MAR BASELIOS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

CATALYST IEDC MBCET

ACTIVITY REPORT 2023

Catalyst

MBCET IEDC

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre of Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology, Catalyst was inaugurated in the year 2013 with a purpose of inspiring students to become independent engineers by exposing them to the world of Entrepreneurship through Innovation. The Centre aims to sharpen the skills of students, broadening their knowledge base and equipping them with technical and non-technical qualities that an engineer needs.

Rather than pushing students to startup, the centre believes in inculcating the entrepreneurial spirit in students. The members have identified the true joy of self-learning and they are passionately involved in bringing life into their ideas, to solve the problems that they see around. They know the importance of spreading this fire to ignite the minds of their fellow beings and hence have dedicated all their work in IEDC for this purpose, besides working on their own individual projects. Catalyst Mar Baselios IEDC aims in helping the students follow their dreams and passion to help them depart MBCET campus not just as engineering graduates, but as real practicing engineers who seek and solve problems.

Catalyst IEDC MBCET collaborated with Gtech µLearn and established a strong foundation for fostering skill development and peer-based learning among students. µLearn has been a transformative platform that bridges the gap between academic learning and practical skill development. Through its Discord platform, it provides access to a thriving community of peers and mentors who foster creativity, technical learning, and entrepreneurship. The collaborative environment, structured around micro peer groups, enables the earning of Karma Points while enhancing skills through interactive challenges and real-world projects. These Karma Points, recognized as a performance metric, motivate consistent learning and reflect individual contributions to the community. µLearn enriches technical and professional skill sets while instilling a sense of purpose and community, making it an indispensable part of the educational journey.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023

Designation	Name	Mail ID
Nodal Officer (Faculty)	Mr. Arun J S (Assistant Professor EC)	arun.js@mbcet.ac.in
Student Representatives		
Chief Executive Officer(CEO)	C Rachana (CS)	crachana563@gmail.com
Chief Operations Officer(COO)	Krishnapriya Deepak (CS)	krishpriyadk@gmail.com
Chief Technical Officer(CTO)	Ferwin Lopez (CS)	ferwinlopezt@gmail.com
Chief Creative Officer(CCO)	Diya S (CE)	diyas.b20ce1224@mbcet.ac.in
Chief Marketing Officer(CMO)	Bharat Raj S (EC)	bharathrajs.b21ec1123@mbcet.ac.in
Chief Finance Officer(CFO)	Adlu Rahman (CS)	adlurahman05@gmail.com
Chief Vibe Officer(CVO)	Abhiram Krishna (EC)	krishnaunni0471@gmail.com
Chief Skill Officer(CSO)	Aditya S (EC)	adisandeep2003@gmail.com
Head of Operations, Tribe	Shibin Shibu (CS)	shibinsb01@gmail.com
Creative Director, Tribe	Rahul V (CS)	thecanvasslayer143@gmail.com

EVENTS LIST

Sl No.	Name of Event	Start Date	End Date	Learners Engaged	UN SDG
1	Innovation Workshop on Idea Generation to Product Market Fit by Mr. Ajay Basil Varghese	14-01-2023	14-01-2023	95	SDG9
2	Inspire Talk Series (iTalk) on Progress Mindset and Perseverance by Mr. Gopikrishnan, CEO, BuildNext	14-01-2023	14-01-2023	95	SDG9
3	Entrepreneurship Workshop on How to Launch Your Startup	14-01-2023	14-01-2023	95	SDG9
4	Entrepreneurship workshop on How to launch your startup by Prof. Sarju S	15-01-2023	15-01-2023	95	SDG9
5	Inspire Talk Series (iTalk) on Incubation opportunities for students and faculty members by Mr. Vishal Kadam	15-01-2023	15-01-2023	95	SDG9
6	AI with Computer Vision	31-01-2023	01-02-2023	28	SDG4
7	We Have A Dream	10-02-2023	10-02-2023	35	SDG17
8	Catalyst Evening Cafe	27-03-2023	27-03-2023	15	SDG4
9	Challenge X	03-07-2023	11-07-2023	88	SDG4
10	Smart India Hackathon Prelims	27-09-2023	27-09-2023	186	SDG17
11	One-Day Technology and Problem Solving Bootcamp, RELEVENT	25-11-2023	25-11-2023	75	SDG9

