



STUDENTS' GYMKHANA
IIT Kanpur

Students' Gymkhana Document

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THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CELL

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The Entrepreneurship Cell

The Need

The last few years have seen the students' new-found interest in management and finance related coursework, which is surely a positive sign; yet, much needs to be done to kindle an “*enterprising culture*” on campus. **SIIC**, in the last few years, has seen quite a few alumni returning to setup their own companies. The basic requirement for getting incubation from **SIIC** is a viable business plan, which is a long way from having just a business idea. **SIIC** is limited by its role as an incubation centre, and therefore, cannot play the part of a full-time mentor and knowledge resource during the learning and growth process of a business plan. Though an excellent venture in itself, **SIIC** is not seen by the student body as ‘their own’. Thus, the student body, by and large, has remained unaware of the benefits of having an incubation centre on campus.

The Concept

Starting this year, we propose to setup an “**Entrepreneurship Cell**” (**E-cell**) to promote entrepreneurial activities, generate awareness among students regarding entrepreneurship and to enthuse, assist and mentor students to start entrepreneurial ventures.

For this purpose, the **E-cell** will

- Organize lectures, workshops and seminars by renowned personalities from different domains of expertise, competitions of various kinds etc. round-the-year in order to create awareness and to sharpen business acumen of students and aspiring entrepreneurs.
- Mentor students/others who have business ideas by bringing expertise to their doorstep. The **E-cell** would be a networking hub for students aspiring to be entrepreneurs and also play a role in team building as a part of its mentorship. Mentoring the students at an early stage by giving proper direction and necessary exposure would be crucial in converting technical ideas/projects into viable business plans.
- Be an interface between the entrepreneurial activity in IIT Kanpur and the outside world, a consolidation of logistic and knowledge resources necessary to make a business plan and set up an enterprise.
- Form permanent associations with professional bodies and organizations, Universities, corporations, media etc. to facilitate exchange of ideas and to promote entrepreneurial ventures. Knowledge partnerships will play an important role in engaging good expertise for the benefit of entrepreneurial activity at IIT Kanpur. Associations with venture capital firms and seed funds would be crucial in the setup of new ventures.

Note: McMaster University (Canada), The Indus Entrepreneurs, Melbourne (TiE), National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN), The Boston Pledge Group (USA), INSOL India are already associates of Megabucks 2007, and these would be transferred to E-cell as permanent associations.

- Promote new technological and intellectual property-based ventures.
- Give permanent membership to all its members, so that the benefit of mentorship and the E-cell resources can be availed of even after graduating from the institute.

Structure

*For the initial period the **E-Cell** will work under Presidential Council.* For initiating the tasks, personnel who will deliver the below mentioned duties will be needed.

Faculty Advisor, E-Cell: Would be chosen by the Over All Coordinator in consultation with the Students Senate, IIT Kanpur for a period of One Year.

Overall Coordinator: Supervision of and coordination between different functions of the cell.

Industry Relations Manager: Networking with Alumni, Industry Experts, Funding Organizations, Professors and other E-cells.

Events Coordinator: Designing of fine print in various contests, programs organized and hosting of events that are a part of such contests, programs.

Publicity Manager: Design and outreach of various Publicity media.

Webmaster: Design and maintenance of website.

Funds Manager: Pitching for sponsorships and finance management.

All of the above (except Faculty Advisor, E-Cell) will be appointed through an interview process. Interview Panel will consists of President, Students' Gymkhana & respective previous year's coordinator along with the previous year's over all coordinator.

Note: For this year we don't have any previous year's coordinator(s), hence Students' senate can nominate person(s) banking upon their experience for the interview panel.

The lifetime membership of the **E-cell** would be open to all students and alumni of IIT Kanpur free of cost, subject to registration with the **E-cell** as an "**E-cell member**". The **E-cell** will strive to attract the best talent on campus, from all batches and departments.

Finances

For this year **E-Cell** can work in collaboration with GLDC to organize lectures, discussion & workshops. Other expenses will be taken care by the sponsorships & Presidential Council.

Future

This whole thing must be looked up again after a year's performance. Depending on the performance of the **E-Cell**, need may arise to separate it from the Presidential Council.