OBJECTIVE

Our project is to help IIT students find jobs after graduation. To do so, we created a documentary that would be a useful tool for graduating students. This film describes all aspects of the job search process and the entire preparation students experience while still in school.

This IPRO started in the fall of 2005 when the first semester group realized that it would not be easy to accomplish such a project in a single semester. Thus it was decided the project required two additional semesters. The second semester would focus on filming students, professors and employers on their experiences in the job search process. The third semester group would focus on the editing, overall story and compilation of the documentary.

KEY TASKS

To manage the team effectively we decided on certain milestones to help us achieve our goal.

- SCREENING FILM - The IPRO team was divided into four challenge groups in order watch all of the 30+ hours of raw footage captured in the preceding semester.

- TIME STAMPING - After viewing the footage we time marked all the important clips for easier navigating in the future.

- EDITING CLASSES - Six members of the team were responsible for the editing of the film. Over the course of four weeks, the teammates developed editing skills using Final Cut Pro software.

OBSTACLES AND BARRIERS

As the 3rd semester group we faced many obstacles and barriers leading to our ultimate goal.

- View all footage in their challenge group captured in prior semesters.

- Filtering all the useful footage

- Learning how to use the Final Cut Pro software.

SOLUTIONS

We decided to not only preserve the challenge structure of the second semester as a way to help with organization but to also create technical groups. The challenge structure consisted of four groups; job fair, on campus interview, onsite interview, offer and decision. The technical focus groups consisted of filming, scripting and editing teams.

- SCRIPTING TEAM - The scripting team had the task of developing an overall story for the documentary. This could only be done once the time stamping was completed. Then coherent storyline was created using clips designated in the time stamping effort.

Members: Carolyn, Julia, Megan

- EDITING TEAM - In this team students needed to be able to develop a “collage” of the storyline created by the scripting team. The team met and created the documentary in the Digital Media Center. This team spent upwards of 400 hours creating and refining their respective pieces. This included refining the story, adding appropriate sound and keeping the film as aesthetically pleasing as possible while creating an interesting and exciting documentary.

FILMING TEAM – In the beginning of the semester the team participated in a crash course explaining the basics in film production. This included factors such as location choice, lighting, sound, filming, casting, dress and scripting. In the second semester most of the filming had been completed, however while developing the final product it was apparent gaps existed and additional filming was required.

Members: Ben, Christian, Carolyn, Janusz, Julia, Megan, Miguel

RESULTS

Many accomplishments were achieved during this semester with the final product being released some time during the week of December 14th, 2006. Other objectives included finishing the editing course, screening and time stamping over 30 hours of video, producing smaller “practice” videos that helped the editing team refine their skills before developing our final product. These videos explored different features of the job search process including “How to Prepare for an Interview”,
“What Not to Say/Do,” “Being Late for an Interview” and “Chris Herzog: A Special Interview.” Besides producing a film we decided as a group that developing teamwork and communication would also be special goals to achieve over the course of the semester.

SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Joy Robinson: Digital Media Center  
John Pecak: Final Cut Instructor  
Daniel Ferguson: Faculty Advisor  
Paul Lenzen: Teaching Assistant, Leader  
David Allen: Former Teammate

All prior IPRO 333 teammates that never lost the passion and excitement required for this IPRO to work.  

All students, professors and employers who participated in the filming of this project.

Thank you all very much!!