

I PRO 339
Assessing and Improving Interprofessional Education at IIT

MIDTERM REPORT
Fall 2006

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Sponsor
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Student Team Members

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1.0 Revised Objectives

Our IPRO 339 Team objectives have remained the same which is to assess and improve the IPRO experience for students and faculty. In doing so, the Creation and Selection Sub-Team has continued to manage and facilitate the tasks of: performing benchmarking research to gather project ideas, creating and selecting new IPRO proposals within our class, arranging faculty lunch meetings to discuss the IPRO program and proposals, and assisting in the preparation of hosting the IPRO Selection Meeting. As for the Teambuilding Sub-Team, the sub-team has continued to manage and facilitate the tasks of: assessing the current quality of teambuilding in other IPRO teams, developing new teambuilding games to test in class, generating instruction packets for the new games, and arranging the test-pilot of all the new games in preparation for the next IPRO Games Day.

2.0 Results to Date

Creation and Selection Sub-Team

Benchmarking Research Summary Report Completed

We have completed our research and analyses of other schools that engage their students in projects similar to those of our IPRO Program. Within our analyses, we evaluated other schools' projects according to the established criteria of a successful IPRO. Our research and analyses is now compiled into a summary report in which discusses the background and the pros and cons of each school's program, in comparison to the priorities of our IPRO Program. As a result of performing benchmarking research, we have gathered ideas for new IPRO projects to propose in class.

Student IPRO Proposals Completed

Every team member contributed two to three ideas for new IPRO projects, and we each presented these ideas in class. After several presentation sessions and a formal in-class voting session, we have determined our top ten IPRO proposals to push forward in the IPRO selection process. Working in groups, team members documented nine of the top ten ideas into formal IPRO proposals, and we forwarded them to Tom Jacobius for his review and comment.

Faculty Lunch Meetings – Two Meetings Completed

As a result of determining our top ten IPRO proposals to push forward, we have identified the faculty departments we would like to target in hosting the faculty lunches. To date, we have completed our goal of hosting two faculty lunches before the Selection Meeting scheduled for November 3rd.

- **First Faculty Meeting:**

Tom Jacobius directed the meeting and gave a thorough overview about the IPRO Program. Team members presented three of our student IPRO proposals and they were: "Hydroponics Gardening", "The Girl Who Got Away", and the "Green Engineering" project. After the meeting, we also proposed the "City Green" project to a Civil Engineering professor who specializes in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Professors that attended were from: architecture, humanities, civil engineering, electrical engineering, and computer science departments. After each proposal presentation, the professors initially questioned our ideas and then expressed their interest through open discussion and suggestions on how to make each project that was presented more feasible. The professors did not commit to

any one idea, but the discussions from the lunch meeting has definitely generated some enthusiasm among the professors about the IPRO Program and our ideas. During the meeting, we also handed out our IPRO proposal matrix which included all the ideas generated by our team members as well as the name and contact information of each student author. We encouraged professors to look over the IPRO proposals and contact the student author if they are interested in any of the ideas listed.

Before the meeting on the same day, four of our team members did an impromptu walkthrough of the Stuart Building and introduced computer science professors to our IPRO ideas. We discussed the ideas verbally as well as handed out copies of our proposal matrix. Although unplanned and improvised, this walkthrough proved to be an effective technique in seeking out potential faculty sponsors. As a result of the impromptu walkthrough, professors expressed specific interest in two of the IPRO ideas listed in the matrix and have made contact with the student authors.

- **Second Faculty Meeting:**

For the second meeting, after Tom Jacobius presented the IPRO program, team members proposed the “Bus System Optimization” and “Solar Chimney” IPRO ideas. With the final question and answer discussion, the meeting lasted for about 45 minutes. Fifteen members from the Applied Maths Department (including the Chairman) and a professor from Civil Engineering attended the meeting. The Civil Engineering professor was especially interested in the transportation planning aspect of the “Bus System Optimization” IPRO proposal. Most of the faculty were unfamiliar with the IPRO Program, and therefore the meeting was a way to let them know more about it for the upcoming semesters. Although the professors did not commit to any one idea, they did express some interest in the proposals presented.

Selection Meeting Preparation – Continuing IPROs Identified

Working with Tom Jacobius, we have obtained a task list for preparing for the IPRO Selection Meeting. This task list indicates that we will be presenting all the IPRO proposals, both faculty and student proposed, at the meeting. As we understand now, there will be fifty proposals to present. Therefore, to prepare ourselves for presentation, we have begun by researching and presenting the Continuing IPROs, as indicated by Tom Jacobius. Our practice presentations adhere to the timing of one minute for presenting the project, and one minute for faculty to discuss. Within the one minute of proposing each IPRO project, we are to communicate the problem addressed, major objectives and tasks, sponsoring faculty, and the academic majors involved.

