

Title of Session: e-Portfolios
Moderator: Lynne Wolters
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Room: e-Portfolio Group

BethAP joined the room.

LynneW: Hi Beth

LynneW: Welcome

BethAP: Hello, Lynn

LynneW: It is really nice to have you join us.

BethAP: Thank you. I am happy to be here and excited to learn about E Portfolios

LynneW: Beth, have you attended other TI sessions before?

BethAP: I am reading the top box

LynneW: Beth, do you have a particular interest or information need relating to e-portfolios?

BevCo joined the room.

LynneW: Hi Bev

BethAP: I am in a M.Ed program, we will need to do a portfolio for our student teaching

LynneW: Then you have a motivating need (smile)

BevCo: hello - does this start at 6:30

LynneW: Bev, you must be on the east coast?

BJB2: welcome to this month's ePortfolios discussion, Bev and Beth!

BJB2: a reminder to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

BJB2 hands the virtual floor over to Lynne..did you want to start with intros?

LynneW: Absolutely.

LynneW: My name is Lynne Wolters. I am a former prof of ed tech.

LynneW: I facilitate this group and another called "Web 2.0 Tools For Schools".

LynneW: I come to you from Vancouver, WA

BJB2: I'm a retired communication and art teacher located in Pennsylvania. I'm on Tapped In helpdesk

BJB2 . o O (and always find Lynne's sessions inspirational!)

LynneW bows deeply

BethAP: Great

LynneW: Please introduce yourselves.

BevCo: I am in a M.Ed program at UMW - I live in Stafford, VA --- I moved here from Poulsbo, WA

BethAP: I am Beth Petropulos and in a M.Ed program I also am in UMW

LynneW: I am delighted to meet you both.

BethAP: Glad to meet you too

LynneW: Format for this session is quite informal.

LynneW: Feel free to ask questions or make comments as we go along.

BevCo: thanks

BethAP: How about a description of what an E portfolio is

LynneW: I always have a topic ready to go but usually spend most of the time addressing information needs of participants.

LynneW: Beth - that is a great way to start.

LynneW: There are numerous types and formats of eportfolios

LynneW: In an educationally formal sense

LynneW: they are a method of authentic assessment

LynneW: of student learning, documentation of achievements, projects, reflections on learning, etc.

LynneW: There are universal and critical elements for planning and development of eportfolios

LynneW: What would your definition of eportfolio be and what elements do you believe are critical?

BevCo: electronic

BethAP: information on what the student has accomplished

BevCo: on-line

BethAP: examples of their accomplishment

LynneW: Thinking about the portfolios you will be creating for your program -- what elements have been stressed to you? What is the purpose? Who has ownership? Who gets to access them?

LynneW: Public, private, long-term or short-term snap shot??

BethAP: classroom management

BethAP: web page, blog, voicethread, screencast

BethAP: podcasts

LynneW: Beth what do you mean by "classroom management"?

BethAP: your philosophy

LynneW: Now you are mentioning various multi-media tools that can be used to create products of learning and reflection.

LynneW: To both of you:

BethAP: yes, I am in an IT class, the portfolio will be for the student teaching. I haven't taken the class yet

LynneW: What do you most want to know, understand, and/or be able to do following this session?

BevCo: educational philosophy - the information is owned the teacher -- accessed by

class/school

BethAP: I just want to understand what an eportfolio could do for the teacher and student

LynneW: Good

LynneW: Bev, how about you?

LynneW: Do you know what is meant by "authentic assessment"

LynneW: Anyone...

BevCo: we are in the same program and I have the same concerns

BethAP: no, but I can search it

LynneW: No don't take the time now

BethAP: Sorry I am definitely wet behind the ears

LynneW: OK I'll be a talking head here for a bit. Stop me when you can't take it any more (-)

LynneW: Beth that is exactly what these sessions are for.

LynneW: No need to apologize for being a learner!

BethAP: Ok

LynneW: Let me give us a framework to hang this information on.

LynneW: We have talked about what they are.

LynneW: I'll talk about why, who, when

LynneW: I'll talk about tools to use and the philosophy I believe is important to adopt.

LynneW: I'll talk about content and purpose, audience, format.

LynneW: Have I left any category out?

BethAP: I hope not

BJB2 grins

LynneW: It is a lot. I'm putting my professor hat on and away we go.

BethAP: ready

BevCo: looks good

JeffC joined the room.

LynneW: Teachers who assign eports

LynneW waves to Jeff

JeffC waves

LynneW: Jeff would you introduce yourself to Beth and Bev?

JeffC: Hi, I'm on Tapped In Helpdesk... been involved with ed for almost 20 years. I live in Forest Grove Oregon.

LynneW: Welcome

BethAP: I seen you, hello, Jeff

LynneW: Beth and Bev are masters students

JeffC: great

LynneW: Teachers who assign eports must do a great deal of thought and pre-planning.

LynneW: There are many different types depending on purpose, ownership, and audience.

LynneW: Purpose: In your case, the purpose is to learn how to do one and to document your learning.

BethAP: or your students?

LynneW: I am assuming your portfolio is meant to be shared ownership.

BethAP: yes

LynneW: Perhaps - I'm looking at your own assigned eport now.

LynneW: In your cases, if you include student learning from your student teaching experiences - there will be strict guidelines about their use.

LynneW: Right now I would like to simply focus on you two and your portfolios for

your program.

LynneW: Would that be ok?

BethAP: fine

BevCo: ok ---

LynneW: Including student work is fraught with permissions, use, names and pictures used or not, etc.

LynneW: It isn't simple.

LynneW: Particularly if the portfolios are freely accessible on the web.

LynneW: In your cases, you will be given a list of artifacts for inclusion.

BethAP: I was referring to portfolios for student assessment separate from teachers

LynneW: You will probably have created some of them in classes as you go along.

BethAP: ok

LynneW: Other artifacts you will create as part of your eport class.

LynneW: Key concept: Eportfolios are NOT scrapbooks of everything you can throw in them.

BethAP: It is the best of the best

LynneW: Eportfolios are meant to tell a multi-media narrative of your learning, your process, your obstacles and how you overcame them.

LynneW: Deep reflection is another important element.

BevCo: so who would you share it with?

LynneW: Again - depends on intended audience and who owns it.

LynneW: That is why it is so critically important

LynneW: to be clear on this before beginning.

LynneW: Again, I'm trying to keep it simpler by focusing on your own portfolios right now.

BethAP: my understanding is our audience will be a professor for the class, and perhaps an employer

LynneW: I am hearing you having questions about how you might use portfolios with students.

LynneW: I am willing to go there in a few minutes if you can be patient with me.

BethAP: students will be for when we get into the classroom, after the job

LynneW: Right

LynneW: Your professors are interested in knowing you have deeply internalized and reflected on your learning experiences. They want to know to what level you have integrated your learning into your personal pedagogy.

BethAP: makes sense

LynneW: Frankly, my experience is that people in the employment process are not really interested in reading a class paper on classroom management.

LynneW: That is not a good use of their time nor does it really match well with the employment process.

LynneW: Of course, your own professors may have a different take.

LynneW: What employers do like is a demonstration of your knowledge about educational technology.

LynneW: An eportfolio demonstrates skills, knowledge and abilities

LynneW: It will be what you convey in your actual interview that will matter most.

LynneW: The talking part.

LynneW: Does this make any sense to you?

BethAP: yes

BevCo: yes

LynneW: I have assigned and evaluated eportfolios for masters students for nearly a decade.

LynneW: What I share with you is my best take on it at this moment in time.

LynneW: Of course, take it with a grain of salt (smile)

LynneW: Although I believed early on that a single portfolio could be successful for my class, the masters program, state licensing, and employment - I found out that is wrong.

BethAP: what about an evolving portfolio

LynneW: The elements needed for your own educational requirements are a different portfolio than what you want to put before a hiring school district.

LynneW: Exactly!

LynneW: I would encourage you to create a master folder labeled "E-portfolio" on your computer.

