Students and Faculty, it is proposed to formulate a Start-up Policy for our Institute. In first stage committee was formed to guide us for formulating policy.

The experts who are part of the Innovation and Start-up Policy Formulation Committee at Institute level are as follows:

## Innovation and Start-up Policy Committee at Institute level

| Sr.No. | Name | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Dr. Shyamla Nayar | Director & Secretary of Women's education Society |
| 2 | Dr. Ujwalla Chakradeo | Principal, Smt.M.M.College of Architecture |
| 3 | Dr. Sujata Godbole | NISP Coordinator, Associate Professor |
| 4 | Dr.Pravin Dwaramwar | Director, RCOEM Technology Business Incubators Foundation |
| 5 | Ar. Rajiv Choudhary | Architect |
| 6 | Ar.Sonal Fuke | Alumni |
| 7 | Mr. Shashi Choudhary | Co-Founder Thriive Pvt.Ltd. |
| 8 | Mr. Sameer Bendre | Chief People's Officers, Persistent Systems |
| 9 | Mr. Vivek Deshpande | Founder and Director, Space Wood Furnishes Pvt.Ltd. |
| 10. | R.Ramakrishnam | Co-Founder, CoResource Enterprises Pvt.Ltd. |
| 11. | Dr.Sunil Bhatt | Professor, VNIT |
| 12. | Dr. Yogesh Deshpande | Professor, VNIT |
| 13. | Dr.Ushoshi Guha | IPR Expert |
| | | |

The scope of this document is to define the policies and procedures for SMMCA's innovation and pre-incubation Centre. This policy document provides guidelines to actively support faculty members and students to participate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship related activities. The policy is subjected to Periodical review and amendments.

Implementation of Govt. of India's National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019 at our institute level will be achieved through our vision and mission statements.

**Vision**

Our vision is to reach global standards by deliberate modernization without losing the essential characteristics of our tradition.

We wish to produce socially responsible architects with sensitivity towards social issues of immediate contexts, national concerns and global effects and creative approach towards life.

**Mission of SMMCA's Centre**

The goal of SMMCA is to support Architecture based start-up and promote technology-based entrepreneurship. With the vision for building a healthier ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship.

**Objectives**

- To promote innovation and assist start-ups by establishing and providing physical infrastructure.
- To Provide a platform and cultivate the entrepreneurial aspirations amongst Students.
- To provide pre-incubation services to innovation and start-ups by facilitating technology, services, and guidance.
- To Develop better cognitive abilities amongst students.
- Organize periodic workshops, seminars and interactions with entrepreneurs, investors and professionals and create a mentor pool for student innovators.

Our Short-term goals is to promote innovation and facilitate development of an entrepreneurial ecosystem in organization by developing a preincubation centre in first stage and organizing workshops related to Start-ups, IPR, Funding, Govt. policies, programs etc.

Long term goal: To develop an Incubation centre.

To begin with, SMMCA is developing Pre-incubation centre in accordance with the guidelines of Govt. of India's National Innovation and Start-up Policy 2019.

Pre-incubation centre will offered support to groups/teams having an idea which can be converted into a start-up venture and have not yet incorporated a company. The idea could be at the initial stage or developing a proof of concept.

Pre-incubation centre will give advice regarding appropriate training programs on entrepreneurship, incubation facilities, services, grants and other funding programs, fundraising process, etc. and networking opportunities and connections with the entrepreneurs both within and outside the alumni network. During this period, faculty members, researchers and students will work on validating their ideas for technical feasibility and market viability before approaching incubators and/or investors. Pre-incubators would be networked with external Incubators to facilitate exchange of thoughts, ideas and collaboration across institutions and disciplines. Students can work in centre from 9 am to 6 pm.

Facilities/ infrastructure offered by pre-incubation centre will be as follows:

- Mentoring
  - Office space
  - Computers – up to two, depending on the team size
  - Printer
  - Internet connection
  - Phone lines (Intercom)
  - Furniture
  - Electricity

## Guidelines for Involvement of ICT Faculty, Staff, Research Scholars and Students in Start-ups

### Norms for Student Start-ups

1. Students can set up a start-up including social start-ups and working part-time for the start-ups while studying.
2. Institute will allow their students to work on their innovative projects and setting up start-ups with the same idea.
3. INSTITUTE will allow students to work as intern / part-time in any start-ups while studying.
4. The area in which a student wants to initiate a start-up may be interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary.
5. Students who are under INSTITUTE incubation and are pursuing some entrepreneurial ventures while studying can use their address in our institute to register their company with due permission from the institution management.
6. If the student entrepreneurs have less attendance than the prescribed percentage, then they are provided flexible timing for compensation classes.
7. Student entrepreneurs may earn academic credits for their efforts while creating a start-up business. INSTITUTE will set up a review committee for the review of innovative start-up by students, and based on the progress made, it may also be considered for giving appropriate credits in the academics.
8. Our institute can provide residential facilities to entrepreneurs if they are starting a start-up within the campus for some period during their Incubation period.

### Norms for Faculty Start-ups

1. Roles of faculty may vary from being an advisor or mentor or consultant or as on-board members of the start-up.
2. Institute has developed a policy on 'conflict of interests' to ensure that the regular duties of the faculty will not get disturbed due to his/her involvement in the start-up activities.

3. Faculty start-up may consist of faculty members alone or with students or with alumni or with other entrepreneurs.
4. Faculty must clearly separate and distinguish on-going research at our institute from the work conducted at their start-up company.
5. In case of selection of a faculty start up by an outside national Incubator or international accelerator, a maximum leave (as sabbatical/ existing leave/ unpaid leave/ casual leave/ earned leave) of one semester/ year or even more depending upon the decision of review committee constituted by our institute) may be permitted to the faculty.
6. Faculty shall not involve research staff or other staff of institute in activities at the start-up and vice-versa.
7. No restriction for faculty/staff in starting a start-up if they do not spend more than 20% of office time on the start-up in an advisory or consultative role and do not compromise with their existing academic and administrative work / duties.
8. In case the faculty/ staff holds the executive or managerial or full time Director position for more than three months in a start-up, then they will go on sabbatical or leave without pay.
9. Participation in start-up related activities is considered as a legitimate activity of faculty in addition to teaching, R&D projects, industrial consultancy, and management duties and are considered while evaluating the annual performance of our participating faculty.
10. In spirit of NISP guidelines, product development and commercialization as well as participating and nurturing of start-ups would now be added to their existing faculty-duties and any faculty can choose a mix and match of these activities (in addition to minimum required teaching, research, administrative and other academic duties) and then respective faculty are evaluated accordingly for their performance and promotion.

Principal
Smt. M. M. College of
Architecture, Nagpur.