MAR BASELIOS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY (AUTONOMOUS)

Mar Ivanios Vidyanagar, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram-695015, KERALA

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Panel on Innovation and Start-up Policy Framework for Students, Faculty and Alumni, held on 25.09.2021(Saturday) 10:30 AM through Online (Google Meet)

Item 1.0	Identify the stakeholders of the Innovation and Startup ecosystem of MBCET

Decision	Panel was apprised that the Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology(MBCET) was started in 2002 with the solemn objective of creating a niche in engineering education and research in the capital city of Kerala. In view of the long term perspectives given in the National Education Policy, National Science Technology Policy and the National Innovation and Startup Policy for Educational Institutions released by the Union Government, the initiatives of the Government of Kerala and the importance of the innovation being highlighted by the affiliating APJ Abdul Kalam Technological university and the importance of excellence necessitated by the College Management, College has set its aim to work towards attaining a leading position in higher education in engineering and technology, and to build, side by side, an Innovation and Startup ecosystem to to facilitate the transformation the ideas into viable products/businesses. Through these pursuits the College would be able to create a socially relevant and academically advanced eco system for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship from the grassroots level to the modern advanced knowledge driven startups. Henceforth, it would be worthwhile to identify the stakeholders, beneficiaries and also the benefactors of the ecosystem. It was felt that College should not limit the support to the students alone when they were on the roll but expand the coverage to include a wider spectrum of beneficiaries.
	Following are identified as the stakeholders:
	
	    a. Students, members of faculty and staff and alumni of MBCET
	    b. MBCET Management
	    c. Kerala Startup Mission
	    d. Incubation centres: APJ AKTU TBI, Technopark TBI
	    e. Nodal agency for startups: Kerala Startup Mission
	    f. Funding agencies, banks, and investors
	    g. Industry and R&D organizations
	    h. Grassroot level innovators
	    i. Science, Technology Engineering innovators/startups,
	    j. APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University, Department of Higher Education(Government of Kerala),
	    k. Department of Science and Technology(Government of India),

Item 2.0	Define the entrepreneurial Vision and Mission of MBCET
Decision required	Panel has discussed at length about the role that can be played by the College in empowering people by promoting innovation and startups along with the formal channel of higher education. Panel has recommended the following statements: Vision: To be an Institution of Excellence that seamlessly promotes Innovation and Entrepreneurship for the benefit of the Society Mission: 1. Promote Innovation among the Students, Faculty and Alumni and enable them to translate the ideas into products and services

		2. Encourage the Students, Faculty, Staff and Alumni to contribute to socio-economic development through the building of start-ups and entrepreneurial ventures 3. Build a value based eco-system to promote start-ups and find means for accelerating the growth of the startups and entrepreneurial ventures 4. Foster entrepreneurship and enable success in small business management in a larger social perspective. 5. Endeavour to scale up the quality and standards of the deliverables of the eco-system
Item 3.0		**Define the long term goals that are to be aimed through the Institute Innovation and Startup Policy**
Decision		Following are the long term goals: 1. To create an eco-system where both faculty and students are an integral part of innovation and consultancy work. 2. To enable seamless conversion of idea to product/service for a variety of streams in science, technology, IT, education, finance and management. 3. To create institutional system for providing incubation space and mentoring for physical and virtual incubation 4. To develop the institution to become a hub for expert talents and innovations, where start-ups (products and service sectors) are supported through knowledge and accelerated funding provided by funding agencies and by providing seamless access to college infrastructure including library and lab facilities. 5. To develop bilateral and multilateral relations with incubators, research parks, leading academic institutions and international innovation clusters for advancing value-based innovation and entrepreneurship, thereby leading to the establishment of a Research Park of global reputation on the campus.
Item 4.0		**Define the short term goals that are to be aimed through the Institute Innovation and Startup Policy**
Decision		Following are the short term goals: 1. To improve innovation, creativity, and design thinking among the student/faculty community, encourage them to participate in competition and offer incubation support to commercially viable ideas 2. To assist student groups in prototyping their ideas by providing mentoring support, seed funding, and adequate resources 3. To evangelize entrepreneurship by conducting regular programmes, and credit-based courses, thereby inculcating the concept of business processes, economics and the need for market validation of idea to know the viability of the propositions 4. To promote internships with start-ups to develop a larger pool of students who are capable of leveraging technical and managerial aspects of a startup/small business 5. To encourage students to take up multi-disciplinary courses/projects and assign mentors from industry to promising students 6. To set up an Innovation fund for protecting IPR of students and employees 7. To build Tinkering Labs and Maker Space using a hub and spoke model to fruitfully utilize the laboratories of the College
Item 5.0		**High level Organizational Structure for governance and administration of the Policy at MBCET**

