ePortfolios at the University of Wollongong

Reviewing the progress of a campus-wide ePortfolio rollout
Presenter

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Collection
Selection
Reflection and
Presentation of
Students’ best
work…
UoW and ePortfolios

• strategically exploring electronic portfolios since 2002
• Home-grown database product in 2002/03
• Recommendations to further explore build/buy options in 2004
2002/02 product

My Records Summary

To see reports of the records sorted by skill, by context, or both, click on the relevant icon. For more information on the skills or event categories given, click on the relevant term.
Many drivers

- Commitment to Graduate Attributes
- Employment trends
- Rise in Professional Skills, course accreditation
- Interest in ePortfolios to facilitate reflection on learning and the university experience
- AUQA
UoW approach

• Academic integration for quality uptake
• Focus on embedding in programs
• Focus on urgent discipline needs with external accreditation pressures
  – Discipline specific Professional Skills
• Look into offering an optional ‘open to any student’ ePortfolio later
• Leverage excitement in new Graduate Qualities
  – Outcome of campus-wide review
ePortfolio - range of tools

• 2006
  – wiki/blog
  – Paper based and design portfolios

• 2007
  – Blackboard Portfolio for Vista
  – Structured word or ppt docs
  – Skills-checks using LMS quiz or xls
  – Continued use of paper-based
2007 version
2007 experience

• Concerns re what happens after graduation
  – Export options not mature enough
  – Waiting on Carrick framework for interoperability
  – No post-graduation hosting service
• Low/minimal student usage
  – “they’re not excited about the tool”
  – “we did it in class but I doubt they looked at it again”
• Staff concerned re time required to get up to speed with new tool
  – “that’s not my job”
  – Still patchy usage of eLearning systems
  – Showing strong preference for using familiar tools
  – “the winner was the rich class discussion we had about graduate qualities and professional skills, and career development”
2008

• Offer a choice of tools dependant on task, need, students, staff preference
• Look at Pebblepad and OSP and others as part of ongoing watching brief
• Not afraid to move to new tools
  – Each cohort ‘stands alone’
  – Waiting for standardised frameworks to emerge
• Focus on working with staff to design quality ePortfolio tasks
  – It was never about the tool
  – It was always about developing ePortfolio culture