

Title of Session: e-Portfolios
Moderator: Joseph Ugoretz
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Room: e-Portfolio Group

JosephU: Hi Fernanda, Welcome!

JosephU: HI again Todd

FernandaR: Hi!

DavidWe joined the room.

DavidWe waves

BJB2: Fernanda has been waiting patiently for over an hour, Joe

DavidWe: Hi

JosephU: Hello David

DavidWe: Hi, Joseph. Sorry I'm late

JosephU: Thanks for you patience, Fernanda, glad you waited.

JosephU: I assume we might get some more people as time goes by, but maybe we should just start?

BJB2: before we begin, a reminder if you are new to Tapped In to go to the ACTIONS menu in the top right of the chat window

BJB2: and click on DETACH

BJB2: we usually start all discussions with introductions, Joe...can you start please?

JosephU: Sure. I'm Joe Ugoretz--I'm an English Professor and Director of Teaching and Learning at a large urban community college. I started this group--because we're in the process of adopting an eportfolio system, and I wanted to get the opinions and experience of others.

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I help teachers learn more about technology for education, especially math and science teachers. I'm across the river from New York City in New Jersey

BJB2: Looks to Fernanda and Todd

JosephU: Nice to meet you, David. Fernanda, Todd?

ToddL: I'm Todd Levesque and in the master educational technology program at Uconn. We are currently working on e-portfolios so this caught my interest....

FernandaR: I'm Fernanda Rodrigues, an EFL teacher in Setubal, Portugal

JosephU: Great. Good to meet everybody.

JosephU: I have a question to start with (or a couple)

JosephU: Hi Emily.

DavidWe listens for the question(s)

JosephU: I've been developing a list of priorities for eportfolios for our institution--

JosephU: so that's the question...

JosephU: what priorities, if you're going to use eportfolios, seem the most important to you?

BJB2: universally accessible format

DavidWe . o O (I'm not sure what you mean by priorities, Joseph?)

JosephU: Yes. that's a big one for us, too, BJ.

JosephU: Well--let me give examples, David

ToddL: Quality of the e-port in terms of video audio graphics...

JosephU: There's one from Todd, and one from BJ

ToddL: easy navigation

DavidWe . o O (e-Portfolio definition, perhaps?)

JosephU: Others that we have our customizability, and ease of use (especially for technically unskilled).

JosephU: Ah! I should back up to definition.

DavidWe assumes an e-Portfolio is a collection of students' work in digital format

JosephU: Yes, that's a good definition

DavidWe . o O (close?)

JosephU: Then the priorities end up modifying the definition.

JosephU: For example.

JosephU: I need the ability for students to present the port. in several different formats

JosephU: for teachers, family, employers, etc.

JosephU: I need the space for reflection and meta-writing

DavidWe has a question

JosephU: and (as Todd said) to include multi-media (as needed!)

JosephU: question?

DavidWe: Password-protected web page?

DavidWe: does that work?

JosephU: Well, that's one reason why a dedicated portfolio platform seems to be superior to a normal web page

JosephU: because it has to be sometimes password protected and sometimes not (a back end and front end, sort of).

DavidWe nods

ToddL: I found an e-port that allows me to choose the viewers and what they see.

JosephU: Yes, Todd--that's exactly what I need! What did you find?

ToddL: it's eportfolio.org but it's run by Connecticut something... if forget the rest. not sure it will work for everyone.

JosephU: is it only for UConn?

BJB2: <http://eportfolio.org/>

JosephU: This is sometimes a problem. Maricopa CC has great system--but not open to anyone else.

BJB2: hosted by the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium

JosephU: looks very interesting!

ToddL: did I lose everyone?

JosephU: just looking at the site

DavidWe waves to Todd

BJB2: no, Todd. We're looking at the site

ToddL: sorry my screen never refreshed..

JosephU: isn't it embarrassing when there's a solution out there that looks very cool, and close to home, and the url is so obvious, and I've never heard of it before!

