


ePortfolios- Project Summary

Project No:	141/02	
Project Title:	Managed Environments for Portfolio-based Reflective Learning: Integrated Support for Evidencing Outcomes	
Website:	http://www.eportfolios.ac.uk	
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Dates:	1 st October 2002 to 30th September 2005	

Project Partners

University of Newcastle (lead site)
University of Leeds

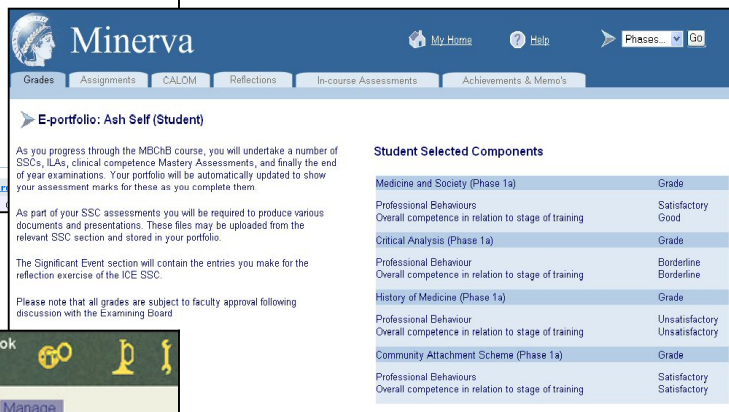
University of Sheffield
University of St Andrews

Policy Drivers

- Professional requirements for reflective practitioners who are able to manage and evidence their continuing development.
- QAA requirements for Personal Development Planning (PDP).

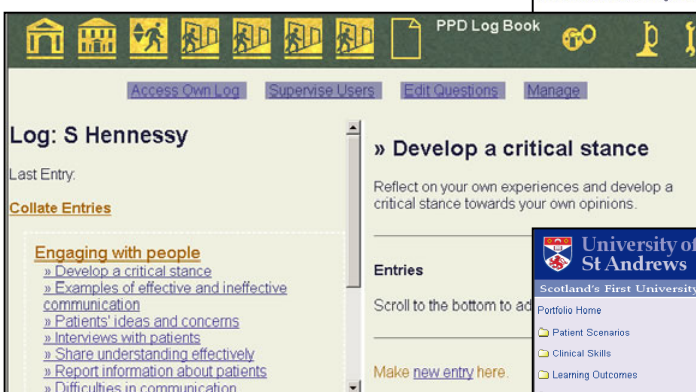


The ePET portfolio embedded in the VLE for Medicine at Newcastle



Student Selected Components	Grade
Medicine and Society (Phase 1a)	
Professional Behaviours	Satisfactory
Overall competence in relation to stage of training	Good
Critical Analysis (Phase 1a)	
Professional Behaviour	Borderline
Overall competence in relation to stage of training	Borderline
History of Medicine (Phase 1a)	
Professional Behaviour	Unsatisfactory
Overall competence in relation to stage of training	Unsatisfactory
Community Attachment Scheme (Phase 1a)	
Professional Behaviours	Satisfactory
Overall competence in relation to stage of training	Satisfactory

Portfolio embedded within the VLE for Medicine at Sheffield



The reflective log book embedded in the Bodington VLE at Leeds



The ePET portfolio customised to support the Medical programme at St Andrews

Full project report available at:
<http://www.eportfolios.ac.uk/FDTL4>

Goals of the project

- Develop on-line portfolio systems to support a reflective approach to evidencing the attainment of programme outcomes.
- Promote the development of the reflective capabilities of medical students, giving greater responsibility for managing their own learning and preparing for aspects of work-based and lifelong learning.
- Develop strategies to facilitate assessment of curriculum outcomes that are not amenable to traditional instruments of assessment.
- Integrate ePortfolios into the managed learning environment.

Technical and Pedagogic Developments

- Successful technical development and implementation of ePortfolios for use in Medicine from 2003/4, with software suitable for transfer other subject areas.
- Successful integration with the Medical curricula / learning outcomes / assessment.
- Using ePortfolios to help embed PDP in the curriculum.
- The technical developments have including the 'ePET' generic ePortfolio which has proven highly adaptable for other contexts outside Medicine. As a component-based system it can be configured to meet different pedagogic requirements at the course/programme level. This is freely available to FE/HE institutions in the UK.
- The log book developed at Leeds is freely available as part of the Bodington.org VLE and has paved the way for other ePortfolio collaborations.
- Successful integration of ePortfolios into the managed learning environments at Newcastle, Leeds and Sheffield. Additional work on interoperability plus investigation of integration with the Blackboard and Bodington virtual learning environments.

