# UW System FY16 Innovation Fund Project Report Due on 11/23/2015

(\*Not to exceed two pages)

Project Name: Personalized Learning in the Physiological Sciences

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Report Interval: 60 90 120-Final

1. Briefly recap project objectives. Have implementation tasks to date caused any meaningful adjustments to the project's original objectives?

### **Pedagogical Objectives:**

The overall pedagogical goal is to create a personalized learning experience in physiology and anatomy and introductory psychology. We expect increased student performance in weekly assignments and improved student conceptual understanding on traditional exams. We expect the results of a student survey to show more positive than negative student attitudes towards the use of iWorx technology. We expect an increase in positive faculty attitudes towards the use of iWorx technology.

### **Learning Technology Objectives:**

The iWorx software will allow Dr. Fritz and Dr. Amundson to develop skills in creating lesson plans that connect iWorx data sets and/or student produced data sets to specific learning outcomes. Plus, because iWorx is open-ended, the students can design their own experiments and bring their hypotheses to life. iWorx open license means technology- enabled learning spaces will extend to any location students have internet access. If successful we hope to share this technology with our departments for utilization across the UW Colleges.

The implementation tasks to date have not caused any meaningful adjustments to the project's original objectives. However, this is difficult to assess because of delays in the project. Please see Question 3 for details.

2. What is the status of in-progress project tasks?

Although we collected some baseline data after implementing non-technology based active learning strategies (e.g., in class experiments), we did not have comparison data collected after using technology to accurately assess expected progress. Again, this was a result of delays. Notably, the data did allow us to consider potential pitfalls with the survey and motivated us to revisit our implementation design. Specifically, we identified a possible ceiling effect in our measure and clarified the best time for baseline and subsequent measures of student attitudes.

We did have one scheduled monthly meeting. This meeting focused on modifying the time line and re-scheduling tasks.

3. Compare the current status of the project with regard to scope, schedule and cost with the original submission. Please also describe the cause for any significant variance from the original plan.

The largest impact on this project to date is the unexpected delays. The first was a two week delay in awarding the funds. The second was a week delay resulting from distribution of funding

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numbers. The third resulted from the equipment purchase requiring paperwork for sole source procurement. This paperwork required another week to complete. Once the purchase was made from iWorx the equipment arrived within a week. Now we are waiting for a laptop purchase. The paperwork for this purchase was filed two weeks ago and we have yet to receive the laptops. Once the laptops arrive there will be another two to three days for imaging of the hard drives and another week will be needed for set up of the iWorx platforms with the laptops. Thus, we have not been able to implement any of the technology in the classroom and subsequently have not been able to achieve any of objectives described above as well as many in process activities. We collected some baseline data in anticipation of getting one class period with the technology but that did not occur due to lack of laptops. At this point in the semester there is not sufficient time to effectively implement the technology in an effective and meaningful way for students and hence, we need to delay implementation of the project until we have students next semester.

If we are able to delay the project then the scope of the project has not changed. We still expect to be able to achieve the proposed goals next semester. The schedule was initially modified in anticipation of equipment arriving in time for implementation this semester but the delay in obtaining equipment requires use to wait until next semester. This will allow the original schedule to be utilized. The cost at this point is in-line with the proposed budget.

	Original Proposal	Actual Status
Scope	Same	Same (administered next semester)
Schedule	Same	Same (administered next semester)
Cost	\$20,000	\$18,000 for equipment (plus \$2,000 to be reimbursed for labor)

#### 4. Risk Assessment

a. Describe any significant new or anticipated risks to the project's successful outcome with regard to scope, schedule or cost.

As long as we are able to extend the project to next semester, at this time we do not anticipate any significant risks to the scope, schedule, or cost of the project.

b. Describe the mitigation strategies to address these new or anticipated risks.