Biotech Ignition Grant 08 (BIG 08) Mentoring Seminar for Entrepreneurs and Innovators @NCCS, Pune Organized by Venture Center, Pune

POTENTIAL GAINS	• How Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG), a scheme by Department of Biotechnology - Biotechnology Industry Research and Assistance Council (DBT-BIRAC), GoI, supports proof-of-concept studies for life science based start-ups. • Insights on how start-ups were created with funding support from BIG. • Tips and pointers for applying and writing a proposal.
ORGANIZED BY	• BioIncubator at Venture Center supported by BIRAC, Government of India.
SUPPORTED BY	• Biotechnology Industry Research and Assistance Council (BIRAC).
FOR WHOM	• Entrepreneurs and Innovators • Scientists/ researchers • Academics/ lecturers • Students of science, engineering, pharmacy and Bio-medical *Note: Target audience should be from Biotechnology, Life Science, Bio-Pharma, Biomed, Pharma or Agriculture background.*
WHEN	**Friday, 4th Dec 2015 | Time: 0900 to 1300 Hrs**
WHERE	Talks & Panel Discussion: Auditorium, National Center for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune. One-on-One Mentoring Sessions: Venture Center Outreach Center Office, NCCS, Pune.
CONTACT	Madhu Smitha Kode| Phone: 020-2586 5877| Email: madhusmitha@ipface.org
COST	• Free but prior registration is required for availing mentoring slots. • Limited seats; Preference given to NCCS Faculty and Students. • Participation by registration only. NCCS Faculty and Students can extend invitation to potential collaborators for BIG 08 application.
REGISTRATION	• Please register online: http://goo.gl/forms/ru4sAZBvfc • First preference to Faculty / Student team with potential ideas. • Organizers reserve the right to select participants so as to maximize learning and networking opportunities for the group.

ABOUT THE EVENT

The primary aim of this mentoring session is to create and increase awareness about an important grant funding opportunity in the biotechnology and healthcare space, viz. the DBT-BIRAC Biotech Ignition Grant (BIG) scheme. The focus of this event is to provide background information on this grant, the application process, funding process-flow, guidance on writing winning proposals etc.

DBT-BIRAC's Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) scheme

BIG is meant for high level of discovery and innovation in the Biotechnology sector to establish and validate proof-of-concept and enable creation of spin-offs. BIG is a very attractive funding scheme for budding biotech/ biomed and lifescience entrepreneurs. It is offered as a grant to carry proof-of-concept and validation activities. This scheme gives a great opportunity to innovators and entrepreneurs to begin building a start-up.

Broad domains allowed for BIG:

- Healthcare & medical biotech: Therapeutics, Biologicals, Vaccines & preventives, Diagnostics, Biomedical devices, Tissue engineering, Oncology etc.
- Agriculture, food security, secondary agriculture and allied: Agro and plant biotech, Animal biotech, Marine biotech, medicinal and aromatic plants, Seri biotech, Biocontrol/biofertilizers, Food and nutrition, etc.
- Industrial product and processes
- Green technology & industrial biotechnology: Biochemical engineering, Biomass value addition to fuels/ chemicals/ materials.
- Others: Bio-IT interface, bioinformatics, Analytical methods and new techniques, etc as per DBT mandate.

EVENT SCHEDULE		
Time (hrs)	**SESSION**	**SPEAKER**
0900 - 0915	Registration and Introduction to Venture Center	Soma Chattopadhyay
0915 – 0945	Introduction to BIG08 and Mentoring Sessions	Pradnya Aradhye and Uma Patil
0945– 1015	Talk by Guest Speaker about BIG Scheme, DBT-BIRAC	(To be confirmed)
1015– 1045	Moderated Panel Discussion: Tips from BIG Grantees	Moderator – Pradnya Aradhye Panelists – Guest Speaker (BIRAC), V. Premnath (Venture Center), Anuya Nisal (BiolMed), Venkat Panchagnula (Barefeet Analytics), Aman Sharma (ExoCan), Milind Choudhary (WeCare Biosolutions)
1045 – 1100	Networking &Tea Break	
1100 - 1120	Mentoring Session Slot 1	Pradnya Aradhye& Uma Patil
1120 - 1140	Mentoring Session Slot 2	Pradnya Aradhye& Uma Patil
1140 – 1200	Mentoring Session Slot 3	Pradna Aradhye& Uma Patil
1200 - 1220	Mentoring Session Slot 4	Pradnya Aradhye& Uma Patil
1220 - 1240	Mentoring Session Slot 5	Pradnya Aradhye& Uma Patil
1240 - 1300	Mentoring Session Slot 6	Pradnya Aradhye& Uma Patil

