

## **AWARENESS PROGRAM ON ENABLING ENTREPRENEURSHIP THROUGH ACADEMIA AT SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY, SHILLONG**

**October 13, 2023:** The awareness program on “Enabling Entrepreneurship Through Academia” was orchestrated by BIRAC’s BioNEST Bio-Incubator (B3I) Facility at the cluster classroom of the School of Life Sciences, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong. Collaborating with the Departments of Biochemistry, Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, Botany, and Zoology, the initiative aimed to cultivate creativity, innovation, and an entrepreneurial mindset among the MSc 3rd semester students of the School of Life Sciences, inspiring them to pursue applicative projects with entrepreneurial goals in the upcoming semester.



The event commenced with an interactive session with the students, breaking the ice and understanding their career aspirations. Dr. Suktilang Majaw, Associate Professor of the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics and the Centre in-charge of the B3I Facility



Shillong Branch, provided an opening remark, outlining the session's objectives. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from more than 85 participants, including students and faculty members from various Life Sciences departments at NEHU Shillong.

Dr. Suman Kr Nandy, CEO, and Ms. Alva Margareth Kharkongor, Program Manager of the B3I Team, conducted informative sessions, highlighting core entrepreneurial concepts and addressing associated challenges. The first session, titled "YOU CAN ALSO BE AN ENTREPRENEUR: LET US LEARN HOW?" offered a step-by-step roadmap of entrepreneurship, from idea generation to business launch. Real-world examples and interactive discussions engaged students, providing relatable perspectives through experiences shared by two student entrepreneurs.

The second session, "A STEP AHEAD - DETAILED GUIDELINE FOR IDEA GENERATION & PRESENTATION," included a virtual tour of the B3I facility, exploring its

infrastructure, handholding programs, accomplishments, and available facilities. The session guided students through the process of developing innovative business ideas and effective presentation techniques, encouraging them to submit entrepreneurial project proposals in the upcoming 4th semester.



Both sessions fostered stimulating discussions and thoughtful questions, creating a dynamic and enriching learning environment. The program concluded with feedback from faculty members, who encouraged students to embark on the entrepreneurial path. They extended their appreciation to the B3I Team for the enlightening sessions and commended the participants for their enthusiastic engagement. In summary, the program provided an exceptional and enlightening experience, equipping participants with valuable insights for potential entrepreneurial endeavors.