

**Title of Session:** ePortfolios  
**Moderator:** Lynne Wolters  
**Title of File:** 20080515eportfolios  
**Date:** May 15, 2008

Room: ePortfolio Group

**CharlesE** joined the room.

**LynneW:** Hi Charles

**LynneW:** Welcome

**KarenCod** joined the room.

**CharlesE:** Greetings

**LynneW:** Hi Karen

**KarenCod:** hi

**LynneW:** Are either of you new to our discussion group?

**CharlesE** raises his hand

**KarenCod:** I am not really sure what an electronic portfolio is. I am new to the group.

**KarenCod:** Is an e portfolio for students or for my professional use?

**LynneW:** Karen, e-portfolios are used for both of those reasons and more.

**KarenCod:** Is there specific software?

**LynneW:** We generally discuss what our participants want.

**LynneW:** Yes, however you can also use something as basic as Word or Google docs.

**LynneW:** It can be saved to a CD, be part of a web site or blog, or be saved on a district drive.

**LynneW:** Charles, is there a particular aspect of e-portfolios you are most interested in discussing?

**KarenCod:** I am a new teacher and I think I should start one. Are there any sites that I could look at one?

**CharlesE:** I am open to any and all topics.. I work with an online academy for k-8 students and they have to develop portfolios.. most are notebooks

**CharlesE** sits back to listen attentively.

**LynneW:** Karen, we have lots of good resources and links for you in this group room. However, we do have a format for our session.

**LynneW:** We will give the folks in TI an opportunity to join us and then we will introduce ourselves.

**LynneW:** In the self-introductions state where you are from, what you teach.

**LynneW:** My name is Lynne Wolters. I am an ed tech professor at a university in Portland, OR

**KarenCod:** I am from Staten Island, NY and I teach in a second grade CTT class.

**CharlesE:** I am from Pa and I work as an educational subcontractor for a couple of universities teaching grad course in educational technology

**LynneW:** Jeff and BJ are volunteers in support of the Tapped In community.

**LynneW:** Welcome.

**BJB2** nods :-)

**Lynne W:** BJ do you want to say more?

**BJB2:** I teach communication and am located in Pennsylvania

**LynneW:** Karen and Charles are new to our group.

**KarenCod:** yes.

**LynneW:** Let's start by familiarizing you with this room and how to navigate to the resources.

**KarenCod:** great

**LynneW:** You see a split screen. The lower screen contains the chat module.

**LynneW:** The upper screen represents our group room.

**LynneW:** Under the graphic of the lounge are links.

**LynneW:** Anyone can post files, links, ask questions and/or respond to questions in threaded discussion.

**LynneW:** Simply click on the link to "see" that portion of the room.

**LynneW:** Karen, there are many good resources to help you get started with the concepts associated with eportfolios. There are also links to various sites.

**KarenCod:** I see that. Thanks!

**LynneW:** I have prepared a couple of things for our session today.

**LynneW:** Under LINKS look for the folder "May 2008"

**LynneW:** The first link is to a web-based e-portfolio that was the winner of an eportfolio contest at University of Washington.

**LynneW:** Please go check out that e-portfolio and then come back to chat so we can talk about it.

**LynneW:** <http://students.washington.edu/jpe4/>

**LynneW:** Make sure your pop-up blocker is disabled.

**LynneW:** Please let me know when you have returned.

**KarenCod:** That was impressive.

**LynneW:** What did you like about what you saw?

**KarenCod:** I liked all of the photographs. This is much better than mailing a resume to an employer.

**BJB2:** it shows Jeff from a social as well as academic perspective

**LynneW:** Yes BJ

**LynneW:** Was there anything missing from this example?

**CharlesE:** The navigation through the pages is a bit difficult

**LynneW:** If you were going to use this work to evaluate demonstration of learning -- how easy or difficult might that be?

**CharlesE:** Were the Warnerisms a tribute to you, Lynne?

**LynneW:** Nope

**LynneW:** I liked that one though.

**BJB2:** lots of demonstration of learning, but not much related to his field of study

**CharlesE** agrees

**LynneW:** Is it clear to you who the audience is and what the purpose is of this work?

**BJB2:** not to me

**LynneW:** Exactly

**LynneW:** Great artifacts and use of a Web 2.0 technology.

**LynneW:** Focus is very general.

**CharlesE:** what year is he in now?

**LynneW:** He graduated.

**BJB2:** employed?

**CharlesE:** Was his major photography?

**LynneW:** No update

**BJB2:** he was a math major, Charles

**CharlesE:** I missed that. sorry.

**LynneW:** It is very important to "stay on message" about the purpose and audience for any eportfolio.

**LynneW:** There are many elements to include, tools to use, and a variety of ownership.

**LynneW:** Planning is important, as is coming out of the planning process very clear minded.

**CharlesE:** A lot of universities have gotten into using the eportfolio system for their students.. Is there any guidance and direction that is provided to them beyond what they get from using MySpace and FaceBook?