1. Innovation Workshop on Idea Generation to Product Market Fit by Mr. Ajay Basil Varghese on 14 January 2023

Catalyst Mar Baselios IEDC conducted an Innovation Workshop on Idea Generation to Product Market Fit to provide students with a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship beyond product development, covering marketing, finance, and business management. The session, conducted on 15th January, had a total of 95 participants and was a 1 day programme which helped the participants give a new perspective on entrepreneurship. The session, led by **Mr. Ajay Basil Varghese**, focused on key entrepreneurial skills, emphasizing elevator pitches, where students practiced presenting their ideas concisely. Various interactive activities encouraged participants to think innovatively and visualize themselves as entrepreneurs. Drawing from his experience as the Nodal Officer at Adi Sankara TBI, he shared insights on navigating challenges in the startup ecosystem and the role of incubators in fostering innovation. He also spoke about his global engagements and India's growing entrepreneurial landscape.

2. Inspire Talk Series (iTalk) on Progress Mindset and Perseverance by Mr. Gopikrishnan, CEO, BuildNext on 14 January 2023

Catalyst Mar Baselios IEDC conducted an iTalk on Progress Mindset and Perseverance on 14th January, 2023, focusing on the importance of consistency, dedication, and strategic thinking in an entrepreneurial journey. The session was led by **Mr. Gopikrishnan**, CEO of BuildNext, a leading construction-tech company known for its futuristic methods. As an IIM alumnus with experience in top-tier firms, he shared valuable insights into transitioning from the corporate world to entrepreneurship with confidence and resilience.

Participants gained insights into startup investments, market trends, and risk management, along with the importance of client-focused product development. The session was particularly beneficial for civil and architecture students, who explored new perspectives on design thinking and modern construction practices. The event saw an active participation of 95 participants.

3. Entrepreneurship Workshop on How to Launch Your Startup on 14 January 2023
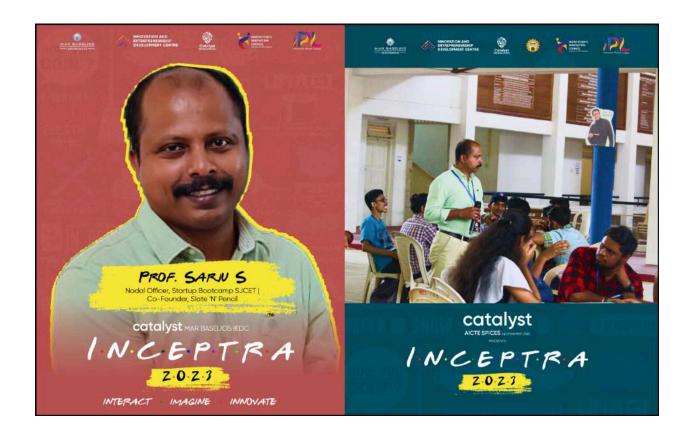
The start-up workshop on 14th January, 2023, conducted by **Mr. Arun J S**, provided an insightful overview of launching a start-up and understanding the factors that contribute to success. Utilizing the start-up presentation charts prepared by participants the previous day, Mr. Arun J S explained how problems can be addressed using existing solutions.

Participants refined their presentation charts by incorporating new perspectives and structuring their solutions systematically. The workshop concluded with final presentations, where teams pitched innovative solutions to observed problems. The session provided a comprehensive understanding of the entrepreneurial mindset, emphasizing problem-solving, creativity, and resilience in start-up development. The event witnessed wonderful participation, with 95 enthusiastic learners participating actively.

4. Entrepreneurship workshop on How to launch your startup by Prof. Sarju S on 15 January 2023

As part of the two-day startup bootcamp INCEPTRA held on 15th January 2023, which also involved a two day startup conclave, interactive sessions with innovators and entrepreneurs, idea creation workshops, marketing challenges, pitch fest, problem solving sessions, team building and fun activities. **Prof. Sarju S.**, Nodal Officer of Startup Bootcamp SJCET, was the Chief Guest for this session. He is an entrepreneur himself and is the Co-Founder of Slate'N'Pencil. His talk provided an insightful overview about startups and the factors behind making it successful. This event had a participation of 95 students who received valuable insights to entrepreneurships and startups.

5. Inspire Talk Series (iTalk) on Incubation opportunities for students and faculty members by Mr. Vishal Kadam on 15 January 2023

Mr. Vishal Kadam, founder of the IEDC Incubation Centre, delivered an insightful session on how the incubation centre empowers students and faculty to transform their startup ideas into successful ventures on 15th January, 2023. He highlighted the centre's role in nurturing innovative companies and expressed pride in its achievements, emphasizing its commitment to fostering future entrepreneurs.