Teambuilding Sub-Team

Testing New Games – 2 Tests Completed

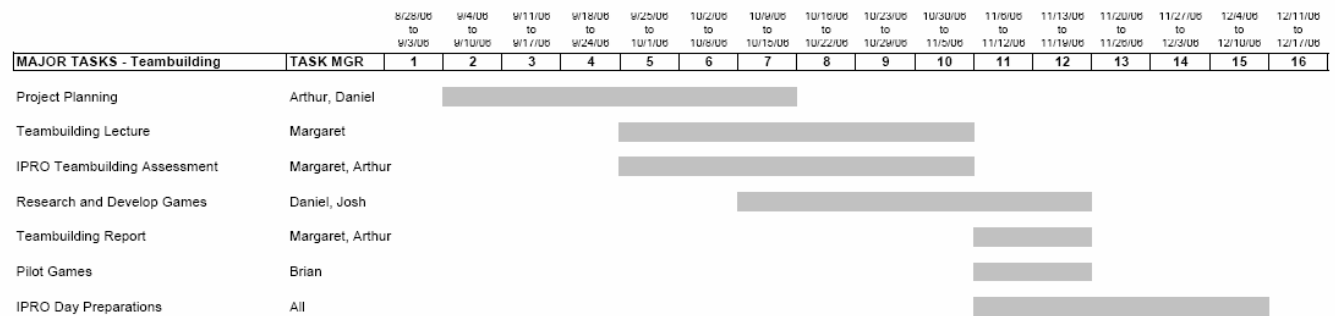
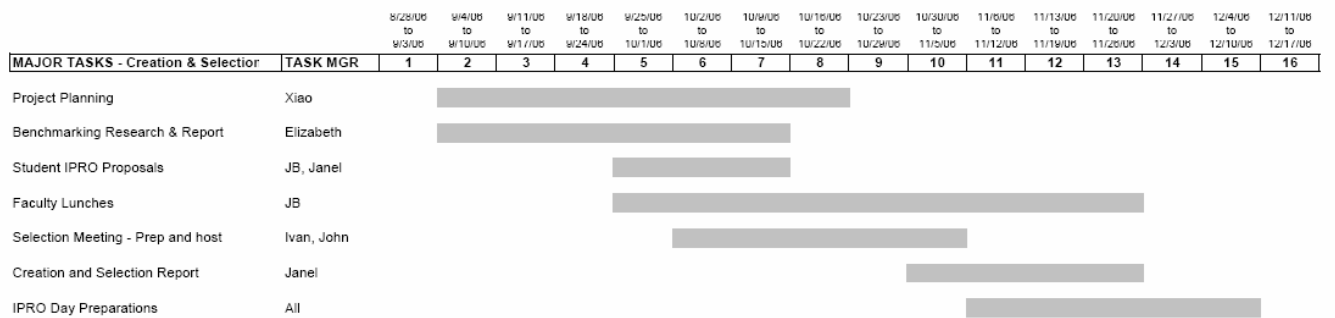
Sub-Team members have researched and identified new teambuilding games to test in class for the upcoming weeks. So far, we have tested two games: the Pipes and Marble game and also the Lego and Brainbuster challenge. For both games, team members participated as players and judges of the games. The games testing was successful in helping us rehearse for setting up and executing games, in preparation for IPRO Games. We have identified a list of necessary tasks and deliverables in order to successfully set-up, play, and judge each game. This list of tasks and deliverables is to be applied toward every new game we develop and test. Also, in playing the games, it also reinforced our sense of teambuilding and desire for friendly competition, therefore reminding us, in a fun way, of our purpose with this IPRO.

Teambuilding Lecture – Slide Presentation Created

With the help of Professor Annette Towler, an Industrial Organization Psychology Professor, research on teambuilding such as different team structures and their functions has been completed and compiled into a slide presentation. The teambuilding lecture agenda will include both slide presentation and activities, and the approximate duration is two hours. The lecture will be conducted by one of our own team members and once a time and location is scheduled for attendance.

3.0 Revised Task/Event Schedule

In our initial project plan, we listed our milestones and dates inaccurately. Specifically, we listed the completion dates for each milestone in a strict, sequential order. In reality, after Professor Ferguson demonstrated in class, the activities of the milestones need to chronologically overlap since all the tasks need to be worked on at the same time in order to comply with deadlines. Therefore, each sub-team has revised their project schedule, as demonstrated below:



4.0 Updated Task Assignments and Designation of Roles

As our team progressed during the past few weeks, sub-team objectives and specific tasks were more clearly defined. Also, team members continue to be active participants in the activities of both sub-teams, especially in generating new IPRO proposals for the Creation and Selection Sub-Team as well as coordinating and testing new games for the Teambuilding Sub-Team. The involvement of both sub-teams in each others' activities not only completes tasks more efficiently, but also serves to stimulate interest and momentum in both sub-teams. Updated task assignments are listed below:

