Introducing the ePortfolio: The New Management of Learning

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ePortfolio Defined

An ePortfolio is (NLII, 2003)

- "a collection of authentic and diverse evidence, drawn from a larger archive

- representing what a person or organization has learned over time on which the person or organization has reflected,

- and designed for presentation to one or more audiences for a particular rhetorical purpose"

ePortfolio Concepts

Combination of:

- **Process**
  - **Content (competencies)**
  - **Pedagogy (learning)**

AND

- **Product**
  - **Tools (archives and eP for a purpose)**
  - **Services**

Users will be:

- **Creators**
  - **Individuals**
  - **Communities**
  - **Organizations**

AND

- **Processors**
  - **Education system**
  - **Employers**
  - **Change agencies, e.g. CED, career counsellors**

Beginnings and Purposes

- **K-12** – demonstration of learning
- **PSE / HE** – assessment of learning
- **Lifelong learning** – continuous "reflective" learning, inventory of learning
- **Workplace** –
  - recognition of all forms of learning (PLA)
  - Human Capital Assets Management
- **eLearning** – LMS and KM, online tools, web services
- **Organizational and/ or economic development** – asset mapping, quality assurance

FuturEd R&D since 1996

- **Electronic learning record and PLA**
- **Human Capital Accounting**
- **ePortfolio Systems**
- **ePortfolio for Quality Assurance**
- **ePortfolio for special populations**
- **ePortfolio strategies and policies**

Consumer-based Quality

- **Ownership (creation and access)**
- **Utility (effectiveness and efficiency)**
- **Flexibility and simplicity**
- **Storage and updating**
- **Content and format**
- **Processes and supports**

Consumer's Guide to ePortfolio Tools and Services

The New Management of Learning

Credentials	**ePortfolio**
• **Reflect time spent in class**	• **Reflects time spent learning**
• **Questionable proficiency**	• **Evidence-based proficiency**
• **Proxy for skills and knowledge**	• **Statement of actual skills and knowledge**
• **Dated**	• **"Living"**
• **Variable quality**	• **Systematic**
• **Formal learning only**	• **All learning valued**

ePortfolio for Human Capital Management

- **Better use of human resources**
- **Recognition of foreign work experience**
- **More efficient training**
- **Increased productivity**
- **Promotion of lifelong learning**
- **Development of eLearning industry**

PLA is the beginning

ePortfolio is the medium

HCA is the result -

A method of systematically identifying, measuring and presenting information about the human resources and human capital of an organization (OECD)

Current ePortfolio Situation

- **Many organizations engaged**
- **Wide variety of tools**
  - **Commercial – global competition**
  - **Non-commercial – quality issues**
- **Unrelated initiatives, e.g.,**
  - **Campus Canada, Construction Skills Council, WPLAR Manitoba, BC Education, Concordia U**
- **Potential for confusion, duplication and waste**
- **Potential for collaboration to "get it right"**

LIfIA Advocates for…

- **An ePortfolio for every Canadian.**
- **One ePortfolio for life.**
- **Quality ePortfolio tools and services.**
- **ePortfolio systems for creators and users.**
- **Collaboration and proactive leadership, making the pie bigger.**
- **Connections to the global ePortfolio effort.**
- **Common standards supporting a competitive environment.**
- **Learning innovations as they benefit learners, communities and organizations.**

LIfIA ePortfolio Leadership

- **LIfIA and ElfEL have launched ePortfolio 2010**
- **LIfIA initiatives**
  - **Pan Canadian MOU**
  - **Projects**
    - **For employers and skilled immigrants**
    - **Interoperability (IMS)**
    - **First Nations eParfleche**
- **Working Fora**
  - **EuroPortfolio 2003 and 2004, 2005**
  - **Vancouver April 2004, Montreal November 2004**
  - **Australia and Turkey**
  - **Vancouver PanAmerican Fora April 2005**

Emerging ePortfolio Industry

- **Vendors**
- **Facilitators**
  - **Coordination**
  - **Advice**
- **Consultants**
  - **Strategies and policies**
  - **Training**
  - **Research**
  - **Consumer services**

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F u t u r E d

For More Information…

- **Learning Innovations Forum d'Innovations d'Apprentissage**
  - **Presentations from Working Forum in Vancouver and Montreal www.LIfIA.ca**
  - **Upcoming Forum in Vancouver, April 18-20, 2005**
- **FuturEd eLibrary www.FuturEd.com**
  - **Policy papers – HRD and HCAM**
  - **Implementation strategies across sectors**
  - **Consumer's Guide to ePortfolio Tools and Services**