

I PRO 351
Midterm Report

1.0. Revised Objectives

It is our objective to create a medium in which to combine the need of proficient web developers for university projects/ jobs as well as others looking for similar services outside of the university, with IIT students looking to gain experience as well as payment, whether through class credits or through wages. We plan to create a business model of a consulting firm that seeks out clients, as well as having clients brought to the firm, realize their needs, create a design document of their proposed website, then seek out the students with the capabilities matching the clients needs and “hire” them for the job, all the while maintaining that the quality of the student’s work will be sufficient to the client and therefore sufficient for our consulting firm. The start up companies/clients we gain will receive knowledge, expertise, and fresh ideas for a much needed website for their company/project. On the other hand the students will receive real-life experience working for a client in a certain timetable, with a standardized set of guidelines while also receiving some form of compensation.

Our objectives have remained the same as stated in the project plan.

2.0. Results to Date

The team (tentatively named 2 B Developed) has decided that we will tailor our services to provide custom web application/development services with the possibility of expanding this in the future. We have determined through market research that our most likely potential customers will be internal IPROs and small or start-up businesses. Therefore, we are tailoring our business model to meet the needs of those customers.

We have identified the needed skill sets from IIT students so that we can efficiently find the talent needed to complete upcoming projects.

On the proof of concept project with Blane Canada, we have completed requirements elicitation and analysis and have developed paper prototypes for the framework that we will use to deliver the instructional design. We have decided to use the services of Professor Mike Tillman for developing the instructional design for the project so that we can more effectively and efficiently deliver the online learning material.

We have decided to use outside sources to develop our website for disseminating information about the business and recruiting university talent because we wanted to show that we have the ability to find and use outside resources to meet our (or clients) needs. The website is currently under development.

