REPORT FOR INNOVISION 2020 22nd FEBRUARY 2020

Innovision 2020 is a venture by Fergusson College towards encouraging student entrepreneurship. Conceptualised and organised by Dr. Sanket Tembe, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology and his team, Innovision 2020 was publicised in colleges all over Maharashtra throughout the months of December and January. Students were requested to submit their ideas on an online portal. The ideas were from the fields of Agriculture, Health and Pharmaceuticals, Information and communication technology, Energy, Environment and Waste Management, Education, tourism and Clinical and Industrial Psychology. UG and PG students from Science and Arts background alike, participated in the competition.



The aim of the competition was to identify highly motivated young innovators, give them an opportunity to present their ideas in front of Industry experts, support potential ideas and convert them into profitable business ventures and provide guidance for IPR, market research, technology development, finances and advertising. The motto was to make as many students as possible, realise the possibility of business as a career option.

The competition was officially announced on 2nd January 2020 on the college website and entries were accepted till 10th February 2020. Students were allowed to submit ideas individually or in groups of 2-5. The competition received a response of 74 entries. These ideas were scrutinized by noted industry experts from various fields and 14 ideas from the ones submitted were selected for the final round.

The selected students had prepared presentations on their proposed business model and presented it in front of reputed panelists on 22^{nd} February 2020. The presentations comprised of an

overview of the idea, it's application, costs to be incurred, seed money required and the proposed management plan.

Four Panelists namely Mrs. Sumedha Kulkarni (Head, CSR Cell, Jnana Prabodhini), Dr. Aruna Kulkarni (Counsellor psychologist, My Mind Matters), Mr. Nilesh Inamdar (Director, Patpert Teknow Systems Pvt Ltd.) and Dr. Amol Raut (CEO



and Chief R&D Consultant, geneOmbio Technologies Pvt. Ltd) who have achieved various

laurels in their respective fields, were asked to judge the event. They were also actively involved in screening of the 74 applications, submitted till 10th February.

In addition, several faculty members from various departments of Fergusson College were a part of our organising committee. Sponsorship committee included Dr. Kailas Sapnar, Nadini Kotharkar and Dr. Ishita Ghoshal. Publicity, media and printing committe included Prasad Shukla, Swapnil Kamble, Swati Satpute, Dr. Poonam Deshpande and Shubham Mudrale. Website content development included Dr. Alisha Galande, Ankur Shukla, Tushar Deshmukh, Lochana Mahajan and Nishigandha Harpale. Proposal drafting, submission to experts and follow up committee consisted of Dr. Gayatri Gurjar, Saylee Darvekar, Dr. Rohitkumar Gore, Dr. Samir Onkar and Dr. Megha Deuskar. Final event management incharge was Mrs. Neha Joshi. Student volunteers included Urvi, Milind, Lavanya, Kusum, Hrishikesh, Bhavesh, Anagha, Sahina, Pooja, Subodh, Samiksha (students of MSc I, Biotechnology) Neha (SYBSc, Biotechnology), Yogesh, Akash and Tabish (Computer Science)

The dawn of the final round was on the morning of 22nd February, 2020, where all the participants came prepared to showcase their idea. The event was organised in the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium (Fergusson College campus). The event began with the welcome of participants and panelists. After breakfast, everyone assembled at the auditorium to listen to the prospective entrepreneurship ideas. Each participant was given 20 minutes to present their ideas and answer any questions posed by the judges and audience.



The presentations started from 11:00 a.m., with the 1st participant being Ms. Juilee Patwardhan. Her idea proposed the use of Bharatnatyam dance movements to help Aviation personnel manage stress. Having learnt Bharatnatyam for 14 years and being trained in Psychology, Juilee felt that her idea would help combat stress and depression in Aviation personnel, mainly the pilots, thus averting accidents due to human errors. She believed that her idea was unique, primarily because it did not discriminate between all the personnel. The

involvement of music, movements and expressions could prove relaxing for the mind and body thus encouraging better mental health and safe travel. She outlined a profit oriented program that helped in better work life balance, increased job opportunities for web developers and other psychologists who are also trained Bharatnatyam dancers. Happier employees would result in high productivity for the company is the ideology behind the model. Thus, she aimed at providing a preventive and curative idea for stress management.

The 2nd participant was Ms. Vaishnavi Khose. Her idea involved the use of multipurpose algal lamps for Indian College campuses. A unique idea, not implemented before, her model aimed at using cleaner and greener sources of energy to provide light. Her idea targeted the Indian mainland, which is known for it's rich biodiversity. She believes that different algal strains can be collected from various locations and grown in the presence of light and water such that the electrons generated from the metabolic activities can be used to generate current. Quoting

Vaishnavi, "There is an inadequate supply of street lights in college campuses and my idea can serve as a miniature model for sustainable development". According to her, solar lamps could be her competitors, but she is convinced that her proposed model will be highly cost effective in comparison. She wishes to check the photosynthetic efficiency of these algal strains and receive funding to carry out small and large scale production of the strains to generate electricity and reduce the monetary loss incurred



via current electricity bills. She also hopes to involve scientists and technicians to carry out the field research and regulate the maintenance and instalments of such plants, thus increasing the job opportunities. Vaishnavi was suggested to get a patent for her idea by one of the judges.

