

# **Title: Constructing an ePortfolio – A Showcase for Life Long Learning**

## **Presenters/facilitators:**

Ian Knox - eLearning Developer, Institute of Professional and Organisational Learning, University of Ballarat. Co-founder Foliospaces.com

Steve Pallett - Flexible Learning Technology Officer, Information Services, University of Ballarat. Co-founder Foliospaces.com

## **Outcomes**

*By the completion of the workshop participants will be able to:*

- Appreciate benefits of ePortfolios for student learning, professional development and lifelong learning
- Establish an ePortfolio using activities that can be directly transferred into the classroom
- Start an ePortfolio
- Understand the purpose of ‘Artifacts’
- Construct a simple ‘View’

## **Intended audience**

This workshop is suitable for academics or anyone with an interest in the use of ePortfolios for students, professional development or lifelong learning.

## **About the facilitators**

Ian Knox is a lecturer in eBusiness and eMarketing currently on secondment as an eLearning Developer, at the University of Ballarat, Institute of Professional and Organisational Learning. Ian’s current research interests include Communities of Practice, mLearning and the use of ePortfolios for students and in a professional context. Ian is a co-founder of Foliospaces.com.

Steve Pallett is a Learning Technology Officer at the University of Ballarat. He holds a Master Degree in Education and a Bachelor Degree in Engineering. He has a diverse background which includes teaching, quality assurance and technical support. He is an avid lifelong learner and an advocate of open source software, having been a leader in introducing such into school environments. Steve is currently involved in the successful introduction and promotion of portfolio software for reflection, assessment and showcasing of lifelong learning and is a co-founder of Foliospaces.com.

## **Background / Context**

Portfolios have been used for recording evidence and work for many years. The addition of the “e” in e-portfolio adds significantly to their utility. It adds flexibility and the ease of sharing; entries can be reused in different presentations for different contexts, they are accessible from any internet enabled device and different views can be used for entirely different purposes.

## **Overview of activities**

The workshop will include a brief introduction to discuss various types of ePortfolios, and it will provide examples of the types of information that could be stored or displayed. Workshop participants will be given the opportunity to start a personal ePortfolio and to

complete a series of exercises to familiarise themselves with the features and technical functions involved in producing a profile, blogs, artefacts and published 'Views'.

A group activity will also be conducted. Pre-loaded resources will be provided and groups will complete a virtual presentation, to emulate an assessable task.

Participants are encouraged to register for a free ePortfolio space prior to the workshop at <http://www.foliospaces.com> to allow for the best utilisation of time on the day. They are also encouraged to upload a photo for inclusion in their personal profile, although this is not essential.

There is no expectation that participants have had any previous experience using ePortfolio applications. The workshop is designed to be instructive, informative, and fun.

## **Detailed plan of workshop activities**

Welcome and overview of the session. 5 mins

Introduction to ePortfolios. Definitions, terms, benefits, uses, examples. 20 mins

Personal ePortfolio exercise 35 mins

Break 30 mins

Group ePortfolio activity 30 mins

Group presentations 15 mins

Questions, discussion and feedback 15 mins

## **References**

Reference list

Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC). (2008) *Australian ePortfolio Project. ePortfolio use by university students in Australia: Informing excellence in policy and practice*. Retrieved March 4, 2009, from <http://www.eportfolioppractice.qut.edu.au/information/report/index.jsp>

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Mănuacă, E., Alexandru, A., & Gavrilaş, R. (2009). E-Portfolio implementations and experiences: Didactical functionalities of E-Portfolio in interdisciplinary contexts. *International Journal of Emerging Technologies in Learning*, 4(1), 9-12.

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