Harnessing ePortfolio to support and enhance the first year student experience

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Abstract:
Contemporary heterogeneous cohorts enter higher education with increasingly diverse backgrounds, experiences, knowledge and skills. Institutions that are serious about the education and retention of commencing students are always looking for effective interventions to deploy in aid of early student learning, engagement, motivation, and success. In this context, the potential for ePortfolio to be utilised as a transition strategy that is inclusive of such entering diversity presents in a variety of exciting ways which this presentation will discuss. These include:

- harnessing ePortfolio for entering self-assessment of knowledge, skills and attitudes
- enabling reflection on personal traits and dispositions
- embedding career modules and discipline reflections to mediate endemic course and career uncertainty
- harnessing early motivation and enthusiasm by making connections explicit between subject learning and the attainment of desirable employability skills (the latter as a subset of graduate attributes)