A Study in Scientific Management

Practicing Project Management: A Case Study in Scientific Management Provided
by HHMI (Howard Hughes Medical Institute)

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A Study in Scientific Management

I. **Two scope choices**

The two scopes that I chose this assessment were Scope 1 (clinical trial for existing drug inhibitor) and Scope 2 (candidate drugs with similar characteristics to the inhibitor)

II. **Allocation of resources: Assignment of personnel**

a. Allocation of each of the five personnel:

Rudy	Scope 1
Chia-Ling	Scope 2
Suzanne	Ongoing Lab Work 2
Hortence	Scope 1
Pradip	Ongoing Lab Work 1

b. Allocation of each of the four personnel:

Chia-Ling	Scope 2
Suzanne	Ongoing Lab Work 2
Hortence	Scope 1
Pradip	Ongoing Lab Work 1

A Study in Scientific Management

III. **Score**

Total Points Earned: 11

Subtract 2 Points If Any Scopes Were Changed Halfway Through This Activity: **None**

Final Score: 11

IV. **Corresponding outcome**

Final scores for this study were based on this table:

FINAL POINTS	OUTCOME
10-12	Excellent — Kept current lab funding and added new grant
8-9	Good — Kept current lab funding
0-7	Poor — Too high risk, lost all lab funding

Because my score for the study was an **11**, the lab team in my scenario was able to keep its current funding and was even able to add a new grant.

A Study in Scientific Management

Additional Comments

1. As a project manager, the most important pieces of information that I could gather from this case study were the current research being conducted and who was funding the grant. These factors made choosing specific scopes much easier, as they provided much more clarity to the case study and I could choose which specific scopes were what the NIH envisioned in its research study.

2. A project manager is able to cope with unexpected obstacles while also balancing all the different responsibilities expected in a project by being able to allocate resources/personnel efficiently. Being able to delegate team members to be responsible with certain roles that fit their skill sets is key because it allows a project to really continue moving forward without having to worry too much about major changes or scopes getting impacted. Even though scopes or project goals may still change unexpectedly, having a strong team where people are in roles that best suit their skill sets definitely helps to overcome those changing obstacles.

3. I would say:

   a. Time management: meeting tight deadlines, as well as doing tasks efficiently in a timely matter. I like to keep a schedule and organize it so that I know when project deadlines are and making sure that I have enough time to not only finish the project, but to put enough effort to making the project a success.

   b. I've learned a lot about resource allocation from this assignment and how important it is to be able to efficiently allocate resources or

labor in order to make a project a success. Being able to have people working in the right roles makes a huge difference in a project.

c. Communication: it is important to note that overcommunication is better than having no communication, especially in a team setting. I consider this area a necessary area of growth for me, because I'm not the best at communicating details very well, but I have definitely improved based on the teams that I have worked with on projects and organizations.

d. People skills: Being able to cooperate with people, especially in a team setting, is very important because it helps to create a positive team environment. Whether it is being an active listener or even communication, being able to work well with others is very important because of how it can affect team dynamics, and this is an area that I have excelled at.

e. Problem solving: Being able to identify problems that pop up during projects is key to understanding what it takes to go to the next level when it comes with project objectives. However, being able to come up with solutions to problems is much more important. This is one area that I have definitely struggled with because I can identify problems really well, but I cannot seem to have a strong sense for being able to come up with a solution to the problem.