ePortfolios: a beginners guide
Venue: University of Leeds
Date: Tuesday 5th December 2006

Introduction
In its simplest form, an e-portfolio is a tool that allows learners to record and present their achievements and personal progress in a digital format. In a broader sense, it could also support activities such as reflection, planning, sharing, and collaboration. Capturing this information and enabling these activities could take place within a webspace, blog, or in a more structured, template-based system.

Interest in e-portfolios has increased as the lifelong-learning and personalisation agendas have emerged. The extent to which e-portfolios can contribute towards employability and the transition between school, college and university has also driven developments.

The findings of two JISC-funded regional projects on the use of e-portfolios to support student progression will set a context for this event and a focus our discussions. You will also have the opportunity to examine two e-portfolio tools and consider their implications for your learners and your institution.

Who should attend?
This conference is aimed at managers, teaching, support and technical staff in the FE, HE and ACL sectors who have a key role in implementing an e-portfolio within their institution.

Aims of day:
To examine the current use of e-portfolios within the region and examine the use of e-portfolios and their suitability for your learners and your institution.

Outcomes:
By the end of this conference, you will have:
- o discussed the findings of a project on the use of e-portfolios to support students and considered the findings in relation to your institution
- o experienced the use of two e-portfolio tools
- o considered ways in which these could be used within your institution to support learners

Where?
University of Leeds

Curriculum

Event

JISC   The Joint Information Systems Committee

When?
Tuesday 5th December

Cost
£50, including lunch and all refreshments

Contacts
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Programme

09.30 am	**Arrival & Registration**
10.00 am	**Welcome and Introduction to the day**
10.05 am	**Presentation 1:** E-portfolios – where are we up to? *Professor Peter Hartley, University of Bradford* *This presentation will give an introduction to e-portfolios and an overview of the current position in relation to their use and development.*
10.35 am 10.45	**Presentation 2:** Using e-portfolios to support students through their lifelong learning journey – an ELP project overview. *Carol Higgison & Neil Currant, University of Bradford* *Christopher Murray, University of Leeds* **Presentation 3:** Using personal development planning, mentoring tools and an e-portfolio to support learners – a MANSLE project overview. *Team members from these two JISC-funded projects will give a brief overview of their work.*
11.00 am ***(delegates will choose either Workshop 1 or Workshop 2)***	**Workshop 1:** Evaluating and Explaining Levels of Student Engagement and Disengagement with Electronic Portfolios for Personal Development Planning (PDP) *Carol Higgison & Neil Currant, University of Bradford* *Christopher Murray, University of Leeds* *This workshop will compare levels of engagement/disengagement across a range of different contexts and uses and discuss two models of e-portfolio engagement. These models are designed to help practitioners plan, implement and evaluate the use of e-portfolios.* **Workshop 2:** MANSLE Project *Mark Johnson, University of Bolton* *This project (Manchester Self-Directed Learning and E-Portfolios) has been exploring the development and implementation of an e-portfolio, personal development planning and e-mentoring tools to support learners on a range of foundation degree programmes. This workshop will describe the main findings of the project.*
12.00 pm	Lunch
12.45 pm	**Demo/Workshop 3** Building your own e-portfolio using Elgg *Terry Wassall, University of Leeds* *In this session you will be guided through the process of starting your own e-portfolio using Elgg, an open source learning landscape.*
1.45 pm	**Demo/Workshop 4** Building your own e-portfolio using PebblePad *Colin Dalziel, PebblePad* *In this session you will be guided through the process of starting your own e-portfolio using PebblePad, commercial software developed at the University of Wolverhampton.*
2.45 pm	Coffee

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3.00pm	**Debate and Discussion** E-portfolios – meeting institutional or learner needs? *Chair: Carol Higgison* *This session will begin with a debate of the motion:* **That e-portfolio development should focus on the needs of the institution and not the learner**. *There will be an opportunity for delegates to put questions to each side and to vote on the outcome of the debate.*
4.00 pm	Close