



# New Incubatees

Mr. Anubhav Mishra, B.Tech student of Vellore Institute of Technology along with a team of other VIT students has incubated his venture “Finlit” which will work in the analytics domain.



Mr. Sandal Kotawala, a student of graduating class of 2018 of Vellore Institute of Technology has availed incubation support for his venture “Alfaleus Technologies” which will work in the innovative healthcare products and solutions.

“Introduction to Design Thinking” a session as part of the National Entrepreneurship Day was arranged by VIT TBI on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2017 and about 30 students attended the event. The session was delivered by Mr. Murali Meenakshi Sundaram and Mr. Vijay Vaidyanathan, Technopreneurs & Mentors with over 2 decades of industry and entrepreneurship experience.



The 19<sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee meeting of VITTBI was organized on the 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017. The meeting was attended by Mr. G.V.Selvam, VP, VIT Vellore, Dr.S. Narayanan, Pro-Vice Chancellor, VIT Vellore, Mr.Nagaraja Prakasam, Mentor in Residence & Principal Advisor-Native Angels Network, NSR Cell, IIM Bangalore, Mr. T.S. Udayasankar, Technical Director, Samco Metals and Alloys, Mr.S.Sundarraaj, Zonal Manager, Indian Bank, Vellore, Dr. N.Arivazhagan, Dean – School of Mechanical Engineering, Dr. K. Sathyanarayanan, Registrar, VIT and Ms. Sudha Rajagopalan, Dy. Manager, VITTBI along with Dr. A. Balachandran who presented the TBI report to the committee and explained the progress and plans.





**Entrepreneurship Cell along with VIT TBI** conducted HackerTech – a 36 hour hack to promote the development of technology products starting 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017. About 17 teams comprising of 104 students participated, 17 product prototypes were presented and 5 were shortlisted for support under the Student Startup Venture initiative for product development. Four teams availed the grant and are in the product development stage.



**Mr. Nagaraja Prakasam, Partner at Acumen Funds/Angel Investor / Founder Chairman- Nativelead Foundation/Mentor in Residence at NSRCEL, IIMB** delivered a session on “Idea to Venture: Issues and Challenges” on the **18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017**. The session was arranged and coordinated by VITTBI and ECell and about 100 students attended the session. Mr. Nagaraja took time off to discuss with few of the students independently and provided them with valuable suggestions to their product development/venture creation process.



**Mr. Mohammed Zeeshan, Co-founder and Chief Executive at The Climber** along with team addressed the E-Cell students on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. He shared information about their Startup and their journey as entrepreneurs from college. The session was organized by VITTBI.





Mr. Siva Ramamurthy, Efficacy Lifesciences, Mr. Raghavendra Prasad, CEO, Wifin Technologies, Mr. Sundarraj, Zonal Manager, Indian Bank, Dr. K. Ganesan, Sr. Prof & Director, TIFAC-Core and Dr. A. Balachandran, General Manager, VITTBI were the members present in the Seedfund Subcommittee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2018. This was followed by the DST Seedfund Project Management Committee meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2018 to review the seed funding applications received from incubatees. Mr. Selvam, VP, VIT Vellore, Dr. S. Narayanan, Pro-Vice Chancellor, VIT Vellore, Mr. Raghavendra Prasad, CEO, Wifin Technologies, Mr. Ponnusamy, Managing Partner, Indira Industries, Dr. K. Ganesan, Sr. Prof & Director, TIFAC-CORE, Dr. Balachandran, General Manager, VITTBI and Ms. Sudha Rajagopalan, Dy. Manager, VITTBI participated in the meeting

The committee reviewed the presentations of three incubatees (Enrecover Energy Recovery solutions Pvt. Ltd., Madras Mindworks Pvt. Ltd., and Alfaleus Pvt. Ltd. and sanctioned seed fund to the tune of Rs.1.4 Crores



Alumni talk sessions by Mr. Abhishek Gupta, CEO & Co-founder, Movel AI, Singapore and Mr. Arun Agarwal, Founder & Director, Janitri Innovations Pvt. Ltd. were organized by the Alumni Office in coordination with E-Cell & VITTBI on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. About 100 students attended the sessions. Ms. Nirmala Reddy, Entrepreneur & Senior Management Executive at Stanford Seed, alumnus of VIT addressed the Entrepreneurship Cell students.





Fullerton India Credit Co. Ltd., on 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2018, launched its Finnovatica 2018, a fintech challenge for students in campus with a prize money of up to Rs. 25 lakhs for innovative fintech ideas. Ms. Anindita chatterjee, Senior Manager – Digital Initiatives, Fullerton India Credit Co. Ltd. presented the Finnovatica details. About 100 students attended the event that was coordinated by E-Cell and VITTBI. After an exciting journey of ideation, business model development and prototyping, Finnovatica 2017 came to a glamorous finale on Mar 20, 2018 where the 7 finalists presented their prototypes to an eminent jury at Fullerton India, Mumbai. *Manikya Saiteja Gundubogula ( 14BEC0021) , Anubhav Mishra (15BCH0079), Rahul Tiwari ( 16BCI0147), Shubham Tunwal (16BCB0095) from VIT Vellore have bagged the first place from among the 7 teams with a prize money of Rs. 15 lakhs.* Finnovatica was launched in 2016 in VIT and the coordination has been done by VITTBI.



