

Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship

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Message from the Dean

International and Alumni Affairs

As many of you know, Center for Innovation (CFI) was started with funding from Class of '81 in 2007, and is now the most popular hangout for techies on campus. But many of you may not know that Center for Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship (CSIE) was launched just 4 years later with funding from the Class of '84, and has been serving students & faculty since in many ways. This Newsletter is our attempt to reach out and spread the message regarding CSIE's mission and initiatives.

CSIE coordinates education, training and research activities related to social entrepreneurship. Four key focus areas for the Center are:

- Facilitation of Minor stream in Innovation & Social Entrepreneurship
- Liaisoning with external organizations involved in social entrepreneurship
- Conducting & coordinating research into social enterprises
- Outreach to colleges and schools in the realm of social entrepreneurship

We have a 3-member Staff - Joseph Thomas and James Rajanayagam and K. Vijayalakshmi - who drive these activities with exemplary zeal. With your involvement, we can bring CSIE on par with CFI in terms of its impact on the incubation ecosystem on campus.



Prof. R. Nagarajan

Dean, International and Alumni Relations

About CSIE

IIT Madras has been involved in the field of social entrepreneurship since 2004, when it partnered with the Lemelson Foundation's RAMP program for social entrepreneurs, as well as with Villgro Innovations Foundation.

In August 2010, recognizing the need to build a full-fledged centre focusing on social entrepreneurship within the Institution, Center for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship was established, with support from the Lemelson Foundation, the IITM Alumni Batch of 1984, and Villgro Innovations Foundation.

CSIE, aims to bring together the technological and management strengths of IIT Madras to contribute in the areas of Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship by creating knowledge and understanding that will be of relevance to the problems that the poor in India face.

Mission

To build an environment that will facilitate the creation of social enterprise knowledge through research and empower students to apply their entrepreneurship abilities to develop solutions for greater social impact through academia.

Team Members



Shri. Joseph Thomas

Project Consultant

Research and Fund raising, overall program guidance of CSIE



Shri. James Rajanayagam

Project Consultant

Out Reach programs to other colleges and schools in the field of social entrepreneurship



Ms. K. Vijayalakshmi

Project Officer

Coordinating with faculty of various departments and students of IITM for the Minor in social innovation and entrepreneurship

Summer Camp on Social Innovation through Technology for Government School Students



Class room session by Prof. L S Ganesh

CSIE conducted a 5-day Summer Camp for Rural Government school students on '**Social Innovation through Technology**' in association with TVS Srinivasan Services Trust, Chennai on 12-16, May 2014 at IIT Madras. It was designed to create awareness about the role of technology and entrepreneurship to solve socially relevant issues. About 40 students from three villages in Thiruvallur District attended the camp.

Prof. R. Nagarajan, Dean IAR inaugurated the programme and dwelt on the objectives and nature of the camp. Faculty from IIT Madras and social entrepreneurs gave talks on topics like social issues, relevant technologies for solving those issues and about social businesses & enterprises. On the final day of valedictory programme, certificates were given to all the students by Prof. R. Nagarajan. At the end, students presented their learning's, feedback about the programme and also ideas of their future course of actions.

Seminar on Innovation and Entrepreneurship

In association with CSIE and Deshpande Foundation, the Centre for Entrepreneurship Development from Karnataka Law Society's Institute of Management Education & Research (KLSIMER) conducted a seminar on '**Innovation & Entrepreneurship**' along with a business plan competition. About 200 students attended the seminar and CSIE played the role of knowledge partner. The event was organised for two days (8 and 9th, May 2014) at KLSIMER, Belgaum.

Prof. L.S. Ganesh, IIT Madras delivered the keynote address on '**Basic Concepts of Social Entrepreneurship**' and Aswin Mahalingam, Assistant Professor, IIT Madras gave a speech on '**Business Plan writing**'.