The 3rd participant had enrolled as a group of 4 members. The participants, Mr. Hrushikesh Hardikar, Mr. Gaurav Patil, Mr. Mayur Zine and Ms. Maithili Karyarkar proposed an idea for the



creative modification of college campuses, under the idea titled "The College of Dreams." A simple yet innovative idea, the model suggested the involvement of students in redevelopment endeavours of college campuses. The colleges would present a list of their requirements and budget to this team. The team would work on it and come up with 3 executable ideas which would be presented back to the college. Once the idea was selected and approved by the college, the team would play the role of a consultant in educating the institute about the work that could be

outsourced at very economical rates and also involve students in building easy to make objects by training them using "Do it yourself" techniques. The group believes that their idea would be rewarding for the students and institute alike. The students would care better for areas that they have put efforts to remodel, while the institute will have to shell out less to hire professionals, thus avoiding unnecessary commercialization. The quote, "Charity begins at home", applies best to this team, as they envision to start their enterprise in their own college first and use the 'Sample Model' to advertise in other colleges. The judges applauded their intentions and gave valuable suggestions such as the involvement of Landscape experts on the advisory team, whenever the plan would be executed.



The 4th Participant Ms. Siddhi Pavale, a student of Second year BSc. Biotechnology addressed the issue of lack of a proper portal for the knowledge transfer between Researchers. She hopes to bridge this gap by developing an App that accelerates scientific services via the online marketplace. The online platform, according to her will be a user friendly way to share the experimental progress of students carrying out various projects, which can be showcased to likeminded audience. Her idea, which she proposes to call '*Sciconnect*', uses social media to reach the market. She hopes to establish a network that would facilitate faster communication among researchers, thus saving time on the collaboration process. This would also help lessen the gap between academia and industry. The recruitment of students into research workforce would be easy to execute if her idea is implemented. Siddhi's need of the hour idea was received with much appreciation.



The next participant was Ms. Sayali Patil who is pursuing Industrial Mathematics with Computer Applications. She proposed the use of Drones to drop off packages in areas affected by natural calamities. She believed that drones could be designed having cameras, and virtual screen visualisation softwares, so that their journey to the disaster affected sites could be duly monitored.She also wishes to expand the applications of her drones to address campus emergencies, help trapped refugees and wash windows

and high ceilings of tall buildings and skyscrapers. This idea, she believes will avoid the risks posed to human life. When asked about what makes her idea unique compared to those of her competitors, Siddhi answers that she hopes to develop high precision drones which are highly economical. We wish her all the best for her idea!

Nivedita Sivakumar and Aarjvi Jain were the 6th participants in the competition. They came up with an organic substitute for Mosquito repellents. They proposed a roll on tube having a concoction of Neem oil, camphor oil and tulsi oil. They plan to exploit the antibacterial and mosquito repelling properties of these herbal extracts. These young innovators believe that their roll on will have negligible side effects and more effectiveness in warding off insects and ensuring a good night's sleep. Their model is also proposed in a way that



the end result would be light on our pockets as compared to the current mosquito repellent creams and liquid vapourizers. The resistance of mosquitoes to chemicals used in vapourizers and the decrease in efficacy was what motivated them to pursue this line of thought!



The morning session had us on the edge of our seat with all the young innovators presenting their wonderful ideas. It was with great expectations for the afternoon session that everyone left for a lunch break!

The afternoon session resumed at 1:30 p.m. with the 7th participant, Ms. Munazza Gadakuwala, who is pursuing her 2nd year of Masters in Psychology. Her business venture had a noble attribute as it

targeted the education of children with special needs. She hoped to bring on board an administrative team, child psychiatrist, special educators and psychologists and provide them with a salary for their good will. She also hopes to conduct counselling sessions where she plans to raise awareness against stigmas revolving birth of a second child in families where a child with disabilities was born.

Her idea really touched the panelists and they applauded her for putting thought into important and rarely addressed issues such as this. Although a novel idea for a business model, the judges encouraged her to go ahead with it under the category of 'Social Entrepreneurship.'

The 8th participant was Mr. Ittihas Ravichandran who addressed the unemployment issues among graduates. He proposed designing an App that would bridge the student industry interface. He proposed to conduct workshops and offer training for students in 2nd year of undergraduate program and 1st year of Master's Program. Through his internship training, he believes that students will have a better opportunity at acquiring employment. He hopes to tie up with the ICT body of institutes and



also have his own governing body. He hopes to have contracts with companies, such that each and every student will be guaranteed internships.

The next participant's proposal had a unique title of 'Spread joy and be healthy'. Mr. Kunal Kale, the mastermind behind this idea hoped to make regional vegetable grown by tribal communities in specific areas, accessible to all parts of the country. According to him, a lot of these vegetables have rare health benefits that will be of great benefit to people who are very health conscious or even those who wish o lead a healthy life, but lack time. Apart from devising ways of proper storage and delivery to far and wide locations from the area of production, he hopes to market these rare vegetables on an App where, along with the product and quantity available for sale, he also hopes to provide recipes for cooking the vegetables. This will also be useful to people who have no previous knowledge about the vegetables. He thus hopes to create job opportunities for the tribals and farmers.

