

ST. THOMAS COLLEGE

Ranni, Pathanamthitta, Kerala – 689673 ACCREDITED BY NAAC WITH 'B' GRADE

7.3: Institutional Distinctiveness

IEI

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVE

REPORT 2017-2022

CRITERION: 7

INSTITUTIONAL VALUES
AND BEST PRACTICES

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Title: IEI - Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative

Since its inception in 1964, the institution has adhered to its vision of partaking in the nation building process by providing holistic and quality education to create intellectually enlightened, spiritually inspired, morally upright, and socially committed young men and women. As the only institution of higher education situated in a rural location, the college has always stood as a centre of learning for thousands of students from far and near places. Begun as a junior college and later upgraded as a first-grade college, the institution, as its founders envisioned, has been able to meet the educational needs of the many students from the rural background and deprived sections of the society.

Adhering to its vision and mission of providing holistic and quality education, the distinctiveness of the institution lies in its varied attempts to create a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among students. This is implemented through **IDEAGORA**, a collaborative venture that combines the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Center (IEDC), supported by the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) and Entrepreneurship Development (ED) Club, supported by Kerala Industries Department. **IDEAGORA** has provided numerous programmes and events to nurture innovation and entrepreneurial mindset. The activities of the venture include:

1. Orientation and Workshops:

Multiple orientation programmes and workshops were conducted to introduce **IDEAGORA** to new students and instill a startup culture. Notable sessions were led by experienced entrepreneurs. These sessions inspired students, shared success stories, and provided insights into various aspects of entrepreneurship.

2. Competitions and Quizzes:

To foster healthy competition and showcase students' knowledge and skills, inter-departmental and inter-class quizzes were organised. Events like "Battle of Brains" and "The Masterminds" engaged students from different disciplines and encouraged teamwork.

3. Summits and Exhibitions:

Every year, **IDEAGORA** actively participates in IEDC summits (Asia's largest students' entrepreneurship conclave) and exhibitions, representing the college's innovative ideas and projects. A branding installation on the theme "Rebuild Kerala" submitted by IDEAGORA was one among the few shortlisted installations which was published on the KSUM website.

4. Collaboration and Networking:

IDEAGORA has facilitated opportunities for students to collaborate with external organizations. Students attended orientation programmes, workshops, and interactive sessions conducted by ICT Academy, Kerala Institute of Entrepreneurship Development (KIED), and other institutions. These engagements broadened students' knowledge and expanded their network.

5. Problem-solving and Idea Generation:

IDEAGORA organized events like Idea Fests and Hackathons where students were encouraged to identify problems and propose innovative solutions. These activities stimulated creativity and showcased students' ability to address real-world challenges.

6. Online Initiatives:

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, **IDEAGORA** adapted its activities to the virtual environment. The launch of IEDC Radio KL6.2 and "ON-LIVE" programme, featuring interviews, interactions and programmes related to entrepreneurship, demonstrated the college's adaptability and commitment to promoting innovation during challenging times.

7. Social Initiatives

IDEAGORA has conducted Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp (EAC) to create awareness of entrepreneurship among the public. The programme was fully funded by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Development Institute. St. Thomas College, Ranni is the only institution in the district that mentors two industrial clusters, namely the Food Cluster and the Bamboo Cluster under the state government scheme 'One District-One Idea' (ODOI).

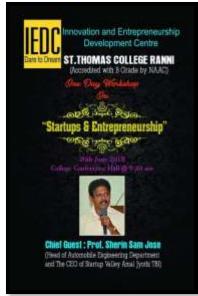
8. Honoring Entrepreneurs and Student Innovators

Attempts are made to honour entrepreneurs and student innovators. The Trailblazer Entrepreneur Excellence Award is instituted by **IDEAGORA** to honour exceptional entrepreneurs from Pathanamthitta District. This esteemed accolade acknowledges individuals who have displayed exemplary entrepreneurial prowess, innovative thinking and notable contributions to their respective industries. Student Innovator Award aims to acknowledge students who have demonstrated exceptional innovative thinking. Student Entrepreneur Award is given to students who have ventured into entrepreneurial pursuits and showcased exceptional business acumen.