An awareness programme on BIRAC's Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) Scheme was organized by VITTBI for the faculty and research scholars on the 5<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2018. The BIG Scheme aims to fund individuals (academicians and individual innovators) and young start-up companies to establish proof-of-concept data for their exciting ideas in the field of life sciences and biotechnology. Mr. Suchit from C-Camp, a partner to BIRAC (DBT) delivered a session on their service offerings in the management of the scheme starting with review, selection, disbursement of funds and mentorship.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> round of proposal screening for the Student Startup Venture support 2018 was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2018 in the presence of Dr. K. Ganesan, Sr. Prof and Director, TIFAC-CORE and the E-Cell steering committee members. Seven proposals were approved for support, 3 from the call for proposals and 4 from the Hacker Tech that was organized in December 2017 and about Rs. 6, 10, 790/- was approved.



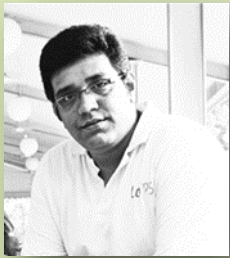


A pitch clinic was held in association with Startups Club on 24<sup>th</sup> March in Chennai. Over 50 participants attended and three teams made presentations before our team comprising of Prof.Arulmozhivarman, Prof.Pragasam, Dr.A.Balachandran and Ms.Sudha Rajagopalan. M/S.Prayasta 3D Innovations Pvt.Ltd was shortlisted and was extended an invite to incubate their startup at VITTBI.



VITTBI took an active role in the SELECT, VIT Makethon held from 30<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April. It also facilitated a problem statement workshop by inviting leading medical practitioners two weeks prior to the Makethon. Teams from the medical track would be nurtured and guided and facilitated to start their ventures. The top three winning teams would be extended the Student Startup Venture Grant of up to Rs. 1 lakh for their venture creation.

**Another proud moment for VIT & VITTTBI:** *Mint* and *MIT Technology Review*, published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), announced Top 10 Innovators Under 35 from India. The 10 candidates were chosen from hundreds of applicants and span across areas like biomedicine, computing, communications, health, education, digital, energy, materials, cybersecurity, fintech, wearables, robotics, education and transportation. Abilesh Malli Gunasekar, chief executive officer, Kyvor Genomics, Chennai, Bioinformatics graduate from VIT is one among them and was an incubate of VITTTBI from 2013 to January 2018.



<https://www.livemint.com/Industry/QwmwtJkbUYtTXAzTO5OTVL/Indias-top-innovators-under-35.html>

**ESummit, a high visibility event was organized by the E-Cell VIT** between the 30<sup>th</sup> of March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 in coordination with VITTTBI. Several events in the form of Business Simulation, workshop on Innovation, Futurepreneurs – business event, Etalk, Startup Internship Expo and Startup VIT, a business plan competition were organized. Several entrepreneurs, industry experts and consultants were brought in to run the sessions which attracted large no. of students.

Winners of the Startup VIT held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April were provided with prize money worth Rs. 1 lakh from VIT. The first place winner gets an opportunity to pitch at the Demo Day that will be organized by Startups Club, Bangalore.

About 25 startups were part of the Startup Internship expo that saw about 1500 interviews being conducted. Several of them will be offered internship opportunities.



Speakers in the ESummit were Ms. Akhila Rajeswar, Executive Director, TIE Chennai, Mr. Yoganath Gopalakrishnan, PSG STEP, Coimbatore, Mr. Sunder Jagannath, CEO, RevSmart, Bangalore, Ms. Khyati Shah, Technology Strategist, Inflexion Point Consulting, Mumbai, Mr. Shashank Vaishnav, Co-founder & CTO, Wittyfeed, Mr. Shashank Krishna, Make in India Hackathon winner, Mr. Ajit Sivadasan, VP/GM Global E-Commerce Digital Marketing, Lenovo, USA, Mr. Raja Ukil, Sr. VP and CIO, Wipro Ltd., Ms. Salma Moosa, Managing Director and Mr. Vivek Srinivasan, Co-founder, Startups Club. Bangalore, Mr. Venkata Krishnan, Co-founder, Tekademy, Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Head Outreach and Ecosystem Development, Paypal and Mr. Adarsh Warriar, Co-Founder, Araciv Technologies Pvt. Ltd.



**VICARA, the team from Araciv Technologies Pvt. Ltd.,** an alumni startup incubated in VIT-TBI, working on gesture control for the past two years has been acknowledged by The Economic Times, The Hindu, Forbes, YourStory, Gadgets 360 by NDTV and SiliconIndia. They have been named as one of the top 30 Indian tech startups by YouStory -Techsparks 2017. They are the first non IIT startup to get incubated and receive a grant of 10 Lakh rupees under the Nidhi Prayas Scheme of the SINE incubator of IIT Mumbai.



## VIT-TBI NEWS

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