UW System FY16 Innovation Program Project Report

- **Due on 12/23/2015**
- **Email completed report to Sasi Pillay, CIO, UW System: spillay@uwsa.edu (cc: dtrendt@uwsa.edu)**
- **Please Note: All reports will be posted on the Innovation Program Project Reports web page.**

(*Not to exceed two pages)

Project Name: **A Mobile Application to Support First Year Seminar/First Year Experience**	
Report Preparer: **Tim Krause, PhD**	
Date: **23 December 2015**	Report Interval: **90**

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

   In completing focus groups, we confirmed that the shift to developing an application that both helps students connect over common interests on campus, and make navigating campus life easier for them was a good decision.

   The focus groups unearthed a whole host of features students thought would be useful to them. We have created a "Parking Lot/Backlog" for those features so that we can continue to focus on delivering a Minimally Viable Product (MVP).

2. What is the status of in-progress project tasks?
   We have completed a number of objectives including: final focus groups, two prototypes, begun development of the mobile application, and completed some initial code review. The initial code review was intended to ensure that the developers working on the project have a common set of standards toward which they are developing.

   We have also completed an assessment of the technology stack, and confirmed that we will move forward with Angular for both iOS and Android.

   We are approximately 20 days behind with respect to development work. See below for mitigation tactics.

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.

	Original Proposal	Actual Status
Scope	The project should be well into development and refinement at this stage.	We have a well-defined target product, and have started the development process. We are behind a fair bit at this stage.
Schedule	Completion of three, three week sprints.	Completed 2 1/2, three week sprints.
Cost	Approx. $10,000	$5,560

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

   One of the simple things that we underestimated significantly was the impact that the end of the semester would have on the project. Work on the project slowed significantly during the last two weeks of the semester, and completely stopped during finals week.

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It's just one perspective, but the team shares only one relationship in common, and that's the relationship to me. The team has also been slowed by the work that it's taken to set group norms and expectations. There are no mitigating strategies for this specific item because I believe we have this one addressed.

b.   Describe the mitigation strategies to address these new or anticipated risks.
The team has setup Team Foundation Server and will be working with technology and supporting tools with which everyone is familiar.

We have two mitigation strategies at this point. The first is that the two developers will be working more in a "paired programming" fashion. We're hoping it will increase efficiencies in writing code, as well as help bring the more junior of our programmers up to speed.

The second mitigation strategy is literally a function of the calendar and final deadline for the project. The vast majority of the team (with limited availability from our designer) is available for a significant portion of January. The team expresses confidence that we'll be able to use the time to still deliver our project by the February 1st deadline.

Although the team has been meeting on a regular basis, we'll be shifting into a stronger focus on Scrum reporting on a weekly basis: Work completed, work in process, and identification of any issues or roadblocks.

Because the original goal of this project was to get to an initial pilot of the mobile application, we have always anticipated that Computing and New Media Technologies Capstone course might be utilized to help address any issues that arise in that pilot testing.

We also anticipate that the Capstone course will be utilized to continue working on iterative versions of the mobile application.