IITG Mid Year Project Report

Name of Principle Investigator:
M. Ete Chan

IITG Project Title (truncated)
2018-Stony Brook-Chan-DIY Biotechnology Games with Lab Simulation Builder

1) Please consider the original timeline and deliverable targets. How is your project progressing compared with the original estimates?
The progress of this project is similar to the original estimates. Some goals have been updated based on what we learn as we proceed with the development, and there was a small delay during the beginning of the project due to the delayed availability of funding within our own university.

2) How is spending progressing when compared with the original budget estimates? (You may also choose to detail issues regarding access to funds in the next three questions).
As mentioned above, there was some administrative delay of funding availability at the beginning of the project. Although the PI is supposed to have direct access to the funding, it only works if the PI can spend the $ directly. Funding was first routed to the College of Engineering and Applied Science before going into the PI's department, which has caused some confusion and delay.

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.
As usual, it takes time administratively to go through the hiring procedure for personnel helping with the project.

4) What are your positive observations or pleasant surprises about your team's interaction or project process that might be helpful to other PI's?
I really appreciate the consistent, prompt responses I got from the Sr. Strategist of Academic Innovation, Dr. Lisa Stephens, at the SUNY Office of the Provost regarding anything for the IITG projects. She is extremely helpful. I think it was very good that I can get help from SUNY representative and also my associate Provost Wendy Tang internally.

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.
It is extremely important to have recurrent meetings to keep track with progress and to plan with other co-PIs and the developers. Also, I found that summer and winter breaks are the prime time of making more progress for the project.