Inaugurated by Asst. Prof. Aswin Mahalingam

Micro Entrepreneurship Expo

TVS **PUTHIYA THALAIMURAI FOUNDATION** **Ganara Bank**

[A People-based NGO working for Youth Development and Rural Education]

RURAL EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING & MICRO ENTREPRENEURSHIP EXPO (Workshops / Exhibition)

கிராமப்புறக் கல்வி, தொழிற்பயிற்சி மற்றும் கிறுதொழில் கண்காட்சி / கருத்தரங்கம்

Date : August 12-13, 2014, Tuesday & Wednesday Venue : Govt. ITI Campus, Guindy, Chennai

தொழில் நுட்ப அமைச்சு மற்றும் பயிற்சித் துறை
Department of Employment and Training

HYUNDAI **IIT Madras - CSIE** **TFSC**

The Puthiya Thalaimurai foundation organized the '**Micro Entrepreneurship Expo**' at Government ITI, Guindy on 12 and 13th August, 2014. It was inaugurated by Kyungsoo Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea.

CSIE played the role of knowledge partner to the event. About forty companies presented their services. Public briefing about CSIE was done and pamphlets were issued.

Brainstorming session Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) and Rural Technology and Business Incubator (RTBI)



Brain storming workshop in progress

CSIE, organized a brainstorming session for the companies incubated under RTBI with TNSRLM on 18th, July 2014. The meeting was presided by Smt. Mythili K. Rajendran, IAS, Managing Director, TNSRLM.

The program was organized to create understanding about the activities undertaken by TNSRLM and the incubated companies of RTBI in the non-farm products domain and to explore the opportunities for collaboration. The incubated companies described the uniqueness of their products and services, and benefits rural communities experienced. The meeting ended with Shri. Joseph Thomas, Project Consultant, CSIE giving the valedictory address and a commitment by TNSRLM and RTBI to meet again for more detailed discussions in September, 2014.

MoU signed between CSIE - Tagore Engineering College (TEC)

CSIE signed an agreement with Tagore Engineering College, Chennai for collaboration in research and consultancy on 20th, August 2014. The objective is to provide modular certificate courses, conferences, and hand holding services for the incubated companies of TEC.

CSIE will design, develop and deliver specialized modular courses in areas like Social Entrepreneurship, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Product Innovation, and other relevant areas.

The MoU was signed by Prof. R. Nagarajan, Dean IAR, on behalf of CSIE and Dr. P. Kasinatha Pandian, Principal on behalf of TEC.



*MoU Exchanged by Prof. R. Nagarajan and
Dr. P. Kasinatha Pandian*

MoU signed between IITM - Swinburne University



*MoU Exchanged by Shri. Joseph Thomas and
Australian Prime minister Tony Abbot*

IIT Madras signed an memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Swinburne University, Australia under the New Colombo Plan, an Initiative by Australian Government.

In an event held at Mumbai University on 4th, September 2014. Shri. Joseph Thomas represented IIT-Madras during the exchange of MoUs between Swinburne University and IIT Madras in the presence of the Australian Prime Minister, Tony Abbott.

The Australia - India Council has approved a grant for a study tour between students at Swinburne and CSIE, IIT Madras.

Conferences

Universities and Councils Network on Innovation for Inclusive development in South East Asia (UNIID-SEA) Project Advisory Committee Meeting

UNIID-SEA organised its Project Advisory committee (PAC) meeting on 25 – 26th, July 2014 at Manila, Philippines. The Project Advisory Committee is an international group of academics and policy makers acting as principal ambassadors for the IID project. As a PAC member, Shri. Joseph Thomas attended the meeting and gave his valuable inputs.

UNIID - SEA IID Fellow Program

UNIID-SEA launched the IID Fellows Program. Under this research program, UNIID-SEA will be targeting applicants from the ten ASEAN Member States: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Selected IID Fellows from the participating countries will be awarded small grants ranging from US \$1,500 to US \$2,500. It aims to champion IID advocates in the region, by incentivizing them to share their existing courses and modules that demonstrate inclusive innovation. Shri. Joseph Thomas from CSIE was selected as an IID Module/Course reviewer for the IID fellowship program.

