

Name of Principle Investigator: Susan Lieberthal

Project Title: E-portfolios to Engage Student Veterans at Suffolk County Community College

1. Please consider the original timeline and deliverable targets. How is your project progressing compared with the original estimates?

The project is progressing according to our timeline. We have signed up 13 student veterans who have created a Google sites e-portfolio. We deployed an introductory questionnaire which students completed. Several parts of the project have been demonstrated and begun. Consultant time has been spent creating Google forms, meeting with SVA students and the grant team. An online questionnaire has been developed to administer during the first weeks of the spring semester.

2. How is spending progressing when compared with the original budget estimates?

Because the funding was not available at the beginning of the fall semester the grant has borrowed laptops from central computing. The laptops will be ordered in January 2014, together with the additional Camtasia licenses and scanner. Video and audio taping equipment has been ordered and is on campus. Consultants have not billed us yet but have given time to the grant.

3. Please provide feedback regarding your experience with the project execution. In particular, any issues or roadblocks you've encountered that may have been unexpected.

The execution of the project is going according to plan. We have been using a computer lab instead of the student veteran's room which has enabled students to use computers during our sessions. Two roadblocks seem to be the use of Google sites. While Google sites is the one e-portfolio that students can keep whether they are at SCCC or not, it is difficult to administer. The students have to "share" with us in order for us to be able to track their progress. The other roadblock is the small amount of time we have with the veterans and the fact that this isn't for a grade, so it is hard to keep them on track with each assignment.

4. What are your positive observations or pleasant surprises about your team's interaction or project process that might would be helpful to other PI's?

Student veterans are very responsive, polite and they have been attending the sessions. Other veterans participate and are patient and courteous even if they aren't doing the project. Having a group of faculty involved who each have a specific

assignment has been very helpful and engaging. Having a tight timeline with everyone knowing what they are going to do, and sticking to the schedule has been very useful. We brought in the consultant from Stony Brook with a Stony Brook student to generate some energy and the students were very engaged with them. Having that student role model was extremely enjoyable for the student veterans.

5. Please describe any challenges you've encountered working with your project team that you've found solutions for that might be helpful to other PI's.

Not having enough time with the students has presented some challenges. The team is very invested and it is great for all of us to work in this multidisciplinary team.