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3rd Meeting of the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) Steering Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 23, 2024

- The 3rd meeting of the ORIC Steering Committee was held on April 23, 2024, Tuesday at 11 a.m. in Workshop Room, B-Block, CUST.
- The external members of the committee attended the meeting through a web link.
- Dr. Muhammad Mansoor Ahmed, Vice Chancellor CUST and Chairperson of the ORIC Steering Committee, presided over the meeting.
- The following members were present in the meeting:

•	Dr. Nayyer Masood Dar	Dean, ORIC	Member
•	Dr. Muzaffar Abbas	Dean, Pharmacy	Member
•	Dr. Amir Qayyum	Professor, CS	Member
•	Dr. Majid Ali	Professor, CE	Member
•	Dr. Nadeem Anjum	HOD, SE	Member
•	Mr. Farrukh Mehmood	CEO, 11 Values	Member
•	Mr. Tahir Mahmood Ch.	CEO, Falcon Engineering	Member
•	Mr. Abdul Qadeer	Director, Berkeley	Member
•	Mr. Raise Naqvi	SEO, Electronic Interconnect	Member
		Engineering (EIE)	
•	Mr. Jahanzeb Sarwar Malik	Manager I & C, ORIC	Secretary

- The following could not attend the meeting due to other prior commitments:

•	Mr. Jafar Safdar	CEO, 11 Values	Member
•	Mr. Mahmood A. Warraich	Director, Pre-Cast Products	Member
•	Mr. Bilal Farooq	Founder, Consulting 360	Member

- The following attended the meeting by invitation:

•	Malik Arshad Mehmood	Registrar
•	Mr. Muhammad Musharaf	Deputy Registrar
•		Deputy Director, ORIC
•	Mr. Raheel Anjum	Manager Research, ORIC

- The Chairperson welcomed all the members of the ORIC Steering Committee to its third meeting.
- Subsequently, the Committee deliberated upon the following agenda items at length and took the following decisions:-

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Item #1 Confirmation of the Previous Meeting Minutes

1.1 It was informed that no observation on the decision taken in 2nd meeting of the ORIC- Steering Committee held on April 2, 2024, already circulated amongst the members of the Committee was received. Therefore, the ORIC-Steering Committee confirmed the minutes of its 2nd meeting.

Item #2 CUST-ORIC Activities Brief

- 2.1 The Dean ORIC, after being invited by the Chair to brief about ORIC activities, thanked the Chairperson and presented the activities, and achievements of ORIC in the month of March, 2024. His briefing included the elaboration on the R&D Projects & their commercialization, Research Proposal Submissions, Industrial Liaison & MoUs, and important Meetings/Seminars. Moreover, the Dean ORIC mentioned that multiple national and international funding options are available while emphasizing on the need to motivate the faculty regarding research proposal submissions.
- 2.2 The Chair thanked the Dean ORIC and suggested the Team ORIC to show up in the next meeting with comprehensive deliberations on the following:
 - CUST Research groups
 - Prominent R&D projects & FYPs
 - Strategies for alignment with the Industry
 - Road map for Hi-Tech research proposal submissions

Furthermore, the Chairperson asserted on the need of the following:

- Proactive role of the ORIC
- Discrete steps of the ORIC in terms of commercialization
- Self-sufficiency of the ORIC

Item #3 Progress of Ongoing Industrial Research Project of Dr. Amir Qayyum

3.1 Dr. Amir Qayyum presented his ongoing project "Capacity Building for Digital Health Monitoring and Care Systems in Asia – Digi-Health Asia" to the house. The presentation comprised of the project's technical & ethical aspects, practicability, and industrial scale testing/production/application. Salient features of the project are as follows:

• Funding Agency: European Commission (Erasmus Plus)

• Total Budget (PKR): 950,092/- Euro

61, 041/- Euro (CUST Share)

Project Duration: Jan 2021 – Jan 2025
 Research Area: IoT in Healthcare

• Project Coordinator: Dr. Adnan Shahid,



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Local Coordinator:

University of Ghent, Belgium Dr. Amir Qayyum, CUST

• Partners:

- 4 European
- 4 Non-European (2 from Thailand and 2 from Mongolia)
- 1 Pakistani
- 3.2 Mr. Raise Naqvi, SEO of Electronic Interconnect Engineering, appreciated the efforts of PI and offered his help in preparing eHealth devices relevant to the project. Moreover, Mr. Farrukh Mahmood, CEO of 11 Values, suggested the PI to engage with the incubators and other similar companies for the commercialization of the project's deliverables.
- 3.3 The PI thanked Mr. Raise Naqvi and Mr. Farrukh Mahmood for their help and suggestions and shown commitment for taking up collaborative possibilities.

Item #4 Suggestions form Industrial Partners to Bridge Industry-Academia Gap

- 4.1 The chairperson deliberated on the industrial partners to give their opinions on the subject matter.
- 4.2 Mr. Abdul Qadeer, Director of Berkeley, emphasized on the need of following to interlink academia with the industry:
 - Approaching the potential industries
 - Alignment of research products with the industrial need
 - Proactive role of the universities
- 4.3 Mr. Tahir Mehmood Chaudry, CEO of Falcon Engineering, opined that natural growth and justified consideration of the productivity and ranking of the CUST-ORIC is the way forward. He highlighted that various industries in the market are hunting for academic collaborators, and such opportunities should be searched for. Furthermore, he expressed that the following be taken seriously to ensure organic growth:
 - Faculty development
 - Effective mentorship/training of the student body
 - Student Placement
 - Scholarship opportunities
 - Media management of the success stories
 - 20 + 20 + 20 benefits strategy
- 4.4 Mr. Tahir Mehmood expressed his wish to visit the CUST for a meeting with the Team ORIC to discuss various future possibilities.



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- 4.5 Mr. Farrukh Mahmood, CEO of 11 Values, suggested making good use of the academia-industry open events that occur nearby to develop links with industrial professionals.
- 4.6 The chairperson appreciated the valuable suggestions of the industrial partners and extended his welcoming hand to Mr. Tahir Mehmood Chaudry to visit the CUST as per his convenience.

Due to the time constraints, the meeting was concluded with a note of thanks to the participants.

Prepared by

Endorsed by:

Jahanzeb Sarwar Malik

Secretary ORIC Steering Committee

Dr. Nayyer Masood Dar

Dean ORIC

Approved by:

Dr. Muhammad Mansoor Ahmed

Vice Chancellor CUST

Chairperson ORIC Steering Committee