MENTORS (in alphabetical order)	
 **PradnyaAradhye**	PradnyaAradhye is currently Bioincubation Manager at Bioincubator, Venture Center. She has done her M.Tech in Biological Sciences and Bioengineering from IIT Kanpur. Currently she is handling all BioIncubator activities at Venture Center. She is responsible for creating a pipeline of potential and signing-up incubates for the Bioincubator, and contribute to building scientific support systems and resources for VC incubates including specific expertise. Pradnya also carries out discussions with scientists to understand their competencies.
 **Uma Patil**	Uma is associated with Venture Center as Asst Manager - Grant Programs. Uma manages review, due diligence and monitoring aspects of BIG funding scheme initiated by DBT-BIRAC. Earlier to this, Uma was responsible for TREMAP funding scheme by DST-TIFAC to support technology commercialization process in India. Uma has done several internships from National Chemical Laboratory & International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Hyderabad to understand the technology commercialization process in India. Uma holds MBA from Department of Management Sciences, Pune University (PUMBA). She has accomplished PG diploma in Intellectual property rights & Law and Bachelors in Biotechnology from university of Pune.
 **Soma Chattopadhyay**	Soma Chattopadhyay is currently associated with Venture Center as Manager Incubator and Marketing. In her present role she is the first point of contact for the innovators, understanding their business and connecting them to the right resources. She is also responsible for the entire incubation process for the start-ups and for any support required during the course of incubation period.

PANELISTS	
Guest Speaker	(To be confirmed)
 **V. Premnath**	Dr. Premnath is currently the Head, NCL Innovations – the group within National Chemical Laboratory (NCL) charged with the responsibility of championing the cause of technology innovation within NCL. Dr. Premnath also provides leadership for the Intellectual Property Group at NCL – one of India's leading IP management groups based out of research institutions. Dr. Premnath is also the Director of the Venture Center – a technology business incubator on NCL campus. Dr. Premnath is also a Scientist, Polymer Science & Engineering Division at NCL with an interest in technology development for biomedical products. Dr. Premnath has helped found and be the first Director of Venture Center, CSIR-Tech (a technology commercialization company), Orthocrafts Innovations (degradable synthetic polymer based biomed products start-up) and BiolMed Innovations (silk based biomaterials start-up). Dr. Premnath holds a B.Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay and a

	Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. He has also been a Chevening Technology Enterprise Fellow with the Centre for Scientific Enterprises, London Business School and Cambridge University, UK. He brings with him considerable experience in technology development and commercialization (two successfully commercialized families of biomedical products), incubation and innovation management, working with start-up companies (in Cambridge-UK and India) and engaging with large corporations on research and consulting projects as project leader.
 **Anuya Nisal** BIOLMED	Mrs. Anuya Nisal is a scientist in the Polymer Science and Engineering Division at National Chemical Laboratory in Pune. Currently, she is also the non-Executive Director of BiolMed Innovations Pvt. Ltd. She is a materials engineer by training and her interests include development of novel polymer blends and composites, their structure-property-processing relationships and micro-analytical characterization techniques. For the last few years she has been leading the efforts of silk-based research at the National Chemical Laboratory. She has several research papers and patents to her credit mainly in the area of microstructure of silk fibroin, developing various processing protocols and chemically/physically modifying silk fibroin to tune the bioactivity. She has also been actively involved in information research and technology assessment projects. **BiolMed Innovations Pvt Ltd** BiolMed Innovations Pvt. Ltd.is a start-up company with a mission to develop affordable and innovative biomedical products. This start-up is created under Lab2Mktprogram of Venture Center. BiolMed is co-founded by Mrs. Anuya Nisal, Dr. V. Premnath and Dr. Ashish Lele along with Venture Center. The current focus for the company is development of osteo-conductive bone graft substitutes based on silk fibroin. **More details:**http://www.biolmedinnovations.com/
 **Venkat Panchagnula** BAREFEET Analytics	Venkat is currently a Senior Scientist and Assistant Professor at the CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India. He obtained his M.Sc. from University of Hyderabad, and Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut, USA (2005). Prior to joining NCL, he worked at PerkinElmer Life and Analytical Sciences (Boston), and CSIRO, Melbourne (Australia). He oversees an independent research group with interests in mass spectrometry, metabolomics, clinical analysis and surface chemistry. He was a Ramalingaswamy Fellow from the Department of Biotechnology, and is the Founding Scientific Director of Center for Applications of Mass Spectrometry, Pune. **Barefeet Analytics** Barefeet is a spin-off based on technology from NCL, Pune, created under Venture Center's Lab2Mkt™ program. The company is committed to develop innovative solutions for cheaper, faster and more efficient screening of residual compounds/ contaminants in dairy and agro products. BareFeet proposes to screen samples for residual compounds/ contaminants using MALDI-MS and to screen multiple analytes per samples at extremely reasonable and affordable costs. The company has received Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) from DBT-BIRAC, GoI. **More details :** http://www.barefeet.co.in/