Collaboration

- Close collaboration with the HE Academy & Subject Centre for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine.
- The Medical School at St Andrew's University joined the project as a 'self-funded' partner and is now in the 2nd year of using the ePET portfolio.
- Participation in national (JISC, HE Academy, CRA, CETIS) and international (EIFEL & North American) portfolio & PDP related initiatives and events.

Dissemination










- Dissemination within the HE community (24 major conferences, 45 consultations, attended by > 1,800 people)
- The project Website includes resources of interest to the wider community, including a database of over 200 citations related to portfolios, PDP, and reflection.

Research & Evaluation

- Research and evaluation studies investigating the use of portfolios in promoting a reflective approach to evidencing outcomes, including 2 book chapters and 4 peer-reviewed conference papers.
- *"...this project has met or exceeded its goals...[It] has been an exemplary project, carried out with a rare combination of enthusiasm and skill from the whole team, the skill embracing the sometimes more problematic areas of organisation and pedagogy as well as showing appropriate technical expertise."* David Baume, External Evaluator

Products and Publications

The software created during the project will be under further development in a range of continuation projects (see below). The following are available:

-  The component-based 'ePET' generic ePortfolio and the JISC funded interoperability software is freely available to the FE/HE community in the UK via the project Website
-  The Bodington VLE, including the Log Book is freely available via Source Forge.
-  Project Website (<http://www.eportfolios.ac.uk>). Includes extensive information on ePortfolios and PDP, project presentations, documents etc.
-  Cotterill SJ, Bradley PM, Hammond GR. ePortfolios: **Supporting assessment in complex educational environments**. In Bryan C and Clegg K (eds) (2006) *Innovative Assessment in Higher Education*, Taylor and Francis Group Ltd, London.
-  Cotterill SJ, Aiton J, Bradley PM, Hammond GR, McDonald AM, Struthers J, Whiten S. **A flexible component-based ePortfolio: adapting and embedding in the curriculum**. In Jafari A, Kaufman C (eds) (2006) *Handbook of Research on ePortfolios*, Idea Group Inc, Pennsylvania.
-  Cotterill SJ, Horner P, Hammond GR, McDonald AM, et al. **Implementing ePortfolios: adapting technology to suit pedagogy and not vice versa !** Proc. ePortfolio 2005. <http://www.epics.ac.uk/docs>
-  Hennessy S., Howes A. Using **ePortfolios to assess the Reflective Capabilities of Medical Students**. Proc. ePortfolios 2004 [ISBN 2-9524576-0-3]. <http://www.eportfolios.ac.uk/FDTL4/docs>
-  Cotterill S, Skelly G, McDonald A. **Design and integration issues in developing a managed learning environment which is responsive to changing curriculum and policy requirements**. Network Learning 2004: 409-416 [ISBN 1-86220-150-1] http://www.shef.ac.uk/nlc2004/Proceedings/Individual_Papers/CotterillSkellyMcD.htm
-  Cotterill SJ., McDonald AM., Drummond P., Hammond GR. **Design, implementation and evaluation of a 'generic' ePortfolio: the Newcastle experience**. Proc. ePortfolios 2004 [ISBN 2-9524576-0-3]. <http://www.eportfolios.ac.uk/FDTL4/docs>

Continuity and On-going Collaborations

The partners are engaged in extensive continuation activities including:

- Continued participation in national & international ePortfolio initiatives
- FDTL Transferability funding to work with St George's University & Kingston University
- ePortfolio support for 2 CETLs (Leeds and Newcastle)
 - <http://www.cetl4healthne.ac.uk>
 - <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/medicine/cetl.html>
- JISC funded 'EPICS' regional ePortfolio project (North East)
- JISC funded 'ELP' regional ePortfolio project (Yorkshire)
- Undergraduate & Vocational Training ePortfolio in Dentistry (Consortium of Dental Schools & Postgraduate Deaneries, including Newcastle)
- PRHO log book (Sheffield/Trent Deanery)
- 2 projects funded by the University Teaching & Learning Committee (Newcastle)
- Roll out of ePortfolios to postgraduate researchers and contract research staff University-wide (Newcastle)
- Ongoing development of the ePET portfolio (Newcastle, St Andrews & others)
- Ongoing development as part of the Bodington.org collaboration (Leeds)