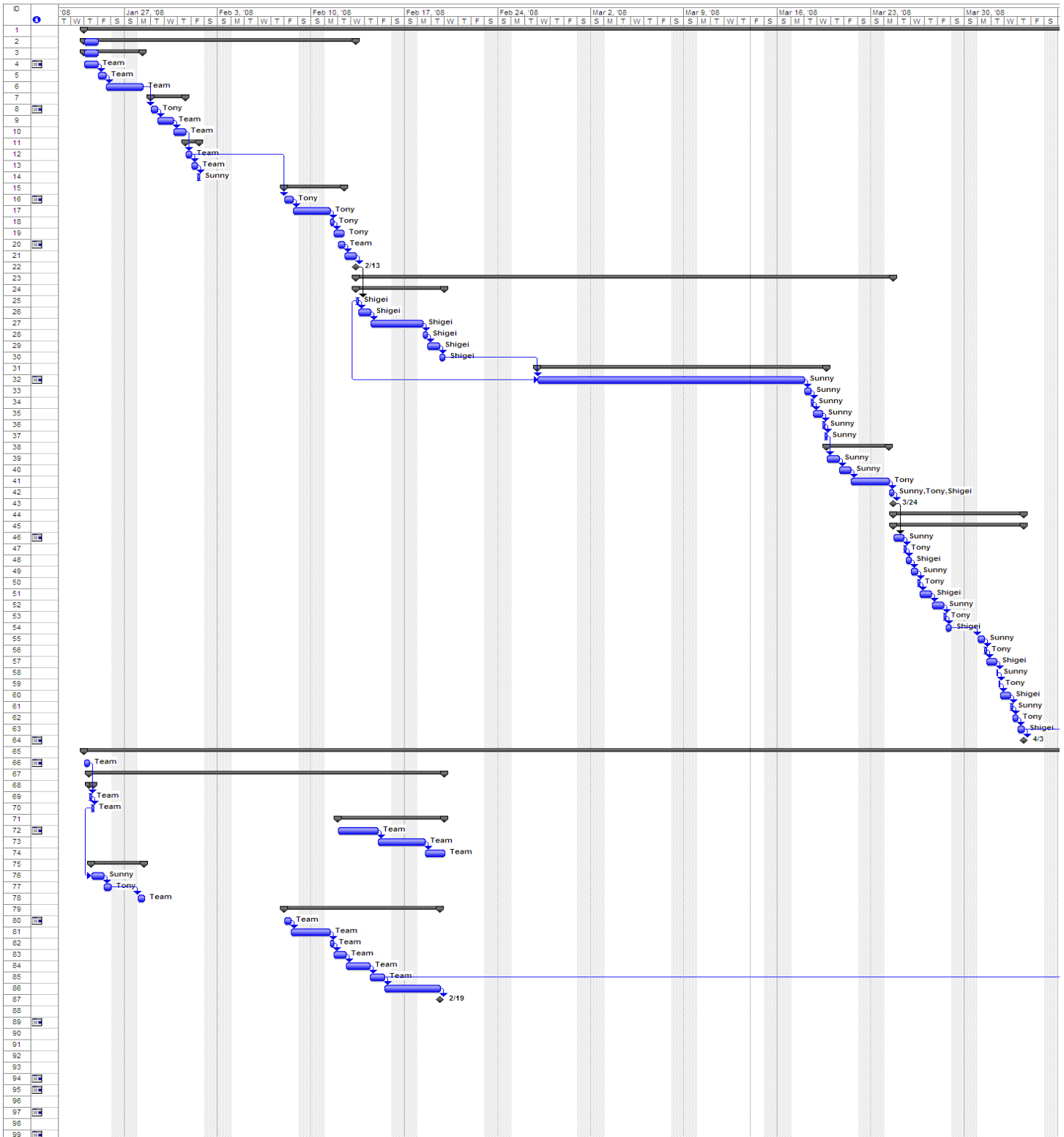
3.0. Revised Task / Event Schedule

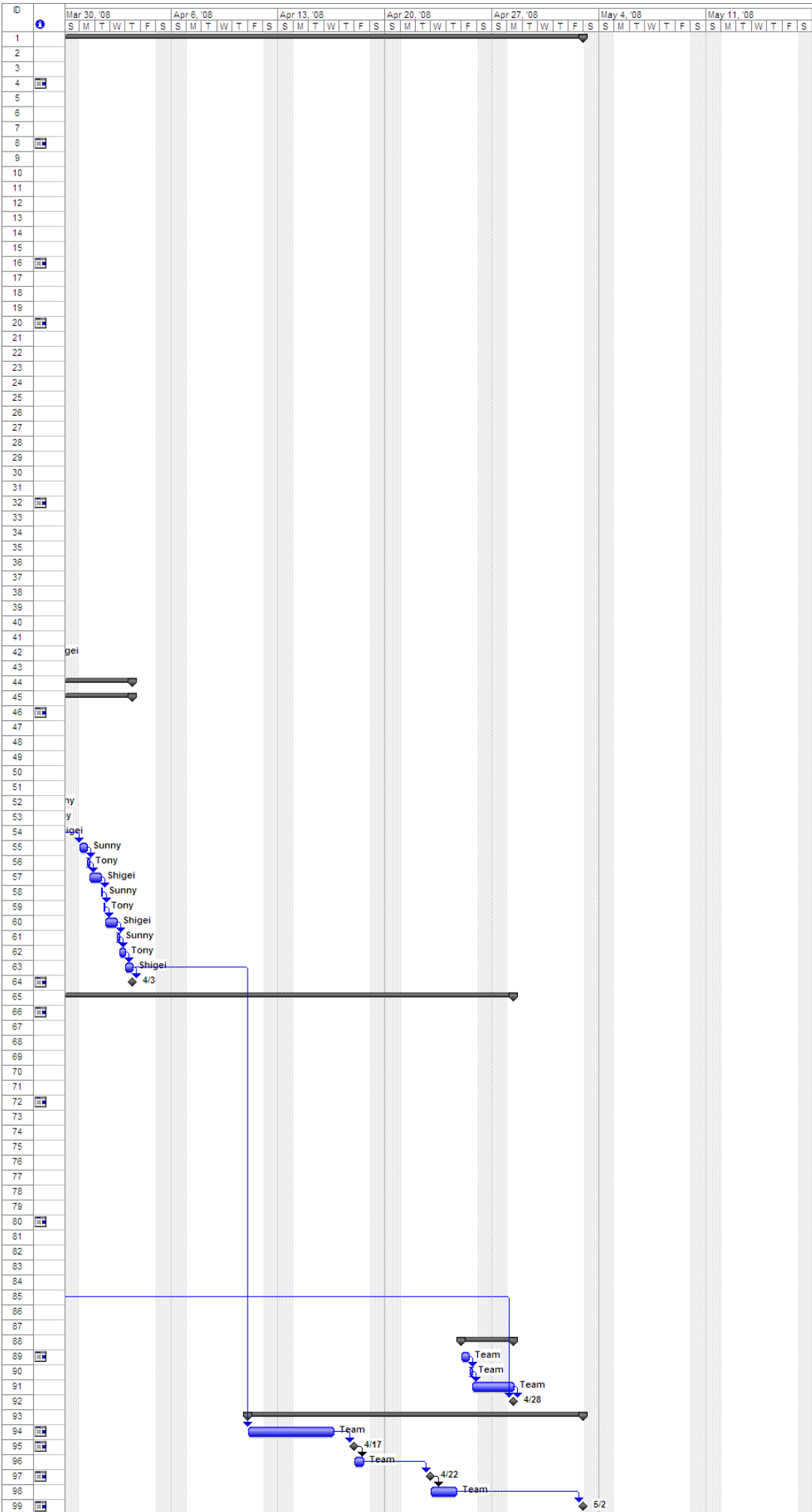
We are approximately two weeks behind in all business tasks in the project plan, after defining the market, because we are still researching how we will pay/compensate potential student employees and how we will go about determining fees for potential clients. All tasks after defining the market are still assigned to the same individuals, only shifted to the right two weeks.