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES

Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
20/6/2018	Workshop	"One Day Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship"

"One Day Workshop on Startups and Entrepreneurship" was led by Mr. Sherin Sam (CEO, Startups Valley, Amal Jyothy College of Engineering, TBI). The inaugural session was followed by two technical sessions. In the first session he shared many successful startup stories and motivated young minds. The second session covered the procedure to submit project ideas to Kerala Startup Mission and other funding agencies.







Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
	Collaboration and networking	"Workshop on Entrepreneurial Competencies"

As part of the collaboration and networking initiatives of the centre, IDEAGORA team of five members were sent to Kerala Institute for Entrepreneurship Development (KIED), Kalamassery for a five-day orientation programme titled "Personal Entrepreneurial Competencies" wherein the students attended sessions on ideation, project preparation and marketing.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
13/10/2018	Workshop	"Inspire Series-One Day Workshop on Amazing Startup Ideas"

In the one-day workshop on "Amazing Startup Ideas" conducted by IDEAGORA Sri. Sonu J.S., CEO of Starting Trouble Company and trainer was the resource person. He engaged the students with many interesting entrepreneurial games and shared his personal experience. The event witnessed the participation of 120 students.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
3/11/2018	Participation in IEDC Summit	IEDC Summit 2018 (Asia's largest student's entrepreneurship conclave)

In connection with IEDC Summit 2018 (Asia's largest student entrepreneurship conclave), IDEAGORA team presented a branding installation on the theme "Rebuild Kerala" which was one among the shortlisted ones that was published in the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) website. A team of 9 students represented IDEAGORA at the summit held at Amal Jyothy College of Engineering, Kanjirappally.

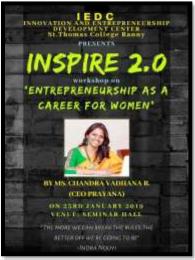






Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
23/1/2019	Workshop	"Inspire Series- One-Day Workshop on Entrepreneurship as a Career for Women"

Under the aegis of IDEAGORA Inspire Series, an initiative started to motivate the students for innovative practices, a one-day workshop on "Entrepreneurship as a Career for Women" was organised exclusively for girl students. 2018 Empretec Women in Business award winner Ms. Chandravadhana, CEO, Prayana, was the resource person. In her keynote address she stressed the importance of more women choosing entrepreneurship as a career and in the interactive session that followed, students were divided into groups and were asked to identify a problem area and present solutions for it.

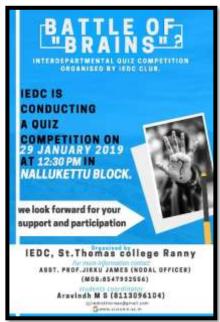




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
29/1/2019	Quiz	"Battle of Brains"



To foster healthy competition and showcase students' knowledge and skills, inter-departmental and inter-class quizzes are organized by IDEAGORA. Events like "Battle of Brains" and "The Masterminds" engaged students from different disciplines and encouraged teamwork.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
11/6/2019&1 2/6/2019	Workshop	"Two-Day Workshop on Innovation, Leadership and Creativity"

In the two-day design thinking workshop "Innovation, Leadership and Creativity" led by the team "Slate and Pencil", the main speakers were Mr. Arun J.S., Nodal Officer of Catalyst Mar Baselios (IEDC, Mar Baselios College of Engineering, Trivandrum) and Mr. Aneesh S., Nodal Officer of IEDC, SNIT Adoor. It was an activity-oriented event which focused on entrepreneurship motivation and innovative startup ideas. Around 90 students attended the workshop.







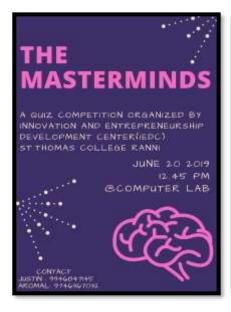


Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
20/6/2019	Quiz	"The Masterminds"

Interdepartmental business quiz competition titled "The Masterminds" organized by IDEAGORA was coordinated by the executive committee members Aromal Sajeev and Justin Jacob. Aswin



Manoj and Ajmal Khan won the first prize and, the second prize was won by Kamal Harichandran and Abin Raj





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
26/06/2019	Collaboration and Networking	One-day orientation Programme organised by Channel I'M







During the launch of "I am Startup Studio", a digital media platform for startups by Channel I'M, the chief guest was Smt. Nisha Krishnan, CEO of Channel I'M. Smt. Priya Deepak (Founder of Kitch.in) delivered the keynote address during the occasion. In order to create a link between the students and the media, ten students from the college were selected as "Startup Ambassadors".

Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
5/7/2019	Workshop	"Inspire Series -Creative Ideation Workshop"





In the one-day Orientation programme for first year students, the main speaker was Mr. Sonu J.S., CEO of Starting Trouble Company. Apart from making the students aware of the role and functions of IDEAGORA Startup Center, they were also informed about startups, the startup ecosystem and the role of KSUM. In his talk, Mr. Sonu J.S. encouraged students to identify a problem and find a solution to it. Around 85 students attended the programme.

Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
26/6/2019	Collaboration and networking	"I am Startup Studio Innovation Ambassadors Meet up"



IDEAGORA team comprising ten students, who were selected as Startup Ambassadors by Channel I'M (a leading online platform that promotes entrepreneurship) attended the ambassadors meet up titled "Spark 1.0" held at Integrated Startup Complex, Kochi. Nisha Krishnan (CEO-Channel I'M), Remya Raj (CEO-DAAD), and Vysakh S.R. (Captain-Indian Amputee Football Team) were the Resource Persons. Around fifty students from five colleges attended this grand event hosted by Channel I'M.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
9/8/2019	Interactive session	"Inspire Series-An Interactive session with Sujith Bhakthan T. R." (Founder-Tech Travel Eat)



As part of the Inspire Series interactive sessions, famous YouTube travel vlogger and founder of "Tech Travel Eat" Mr. Sujith Bhakthan visited the college and interacted with the students. He was awarded the "Trailblazer" award by IDEAGORA.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
30/8/2019	Competition/Idea Generation	"Kalavara- The Food Fest"



In the interdepartmental Food Fest "Kalavara" organised by IDEAGORA, around four hundred entries were registered. Nine food stalls with attractive names and menu cards of every department were put up representing delicious cuisines from across the globe. The fest was inaugurated by Mr. Jerin Jacob, Chef, The Zuri, Kumarakom. The fund raised from different stalls was contributed to the **Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund (CMDRF).**











Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
28/11/2019	Workshop	"Workshop on IPR"

IDEAGORA, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) conducted a one-day workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in which Lt. Dr. G. Geeethika, Asst. Professor, U. C. College, Aluva was the main speaker. Both students and faculty members attended the meeting.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
10/1/2020	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"IDEA FEST"

The main objective of the Idea Fest organised for all the students in the college was to put forward a problem before them and encourage them to solve it. The problem that was raised was "How to solve the issue of food waste in the campus?" Students came up with innovative ideas and the winners were given prizes.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
20/1/2020	Workshop/Idea generation	"Design Thinking Workshop for Postgraduate Students"

In the one-day Design Thinking Workshop for postgraduate students the main speaker was Mr. Pranav, CEO of Accent Tutors who familiarised the students with the basics of entrepreneurship. He divided the students into 5 groups and were encouraged to identify a problem and present a prototype as a solution to it. Students came up with very creative and innovative ideas.







Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
6/2/2020	Quiz	"The Masterminds- General Quiz"





In the Inter departmental quiz competition "The Masterminds", there was active participation of students from all departments. Winners Sachin Ganeshan and Nikhil Kumar (Commerce Dept.) and Tharesh M and Krishnapriya (Physics Dept.) were given prizes.

Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
11/2/2020	Competition	"Trash to Treasure"

"Treasure to Trash" was an event to encourage students to make use of trash and to convert it into treasure was organized by IDEAGORA. Students from all departments actively participated in the competition. Around 24 models were created by students.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
February 2020	Social Initiative	Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme at STCAS, Edamury

As part of its social initiative, IDEAGORA conducted an Entrepreneurship Awareness Workshop at STCAS, Edamury. Nodal officer Jikku James and CEO Muhammed Azhar Irshad handled the sessions.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
24/2/2020	Workshop/Interactive session	"Inspire Series- Remya Raj, Founder and CEO- DAAD

In the sixth edition of IDEAGORA Inspire Series, the guest of honour was Smt. Remya Raj, Founder and CEO of Digital Arts Academy for the Deaf (DAAD). The interactive session was very inspiring to the students. She shared her startup experience and gave an insight on sign language.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
24/10/2020	Online Initiative (interactive session)	"Inspire Series- A Talk with Dhanya Ravi"

In the eighth edition of Inspire talk series conducted under the auspices of the Women's wing of IDEAGORA, content writer, activist and social media influencer Smt. Dhanya Ravi was the chief guest. She interacted with the students and faculty members of the college via Google meet.

