

## **CHIASMA 2018 presents Venture Studio-BioNest Startup Competition (University edition)**

Ahmedabad University Venture Studio invites applicants for a Startup competition in the area of medical devices through its BIRAC Supported BioNest program. The applications from budding entrepreneurs are invited strictly in the areas listed below:

1. Blood gas analyser
2. IR based ETCO<sub>2</sub> sensors for neonatal care
3. Paramagnetic sensors for FIO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
4. Oxygenator for Heart Lung Machine
5. Polymer catheters for Guide wire in Endoscopy

**Application Form:** The applicants are requested to send in their idea (without disclosing any IP) in the format provided here ([Hyperlink](#)). All sections of the form are to be filled.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for this competition you need to be affiliated to a UGC/AICTE recognized University/Institute. This startup competition is open to all bachelors, masters, PhD students and Post docs working in a University. The competition is also open to all DST/DBT young scientist grantees. The applicant must not already be funded by a BIRAC supported grant to be eligible for this competition. The competition is open to all stages of development from idea to prototype.

**Selection:** Selected applicants will be called for a presentation and final interview after screening of all the applications received by 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018. An email will be sent to only the selected applicants confirming their selection for the final round by 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The presentation will be held on one of the days of the CHIASMA (18-20 January 2018) depending upon the availability of the judges in the panel. Only selected applicants will be invited for the final round. No TADA will be provided for appearing for the final round of competition.

**Award:** The winner will be awarded a prize of INR 15,000. In addition the first place and the runner up applicants will be given a direct entry to the final round in the call for Incubation of BioNest (in June 2018).

**BioNest (The AU Bio-Incubator):** BioNest will serve as the platform for nurturing and commercializing Life Science Technologies ranging from diagnostics, medical devices, bioinformatics, agri-biotech and biologics. In addition, life science based innovations applied to water, environment, energy and waste management will also be considered for incubation.

BioNest will have a dedicated space of totally 9,000 sft, with its own dedicated wet and dry labs and start-up office space. Facilities ranging from microbiology, molecular biology, protein chemistry, tissue culture with a provision to perform temperature sensitive experiments in a cold room.

In addition, BioNest would probably be the only incubator in India with BSL3 (Biosafety Level 3) facilities for work on infectious diseases and other material and a 200L microbiology scale up platform for small scale GMP production of microbial platform based biologics. Our extensive lab facilities in the University at Division of Biological Science, School of Engineering and other divisions will be available for specific needs including interdisciplinary requirements.

Work on Medical Devices would particularly find a strong fit as the BioNest can help with the Life Science part of the innovation while the modern prototyping lab – Prayas Shala – in the first floor would help with the engineering solution. The prototyping lab has equipment ranging from rapid prototyping, precision machining to electronics.

We have access to a network of mentors in leading institutions and will work closely with the innovator for pre-seed and seed funding such as BIG and SPARSH grants from BIRAC.

BioNest will run multiple programs to cater to diverse intake of aspiring entrepreneurs and we are working hard towards creating a stimulating environment for the innovators in their entrepreneurial quest.

**About Venture Studio:** To nurture innovation and support start-up ecosystem in India, Ahmedabad University conceptualized Venture Studio, a platform for entrepreneurs to translate their innovation into commercial success. A collaboration with Stanford University helped put in place a custom design-thinking based fellowship program for the entrepreneurs and a global outlook to venture creation. With Innovation as its central core philosophy, Venture Studio has more than 50 start-ups to its credit that cater to diverse domains such as health, education, energy, environment, agro, consumer products, and transportation, including 18 from students/ alumni associated with Ahmedabad University. Cruxbot, one of our earliest start-ups, was acquired by KNO publishing from USA for \$4million. A number of our start-ups and entrepreneurs, across multiple domains, are increasingly being recognized and have received awards in their categories (Details in Appendix). For its contribution to develop and support entrepreneurship ecosystem in India, National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN) has awarded Ahmedabad University the "Debutante Institution Award" and "High Impact Institution Award".

**Venture Studio provides:**

- Funding: Start-ups have access to “pre-seed” from various grants from and “seed” funding by Angels
- Mentoring: From industry and domain experts through a closely associated mentor network called Ahmedabad Venture Alliance
- Facilities: Access to state-of-the-art engineering prototyping (Prayas Shala) and Bioincubator (BioNest) facilities
- Promoting ecosystem fostering innovation: Through a platform encouraging linkages, collaborations, partnerships and associations

**Venture Studio is approved:**

- As Technology Business Incubator (TBI) by NSTEDB (National Science Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board)
- For three high profile pre-seed grants from NIDHI (National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations) and DST (Department of Science & Technology) – NIDHI Prayas (for Prototyping), NIDHI Entrepreneur in Residence and NIDHI Seed Support Scheme
- As BioNest Bioincubator by BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council), DBT
- As Nodal Institute for Government of Gujarat Startup Scheme, helping startups avail grants
- For Student Startup Innovation Policy by the Government of Gujarat
- Recognized incubator by Government of India, for Startup India