Our proof of concept project, with Blane Canada, is still in the design phase, approximately two weeks behind the schedule proposed in the project plan. This is due to the team deciding to use the assistance of Professor Mike Tillman, an instructional design

expert, instead of developing the instructional design plan ourselves. With his assistance we will be able to deliver an instructional product that will more efficiently and effectively deliver the online training. We have a prototype ready for the framework for which the instructional design media will be used to deliver the content. The project is otherwise following the original project plan.

To get back on schedule, some team members are working through spring break to put in the extra time needed.





4.0. Changes in Task Assignments and Designation of Roles and Team Organization

The position of project manager was shifted from Robert Vinson to Andrew Peake and Robert Vinson is now a member of the technical team and assists with IPRO deliverables. This switch was because of Robert Vinson's inability to be available at the IIT campus as often as needed due to him being a long distance commuter. Andrew Peake is now in charge of distributing tasks to members, following up all the new ideas on designing websites from clients, supervising the development of the websites, testing the websites, and finalizing the reports.

All other positions and tasks/assignments remain unchanged from the project plan as detailed below.

TEAM LEADER: ABHINAV HASIJA

Responsibilities:

- o Lead the members to achieve goals and run all the meetings
- o Collect the drafts from each member and make the final reports

SUB TEAMS:

• **TECHNICAL:**

To design the main functionalities of websites and pass it to the outsourced technical teams. The team also needs to supervise the development of the websites and web applications and test the functionalities of the finished projects.

LEADER:

Andrew Peake– Distribute tasks to members, follow up all the new ideas on designing websites from clients, supervise the development of the websites, test the websites, and finalize the reports

MEMBERS:

Ian McCall, Robert Vinson, Jesus Alonso, Ryan Cunningham, Min Kim
- Develop the basic functionalities of the websites/applications and testing the websites/applications submitted by the outsourced technical teams

BUSINESS:

Acquiring clients and looking for people to handle the projects assigned by clients or start up companies who want to develop a web presence.

LEADER:

Abhinav Hasija – Communicate with clients and outsourced technical teams, distribute tasks to members, finalize the reports and supervise the overall completion of tasks.

MEMBERS:

Antonio Morales, Jeong Shik Kim – Looking for outsourced technical teams and set up business model for our consulting firm, understanding and implementing clients' business needs, studying revenue models for online communities

DESIGNATION OF ROLES

A. MEETING ROLES

- Minute Taker: Andrew Peake – Takes meeting minutes to summarize what is discussed each week and posts it in iGroups.
- Agenda Maker: Abhinav Hasija – Creates meeting agendas based on last meeting's notes and posts them on iGroups.
- Time Keeper: Antonio Morales - Alerts team if we are running over the time allotted in the meeting agendas.