Assistive and Rehabilitation Technologies

Tamil Nadu Technology Development and Promotion Centre of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized a conference on “Assistive and Rehabilitation Technologies” with the theme of ‘Inclusive technologies for an improved quality of life’ on 22nd, August 2014 in Chennai. Shri. Joseph Thomas participated in the conference representing CSIE, IIT-Madras.

Artha Venture Challenge 2014

The Artha Venture Challenge 2014 was conducted by Rianta Philanthropy Ltd. Their mandate is to find and support ambitious Indian social entrepreneurs. They help them with access to finance and powerful connections to raise investment, get past the pain of due diligence and scale their ventures. The selected finalists will be provided with up to Rupees 30 lakhs of financial support (co-funding) and eight months of capacity building. Shri. Joseph Thomas served as a jury member on one of the panels for this challenge. The winners of the challenge can be seen at <http://www.arthaventurechallenge.com/avcfinalists/>.

Meeting with Chilasa Venture Philanthropy Ltd.

Shri. Nigel Majakari, CEO, Chilasa Venture Philanthropy Ltd met Prof. R. Nagarajan at Geneva on 6th, September 2014.



*IID fellow program in Manila, Philippines
Shri. Joseph Thomas (middle) with Shri.
Thiruselvam (right)*



Project Advisory Committee
2014 Annual Meeting
July 25-26, 2014, Manila, Philippines
UNIID-SEA
Universities and Councils Network on
Innovation for Inclusive Development
in Southeast Asia

*UNIID -SEA PAC Members: Shri. Joseph
Thomas (First row, left side—second)*

2014 ARTHA VENTURE CHALLENGE FINALISTS

Artoo Sameer Segal	Students Fuel Ketan Deshpande
uber Diagnostics Avin Agarwal	thulir P. ShenBaga Saravanan
Swajal Vibha Tripathi	Parvata Foods Sivkhi Kamrani
Krishi Star Bryan Lee	Janta Meals Jesse Van de Zand
Gram Mooligai Utkarsh Ghate	Ecozen Solutions Vivek Pandey
Sampurnearth Environmental Solutions Debartha Banerjee	

Research Papers

Gavin Melles, Joseph Thomas, Blair Kuys, Charles Ranscombe. '*Social Entrepreneurship with design in Southern India - Lesson for Australia*'. Indo - Dutch International Conference on Design, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, July 2014

Joseph Thomas, Gavin Melles. '*Taking Appropriate Technology to the Market*'. submitted for 6th International Conference on Appropriate Technology (6th ICAT), Kenya

Upcoming Events

1. Idea Spark 2014

Idea Spark is a contest for students to recognize and nurture the technological ideas that will solve the problems of society. The objective is to create awareness among students, bring out their ideas, and help their ideas to develop into a business plan. CSIE will support the selected ideas with mentoring to develop into business plans. The finalists will be provided with cash award and mentoring support.

2. CSR workshop at KLSIMER, Belgaum

CSIE joins hand with KLSIMER, Belgaum to conduct a one day workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility. Shri. Joseph Thomas will be giving a talk on '*Role of Academic Institutions in supporting CSR initiatives*' on 27th, September 2014. Dr. M.P. Ganesh, Department of Management Studies, IIT Madras will speak about '*CSR as stakeholder management*'.

3. UK-India University dialogue on Social Enterprise in New Delhi on 25-26th, September 2014

Shri. Joseph Thomas will be one of the panel speaker in the session on '*Learning Approaches : in and outside classroom leading to innovation and stronger social economy*'.

4. UNIID-SEA in Jakarta, Indonesia on 4-6th, November 2014

5. R&D Affordable Healthcare Committee meeting in New Delhi on 12th, November 2014.

6. 6th International Conference on Appropriate Technology in Nairobi, Kenya on 25-29th, November 2014



CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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