BJB2: might be worth contacting the admin

ToddL: that the same until yesterday when I found eportfolio.org

JosephU: Yes! That goes on my to-do list.

ToddL: Sorry everyone but I have my eport class starting. Thanks everyone. Hope to meet again.

BJB2: a search for eportfolios got me this site <http://www.ingeniux.com/x813.xml>

BJB2: thanks for joining us, Todd

JosephU: hope you'll come back next month, too, Todd!

FernandaR: can this be used by anyone? is it free? <http://eportfolio.org>

JosephU: Fernanda, from a quick look, it's not free,--your institution has to join, which costs.

BJB2: I doubt you're going to find anything for free

JosephU: there is OSPI--which is open source and thus free

JosephU: but you'll still have programming, server, and bandwidth costs

PauletteW joined the room.

JosephU: Don't know if you have the saying in Portugal, but we say TANSTAAFL

JosephU: There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch

JosephU smiles

BJB2: this url might be useful <http://www.deskootenays.ca/wilton/eportfolios/>

PauletteW: Hi, I'm doing research on e-folios and thought I'd pass by.

BJB2: In this portal, we are using the current, general meaning of the term, which is a dynamic web site that interfaces with a database of student work artifacts. Webfolios are static Web sites where functionality derives from HTML links. *ePortfolio therefore, now refers to database-driven, dynamic web sites, not static, HTML-driven sites.*

BJB2: (Batson, 2002)

BJB2: hi, Paulette. We're looking at <http://www.deskootenays.ca/wilton/eportfolios/>

JosephU: Another model is the one developed by my colleagues at LaGuardia Community College here in NYC. <http://www.eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/>

JosephU: What have you found in your research, Paulette? Or what are you looking for?

PauletteW: I'm looking at techniques beginning teachers use to create the e-folios and I'm finding that they are able to use Microsoft Office to do just about everything. They do not use a any purchased program and they do fine.

JosephU: I think that's a good procedure for creating basic portfolios, but it doesn't really address the need for multimedia (if that need exists)--or for making the portfolios publicly available (with different formats).

JosephU: Ideally, we're looking for a solution that students can use longitudinally--throughout their careers, including all kinds of artifacts (not just text) and easily modify the portfolio for different audiences.

JosephU: what does a finished efolio (created in microsoft office) look like?

PauletteW: That's true. Of course that's probably an area for investigation. I'm investigating e-folios for assessment and teacher licensure, so they do not have to be publicly available. It is mainly narrative with links to scanned artifacts.

JosephU: hmmm..interesting.

JosephU: so your folks write a narrative, say in Word, and add hyperlinks to other Word documents?

JosephU: basically?

PauletteW: Some of the teachers use links to the web to incorporate sound and other forms of multimedia. I would say their knowledge of technology is limited, and for teacher licensure we have to make it fairly simple. These e-folios show that it is doable by just about any teacher.

PauletteW: Yes. That's what they do. In fact, they transformed a teacher work sample into an e-folio.

JosephU: Do you give them a template, or just basic instructions? (I know that licensing/accreditation standards will tend to dictate the basic areas of content).

PauletteW: That's correct. They just get basic instructions. I give them a template for the first page and they create links from there to each of the standards and then they can do what they want.

JosephU: Paulette, these are beginning teachers, or pre-service?

PauletteW: They were second year teachers. Kansas is looking at the feasibility of implementing an electronic portfolio as a licensure requirement. I work for the state.

JosephU: Well, we're close to running out of time.

PauletteW: It's been great! I appreciate the links to the two websites and I'll check them out if I can access this text later. I was unable to copy them and the link didn't work just now. But I have to go. I'll try to join you again at the next meeting.

JosephU: I want to thank everyone for coming, and I hope you'll all join the group, if you haven't yet.

JosephU: If I understand tapped in, we're going to get an emailed transcript of this.

JosephU: and I'd like to suggest that we can continue the discussion asynchronously on the discussion board, too.