**LynneW:** Charles, that varies widely.

**LynneW:** Some places are more focused on eportfolios as demonstration of "computer" competency.

**LynneW:** Some institutions want eportfolios to replace the "in a binder" work samples.

**CharlesE:** So the movie majors will include the short movies etc...

**LynneW:** Then, there is everything in between.

**LynneW:** Yes

**LynneW:** I do have a bias about meaningful reflection included throughout.

**LynneW:** I also am biased toward audio files of the student's own voice explaining what they were thinking, feeling, etc. as they produced an artifact.

**CharlesE:** You want to allow students to be creative in the creation of the portfolio but you have to have a set of expected standards or elements that must be present.

**LynneW:** Surely.

**CharlesE:** For the graduate, the audience is very targeted

**LynneW:** Students need guidance in understanding what makes an appropriate artifact.

**LynneW:** Eportfolios are not meant to be electronic scrapbooks.

**CharlesE:** For the jr in college the audience is their classmates.

**CharlesE** nods

**LynneW:** Charles, what majors do you teach?

**CharlesE:** I work the inservice teachers.. graduate program

**LynneW:** OK.

**CharlesE:** Elem through jr college

**LynneW:** Before our session ends, I would like to share another Helen Barrett resource. She does a great job laying out how you can use Google docs in a classroom environment.

**LynneW:** <http://electronicportfolios.org/google/>

**CharlesE:** The portfolio is used by the univ and the student must submit artifacts that the univ has identified in their eportfolios.

**LynneW:** That gives lots of good focus and indicates "ownership".

**LynneW:** I prefer setting up eportfolios so the "ownership" belongs to the student.

**CharlesE:** I think since most of my students are already working their audience is not future employers so they have a hard time figuring out what to include..

**LynneW:** I'm not indicating good vs. bad. This is just my preference.

**CharlesE:** they target the univ professors.... what do they want to see.. my principal...

**LynneW:** If I were able to speak with your students Charles, I would talk to them about documenting their growth as a professional educator.

**CharlesE:** The artifacts have to reflect the standards from the ISTE org.

**LynneW:** What have they learned? How have they grown? What have they created? How have they contributed to their school?

**CharlesE** nods

**LynneW:** Great job using the standards

**LynneW:** Karen, do you have any questions?

**CharlesE:** I think they are prompted on the first page to reflect.. and for each of the items they are to share what they learned from working on each project.

**LynneW:** Good model.

**KarenCod:** No, I think all of my questions have been answered through the links. Thanks

**LynneW:** Still, students need to clearly know who they are talking to.

**CharlesE:** for sure.

**LynneW:** Anything else you want to discuss?

**CharlesE:** The example was good and got me thinking.....

**LynneW:** yes....

**CharlesE:** I have to run out and pick up some tomato plants.. thanks for the discussion.. will you have meetings over the summer

**LynneW:** I have another strong preference for individual focus on design.

**LynneW:** In June we will but I don't know about July and August.

**LynneW:** I teach my compressed summer grad classes in July and August.

**CharlesE:** I will stay logged in so I can pick up the transcript on this next part...

**CharlesE:** July is the festival.

**LynneW:** Thank you for stopping by.

**KarenCod:** Thank you.

**LynneW:** Please come again Karen.

**CharlesE:** don't leave just because I have to step out.

**LynneW:** Karen, if you have any questions, I am happy to respond as would BJ.

**CharlesE:** is Karen enrolled in a grad program?

**CharlesE:** if so they may have a portfolio system for their students.

**CharlesE:** or the school may want to invest in something for their teachers.

**LynneW:** She indicated she is a new classroom teacher.

**CharlesE:** kind of a facebook for faculty

**LynneW:** Charles, do you have an eportfolio of your own?

**CharlesE:** I have seen some schools that provide a faculty directory using the portfolio idea.

**KarenCod:** No, I was just looking at the links. I am finishing my grad degree. I do not know of any portfolio system. I have to check.

**CharlesE:** Actually, no I don't.

**CharlesE:** I have my own school though.

**CharlesE:** [www.whiteoakvirtualacademy.com](http://www.whiteoakvirtualacademy.com)

**LynneW:** Thanks. I'll check it out.

**CharlesE:** my wife and I are working on developing this for homeschooling families

**CharlesE:** portfolios is a big part of the plan

**CharlesE:** I have yet to find a good 'open source' eportfolio system

**CharlesE:** I will keep checking... gotta run.. these are heritage tomatoes.

**LynneW:** Thanks, again, for attending today.

**KarenCod:** good night

**LynneW:** Bye

**CharlesE:** ttyl