IPRO 339
Assessing and Improving Interprofessional Education at IIT

PROJECT PLAN
Spring 2005

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IPRO 339 members have a set of goals in terms of assessing the IPRO program at IIT, creating and selecting IPRO proposals, developing training materials for IPRO Learning Objectives and supporting marketing of the IPRO program.

In the sphere of **assessment of the IPRO program** IPRO 339 aims at collecting data for continuous assessment through conducting briefings and debriefing, improve briefing and debriefing materials and methodology, to expand assessment beyond Learning Objectives to other areas, such as diversity of IPRO teams, to assess student opinions on the IPRO experience on a regular basis, and to cooperate with the IPRO program on conduction of several IPRO pilot studies.

In terms of **developing the training materials** IPRO 339 has the following goals: to develop a body of knowledge for a code of ethics for the IPRO program and have the code approved by a faculty member, to get the approval of the Faculty at the undergraduate level for the body of knowledge, to develop training materials to be used for the instruction of the IPRO learning objectives (Ethics, Project Management, Leadership, Teamwork, Communication), to develop the tools to evaluate students on the IPRO learning objectives, to test and document all of these programs.

In the sphere of **creation and selection** of the IPRO proposals we plan to create IPROs that are exciting, innovative, and beneficial to all parties involved. In particular, we seek to create IPROs that embody the basic objectives of the IPRO program – namely, those that encourage multidisciplinary team work, encourage effective communication, provide real world problems to be solved, foster a desire for life-long learning, and expose students to ethical considerations in the work environment. We also aim at supporting the IPRO Selection Meeting to provide fair selection of the IPRO proposals, which would be of the most interest for students in the next semester.

In support of **marketing of the IPRO program** IPRO 339 aims to market the IPRO program through three targeted areas. First, the students will improve the content and overall design of the IPRO website, write 25-30 case studies that display the effort of the top teams, and inform the IIT community about IPRO news by writing several TechNews articles. These goals are set in order to market the IPRO program more effectively to current and prospective students, faculty, sponsors, and alumni.

Since Fall 2003 IPRO 339 has been working on the assessing and improving the interprofessional education at IIT. IPRO Learning Objectives have been identified and IPRO assessment process has been started by previous IPRO 339 teams. Last semester for the first time the full cycle of assessment has been completed (collection of pre- and post-semester data, analysis and delivery of the results to the IPRO Faculty and the IPRO Office), also activity of IPRO 339 was expanded to creation and selection of IPRO proposals and the process of developing training materials for IPRO Learning Objectives was started.

This semester the main contribution of IPRO 339 to the endeavor of improving the IPRO experience of IIT will be in developing the training materials for several IPRO Learning Objectives, methods of their delivery and testing on acquisition of knowledge and skills among students.

In order to achieve the above-mentioned goals, IPRO 339 is divided into the following subteams:

- **Assessment:** Sagar Shah (subteam leader), Megan Mims, Rachel Wasserman
- **Training:** Levi Citrin (subteam leader), Timothy Britt, Jake Crulcich, Natalie Orrison, Nicholas Williams
- **Creation/Selection:** Alana Platt (subteam leader), Vlad Gutkovsky
- **IPRO Marketing Support:** Sonia Vajaria (subteam leader), all the team

For the purpose of coordination and planning of overall activity of the team Victoria Strokova was assigned to be a team leader.

Subteams will use the following methodology to achieve their goals:

Assessment:

1. Administer briefings:
   a. Using three team members (2 from IPRO 339 and 1 from IPRO 338) we will discuss learning objectives, deliverables, IPRO day, the PRS, iKNOW system, Yahoo! Groups, and obtain surveys from students in every IPRO.

2. Improve briefing and debriefing materials:
   a. IPRO 339 Handbook:
      i. Rephrase dialogue to make it more user friendly.
      ii. Explain the concepts and ideas that the IPRO has to offer by changing grammar in order to allow speaker feel more comfortable and understand the goals.
   b. Handouts:
      i. Revise learning objectives (5th learning objective).
      ii. Add information about other web based communication tools (other than Yahoo! Groups).
      iii. Also, meet with IPRO 338 and discuss the new changes concerning PRS and the iKNOW system. Will iKNOW be an alternative to Yahoo! Groups?
      iv. And lastly, create a "Judging Criteria" handout for groups so they can observe what the previous semester lacked in or excelled in, to win.
   c. Procedure/Methodology:
      i. Convert information on boards into a power point presentation in order to eliminate boards. Since iKNOW presenters already bring a projector and laptop, we can utilize that.
      ii. Instead of individual seminars that last over a week long, create a "briefings seminar" style in order to present information in shorter time span.
      iii. Emphasize "question and answer" format as oppose to lecture style.
   d. Add visual to IPRO concept:
      i. Generate an icon to give IPRO a trademark. To differentiate and emphasize IPRO and activities based on IPRO.

3. Assess IPRO diversity (of disciplines in groups):
   a. Analyze the previous year's winners and see the diversity of disciplines and compare whether the rate of success is due to that diversity.

