

## India gets its first bio-entrepreneurship masters program

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BIORx Venture Advisors Private Ltd (BIORx) has announced the launch of India's first-ever comprehensive masters program 'BIO-ACCELERATOR' on bio-entrepreneurship with the theme "Accelerating Innovations to marketplace " - A small step towards strengthening India's Bio-economy".

Perceiving the acute need for enabling technologists to become successful businessperson in the life sciences sector, BioRx Boutique Investment Bank dedicated to providing financing and strategic partnership solutions to the life sciences Industry in India, has designed this program on bio-entrepreneurship. This program is devised for working executives, Ph.D scholars and post-doctoral scientists aspiring to accelerate the path of their discovery to marketplace.

BIORx (as an acceleration partner) has teamed up with National Institute of Immunology (NII), New Delhi (an autonomous institution of the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India) as a technology partner and Foundation of Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT) (as an incubation partner) to enable the successful execution of the research Ideas to marketplace and recently signed up a tri-partite MoU to strengthen the ecosystem further to accelerate the commercialization of the Life Sciences Innovation.

BIORx has earlier conducted the first-ever masters class on venture capital and private equity in life sciences under the aegis of BIOASIA at Hyderabad, a Global Bio-business forum. The workshop was supported by BIRAC (A government of India enterprise). It was attended by 30 chief executive officers/ chief technology officers (CEOs/CTOs) of various life sciences organizations including some foreign companies. The overall feedback by participants was very encouraging.

Mr Vishal Gandhi, managing partner and CEO, BIORx considers this initiative as an effort aimed at not only bridging the industry-academia gap but also at helping technologists accelerate laboratory innovation into business success to contribute to India's economy. NII, FITT and BIORx Venture Advisors are committed to support India's emerging bio-economy model by providing superior learning ecosystem in this regard.

Dr Chandrima Shaha, Director, NII says: "NII is very happy to associate itself as the technology partner in this initiative as we believe it will contribute significantly towards creating awareness in translating laboratory leads into bioproducts and processes".

Dr A. Wali, managing director of FITT says, "This capacity building initiative shall positively impact the techno-entrepreneurial ecosystem".

The master class starts with an inaugural function on the evening of 20 September, 2013 and concludes at 5pm on 23rd September at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi.