Using the e-Portfolio as an Student Learning Assessment Tool
What is an E-Portfolio?

- A purposeful collection of student work that exhibits the efforts, progress, and achievements in one or more areas.

- A virtual collection of student work
Why Use the ePortfolio?

- **Pedagogical change** in higher education, with greater emphasis on student-centered active learning

- **Enhances users’ technological capacity** as they become more proficient users of software and other tools

- **Demands for accountability** in higher education

- **Transition between employment and education** – “an education passport” that allows students to showcase or demonstrate their learning and transfer it to their professional career (i.e. integrative learning)

- **Flexibility** (i.e. can be used for various purposes such as enriched learning, career development, and assessment, to name a few)
Who uses e-Portfolio Info?

- Current students
- Course instructors
- Prospective students
- Experiential learning sites
- Prospective employers
- Graduate school admissions committees and faculty
- Professional organizations
- Alumni
- Grantors
Examples of ePortfolio Usage

- High Schools as examples of student development and preparedness for post-secondary education

- Community Colleges – to enhance the link between 2-year and 4-year colleges/universities

- Colleges and Universities – general education experiences, capstone courses, to demonstrate proficiency in the profession, assessment, etc.

- Higher education system requirements as evidence of institutional effectiveness
Software Tools for e-Portfolios

- Digital Measures (JSU Activity Insight – Students)
- Canvas
- Googleapps
- Nuventive
- Interfolio
- Html-FrontPage
- Authorware
- Blogs
- Wiki (Wikipedia.com)
- LinkedIn
- PowerPoint
- Keynote (Apple software)

*E-Portfolios may consist of templates or self created Web pages.*
Steps to Developing e-Portfolios

• **Collection:** the gathering of items or artifacts based on the portfolio’s purpose, audience, and future use. The student collects all work/artifacts.

• **Selection:** the development of criteria for choosing items/artifacts to include in the portfolio based on established learning objectives.

• **Reflection:** Explain how the particular work/artifact illustrates mastery of specific curriculum requirements or learning goals.

*Mantra: Collect – Select – Reflect*
Examples of e-Portfolio Artifacts

- Writing samples
- Photographs, artwork
- Videos
- Research projects, publications
- Observations by peers and mentors
- Recognitions and awards, academic achievements, professional advancement
- Reflections on the evidence
How to Assess e-Portfolios

- Select an e-Portfolio tool;
- Assist students with learning to use the selected tool proficiently;
- Establish a standardized format for courses, degree programs, or similar disciplines;
- Establish a schedule for updating and reviewing the portfolio content;
- Specify acceptable artifacts for inclusion in the portfolio;
- Establish and publicize assessment criteria, tools, methods and frequency;
- Use multiple reviewers (e.g. faculty and peers) where appropriate; and,
- Require students to self-assess (reflect) within the e-portfolio, and incorporate their learning into future projects.
Closing Comments

This presentation is intended to serve as an introduction to the use of the e-portfolio as an assessment tool. The following sample sites demonstrate how other colleges and universities are currently using this exciting tool.
Student Generated ePortfolio Galleries

- Pennsylvania State University: [www.portfolio.psu.edu/gallery](http://www.portfolio.psu.edu/gallery)

- San Francisco State University: [http://eportfolio.sfsu.edu/gallery.php](http://eportfolio.sfsu.edu/gallery.php)

- LaGuardia Community College: [www.eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/scholars/sp07.html](http://www.eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/scholars/sp07.html)
Campus Uses of ePortfolios

- Inter/National Coalition for Electronic Portfolio Research – [www.ncepr.org](http://www.ncepr.org)

- Dr. Helen Barrett’s Electronic Portfolio resource site: [www.electronicportfolios.org](http://www.electronicportfolios.org)

- The International ePortfolio movement – [www.eife-l.org/about](http://www.eife-l.org/about)
Campus Uses of ePortfolios

- IUPUI Assessment Conference – [www.planning.iupui.edu/conferences/national/national.conf.html](http://www.planning.iupui.edu/conferences/national/national.conf.html)

- Minnesota ePortfolio project – [www.efoliominnesota.com](http://www.efoliominnesota.com)

- California State Universities ePortfolio project – [http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/eportfolio/index.html](http://teachingcommons.cdl.edu/eportfolio/index.html)

References


Brown, Mary Daniels. Electronic Portfolios in the K-12 Classroom. Education Technology Center, 2002
http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech/tech111.shtml