4. Measure student opinions on the IPRO experience biweekly and submit them to TechNews

5. Seek possibility of cooperation on IPRO program pilot studies

5. Administer debriefings:
   a. To improve methodology of debriefing process
   b. To train IPRO 339 members
   c. To schedule and follow up debriefings

Training:

1. Identify and consult with a professor concerning the development of a body of knowledge for the IPRO ethics
2. Research and identify online learning platform for the instruction and evaluation of the IPRO learning objectives
3. Create training materials from our knowledge base
4. Create evaluation tools using our online platform
5. Evaluate and test our tools and training materials
6. Document our training materials and tools

Creation/Selection:

1. Gather suggestions for new IPROs to be offered. These suggestions can be gathered by a number of means such as:
   a. Talking to students and professors, sending out a mass e-mail, keeping up with current events (for example, the Tsunami IPRO), ect.
   b. Reviewing previous IPROs to see which IPROs were most successful both in accomplishing their goals and in attracting sponsorship.
   c. Reviewing and considering the findings of the previous Creation and Selection team in regards to their findings (defining the ideal IPRO, identifying faculty/departmental reluctance to creating IPROs, ect).

2. After having identified possible IPROs it is necessary to ensure that all IPROs to be considered are ready for the Selection Meeting.

3. To support the Selection Meeting which is scheduled for week of March, 21.

IPRO Marketing Support:

1. All members of IPRO 339 will work in a marketing sub-team to accomplish the goals.
2. A list of articles, website links, and case studies is handed out so students can sign-up for the ones that interest them.
3. Each student is required to complete two case studies, improve one portion of the website, and write one TechNews article. If the student is more interested in one area of the marketing plan, he/she can opt to spend more hours with that particular task. For example, if a student is comfortable writing case studies,

he/she can complete three or four, in exchange of working on the website or writing an article.

4. In the case of the website, the sub-team will have the task of improving selected sites through the coordination of Sonia Vajaria and Ben McInturff. Each student in IPRO 339 will select a specific section of the IPRO website. Using the information already on the site, he/she will assess the content and make necessary changes. Graphics are highly recommended on each section. Students are encouraged to seek advice from Mr. Jacobius and Professor Ferguson, as every change must be agreed upon by them.

5. When writing the case studies, students must collect the CD-ROM and all necessary research to write a thorough study. He/she will follow the template and write a draft of the team. The draft will be edited. The students must also have images (photographs of the design, portrayal of the team, etc), to accompany their summary. All case studies must be able to be printed on one page. A final draft will be given to Prof. Ferguson and Mr. Jacobius to look at, edit, and send to the marketing and communications department.

6. Finally, the TechNews articles will be geared towards informing the students as well as faculty of various events and issues within the IPRO program. Students must follow a journalistic style and write news-worthy articles. All articles will be edited by Sonia and reviewed by the editor of TechNews.

7. Weekly meetings will be held to discuss the progress.

Expected Results

IPRO 339 expects to achieve the following results:

Assessment:

4. Handbook: More fluent delivery of dialogue.
5. Handouts: Students obtain more vital information in reference to IPRO program.
6. Procedure/Methodology: Briefing and debriefings become more efficient and affective.
7. Add visual to IPRO: Students will be able to differentiate and identify IPRO products and activities.
8. Assessment of IPRO diversity (of disciplines in groups): Result in a more diverse disciplinary environment in order to fulfill learning objectives.
9. Collecting data for assessment

Training:

1. Training and evaluation tools for the IPRO learning objectives
2. Documentation on how to use the tools

Creation/Selection: Creation/Selection:

1. Successful creation of a number of IRPO proposals to be considered in the Selection meeting that fulfill the objective stated above.
2. Successful conduction of the Selection Meeting.

IPRO Marketing Support:

9 major areas of the website will be improved, 25 case studies will be written, and 8 or 9 TechNews articles will be published.

Below is the simplified tasks schedule for IPRO 339. Detailed tasks are outlined in individual subteam project plans. Some of the tasks scheduled for the whole semester are not mentioned below.

Week of	Assessment	Training	Creation/Selection	Marketing
January 17	Training for briefings			
January 24	Briefings			
January 31	Briefings + project plan			
February 7	Follow up briefings, improve materials, methodology	Ethics body of knowledge created and online platform identified	Creation work	All of the content laid out for the website, at least 12 case studies are done
February 14	Diversity assessment			
February 21			Proposal evaluations	
February 28		Training materials completed,		
March 7	Report			
March 14	Spring break			
March 21	Pilot studies	tested and documented	Selection Meeting	The website is finalized, other 13 case studies and all the articles are done
March 28		Evaluations tools completed, tested and documented	Work with other subteams	
April 4				
April 11	To train team for debriefing			
April 18	To prepare for debriefings			
April 25	Preparation for IPRO Day - **April 29**			
May 2	Debriefings			
May 9				

Due to the complexity of the above mentioned goals and tasks the individual assignments will be outlined in more detailed subteam project plans and on a weekly basis. Subteam leaders are responsible for fulfillment of subteam tasks by individuals. Teamleader is responsible for overall group processes and achieving all the objectives.