



3.3.1 The Institution's Research Facilities

AQAR: 2022-2023

About Institution Innovation Cell (IIC)

The Institution's Innovation Cell (IIC) at St. Joseph's College of Commerce (Autonomous) was initially functioning under the name of Innovation and Incubation Centre since 2017.

The IIC at SJCC—a registered cell (Registration no. IC202115549) with the Ministry of Education, Government of India aims at systematically fostering the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship amongst the faculty and the students of the college. The primary mandate of the cell is to encourage, inspire and nurture young students by supporting them to work with new ideas and transforming them into prototypes while they are in their formative years. The cell establishes networks with the various IICs and entrepreneurial bodies across the country to promote innovation through multitudinous modes leading to an innovative eco-system in the campuses.

IIC is registered under National Innovation Start-up Policy (NISP) and YUKTI Portal, Ministry of Education, GoI.

Activities of IIC

1. **Orientation:** To highlight the facilities provided by the cell there was an annual orientation held for the first year students of SJCC. The IIC Convenor, Dr. Ritty Francis, organised and coordinated the orientation on July 23, 2022. Students were made aware of the resources offered by the cell while also outlining the activities of IIC.
2. **Workshop on Fostering Innovation through Podcasts:** The innovation unit hosted a workshop on September 9, 2022. Mr Siddharth Peddi, MOL at Under 25 Universe served as the session's resource person. Podcasts as a notion and idea were introduced. The purpose of the workshop was to orient the interested faculty members about the expected outcomes of this innovative practice which is to be part of the teaching-learning process to reach out to a larger audience. The members were given a podcasting roadmap where information was shared with respect to the selection of podcast topics, selecting a guest panel, how to record, and where to publish the podcast.

Podcasts by students: The first batch of student-produced podcasts on current socio-economic concerns was recorded and reviewed by the innovation unit of IIC.

Advanced Session on Copyrights: The session was organised by the IPR unit for the faculty coordinators on September 10, 2022. Mr Jnana Teja, Research Associate Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, NLSIU was the resource person. He gave an account of the significance of copyrights/design and trademarks in educational institutions and how these could be further worked on for the institution's rankings. He elucidated the various steps involved in filing copyrights and responded to the queries and doubts raised by the faculty members.

Workshop Gathering: Let's Speak Our Idea The Start-up unit of IIC hosted a workshop for aspiring entrepreneurs titled on September 12, 2022. The faculty in charge, Ms. Nischitha, gave an opening note to the attendees which were followed by the start-up coordinator presenting the upcoming events in detail and clarifying doubts relating to the same. There was also a fun icebreaker activity where participants played a game of constantly rotating concentric rings and had to share answers to questions within a time limit of 30 seconds.

Applied for Copyrights: The IIC successfully filed its application for the copyright on the Golden Jubilee logo. The copyright application was also filed for two research papers authored by Dr. Ritty Francis and Dr. Soney Haris. The application was filed on September 29, 2022.

Workshop on Whys and Hows of IPR: The IPR unit of IIC organised the workshop for the student core team on October 29, 2022. The session was curated and presented by Ms. Shailaja Shastri, Associate Director of Cognizant Technology. Ms. Shastri presented the participants with practical insights into core concepts and explained the relevance of intellectual property rights and their function in securing protection for distinctly recognisable intellectual property.

Start-up Mentoring Sessions: The Start-up unit of IIC also arranged individual mentoring sessions for student start-ups on November 2, 2022. With the mentor, Mr. Shashi Kiran Lewis,

the incubatees discussed their concerns and challenges with setting up their businesses. Based on the inputs from the session, the students will provide timely progress reports. For student entrepreneurs and incubatees at SJCC, the Startup unit of IIC has been holding frequent mentorship sessions at both the individual and group levels. The mentoring sessions with Mr. Chandru Bolaki provided his mentoring sessions to the students start-ups at various phases of their start-ups.

Workshop on IPR Filing and Protection: The IPR unit of IIC in collaboration with National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM), Ministry of Commerce and Trade, Government of India organised the online National level seminar on February 14, 2023, enabling many to protect and earn recognition for their academic contributions. The Resource Person, Mr Arpit Jain highlighted the various aspects of IPR and emphasised on the importance of protecting intellectual work in the academia.

