

I PRO 341

Project Plan

Spring 2006

Faculty Advisor

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Students

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Objectives

The first objective of IPRO 341 is to research four areas in which nanotechnology is being applied. Through this research the team will gain a basic understanding of the workings behind nanotechnology and determine applications which may interest our target audience (see second objective).

The second objective of IPRO 341 is to determine a target audience. Since this semester's team will focus on public assessment and education, a target audience must be chosen to present our research findings to.

The third objective of IPRO 341 is to assess the current level of knowledge which the target audience has pertaining to nanotechnology. By determining what the audience already knows about the subject the team can organize and present the necessary information.

The fourth objective of IPRO 341 is to educate our target audience. Public education of nanotechnology and its applications is the mission of this IPRO team. All previous objectives are part of this encompassing goal of public education. The team will work on putting together a tool for public education which can be used by the target audience to gain knowledge on the subject of nanotechnology. The team also plans to spread interest of the tool so that it may be used to educate the public.

Background

As we move forward with the introduction of new technologies at a more rapid pace, one role of science is to facilitate the flow of factual information and communication that can assist in public policy making and contribute to the advancement of society through technological breakthroughs. Major stakeholders need to be identified with the objective of providing a public forum for conversation regarding new technologies and their rightful place in society. At this juncture in time, the overlapping of disciplines and technologies is very evident and results in the need to have a public dialogue on their integration into our society. However, it has been suggested that much of the public sector is misinformed about the opportunities and threats of these new technologies. Public education and understanding at a broad level is necessary if we hope to better integrate technologies into our society.

Methodology

In order to achieve our first objective, IPRO 341 is going to utilize the method of literature surveying. We will complete research using credible journal resources to collect data on four different application areas of nanotechnology including, but not limited to, historical data, current legal issues, current research being completed, and current products on the market. To complete our analysis of four nanotechnology applications the team divided into four subgroups, which will each research and analyze different applications. The four groups are as follows:

1. Medical – Ankit, Mike, and Maggie
2. Military – George, Ayo, and Jon
3. Electronics – Jason, Sungwoo, Saurabh
4. Consumer Goods – Kevin, Andy, Bez, Sagar

Upon completion of their research, each subgroup will present their findings to the entire IPRO team. After this discussion, the team will begin work on the public education phase of the project. First, the group will have to determine a target audience to focus on for the sake of limiting the work to a manageable level. Then the group will work on compiling a basic survey to determine what the target audience already knows on the subject of nanotechnology. After compiling the survey responses the team will discuss what will be included in the educational tool that will be used to educate the public. Then the team will divide into groups and work on the determination and completion of the project's necessary deliverables.

Expected Results

IPRO 341 expects to achieve the following results:

1. Create a tool to be used for educating our target audience.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the developed tool.
3. Generate public interest in nanotechnology.
4. Create a public discussion forum for nanotechnology.

Task Schedules

January						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 First Day Introductions	18	19 IPRO First Class	20	21
22	23	24 Discuss Plans for this Semester	25	26 Discuss Plans for this Semester	27	28
29	30	31 Define Team Structure				

February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Define Objectives	3 Project Plan Due	4
5	6	7 -Assess Project Plan -Research Groups Meet	8 Leadership Meeting	9 Research Groups Meet	10	11
12	13	14 Research Group Presentations	15	16 Research Group Presentations	17	18
19	20	21 Discuss Target Audience	22	23 Compile a Knowledge Assessment Survey	24	25
26	27	28 Finalize Knowledge Assessment Survey				

March

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Begin Surveying Audience	3	4
5	6	7 Reflect on what has been accomplished	8	9 Present Midterm Report Draft	10 Midterm Progress Report Due	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
SPRING BREAK		SPRING BREAK		SPRING BREAK		
19	20	21 Compile Survey Data	22	23 Discuss what to include in the tool	24	25
26	27	28 Begin Work on Final Deliverables	29	30 Activity Groups Meet	31	

April

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Activity Groups Meet	5	6 Activity Groups Meet	7	8
9	10	11 Activity Groups Meet	12	13 Activity Groups Meet	14	15
16	17	18 All Activity Groups Finalize and Report Progress	19	20 Present First Presentation Draft	21	22
23	24	25 Practice Presentation	26	27 Practice Presentation	28 -Poster Due -Website Due	29
30						

May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Abstract Due	2 -Practice Presentation -Practice Exhibit Questions	3 Presentation Due	4 -Practice Presentation -Practice Exhibit Questions	5 -IPRO Day Conference -Final Report Due -Deliverables CD Needed	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Individual Team Assignments

Each individual will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Ayo Ayodele – research, editor
- Saurabh Dass – research, web team
- Ankit Desai – research, research verifier
- Jason Frumkin – research, liaison for Yahoo! and iGroups
- Jonathan Komyathy – research, co-leader, editor
- Kevin Lerush – research, communications advisor
- Jason Novak – contact for legal information
- Margaret Peterson – research, co-leader
- Bezaleel Robinson – research, timesheets
- Sagar Shah – research, editor
- George Skontos – research, liaison to IPRO Office
- Michael Stohl – research, minutes
- Andrew Wilk – research, web team
- Sungwoo Yang – research, research verifier

List of deliverables:

- Abstract – May 1
- Deliverables CD – May 5
- Final Report – May 5
- Midterm Progress Report – March 10
- Oral Presentation / PowerPoint – May 3
- Project Plan – February 3
- Professional Exhibit / Poster – April 28
- Website – April 28