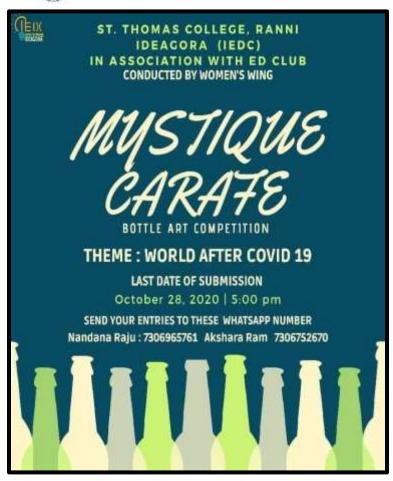




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
05/11/2020	Competition	"Mystique Carafe" (Bottle Art Competition)

With the aim of spreading the spirit of creativity among the students, IDEAGORA hosted "Mystique Carafe", a bottle art competition based on the theme "World after Covid 19".





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
30/10/2020	Online Initiative (Interactive session)	"A Talk with Santhosh George Kulangara" (Founder and M.D. of Safari Channel)

IDEAGORA collaborated with the PG Department of Travel and Tourism Management in the ninth edition of the Inspire Series and organised an online interactive session with Sri. Santhosh George Kulangara, traveller, television producer, director, and founder and Managing Director of Safari T.V. He shared the story of his journeys with the students. More than 100 students participated in the programme





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
November 2020	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"IDEA FEST-Supporting System for Farmers"

"IDEA FEST" based on the theme "Supporting System for Farmers" was hosted by IDEAGORA to elicit creative and innovative ideas that would be of help to farmers from the student community.

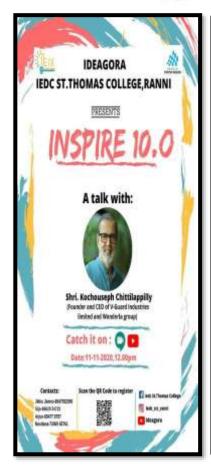




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
11/11/2020	Online Initiative (interactive)	"Inspire Series- A Talk with Kochouseph Chittilappilly" (Founder and CEO of V-Guard Industries)

In the tenth edition of IDEAGORA Inspire Series, the Founder and CEO of V Guard Industries Ltd & Wonderla Amusement Park, Sri.Kochouseph Chittilappilly was the chief guest. In this interactive session he shared the story of his business life and inspired many students.







Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
29/12/2020		"One-Day FDP- Role of Teachers in Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development"

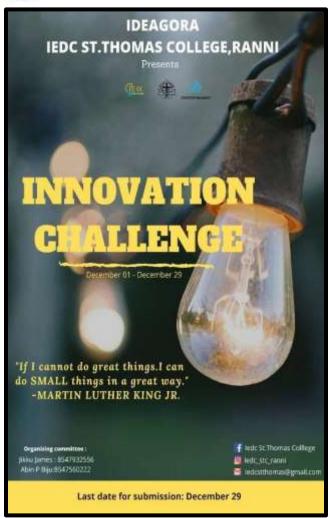
IDEAGORA in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and staff club, conducted a one-day training for teachers on the topic "Role of Teachers in Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development". Prof. Sherin Sam Jose (CEO, Startups Valley, Amal Jyothi College of Engineering TBI, Kanjirappally) was the chief guest.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
December 2020	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"Innovation Challenge"

"Innovation Challenge" was conducted to elicit creative and innovative ideas from students of the college. The winners of the event are-Krishna Prabha S (second year BSc physics), Sejin K Shaji (Second year B.Com) and Amurtha J (Second year B.Com)

