

Activities of IGNOU Institution's Innovation Council in 2019

1. First Meeting of the reconstituted IGNOU Institution's Innovation Council (IIC 2.0)

The first meeting of the reconstituted IGNOU's Institution's Innovation Council (IIC 2.0) was organized on December 19, 2019. The council meeting was chaired by Prof. R. R. Kanhere, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and total 35 members participated in the meeting which included IGNOU faculty members, external experts from industry & banking sector and innovator students of IGNOU. It also include IGNOU alumni members. it was suggested to work on various aspects in small working groups to develop specific mechanism and modalities to promote and support innovation and startup among IGNOU students and faculty. It was also suggested that activities and achievements of IIC should be shared with other stakeholders through different social media. The innovator students should be given exposure to the Incubation Centres, Industries and Startup companies.



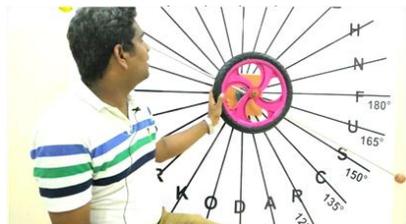
2. Half day Seminar on “Innovator Speaks: Stories of Innovation by IGNOU Students”

NCIDE, under the aegis of the Institution's Innovation Council, organised a half day Seminar on Innovator Speaks: Stories of Innovation by IGNOU Students at the Committee Room, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Convention Centre, IGNOU on 20th November, 2019. The objectives of the Seminar were to discuss about the innovations carried out by the IGNOU student innovators and guide them for further improvement of their innovations. Basically, it was aimed at mentoring them for future. These student innovators are the winners of the Student Innovation Award 2019. A large number of faculty members were present at the seminar to support and encourage the IGNOU student innovators and interact with them. Prof. R. R. Kanhere, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and Prof. Satyakam, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, graced the occasion with their benign presence and interacted with the student innovators and guided them.



3. “My Story - Innovator’s Life & Crossroad -Motivational Speak”

The IIC organised a storytelling event “Innovator’s Life and Crossroads” on 30th October, 2019 at NCIDE, IGNOU, New Delhi. The objective was to listen to the motivational story of a student Innovator, Mr. Kailash Kumar. He was awarded the third prize in the Student Innovation Award 2019 programme. He has designed an innovative device called the “Eye Rotation Pendulum” to be used for the visual therapy of the patients with refractive errors. The participants included the faculty members of various schools of studies of IGNOU.



4. One Day Workshop on “Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career Opportunity”

The IIC organised, a workshop on “Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career opportunity” on 15th October 2019 at IGNOU Regional Centre Delhi-2, Rajghat, New Delhi. The resource persons were the NCIDE faculty members. About eighty students participated. The students generated approximately 500 ideas on the themes viz. food and agriculture, rural development, clean energy and alternate



fuel, clean water and water management, swachhta initiatives and waste management, health care and hygiene, smart transportation and traffic management, smart city and urban development, social issues and security system, technological innovation and education and Open University system. Out of the 500 ideas 24 unique, new, useful and socially relevant ideas were selected on which further work could be carried out.

5. Innovation Day and Event titled “Student Innovation and Startup Day”

In order to inculcate the spirit of innovation among students, IGNOU IIC, NCIDE in collaboration with IGNOU Regional Centre Delhi-2 celebrated the ‘Student Innovation and Start-up Day’ on 15th October 2019 at IGNOU Regional Centre Delhi-2, Rajghat, New Delhi. On the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the Former President of India, this programme was organised as a tribute to a visionary and great son of India. About a hundred participants



including IGNOU students, Coordinators/Programme In-Charges of IGNOU Study Centres of Delhi NCR and the staff members of NCIDE and Regional Centre Delhi-2 attended the programme. On this occasion mainly three activities were organised which included an inspiring talk on Innovation and Start-up for IGNOU students, presentation on Idea to Start-up scheme of IGNOU and a workshop on Idea generation. Prof. S. P. Mishra, former Director, National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NISBUD) and former Vice Chancellor, Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar, gave an inspiring talk on innovation and start up for the IGNOU students and told them how they can work on developing their ideas into commercial products or startups. A presentation on Idea to Start-up scheme of IGNOU was also given where the students were informed about this scheme of idea to startup scheme of IGNOU by the NCIDE faculty members. Additionally, a workshop on “Entrepreneurship and Innovation as Career opportunity” was organised.

