

Women's Christian College, Chennai

An Autonomous Institution affiliated to the University of Madras

Re-Accredited by NAAC in July 2019 with Grade A+

College with Potential for Excellence



Faculty and Student Startup Policy 2021

Table of Contents

1.Objectives

2.Scope of the Policy

3.Governance

4.Startup enabling ecosystem

5.Pedagogy and Learning Interventions

6.Norms for student/faculty startup

7.Intellectual Property (IPR)

8.Financial support

9.Entrepreneurial impact assessment

Objectives

The policy aims to

- *Create an innovative ecosystem on campus to harness and nurture the creative potentials of the students and innovative ideas of faculty members.*
- *Encourage and promote entrepreneurial mindset in students through systematic pedagogical and learning interventions that are focussed on skill development.*
- *Establish simplified and hassle-free procedures/protocols for faculty and student innovators with respect to IPR and pre-incubation activities.*
- *Allocate resources through seed grants/funds, infrastructure and mentorship from ideation to establishing a successful startup so as to maximise participation in entrepreneurial activities.*
- *Provide networking with nearby incubators, startup hubs, venture capitals, angle investors and alumni investors.*

Scope of the Policy

The policy is applicable to all bonafide students and permanent faculty members of the Women's Christian College, Chennai.

Governance

- *Principal and Secretary, WCC is the ultimate deciding authority in the execution and follow up of the policy.*
- *Institution's Innovation Council: IIC convenor, Co Convenor startup coordinators and IPR coordinators would be the nodal authorities to advocate and oversee policy implementation and validation.*
- *The IIC would be the nodal unit that integrates the entrepreneurial activities across various centers, departments and faculties within the college.*

Startup Enabling Ecosystem

The Innovation Club and Entrepreneurship Cell of the IIC would engage in various programmes that would expose maximum number of students to innovation and pre incubation activities at their early stage on campus.

- *To foster entrepreneurial capacity building on campus and to facilitate a road map from ideation to innovation to market, IIC would engage in the following activities,*
- *Create awareness among students, faculty and staff about the value of entrepreneurship and its role in career development or employability through periodical common assembly programmes.*
- *Invite first generation entrepreneurs or experts to motivate the students.*
- *Organize events such as idea and innovation competitions, hackathons, workshops, bootcamps, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, mentoring by academic and industry personnel. Recognizing the efforts through awards for winners.*

Pedagogy and Learning Interventions

- *Entrepreneurship and IPR education would be integrated in the curriculum of all programmes in the college through the inclusion of a mandatory unit in one of the subjects of the various courses taught both at the UG and PG level.*
- *Annual Orientation program for the fresh graduates would include the induction by the IIC convenor on the Innovation and Entrepreneurship activities on campus and also the support systems available for them.*
- *Internship and apprenticeship for students in UG and PG courses shall be introduced in any industry/startup, in one stretch or in two stretches.*
- *Pedagogical changes incorporating experiential learning and social entrepreneurship would be done to ensure that maximum number of student projects and innovations are based around real life challenges.*

Norms for Student/Faculty Startup

- *Introduce academic credits for students who choose entrepreneurship related learning activity at colleges in line with NISP policy*
- *Special grace marks and attendance relaxation shall be allowed to students, if their project work is converted into a startup in the Incubator.*
- *Permit faculty to transform their/student research projects developed at the college to become startups and also to hold equity in such startups.*
- *Startup policies for faculty would adhere to the NISP policy guidelines.*

Intellectual Property (IPR)

- *All IPR related initiatives of students and faculty would adhere to the IPR policy of the institution.*
- *All IP applications, processing and finalization would be scrutinized and validated by the IPR committee comprising of the Principal, Dean of Research, IIC convener, IPR expert nominee and startup founder/alumni startup founder.*
- *Intellectual Property (IP) emanating from Research/project activities on campus would be explored and encouraged for development into startup through the IPR Cell.*

Financial Support

The college would provide the following financial support to encourage startup ecosystem on campus.

- *Startup Seed Grant Fund for promising IPs and pre-incubates.*
- *Funding for Idea-to-PoC (Proof of Concept) stages which are pre-startup activities.*
- *Support for prototyping and testing of innovative ideas of students/ faculty.*
- *Support for services like IPR, Legal, Auditing, Accounting etc. through fee credits.*
- *Financial support for attending trainings, tech conferences and trade shows subject to the approval of the Principal.*

Entrepreneurial Impact Assessment

Key Performance Indicators

1. *Awareness creation and Participation of faculty and students*
2. *IP Related activities*
3. *Pedagogy and Learning Intervention*

Key performance indicators	Action points	Resource allocation	Timeline
Awareness creation and Participation of faculty and students	Common assembly programmes for all students	Team: Innovation Club, Entrepreneurship Cell	Short term - one programme every quarter
	Invite first generation entrepreneurs or experts	Team: Innovation Club, Entrepreneurship Cell Departments	Short term - two programmes every quarter
	Organize hackathons, and bootcamps	Team: Innovation Club, Entrepreneurship Cell	Short term - one programmes every year
	Organize workshops, exhibitions, conferences	Team: Innovation Club, Entrepreneurship Cell Departments Financial support to be provided. External resources through sponsorship would also be availed	Short term - one programmes every year

	Participation of faculty and students in Entrepreneurship and IPR related programmes	Financial support to be provided on a case to case basis	Short Term
	Design of Webpage	Team: NISP coordinator Entrepreneurship coordinator	Short term 6 months
Pedagogy Intervention and IP Related activities	Entrepreneurship and IPR education would be integrated in the curriculum of all programmes	Team: Dean of Academic Affairs Curriculum development team	Short term
	Fresh graduates to be inducted on NISP and entrepreneur activities on campus	Team: IIC convenor	Short term
	Pedagogical changes incorporating experiential learning and social entrepreneurship	Team: Dean of Academic affairs and curriculum development team	Long term 2 years
	Internships with startup companies	Team: All departments	Long term 2 years
	IPR Policy formulation	Team: Dean of Research IPR Ambassador IIC convenor	Mid term
	Filling of IPRs	Common instrumentation centre, research labs	Long Term
	Preincubation support	IPR committee	Long term 3 years