UG Innovative project scheme

<u>Strengthening UG Research- General guidelines for providing financial assistance</u>

The Institute encourages the students to do innovative projects which may end up in a patentable product. The financial assistance will be provided to innovative projects to meet the expenses related to fabrication/assembly charges, consumables and contingency.

This scheme started in 2018 and fund allocated about Rs 25 lakhs (allocation by Dean SW) including project funding (Rs 2 lakhs maximum per batch) and funding for patent filing /registration charges of SCI/Scopus conferences.
This scheme will continue for every year.

Dean R &C

National Institute of Technology Calicut
<u>Office of Dean (R & C)</u>

R &C/UG res/2018-3   22-10-18

<u>Strengthening UG Research- General guidelines for providing financial assistance</u>

The Institute encourages the students to do innovative projects which may end up in a patentable product. The financial assistance will be provided to innovative projects to meet the expenses related to fabrication/assembly charges, consumables and contingency. General guidelines for the financial assistance are given below:

Eligibility: An individual student or batch of up to four students from a particular branch or from different branches, regular in academics, successfully completed fourth semester of B.Tech. or

sixth semester for B.Arch., with no back papers and no disciplinary action from the Institute/Hostel section are eligible to submit project proposal.

Type of the project: The proposed project can pertain to a specific domain or an interdisciplinary area. The proposed project can be the B.Tech/B. Arch. major project itself (as per the curriculum) or a different research project. It is preferred to do major project under this csheme. If it is interdisciplinary or the batch contains students from different discipline, there can be more than one guide from appropriate disciplines. Among the guides, one can be the main supervisor. In the case of more than one student, one student will be nominated as project leader. It is better that the proposed project shall be taken as major project to reduce the burden.

Duration: The duration of the project will be preferably two semesters (maximum three semesters). All projects shall end up by 8th semester for B Tech or 10th semester for B Arch. The project shall be completed sufficiently in advance before the completion of the academic programme so as to get sufficient time for documentation related to patenting/publication as the case may be, by the team.

Selection: Applications must be submitted in the specified format, duly recommended by the project guide(s) and the HOD (s). An Institute level committee will select the projects eligible for funding and decide the financial assistance to be sanctioned based on the proposal and presentation made by the student groups.

Following will be the general criteria for selection: (i) level of innovation or creativity in the proposed work (ii) scope for developing a novel design, product or algorithm/specific tool having potential for patenting or to be published in an SCI journal (iii) capability of the students to complete the project in a time bound manner. The committee may propose changes in the objectives, methodology to bring more creativity and better level of innovation.

Financial Assistance: (a) Once the financial assistance is sanctioned for the project, expenditure under approved heads can be made under reimbursement basis, as per the Institute norms/GFR guidelines. Under essential situation, the main supervisor can apply for advance for a limited amount and settle it as per the Institute norms, (b) Financial assistance will be made available in a phased manner based on the progress of the project and performance as decided by the institute committee. (c) No financial assistance will be provided to a project which is funded by another scheme or an agency. In case, if the project got financial assistance from another funding agency at a later stage, no further expenditure shall be permitted from the project amount sanctioned

from the Institute. In some cases maximum 5 students may be permitted. It can be the major project of the batch taken under curriculum (not a must).

Procurement of items: All procurement or purchase shall be exactly as per GFR guidelines and institute norms. Only after written approval of the project proposal, expenditure shall be incurred, with prior permission from HOD. It is advised to purchase items in small quantities as when required for the project (so that total amount will be less for the individual purchase) and settle the bills immediately. They can contact purchase section in this regard for clarifications.

Evaluation: (a) Monthly progress report shall be submitted by the team through the guide(s)/HOD. HODs are advised to mentor these projects and in case of any delay in executing the project or finding improper way of utilizing fund, she/he shall report the same to Dean (R &C) and Director immediately. (b) An Institute level committee will evaluate the projects as and when necessary but at least once in a semester (c) Project progress or completion report (on successful completion of the project) in the prescribed format shall be submitted by the team through the guides/HODs. (d) The Institute level evaluation will be additional to the normal evaluation by the Dept. for academic grading in the case of major projects.

Outcome: Expected outcome of the project is a novel design, product or algorithm/specific tool having potential for patenting. Main supervisor shall take immediate steps for filing the patent through Institute patent cell as per the Institute policies /norms. If the evaluation committee proposes a research paper from the project in an SCI journal, main supervisor shall take immediate steps for submitting the paper to the appropriate journal. All the subsequent activities like revisions, clarifications, demonstrations, commercialization etc in the case of patent or paper shall be taken care by the main supervisor or a guide. The product(s)/items developed/paper published shall be handed over to the Institute (product in full operating /working condition) for further display/potential use.

Certificates & Awards: All the students completing the project successfully will get a certificate. Certificates will also be provided to faculty guides of the successful projects. Based on the performance assessed by the Institute level committee, awards may be presented to best projects.

Dean (Research & Consultancy)