6. One Day Workshop on Problem Solving/Design Thinking titled “Creative and Innovative Teaching through ODL”

The IGNOU Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC) organised a “One-day Workshop on Creative and Innovative Teaching through ODL” on September 24, 2019. The objectives of the Workshop were to create awareness about creative teaching and innovation in the ODL system with an aim to inculcate innovative thinking among the students using various models. The participants included the faculty members from eleven Schools of Studies and three Divisions. Professor Prabir Kumar Biswas, an eminent Psychologist and Educationist and Professor in STRIDE was invited as the expert resource person. In the sessions conducted by him, the creative aspect of the faculty members in their teaching-learning methods were discussed. He emphasized that the teaching-learning material needs to be creatively designed keeping in mind the 21st century skills: Critical thinking, Creativity, Collaboration and Communication skills (4Cs).



7. Attended the First Festival of Innovations of MIC

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) Innovation Cell (MIC), on its Foundation Day, on September 11, 2019 celebrated the First Annual Innovation Festival at the AICTE Headquarters, New Delhi, where the MHRD Minister, Mr. Ramesh Pokriyal was the chief guest. The MIC invited IGNOU IIC to be a part of the celebration as the IIC is associated with MIC through the Institution Innovation Council, an initiative by the Ministry of HRD. The Convener of IGNOU IIC attended the event.

8. Organised a Committee Meeting to select Innovator Students for Regional Exhibition by MIC

The IIC received a communication from the MIC about a Regional Mentoring Session and Orientation Session of the Proof of Concepts (POCs) being organized on 10th August in New Delhi. As prescribed by the MIC an application form was circulated among the students to fill it up and eleven filled-in applications were received with their proof of concepts (POCs). An evaluation committee was constituted to select four POCs and nominate them to the MIC. The Committee on June 12, 2019 recommended the names of Parthiv Rameshchandra Bhatt, Vaibhav Singh Rathore, Faiz Anwar and Deepak.

9. Mentoring of Innovator Students for MIC Regional Competition in August, 2019

The students who participated in Festival of Ideas, were mentored to participate in the MIC Regional Competition in August, 2019. The students were guided on various aspects of the upcoming competition.

10. Screening of India First Leadership Talk Series on “Future of Technical Education in India” by Anil Shahastrabudhe, Chairman AICTE

A talk by Anil Shahastrabudhe on “Future of Technical Education in India” on 22 April, 2019 at 12 PM was organised by MIC. The IIC arranged to screen this talk. A question contest for the students was also organized prior to the talk and the IGNOU students were informed about it through Facebook and Regional Centres. The faculty of NCIDE watched the talk.

11. Screening of India First Leadership Talk Series on “Art of Decision Making” by Mr. Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor, India

The MHRD Innovation Cell (MIC) organised a talk by Mr. Ajit Doval on “The Art of Decision Making” on 19 March, 2019 at 11.30 AM. The IGNOU students were informed through Facebook and through Regional Centres. The faculty and staff of NCIDE and the students of IGNOU watched the talk.



12. Workshop on “Business Plan Development” for Students

A workshop on Business Plan Development was organised by IIC for all the selected students of the Idea Competition on 01st March 2019. The workshop was aimed to impart knowledge and skills related to



Intellectual Property Rights, Design thinking, and Business Plan Development and facilitate them to convert their ideas into innovative products and services.

13. Festival of Ideas

A Festival of Ideas was organized by the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC), NCIDE, for selected students on February 28 and 1st March, 2019 at IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi. In this Festival, the ideas selected on the basis of an 'Idea Competition' were showcased and presented by the ideators. The selected students were invited to participate and present their ideas in the Festival. Further, the students were mentored and nurtured through a workshop for developing business plan to work on their ideas. An abstract of the twenty ideas and innovations of the students was compiled and published by NCIDE. It is available at http://ignou.ac.in/userfiles/2_%20%20Abstracts%20of%20Idea%20Competition%202019.pdf.



14. One-day Workshop on “Cognitive Skills, Design Thinking and Critical Thinking”

A “One-day Workshop on Cognitive Skills, Design Thinking and Critical Thinking” was organized for the Research Scholars of IGNOU under the aegis of Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) on January 17, 2019. The main objectives of this one-day workshop were to sensitize the participants about cognitive skills, design thinking process and critical thinking in general, and education in particular, discuss how to improve their cognitive skills, metacognitive skills and critical thinking, and explain cognitive skills, design thinking process and critical thinking to them through individual and group activities. A total of forty research scholars participated. Professor Prabir Kumar Biswas, an eminent Psychologist and Educationist and Professor in Staff Training Research Institute of Distance Education (STRIDE) was invited as the expert resource person. He discussed the various aspects of cognitive thinking, design thinking process and critical thinking interacted with the participants. He administered several activities to the participants that were aimed at testing memory, attention, etc and design thinking steps, such as ideation using brainwriting and SCAMPER. The workshop was a huge success among the scholars and as per their feedback, more such workshops are required to be organised by the University.