LynneW: Inside that I would make sub-folders named UMW, Employment, Professional Development

LynneW: I would then create a folder labeled ARTIFACTS

LynneW: Then, as you have to modify a purpose or audience, you can simply pull and place whatever elements you need.

LynneW: Your shell can be identical. You can use the navigation and organizational plan you like.

BevCo: please explain artifacts

LynneW: However, you are authentically creating a response to a purpose, an audience, and the current moment.

LynneW: Artifacts are elements created for your portfolios.

LynneW: Could be audio files, image files, text documents, spreadsheets,

LynneW: whatever you have created you want to use for the current portfolio purpose.

BevCo: thanks

LynneW: Since it is all data, it can be easily moved, recycled, edited, reformatted, copied, etc.

LynneW: Key element:

LynneW: Don't get hung up on the tools

LynneW: Focus on your story.

LynneW: Content is Queen.

LynneW: Tools are tools. They don't tell your learning narrative.

LynneW: They help you tell it.

LynneW: Does that make sense?

BethAP: yes

LynneW: Example:

LynneW: You want to include an art piece in your eportfolio.

LynneW: Without your narrative/reflection what will I do with my look at it?

LynneW: I will bring my own needs, learnings, to fill the empty storytelling space.

LynneW: You could create a movie to tell me what it meant to you.

LynneW: You could create a short text narrative.

BethAP: can we see one?

LynneW: Or, my favorite, you could create a simple audio file so I can hear about it in your own words.

LynneW: It doesn't have to be a full blown podcast - or it can be.

LynneW: Depends on audience, purpose, the time you have, etc.

BethAP: we're learning about doing podcasts this week

LynneW: I have links to some student eportfolios that were created using blogs.

LynneW: I love podcasts and encourage you to incorporate them in the teaching environments you will create for students.

BevCo: that would be helpful

BethAP: how about teacher examples

LynneW: They are in the Welcome section above the chat module in this room.

BethAP: thanks

LynneW: Again, these are middle school, high school portfolios.

BJB2 . o O (a lot of this is what we discussed during the planning of the mini expo that will start in August some time....)

BJB2: you can do a similar thing in a K-12 Student Classroom in Tapped In

LynneW: There are links to teacher blogs in this group room also. Click on LINKS left hand side navigation here.

BJB2: then that classroom becomes your portfolio

LynneW: As in the virtual space here in Tapped In.

BJB2: yep

LynneW: Like this group room we are in for Eportfolio Discussion.

BJB2 . o O (you're demoing what you've had your students learn)

LynneW: We are getting close to the end of our time. What are your questions?

LynneW: Oh - formats

LynneW: There are any number of tools you can use.

BethAP: I will be sure to look at examples

LynneW: Google documents, Word, PowerPoint, web sites,

LynneW: Acrobat .pdf documents

BevCo: I know I will have questions when I look at the examples

LynneW: Blogs

LynneW: Please feel free to contact me via email if I can be of help to you.

BJB2: join this group, Bev...and then post your questions to the discussion board here

BJB2: not only Lynne, but maybe some other member of the group can help

LynneW likes how BJ thinks.

BJB2 winks...collaboration!!!

BevCo: thanks I will do that

LynneW: So, to sum up.

LynneW: Be clear about ownership, audience, purpose

LynneW: Select a format

LynneW: Storyboard your narrative. What story do you want to tell in this eportfolio?

LynneW: Then break it down to individual artifacts that will tell that story best.

LynneW: Produce the work and ask someone else to provide feedback. New eyes help a lot.

BJB2: Thanks, Lynne, for providing this excellent discussion!

BethAP: thanks, Lynn

BJB2: if anyone needs help in joining this group, I'll stay for a few minutes

BevCo: thanks - this will help

LynneW: Remember to have fun!

BethAP: fun!

BevCo: always!!!

LynneW: And, stop long enough to be proud of your accomplishment.

LynneW: Thank you so much for attending today. It has been a great pleasure to meet each of you.

BethAP: You also

BethAP: Bye

BevCo: good-bye