

Name of Principle Investigator: Paul Gould

Project Title: Integrating Mobile Technology to Enhance Geriatric Social Work Training

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

The educational components (Tier 1) are developed. Learning modules for the 3 D's (delirium, depression and dementia) have all been compiled. These include powerpoint presentations; Youtube clips to illustrate specific aspects of etiology, as well as personal accounts of living with the disease; and links to credible national sources, such as the Alzheimer's Association. The project is delayed in the experiential exercises (Tier 2 and 3) due to technology integration issues and prolonged discussions to resolve HIPAA compliance concerns. Although a student-patient scenario has been developed, the installation of equipment in the simulation labs is delayed until Fall 2014.

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

Access to funds has not been a concern. Spending is slower than estimated due to revised technology cost estimates. This required identifying alternate sources of funding to support additional required equipment and installation fees which were not provided at the time of the original estimate. Consequently, some technology purchases were delayed.

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.

In our experience, a more thorough consultation with the site contact person for IITG would have been beneficial and potentially eliminated the major roadblocks we encountered with inaccurate price quotes and technology integration. Although we met with the contact person, it would have been beneficial to have a broader meeting with more members of the IT division. I suggest transitioning the contact person to someone within the Center for Learning & Teaching.

Also, we'd like to have more input from prior projects regarding the Communication Plan and suggestions to enhance dissemination of findings.

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?

The faculty team has developed an interdisciplinary dialogue. While this project focuses upon delivering content to graduate social work students, it is clear the entire design may be expanded for an inter-professional audience in the future.

Regarding our evolving campus partnership, the Center for Learning & Teaching (CLT) has been an invaluable partner in this project. The dialogue between disciplines, faculty and IT professionals has fostered excitement for expansion of this project to other aspects of social work education.

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.

Time is a vital resource, particularly in a multidisciplinary, inter-campus endeavor. Scheduling team members to meet and collaborate on the project has been particularly challenging. I wish we had exceptional insight regarding a solution, but we simply navigated these challenges as best we could. Instead of the entire team meeting at once, the PI coordinated various aspects and communication among the collaborating team members (both those formally part of the project and those that volunteered services). This has worked effectively to keep the project moving. The interdisciplinary dialogue has assisted in moving the project through the legal discussions surrounding HIPAA.