ePortfolios: enhancing workbased learning and employability

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What is an ePortfolio?

- Assessment
- Describe learning or a support to learning
- A way to showcase, present, or demonstrate personal, professional or career development

ePortfolios: Personal and Social Identity Theories

- Hall (2011) suggests

1. A major driver of ePortfolios in education is assessment

2. Students and academics often see little value beyond assessing and recording achievement

- Zubizaretta also sums it up quite nicely when academics see “e” as one more damn thing (Hall, 2011)

- However ePortfolios can also be creative and often work along the FaceBook model where students document a life story – albeit a professional life story.

- So how can we move ePortfolios from some of these constraints to one where they can support students to capture work based learning and help with employability.
One way we can do this has been suggested by Darren Cambridge (2010).

In his work he suggests that personal and social identity theories can be used to underpin a “personalised portfolio.”

By completing a personalised ePortfolio the individual clearly has in mind the audience: hence the use of personal and social theories.

This then underpins the persons learning and guides their choices.
ePortfolios: Personal and Social Identity Theories

- The challenge of course is how we can embed these ideas for our learners and staff – and this will be the aim of the group work to follow.

- Darren Cambridge talks about the convergence of the technology, blogs and social networks.

- But Cambridge states that blogs and social networks are often written to keep family and friends up-to-date with what’s going on, or as a general cathartic exercise.

- Again I suggest that moving these general ideas to a point where it can help employability and work-based learning is key.
Andy Raistrick
Rob Shaw and Naomi De Graff
Groupwork

- In the groupwork we’d like you to consider the ePortfolios you use or would like to use to increase workbased learning and employability, and how you could improve this.

- Things you may wish to consider are
  - using student champions
  - what works
  - what doesn’t work
  - incorporating social media into ePortfolios
  - Electronic artifacts/resources embedded in ePortfolios
  - reflective elements
  - Privacy of student entries
  - importing and exporting
  - continuing professional development

- Please use the flipchart to record your thoughts and these will be uploaded onto the ALPSEN website as soon as we can
Please join the forum!