<p>CREATION AND SELECTION SUB-TEAM:</p>
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<p>Members are Ivan, JB, Xiao, Elizabeth, John, Janel</p>

Faculty Lunch Meetings – Arrange and coordinate	Responsibility of:
1) Invite faculty to lunch meetings. Update JB and Jacobius.	All Team Members
2) Prepare and present proposals at October 18 th meeting.	Daniel, Margaret, Xiao, Janel
3) Prepare and present proposals at October 19 th meeting.	JB, Arthur
4) Send out “Thank You” emails to faculty that attended.	Team Members, as appropriate
Student IPRO Proposals – Search for sponsoring faculty	Responsibility of:
1) Cost Efficient Hydroponic Gardens	Liz, Daniel, John, Janel
2) “Energy Harvesting” from the Human Body	Josh, Daniel, JB
3) Green Engineering	Liz, Josh
4) The Girl Who Got Away	Margaret, Arthur
5) Kidnapping-Prevention Bracelets	Brian, John
6) Internet and Phone Infrastructure for Developing Countries	Ivan, Brian
7) Social and Information Online Community for IIT Alumni	Janel, Margaret
8) Optimization of Schedules in a Transport System	JB
9) City Green	Xiao, Janel
Preparation for Selection Meeting	Responsibility of:
1) Identify & assign Continuing IPROs.	Ivan, John
2) Research & practice IPRO proposals from faculty.	All Team Members
3) Arrange presentation rehearsals & select presenters.	Ivan, John

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| 4) Arrange presentation schedule. | Ivan, John |
| 5) Assist Jacobius w/ assembling & distributing proposal binders. | Elizabeth, Xiao |
| 6) Generate voting matrix for Selection Meeting. Tally votes. | JB, Janel |

TEAMBUILDING SUB-TEAM: Members are Brian, Daniel, Margaret, Arthur, Josh
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Teambuilding Games	Responsibility of:
1) Research and propose new games to class.	Daniel, JB
2) Generate information and instruction packets for new games.	Josh, Daniel, JB
3) "Toxic Waste" Game – Coordinate, test game, & evaluate.	Liz, Brian
4) "Mine Field" Game – Coordinate, test, & evaluate.	?
5) "Zoom" Game – Coordinate, test, & evaluate.	Margaret, Janel
Teambuilding Lectures	Responsibility of:
1) Generate and schedule lecture presentation.	Margaret
2) Attend lecture.	All Team Members
Teambuilding Assessment	Responsibility of:
1) Assign team members to interview IPRO faculty.	Arthur
2) Compile info-IPRO faculty interviews & teamwork surveys.	Margaret, Arthur
3) Generate report on research, analysis, & ways to improve.	Margaret, Arthur
Pilot Games	Responsibility of:
1) Select games to pilot and run test pilot for IPRO Games.	Brian
2) Participate in games as players and judges.	All Team Members

5.0 Barriers and Obstacles

Creation and Selection Sub-Team

Faculty Lunches

We had two major constraints in organizing the faculty lunches. First, we do not have much time to contact faculty and invite them to lunch meetings and getting them to commit to attending is tricky as well. Secondly, it has been difficult to coordinate with the busy schedule of Tom Jacobius whose presence is needed at the lunch meetings. To address the obstacles of scheduling, we tried our best to consolidate as many faculty departments under a single lunch meeting as much as possible. Also, we are individually approaching faculty in person to casually discuss the IPRO Program and our ideas. We realized that we need to remain flexible and creative in our ways of communicating and generating interest with the faculty.

Selection Meeting

Earlier in the semester, our sub-team did not understand the process of the Selection Meeting and what it involved. Due to the lack of knowing and therefore confusion, our sub-team members remained in oblivion until the task managers of the Selection Meeting sought the guidance of Professor Ferguson and Tom Jacobius. After speaking with them, we finally understand the big picture of the IPRO creation and selection process and have also identified the purpose of each task. As of now, we have assigned to team members the specific tasks of preparing for the Selection Meeting.

Teambuilding Sub-Team

The teambuilding process and tasks were not clearly defined, and therefore sub-team members were unaware and/or confused of their responsibilities. The initial project plan was therefore either inaccurate or too general, and is now remedied by having updated the task schedule and identified specific tasks for team members to accomplish. Also, there were some minor obstacles in setting up our first test game in such that not all necessary materials were gathered, and team members were unprepared. To prevent this problem from here on, we have generated a task list identifying all the necessary items such as materials needed, time and location, set up, game instructions, and judging forms. To ensure that each game will be properly managed and tested, each game has been assigned to the responsibility of two team members per game.