 **Aman Sharma** Exo ...enriching hope for life	Mr. Aman Sharma is the founder of a healthcare technology start-up, ExoCan Healthcare Technologies Pvt Ltd at NCL Innovation Park Pune. He has over 6 years of R&D experience in cancer biology at National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, where he has done research for his PhD thesis. Mr. Aman Sharma is involved in bringing core laboratory research to market, and further to end users. During his PhD work at NCCS, Pune, he has worked on human brain tumors and developed a technology, presently in early stage of patenting, which can estimate therapeutic efficacy of treatment for personalized cancer therapy. Also, Mr. Aman Sharma received Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) from DBT-BIRAC, GoI, for development of a cancer diagnostic kit. He is a BioEnterprize fellow at NCL Innovation Park, Pune, where he heads an R&D laboratory funded by BIG grant. **ExoCan** ExoCan is developing diagnostics, and chemotherapeutics technologies with an aim to reduce cost, and increase accessibility of oncotechnologies to mass for better survival outcomes in cancer patients. ExoCan received seed funding from DBT-BIRAC and made into finalists of various private and public funding calls. ExoCan signed MoU with various National and International research laboratories for co-development of technology driven R&D project in oncology. **More details:** http://www.exocanhealthcare.com/
 **Milind Choudhari** We Care BioSolutions	Dr. Milind Choudhari is currently Principle Investigator on BIG-BIRAC project and Founder of WeCareBiosolutions incubated at NCL Innovation park, Pune. He is also consultant to Thomas Baker (Biosciences) Pvt. Ltd. He has previously worked with Serum Institute of India, Pune and Ranbaxy Labs Ltd., Mumbai and ReametrixPvt. Ltd., Bangalore. He has obtained his Masters in Biotechnology from GHRIIT, Nagpur and PhD Microbiology from CNB, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune. He is a microbiologist at heart and works in the area of technology development. Currently he is working on nanotechnology based wound care formulations for rapid wound healing and prevention of infection. He has previously developed technologies like UTIRAP; a rapid UTI detection kit and DNARAP; a one-step DNA isolation method. He has several papers and patents to his credit in the area of nanotechnology and microbiology. Owing to his passion for teaching, he actively involves himself in teaching to school kids and is associated with "Ray's Academy" since its inception.He is also associated with 'Bee the Change' working for spreading the knowledge of epiculture among the farmers in Vidharba region of Maharashtra. **WeCareBiosolutions** WeCareBiosolutions is start-up working in the area of healthcare and drug discovery. Currently they are developing innovative nanoformulation for wound care, involving the use of traditional Indian medicine and cutting edge nanotechnology. WeCarebiosolutions is founded by Dr. Milind Choudhari and Dr. Anupama Engineer and is currently funded by BIG-BIRAC. **More details:** www.wecarebiosolutions.vpveb.in

ORGANIZERS	
	BioIncubator at Venture Center was created with support from DBT-BIRAC under the Bioincubator Support Scheme. It has been conceptualized to help innovators in the spectrum of biomass, bioengineering, bio informatics, biomed & agro based industries to ease their enterprises into the ecosystem. Along with infrastructural support in the form of biosciences labs & office spaces, the BioIncubator also provides advisory services, referrals, scientific support, library and information services, Intellectual property services, seed funding & access to talks, workshops & technical training programs. **For more information about BioIncubator at Venture Center:** www.bioincubator.venturecenter.co.in
	Venture Center Outreach Center @National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune is a project of Venture Center initiated for scanning and showcasing Technology, Knowhow and Capabilities of NCCS for potential partners in Industry and Entrepreneurs. **For more information about BioIncubator at Venture Center:** www.venturecenter.co.in/nccs
	NCCS is an autonomous research organization funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. The institute was set up in the year 1988 with the objectives to act as a national repository for cell lines/ hybridomas; to undertake research in all areas of cell biology and provide state of all facilities to all the researchers; and to train high quality manpower in the areas of cell biology. **For more information about NCCS:** www.nccs.res.in/

SUPPORTED BY	
	Entrepreneurship Development Center (Venture Center) – a CSIR initiative – is a Section 25 company hosted by the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. Venture Center strives to nucleate & nurture technology & knowledge-based enterprises by leveraging the scientific and engineering competencies of the institutions in the Pune region in India. The Venture Center is a technology business incubator supported by the Department of Science & Technology's National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (DST-NSTEDB). Venture Center's focuses on technology enterprises offering products and services exploiting scientific expertise in the areas of materials, chemicals and biological sciences & engineering. **For more information about Venture Center:** www.venturecenter.co.in
	Biotechnology Industry Research & Assistance Council is a new industry-academia interface and implements its mandate through a wide range of **impact initiatives,** be it providing access to risk capital through targeted funding, technology transfer, IP management and handholding schemes that help bring **innovation excellence** to the biotech firms and make them globally competitive. **For more information about BIRAC:** www.birac.nic.in