He provided valuable insights into the mindset of leading executives and investors, stressing the importance of persistence, continuous learning, and strategic execution. He emphasized that an entrepreneur must not only develop solutions but also effectively position them in the market.

The session concluded with an inspiring vision for the future, urging participants to strive for continuous self-improvement and innovation, regardless of scale. It featured 95 learners, actively participating in various activities.

6. AI with Computer Vision on 31 January - 1 February 2023

The Faculty Development Program (FDP) on AI with Computer Vision was conducted on January 31 and February 1, 2023, with 28 participants in attendance. The workshop covered an introduction to Linux fundamentals, AI/ML environments, and Python, followed by hands-on training on NumPy, Pandas, and Matplotlib for data manipulation and visualization.

It also covered Machine Learning algorithms, data modeling with Scikit-learn, and computer vision techniques using OpenCV and Mediapipe, along with an introduction to deep learning. The session concluded with career insights and brainstorming discussions, equipping participants with practical AI/ML knowledge and industry-relevant skills.

7. We Have A Dream on 10 February 2023

A women-exclusive workshop and idea competition, 'We Have a Dream' was conducted by Catalyst IEDC and eNIX MBCET on 10th February, 2023 to explore entrepreneurial opportunities and highlight the contributions of women entrepreneurs. The event featured **Ms. Akshaya Sita Rajesh**, Consultant at the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council, as the resource person.

The workshop commenced with Ms. Akshaya sharing insights on identifying societal problems and generating innovative ideas. Participants were then divided into groups to work on the problem canvas, which included aspects such as problem context, root causes, existing alternatives, customer requirements, and potential solutions. Ms. Akshaya provided hands-on guidance through each stage of the problem-solving process.

The session concluded with an idea competition, where groups presented their problem canvas and proposed solutions. Evaluations were based on clarity, problem relevance, and solution effectiveness. A prize pool of ₹3,000 was awarded to the winners. The event saw active participation from 35 students, fostering creativity and entrepreneurial thinking.

8. Catalyst Evening Cafe on 27 March 2023

Catalyst Evening Cafe, a post-college interactive session, featured **Meenakshy B. S.** leading a discussion on ChatGPT and AI-powered conversational tools on 27 March, 2023. The session covered ChatGPT's capabilities, applications, and ethical considerations, with live demonstrations showcasing its potential in productivity and innovation.

Participants actively engaged in discussions, gaining valuable insights into AI's role in modern problem-solving. The session provided a practical understanding of leveraging AI effectively, making it an enriching experience for all 15 attendees.

9. Challenge X on 3 - 11 July 2023

The 9-day flagship event, CHALLENGE X featured daily challenges from 3rd June to 11th June, 2023, with participants competing for prize money awarded to the best entry each day. The challenges were quirky and diverse, with varying rewards based on difficulty. This interactive format encouraged creativity, engagement, and competition, making it a standout event with 88 participants.

10. Smart India Hackathon Prelims on 27 September 2023

Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology hosted the SIH Prelims Internal Hackathon on 27 September 2023. Faculty Coordinators: **Mr. Arun J S**, **Ms. Vishagini V**, and **Ms. Dhanya L K.**, Student Coordinators: **Neha Elizabeth Syam** (Final Year Student) and **Ferwin Lopez** (Pre-Final Year Student).

There were 31 teams and 186 participants in the hackathon. Five distinguished mentors, Mr. Rinse and Mr. Alen, alumni of our college currently working at TCS, Dr. Tessy Mathew (Professor, Dept. of CSE), Dr. Jesna Mohan and Ms. Jisha Jose (Asst. Professor, Dept. of CSE), guided the students throughout the Hackathon. 4 alumni Mr. Savio Menifer, Mr. Gautham, Mr. Akshay and Mr. Vishnu P Kumar served as Judges. Out of the 31 participating teams, 15 were selected to represent our College in SIH'23 at the National Level.

11. One-Day Technology and Problem Solving Bootcamp, RELEVENT on 25 November 2023

RELEVENT marks the close of a successful IEDC tenure. One day bootcamp held on 25th November, 2023 was scheduled for students applied to various roles in the IEDC executive committee and challenges were issued based on their applied job roles. The selection of emerging leaders is what is being done. The selection process is a great value addition for the participants. The event showcased active participation from selected 75 students.