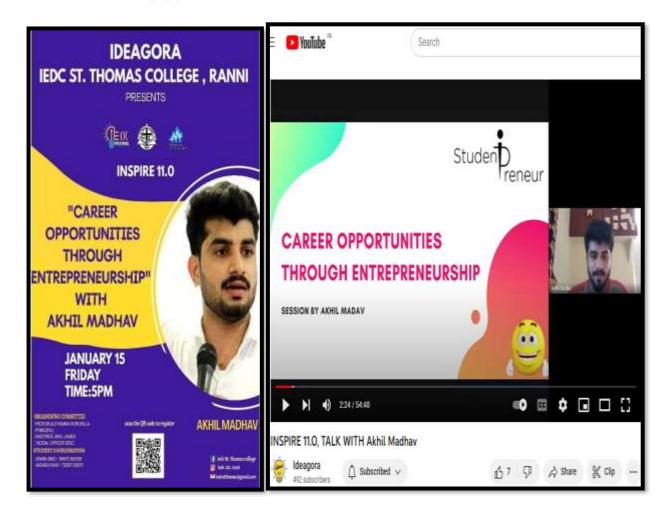




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
15/1/2021		"Inspire Series - Career Opportunities Through Entrepreneurship"

Sri. Akhil Madhav, Maker Manager, Cisco ThingQbator, Nassacom Foundation was the keynote speaker in the eleventh edition of IDEAGORA Inspire Series and he spoke on the topic"Career Opportunities Through Entrepreneurship"





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
25/1/2021	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"1 Minute Idea Contest"

In the IDEAGORA "1 Minute Idea Contest" students were given an opportunity to present their innovative ideas. The Winners are Gokul Vijay (MSc Physics) Amurtha J (B.Com) and Farhana Fathima Ayoob (B.A Economics).





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
13/2/2021		"Taking Baking Business to New Heights-Talk with Fouzia R. Naizam"

As part of the 12th edition of IDEAGORA Inspire talk series, Ms. Fouzia R. Naizam, Founder of Cutie Pie cakes interacted with students on virtual platform.

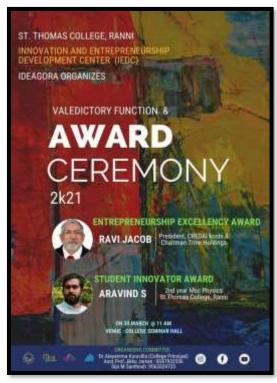






Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
30/3/2021	Honouring Entrepreneurs and Student Innovators	"Award Ceremony 2021"

IDEAGORA "Award Ceremony 2021" featured an interactive session titled "Inspire" during which the Trailblazer Entrepreneur Excellence Award instituted by IDEAGORA for honouring deserving entrepreneurs hailing from Pathanamthitta district, was given to Mr. Ravi Jacob (Founder of Trine Holdings and President of CREDAI, Cochin). Student Innovator Award was presented to Mr. Aravind (second year MSc Physics student).





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
19/4/2021	Online Initiative (webinar)	"Webinar on Intellectual Property Rights"

Webinar on "Intellectual Property Rights' organised by IDEAGORA was led by Dr. Law Well Man P. (Assistant Professor, Govt Law College, Calicut). The programme was conducted to make the students aware of the legal aspects of intellectual property. There were 75 participants in the event.



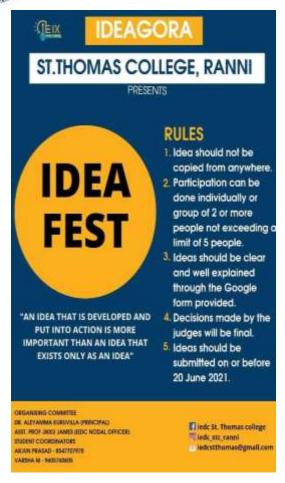




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
2/6/2021	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"IDEA FEST"

IDEAGORA "IDEA FEST" was launched for the students of the college to elicit innovative ideas from them. The program intended to improve students' creative thinking skills and also to develop their problem solving skills. Many students of the college came up with creative ideas and the selected ideas were given prizes.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
16/6/2021	Competition	"Cartoon Competition" (Theme- AD 3000)

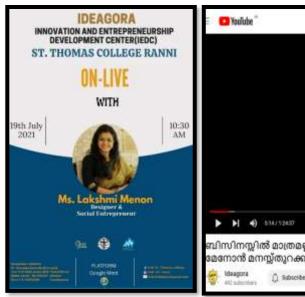
Cartoon competition themed on the topic "AD-3000" was organised to ignite the creativity and critical thinking skills of the students. Vijayasree J, Akshaya Vijayan and Jibin K Christy won the first, second and third prizes respectively.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
19/7/2021	Online Initiative	"ON-LIVE with Ms. Lakshmi Menon" (Governing Council Member, National Innovation Council)

IDEAGORA "ON-LIVE", a series of online interactive sessions with successful entrepreneurs, launched its flagship event featuring Ms.Lekshmi Menon (designer, social entrepreneur and Governing Council Member of National Innovation Council) as the chief guest. There were more than ninety participants. The guest spoke about the importance of design thinking and problem solving. She also shared her life experiences and ideas which was indeed inspirational.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
3/8/2021	Online Initiative	"ON-LIVE with Mr. James Joseph" (Startup India Award Winner)

In the second session of IDEAGORA "ON-LIVE" series Mr. James Joseph (Founder-Jackfruit 365 and recipient of National Startup India Award 2020) was the guest speaker. He interacted with the students of the college and shared the story of his successful journey as an entrepreneur.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
28/9/2021	Online Initiative	"ON-LIVE with Maneesha Panickar" (owner of Silk Route Escapes and Kayal Island Retreat)

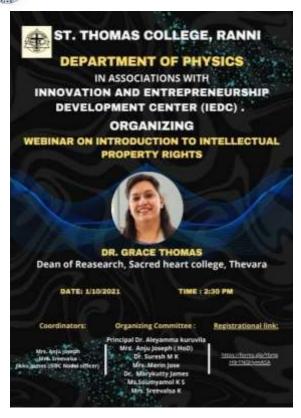
In the third interactive session of the IDEAGORA "ON-LIVE" series conducted in association with the PG Department of Tourism and Travel Management, Ms. Maneesha Panicker (owner of Silk Route Escapes and Kayal Island Retreat) was the guest speaker. The group discussed the upcoming innovations in the field of eco-tourism and also the steps to be undertaken to enhance the scope of tourism business.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
1/10/2021	Online Initiative	"Webinar on Introduction to IPR"

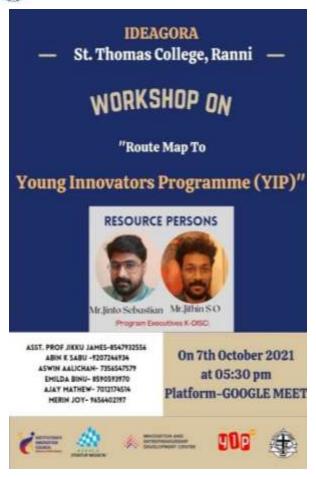
IDEAGORA in association with the PG Department of Physics, conducted an online webinar on the topic "Introduction to Intellectual Property Rights". There were more than 70 participants in the webinar. The session was handled by Dr. Grace Thomas (Asst. Professor and Dean of Research, Sacred Heart College, Thevara). The interactive discussion was followed by a Q&A session.



Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
7/10/2021	Workshop (training for YIP registration)	"Workshop- Route Map to Young Innovator's Programme (YIP)"

IDEAGORA organised an orientation of Young Innovator's Programme (YIP) launched by Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC). The session titled "Workshop-Route Map to Young Innovator's Programme (YIP)" was led by the programme executives of K-DISC, Mr. Jinto Sebastian and Mr. Jithin S. O. The resource persons detailed the steps and procedures involved in YIP registration. They also explained how to develop good ideas for registering in the YIP portal.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
15/12/2021	Design Thinking/Idea Generation	"STARTUP BOOT CAMP"

STARTUP BOOT CAMP organised for the 2nd year B.Com students was led by Mr. Sonu J. S. (founder and CEO-Starting Trouble). His expertise in design thinking and in motivating students to develop innovative ideas was really beneficial to the students.

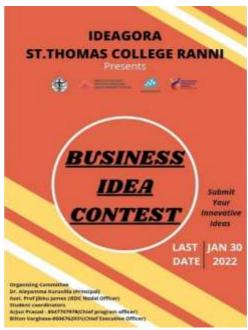




Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
1/1/2022	Problem solving/Idea Generation	"Business Idea Contest"

IDEAGORA "Business Idea Contest" was launched in order to dig out innovative ideas from the students. The ideas were to be submitted through a Google form and the event was instrumental in kindling the spirit of ideation and innovation among the students.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
12/1/2022	Workshop/Idea Generation	"Design Thinking Workshop"

"Design Thinking Workshop" organised for the first year students and led by Sonu J. S. (Founder and CEO of Starting Trouble) familiarized the students not only with the objectives of IEDC, but also with the scope of innovation and entrepreneurship in the present scenario.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
17/1/2022	Online Initiative	"Finding Opportunities in a Changing World"-A Talk with Aardra Chandra Mouli

In the online interactive session on the topic "Finding Opportunities in a Changing World" the resource person was Ms. Aardra Chandra Mouli, Founder of Aeka Biochemicals. The programme was conducted on Google meet platform with 70 participants from the college. The resource person interacted with the students and shared her experiences in research and entrepreneurship. She also spoke about the ways to find entrepreneurial opportunities in the pandemic situation.

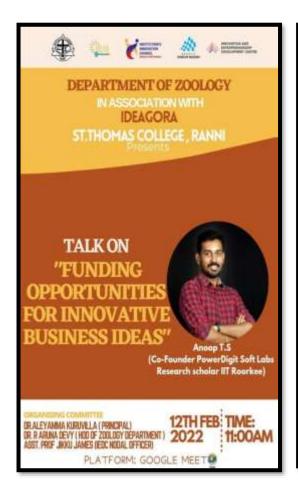


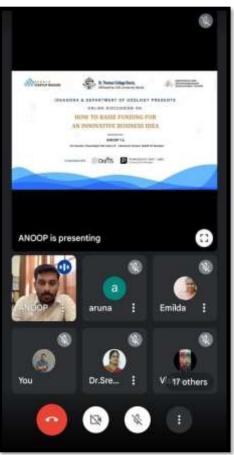


Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
12/2/2022	Online Initiative	"Talk on Funding Opportunities for Innovative Business Ideas"



IDEAGORA, in association with the Department of Zoology conducted a webinar "Talk on Funding Opportunities for Innovative Business Ideas" on Google meet platform with 80 participants. Mr. Anoop T. S., Co-founder of PowerDigit Soft. Labs and Research Scholar at IIT Roorkee, was the resource person. He gave a very insightful talk on the journey of startup stages from idea to scaleup and also about the different avenues available in India for startup funding and mentoring.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
9/3/2022	Social Initiative	Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp (EAC)



IDEAGORA, in collaboration with MSME Development Institute, Thrissur, (a central government institute) organised an Entrepreneurship Awareness Camp (EAC) for students and the public. The programme was inaugurated by Smt. Jessy Alex (member, District Panchayat). MSME Development Institute Asst. Director Mr. Suresh M. I., Instructor Mr. Jethuram, and officials from Industries Department and KSEB delivered talks on different topics.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
28/3/2022 &29/3/2022	Workshop	Two-Day Workshop on Analysing Techniques in TEM and XPS

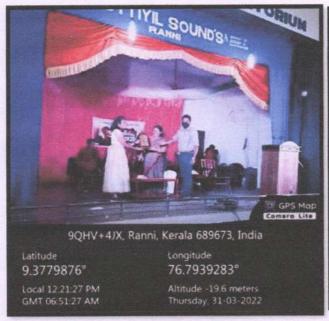
IDEAGORA, in association with the PG Department of Physics, conducted a "Two- Day Workshop on Analysing Techniques in TEM and XPS" in which Dr. Julin Joseph (Assistant Professor, St. Joseph College for Women) handled the sessions. PG students and Research Scholars interested in the field of material science attended the workshop.





Date	Initiative	Title of the Activity
31/3/2022	Honouring student innovators and entrepreneurs	"Student Innovator Award Ceremony 2021-22"

IDEAGORA presented "Student Innovator Award" to Farhana Fathima Ayoob (D2 BA Economics) and "Student Entrepreneur Award" to Divya V.B. (D2 B.Com) for their contribution in developing the campus startup ecosystem.



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Principal
St. Thomas College
Pazhavangadi P.O., Ranni