B. ASSIGN STATUS ROLES

- Weekly Timesheet Collector/Summarizer: We do not have one person who does this for our group. We have decided to let each person be responsible for posting their own timesheet each Tuesday on iGroups.
- Master Schedule Maker: Abhinav Hasija has created our preliminary schedule and will proceed to keep it updated as the project progresses.
- iGROUPS: Robert Vinson maintains our igroups account.
- Group Profile Creator: Jesus Alonso
- Head Writer/Document Editor: Antonio Morales and Abhinav Hasija

5.0. Barriers and Obstacles

The first obstacle that the team had to work around was that of team scheduling. Since everyone on the team had highly varied school schedules, it was very hard to schedule meetings to complete work. To overcome this, the team decided on conducting virtual (online) meetings.

The second major obstacle the team encountered was that of scheduling tasks working toward the completion of the Blane Candada project. Since this was our first iteration through the instructional design process, our original estimates on completing the design stage of the project were unrealistic. Since we decided to outsource the instructional design phase of the project, development is approximately two weeks behind schedule. To overcome this obstacle, some team members are working through spring break to help the team get back on schedule.

A major barrier to our future success as a student run business is how we will go about recruiting the right people for the jobs we decide to take on. We intend to do this by implementing a test system in our HR process.

6.0. Midterm Presentation Slides



MID TERM REVIEW

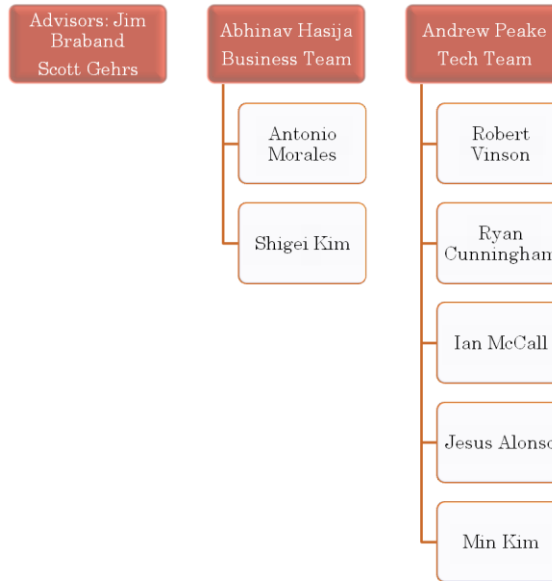
IPRO 351
2B Developed

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Need for affordable, quick web-development services in the Small and Startup Business market.



ORGANIZATION OF THE TEAM



GOALS OF THE PROJECT

- To create a medium in which to combine the need of proficient web developers for university projects and small and start up businesses with IIT students looking to gain experience as well as payment, whether through class credits or through wages.
- To create a business model for a web application development firm which acts as such a medium

PROGRESS TOWARD GOALS

- Tech Team
 - Identification of Blane Canada's Needs
 - Identification and Procurement of needed resources for Blane Canada
 - Installation of Project workspace, and frameworks within the workspace
 - Instructional Design Outline consultation – Dr. Tillmans
- Business Team
 - Assessment of opportunity
 - Identification of needed skill set from the students
 - Market research on target market (small and startup businesses)
 - Market Research on competitors

MAJOR OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED SO FAR AND THEIR RESOLUTION

- Working through scheduling conflicts between team members. Resolved by conducting virtual meetings online.
- Reconciling multiple fronts in approaching the IPRO/ENPRO problem. Resolved by splitting the team into sub-teams working toward a common goal by contributing to the sub-goals
- Scheduling of tasks that require a sequence of events.

ANTICIPATED MAJOR CHALLENGES THAT LIE AHEAD

- Formally defining our development process.
- Recruiting students to work on future projects.
- Creating a method to assess the skill level of potential students workers.
- Completing our first project for our sponsor, Blane, Canada LLC.