Decision	Panel reviewed the proposed Organizational Structure for the governance and administration of the Policy at MBCET and recommended the same. The same is presented in the Annexure.
Item 6.0	**Discussion on actions to be undertaken in the short term for actualizing the Policy**
Decision	Panel has discussed the need for promoting the knowledge and skills among the students that could make them equipped to work with start-ups as interns . This involvement would kindle the interest in them for innovations and develop the attitude for creative problem solving. Following list of actions have been recommended for actualizing the Policy to begin with: 1. Identifying pain points relevant to industry through interactions with different sections of society and encouraging students to take up multi-disciplinary courses/projects to solve socially relevant problems 2. Bringing in funding investors and student start-ups together, through annual investor pitching competitions and providing access to appropriate early adopter market from the college 3. Providing opportunities for students to work with start-ups as part of early incubation, thereby enabling a larger base of students in pursuing excellence 4. Encouraging faculty to improve course delivery to spark innovation and ensure independent thinking/critical thinking 5. Empowering faculty members having interests in engaging with start-ups 6. Enabling Bhub to be a nodal point where students from MBCET may interact with entrepreneurs and industry leaders and empowering students by creation of knowledge on sales and business 7. Creating awareness about the importance of customer orders, irrespective of awards/funding, and developing the ability to choose appropriate use cases so that ideas may translate into viable products 8. Focusing more on practical aspects when students take up minor baskets during their course of study 9. Making extensive use of pre-incubation training for faculty/students, offered by Kerala Start-up Mission 10. Providing access to Labs and Workshops even after regular working hours, for those students who need to work on the projects and prototyping activities
Item 7.0	**Any other matter-**
Decision	NIL
Item 8.0	**Date of next Meeting**
Decision	Panel suggested that the second meeting could be scheduled after a gap of one month so that members would get time to understand the policy framework and the objectives. Same has been noted.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15PM
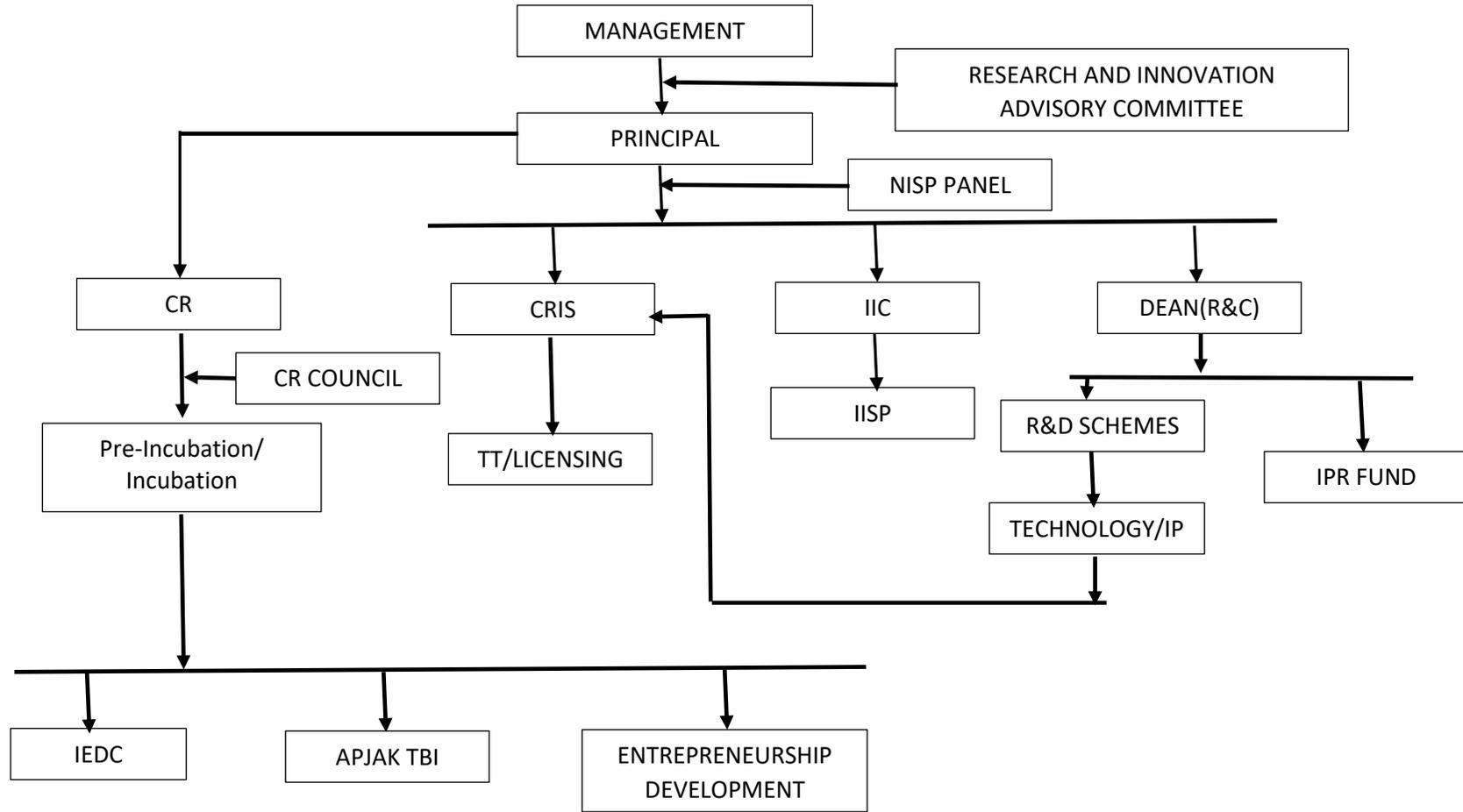
Ms Lani Rachel Mathew proposed the vote of thanks

Fig.1 High Level Organizational Structure

SCREENSHOTS