

AA 9.INCUVATION – PLATFORM TO INSPIRE DISCOVERY

Title:	Incuvation –Platform to Inspire Discovery Policy
Policy Number:	AA 09/ 02.2016
Effective Date:	February 22, 2016
Issuing Authority:	Administrative Board

1. RATIONALE


We live in an age characterized by a multitude of conflicting forces accelerating at unimaginable rates leaving in its wake an unsettling present and uncertain future. Orders and norms are disrupted and the perimeters of the playing field in which the human experience unfolds continuously change. The hope is that the greatest human institution, education, foresees the unfolding future, decodes its attributes, and reshapes its purpose and implements to prepare graduates for the new realities the change will generate. The hallmark of a *responsive educational* institution is the capacity to chart a path for students to navigate, and as they walk through they acquire a holistic experience imbued with creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship, critical thinking, discovery and sustainable attitude. These endowments loom larger than ever as the new norms of the higher education playing field evolve.

RHU, being a life changing medium and a breeder of innovation and entrepreneurship, is instituting the Incuvation (**Incubation Innovation**) platform to serve as a springboard for potential innovators to refine and transform promising ideas into living organisms that could make a difference.

2. POLICY

1. Any student or a group of students enrolled at RHU may submit a *My Idea to Innovate proposal* application to receive an Incuvation award.
2. Proposals are appraised by a committee of faculty members and possibly external advisors on the basis of originality, merit, potential of success, and scale against the Incuvation Award Rubric.
3. Incuvation awardees will have the following support tools as they pursue a degree at RHU:
 - a. Unlimited access to lab equipment and support of lab engineers;
 - b. Faculty mentors to guide them and help them resolve technical issues;
 - c. Funds for equipment, software or other tools that are not available at RHU;
 - d. Work study and graduate assistant support;
 - e. Curricular flexibility to design courses with the help of faculty mentors that enable coverage of topics that are not offered in the mainstream curriculum;
 - f. Training to develop specific skill not attained in the regular program offering.
4. In case the course offering framework of the program pursued by the Incuvator(s) does not cover certain topics, build a skill, address an emergent need or confront an unfolding event that are necessary to complete the project, faculty mentors and the student(s) collaborate to design a "pop-up" course to fill the existing knowledge and skill gap and encourage innovation and discovery. The course contents, prerequisites, number of credits, scope, experiences, needed resources, outcomes, assessment tools and rubrics, and timeline for completion will all be formulated by the students(s) and their mentor(s).

Example: Say you are a second year student in the mechanical engineering department and have been pondering how to build a smart reconfigurable housing space that is completely green with zero waste and built-in rain water harvesting and treatment plant, orientation changing mechanism, etc. Building such a system requires a multitude of skills: water



treatment, mechatronics, mechanical design, building management, civil works, business plan, etc. The ME program lacks coverage of water treatment processes, building materials, etc. If such topics are not covered in another program, say civil engineering, then *my idea 2 innovate course* option may be considered.

3. IMPACT AND SCOPE

The Incubation platform provides RHU students the opportunity to innovate ideas they are passionate about and have potential of being transformed into a solution to a community problem. In addition to earning a degree, the platform offers RHU students the advantage of stepping into the world with a potential innovation.

4. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Work Study Policy
- Graduate Assistant Policy
- Students Rights and Responsibilities

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL

OFFICER RESPONSIBLE: VP for Academic Affairs

AUTHORITY: University Academic Board

POLICY REVIEWED BY: Board of deans, faculty members, registrar.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

REVISION HISTORY: None

RELATED POLICIES:

FINAL APPROVAL BY THE PRESIDENT:

Signature: 

Date: January 1, 2018



MY IDEA TO INNOVATE PROPOSAL

This form is to be completed by the student(s) and submitted to the concerned college for consideration.

Student(s)					
Student's Name	ID Number	Major	Years to graduate	Email	signature

Mentor(s)				
Name	Profession	Affiliation	Email	Signature

My Idea to Innovate: New Idea Innovate existing idea

Briefly explain the idea that you plan to pursue (attach and additional documents in support of your claims)

Anticipated resources

Expected Deliverables and impact

Collaborating agency (if applicable)

Assessment Committee Recommendation

Signature:

Date:

Department Chair Recommendation

Signature:

Date:

College Dean Recommendation

Signature:

Date:





Academic Board Decision
Signature: _____ Date: _____

