

Technology Innovation Hub in Intelligent Collaborative Systems

Minutes the 4th Hub Governing Body Meeting

20 November 2021

Members (Present):

1. Prof. P. B. Sunil Kumar, Director, IIT Palakkad (Chairman)
2. Dr. K. R. Murali Mohan, Mission Director, NM-ICPS
3. Mr. Unnikrishnan, IITB-Monash Research Academy
4. Mr. A. G. Karunakaran, MulticoreWare
5. Mr. Haragopal Mangipudi, Founder guNak &. Board member ISPMA
6. Prof. Asokan Thondiyath, Professor, IIT Madras
7. Dr. Ramkrishna Pasumathy, Associate Professor, IIT Madras
8. Dr. Abhishek, Associate Professor, IIT Kanpur
9. Dr. Santhakumar Mohan, Dean IC & SR, IIT Palakkad
10. Dr. Vijay Muralidharan, Assistant Professor, IIT Palakkad
11. Dr. Albert Sunny, Assistant Professor, IIT Palakkad
12. Mr. Harilal Bhaskaran, General Manager, IIT Palakkad Technology IHub Foundation (Special Invitee)

Minutes:

- The Chairman, Prof. Sunil Kumar, extended a warm welcome to all the members.
- The Mission Director, Dr. Murali Mohan, emphasized that the primary goal of the HGB is to ensure that the vision and target achieved of the TIH are in-line with their DPR. He also mentioned that activity planning, budget re-appropriation, and financial approvals are the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the Section 8 setup to meet the mandates of the hub.
- On Chairman's request the Project Director Dr. Albert Sunny presented the agenda for the meeting, which was followed by a summary of the DPR and the vision of the hub.
- The members suggested exploring the following:





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- Discuss with potential collaborators like R&D labs. ISRO and Atomic Energy are potential funding agencies that will be keen on the technology-based project.
- Explore collaboration with high potential technological start-ups.
- Interact with potential hardware-based technology hubs already established in places like Trivandrum and Kochi.
- Collaboration with venture capitalists and private investors.
- Scope for collaboration with Coimbatore based Electric Scooter companies.
- Should explore possibilities in the area of green hydrogen since the expectation of the Government on Hydrogen is much more than on battery.
- The energy and safety based moonshot problem can be further split into small problems and we can request proposals from innovators
- The members were informed that there was an initial discussion with KHRI regarding technology collaboration.
- The Project Director presented a broad overview of the TIH budget; no major concerns were raised by the members.
- The following suggestions were made by the members:
 - Go to market strategy needs to be adopted to get the new R&D proposal.
 - Build a strong ecosystem for hardware startups.
 - Upskilling people with different hardware startups.
 - To develop a business model for sustainable development. IPTIF has to develop a strategy.
- Project Director presented details of the ongoing project, and the plan to award special external projects to collaborators from IIT Madras, IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, and IIT Jodhpur in the next year; no major concerns were raised by the members.
- It was decided that the team should focus on:
 - Industry relations
 - Focus on generating National and International Patents Collaboration with other HUBs
 - Making a strong business plan



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- Project Director presented details of the various fellowships planned under the hub; no major concerns were raised by the members.
- Project Director presented the plan for the grand challenge. The members agreed to the plan and noted the following additional points
 - Grand challenges need a larger grant to attract good teams/startups.
 - Invite various stakeholders to visit IIT Palakkad / IPTIF and pay their transportation costs.
 - Applicants should be Indian citizens.
- The need to identify suitable space to meet the needs of the Section-8 company was discussed . Plan to rent about 8900 sq. ft. @ Rs 35 per sq. ft. for 1 year. The monthly rental cost will be split equally between IIT Palakkad and Section-8 company IIT Palakkad Technology IHub Foundation (IPTIF). However, IPTF will wholly pay for utilities such as electricity, water, maintenance, Internet, etc.
- The Chairman, Prof. Sunil Kumar, proposed the vote of thanks, and the meeting concluded at 1:00 PM.

P. B. Sunil Kumar
Director, IIT Palakkad