Power of Attorney: The institution signed its first Power of Attorney for the copyrights of two research publications by the faculty members Dr. Ritty Francis and Dr. Soney Haris on February 27, 2023.

Start-up Incubatees: In the year 2022-23, IIC has incubated 6 student start-ups and presently, 44 students are being mentored in the pre-incubation phase.

Impact Lecture: An impact lecture was organised on March 23, 2023 for the students of the pre-incubation phase. The invited speaker for the talk was Mr. Ravindra Krishnappa, a venture capital professional and entrepreneur.

IIC Council Meeting: The Annual Council Meeting of IIC was hosted on March 27, 2023. The meeting was attended by the Chief functionaries of IIC, their student representatives, incubatees, the alumni mentors and the academic counsellor of the institution, Vice Principals and the IQAC Coordinator. The student coordinator of IIC, Keshav Dokania welcomed the members and presented a comprehensive report on the activities of the Cell. This was followed by the presentations of the faculty coordinators of the four units of IIC, who briefed their plans in the upcoming semester. Suggestions and recommendations were

made by the Mr. Shashi Kiran Lewis, external expert for entrepreneurship, mentor, alumnus of SJCC and Director, Lewis Natural Foods Limited, Bangalore and Mr. Chandru Bolaki, external expert for entrepreneurship, mentor, alumnus of SJCC and Founder at BetOnIndia Technology, Bangalore, Founder, CareVision Security, California, Go East LLC, California.

INVICTUS: INVICTUS is the flagship event of IIC which was hosted for the first time on April 6, 2023. The event focused on providing a perfect platform to network, grow and socialise. INVICTUS had three major aspects namely speaker session, business plan presentation and supporting young entrepreneurs (stalls). The resource person for the speaker session was Mr Shakti Prasad Tripathy, Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship, IIT Bombay. Mr. Tripathy gave his insights into the entrepreneurial world, along with his experience manoeuvring the students through his journey till he became the Head of the Department of Entrepreneurship at IIT Bombay. He took out his valuable time to help out and mentor the incubatees and pre-incubatees of St Joseph's College of Commerce. The Business Plan competition opened up a platform for the young entrepreneurs of St Joseph's College of Commerce to present their existing ideas and business plans to Mr. Shakti Prasad Tripathy. The Supporting Young Entrepreneurs segment focused on providing visibility to emerging entrepreneurs by setting up Stalls on the Basketball court where the footfall of daily college students and social media helped them boom their business.

Social Media Support: The Social Media unit of IIC has created Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook handles as per the directives of the Ministry of Education, Govt of India, and regular updates are posted to keep the page active.

Participation in Hackathons The IIC students and faculty members participated in hackathon organised by International Cricket Council (ICC) and Elechthon '23 hosted by the Election Commission of India.

Achievements

- Awarded the Letter of Appreciation by the Ministry of Education, Govt of India.
- IIC has maintained its rating in ARIIA ranking under the 'Non-Technical Institution' category.
- Power of Attorney for Copyrights on two research papers signed by Dr. Charles Lasrado SJ, Dr. Ritty Francis and Dr.

Soney Mathews.

- The IIC students secured 5th rank among the 270 teams who participated in the 18th edition of E-SUMMIT conducted by IIT Bombay from January 28-29, 2023.
- Received the certificate of Appreciation from NIPAM, Ministry of Commerce and Trade for collaborating the virtual National Seminar IPR Filing and Protection on February 14, 2023.

Future Prospects

- The IIC has released the faculty podcasts on academic/non-academic topics.
- The IIC has planned sessions in collaboration with National Intellectual Property Awareness Mission (NIPAM), Ministry of Commerce and Trade, GoI.
- The Cell has planned to visit the Research Laboratory, Bharat Electronics Limited(BEL) planned for two batches of B.Com (Industry Integrated) class in the upcoming semester.
- A speaker session is planned in the upcoming semester by Dr Latha Christie, Senior Scientist and Associate Director at MTRDC, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, Bangalore for addressing the students of IIC.