The 10th participant group had 3 students from the computer science department who had already ventured successfully into their business idea and had performed a field trial with 20 beta users. Mr. Tanay Karve, Mr. Rahul Dalal and Mr. Mihir Deshpande had presented a pitch deck on Medivine. They have created an App that identifies a plant which has been infected with a disease and gives remedial solutions for its treatment. They hope to save time and money that a farmer invests to rid his crops of the disease. Operational on a smart phone, they have labelled their App as a pocket doctor for Plants. Using Artificial intelligence, they hope to ease the burden of farmers and gardening enthusiasts in procuring solutions for their pest/infection ridden plant.

The next group showcasing their idea involved 5 students: Mr. Shrirang Vaidya, Mr. Asad Shaikh, Mr. Ishan Kal, Ms. Disha Oswal and Ms. Anushka Chatterji fromRajiv Gandhi Institute of Biotechnology and IT, BVDU, Pune. Studying Biotechnology, these young innovators wanted to minimise the electricity consumed by appliances such as Incubators used for incubating bacterial plates and chick eggs. They have successfully created a working model of an incubator called Solaris, which they have made using Styrofoam boxes and solar panels. They have achieved 37°C temperature in their incubator and have also hatched chicks from eggs. They hoped to gain funding for their project from investors so that they could venture into large scale manufacturing and supply to college labs and small

scale poultry farms.

The 12^{th} Participant in the event was Ms. Sharvari Kulkarni. Her vision for a Plastic free India was showcased by her business idea, where she proposed to eliminate the plastic dumped on road, water and landfills using plastic degrading bacteria. The result of this degradation is the release of CO₂ and water which is not very harmful to the environment and is used in plant metabolism. She proposes the use of certain bacterial enzymes and some products secreted by wax worms which will help reduce the plastic load



of our country and also save Ruminants from dying because they ate food wrapped in plastic covers!



The last and the final participant for the event was Mr. Dipak Shete, who is pursuing Medicinal Chemistry from Savitribai Phule Pune University. He has proposed the idea of clearing water contamination, especially oil spills using beewax. His idea was truly innovative and novel as he had thought of using the hydrophobicity of beewax to remove oils from contaminated water. With a setup comprising of pumps, pipes, sponge and beewax in volatile solutions, he was successfully able to clear oil from 5 Litres of contaminated water. He hoped to

receive funding for large scale implementation of his idea. He feels that the water obtained from separating oil using bee wax, can be passed through filters, tested for it's purity and finally used for daily chores. Truly an idea that has the potential to revolutionize the recycling of water!

VALEDICTORY SESSION:

The end of the presentations was followed by High tea. The closing ceremony began with the felicitation of our panelists by our Principal Dr. Ravindrasing Pardeshi.



Principal Sir's speech highlighted the legacy of our college and included the efforts taken by the college towards encouraging Student Entrepreneurship. The fact that the college is investing in Start up clubs and E-cells is truly motivating for students with ideas but no guidance.

This was followed by a short presentation on Entrepreneurship opportunities that we as students could avail under the placement cell of Fergusson College, headed by Mrs. Nandini Kotharkar.

The highlight of the session was the esteemed presence of our Chief Guest, Dr. Abhay Jere for the closing ceremony. Dr. Jere is currently the Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) at Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India and has had an industrial experience of more than 12 years. He is actively involved in conducting nationwide entrepreneurship



hackathons where young innovators whose ideas have the potential to become profitable business models are supported by the Government of India. Having a person of such repute was truly inspirational for all of us present. Dr. Jere's speech was factual but at the same time very motivational. He ensured that we realised the difference between an idea with a potential and an idea that was appreciated but failed on ground. His assurances that each one of us had it in us to be an entrepreneur and the fact that ideas could come to anybody, anywhere and at any time inspired us to start considering entrepreneurship seriously.

The speech was followed by the announcement of the winners. Mr. Dipak Shete bagged the 1st Consolation Prize while Ms. Munazza Gadakuwala got a special mention for her idea under Social Entrepreneurship.

The prize winners were Ms. Siddhi Pavale at 3rd position (Rs.10,000/- as cash prize), Ms. Nivedita Shivakumar and Ms. Aarjvi Jain at 2nd position (Rs.15000/-as cash prize) and Mr. Tanmay Karve, Mr. Rahul Dalal and Mr. Mihir Deshpande at the 1st position. (Rs.25000/- as cash prize)

The prize winners received a trophy, certificate along with cash prize. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners who agreed to work and share the IPR with Fergusson College, also received a seed money of Rs.50,000/-, Rs.30,000/- and Rs. 20,000/- respectively.

Although everyone did not win, all participants and students left the auditorium with a new learning experience.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Sanket Tembe, who had coordinated the entire event.