ePortfolio and eLearning Quality Standards: Tools for Trust, Transparency, and Transportability at VUSCC

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Presentation Overview

• Introduce, then link
  – eLearning quality
  – ePortfolio
  – ePortfolio for
    • eLearning quality assurance
    • Storing and sharing LOs
    • Faculty and student communications
    • Record of student learning

• Suggest COL / VUSCC course of action
  – ePortfolio environment as operating framework
  – Adoption of eLearning quality approach / standards
eLearning Quality

• Perspectives and approaches
• Standards (systems approach)
  – CanREGs now Open eQuality Learning Standards
  – Process and COL participation
  – Consumers Guide to eLearning

• Development process / options
  – Consultation for consensus and/or
  – Adoption with/without certification
  – Quality mark for consumer confidence
  – ePortfolio environment for QA
ePortfolio Introduction

- Terminology and concepts
- Major types
- Tools and services
- Purposes
- eP environment for VUSCC
- resources

Samples:
- **Formal**
- **Informal**
- Proprietary
- Open Source
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”
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, cultural archiving
ePortfolio Concepts

Combination of:

– Process
  • Content (competencies)
  • Pedagogy (learning)

AND

– Product (web-based)
  • archives
  • eP for a purpose

Users will be:

– Creators
  • Individuals
  • Communities
  • Organizations

AND

– Processors
  • Education system
  • Employers
  • Change agencies, e.g. CED, career counselors

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ePortfolio Details

Major types
1. Standards-based
   - Learning outcomes
   - Quality standards
   - Competencies
2. Digital storytelling / scrap-booking
3. Networking

Purposes
1. Quality assessment
2. Record / demo of “achievement”
   - Lifelong learning
   - Skills development
3. Communications and collaborations
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Quick Start

WHY would I use the LZ?
> WHAT can I do in the LZ?
HOW do I use the LZ?
SHOW me it in action...

My Employment

- Action planning
- Record your learning
- Track your qualifications
- Collect evidence

RCN LEARNING ZONE
Professional Portfolio

Jennifer Clarke
Genre: Celtic
Secondary Genre: Folk

Jennifer Clarke sings traditional Celtic tunes with an unforgettable voice, great arrangements and a gift for storytelling. Whether performing solo or with her band, "Wild Mountain Thyme," Jennifer will captivate you with the songs of her Celtic ancestors and timeless tales of the human spirit.

Artist Information

Instrumentation
Jennifer - Lead vocals, bodhran, guitar
Richard Moody - viola, fiddle
James Hickerson - guitar, harmony
Rodrigo Munoz - world percussion, bass, charango
Sandy Thacker - shuttle pipes

Biography

THE VOICE
The words "mesmerizing" and "amazing" are just some of the comments you hear from critics and audience alike when this Prairie Celtic folk singer takes the stage. Jennifer Clarke is one of the most engaging acts on the Celtic scene, whether performing solo or with her band, "Wild Mountain Thyme." She's especially known for her ability to enchant with only a single instrument: her unforgettable voice.

A second-generation Scottish-Canadian, Jennifer's connection to her heritage has given her an intuitive sense for traditional Celtic music. To this she adds the flavors of more modern folk instrumentation and contemporary world beat rhythms, relying on her unerring sense of what's needed to bring out the story behind the song. The end result is a sound, rich in texture and variety.

IN CONCERT
Jennifer's flexible performance style makes her a natural for everything from intimate house concert or coffeehouse to the main stages of Celtic and folk festivals. She has shared stages with the likes of Shooglenifty, Buddy McMaster, Vance Gilbert and Scottish Storytellers Margaret Tollick and Judy Paterson. Her soulful laments, whimsical humour, relaxed stage presence and gift for storytelling combine to make Jennifer's concerts "must see" events.

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

RECORDINGS
The fall of 2004 will see the release of Jennifer's third full length album, "Jennifer Clarke ~ Prairie Celt." Like her 2001 release, "The Gaelic - Tales of the Celts," the new recording features great story songs with arrangements that vary from a cappella to full band and world rhythms, all designed to enhance the story.

WORKSHOPS
In addition to performing the Celtic repertoire, Jennifer delivers workshops that give a hands-on taste of the history, language, music and dance of the Celtic people. Her dynamic and interactive facilitation style has engaged and entertained participants at Celtic festivals and in schools and colleges, in both Canada and the U.S.
Employability Competencies

Vince Kuzdak
Environmental Consultant

Letters to the Editor

Development supported

I write this letter to express the support of the business community and students for the Kuzdak Fellowship.

We believe that the program is essential for the future growth of our community and the development of our workforce.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Reading Text
Reading and commenting on reports (see below)

Document Use
Numeracy

Writing
Writing reports and articles.

Oral Communications
See below

Working with Others
Working with peers, training recruits (see below)

Continuous Learning
Keeping up with new technology.

Thinking Skills
Problem solving

Computer Use

VINCENT KUZDAK
Hilite Search

Lots of PowerPoint
Writing Reports
Letter to the Editor
Working in Teams
Training Newbies

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ePortfolio for VUSCC

• Faculty
  – Personal – achievements, communications
  – Organizational – staff and program quality
  – Teaching – authentic assessment, marking rubrics

• Students
  – Portable record of formal and other learning
  – Networking and storytelling
  – Career planning and employment

• VUSCC
  – Storing and sharing LO
  – Quality assurance and credit transfer
  – Knowledge creation and management
  – Leadership in lifelong learning

FuturEd eLibrary

- Consumer’s Guide to eP Tools and Services
- ePortfolio Quality Standards
- Consultation and eP training – getting started
- Papers and Presentations - eP
  - For Human Capital Management and HRD
  - For Assessment of Learning
  - For Skilled Immigrants and Labour Mobility
  - In Adult and Workplace Literacy
  - For Quality Assurance
  - ePortfolio – eLearning at its finest
  - The future of / with ePortfolio
ePortfolio is the Single Greatest Innovation in the use of ICT

- eLearning at its finest
- Elegant use of inelegant technologies
- User friendly and appealing
- Great and immediate utility
- Endlessly scalable
- Comfortable form of communication
- Both private and public
- Constructivist

(My manifesto)
Is an NGO advocating for:

• An ePortfolio for every citizen.
• One ePortfolio for life.
• Collaboration and proactive leadership.
• Connections to the global ePortfolio effort.
• Learning innovations as they benefit learners, communities and organizations.

For VUSCC, COL and LIflIA can assist with:

• Secure, enduring storage outside America
• Networking and information sharing (Working Fora)
eP Action Plan for VUSCC

1. Environmental scanning
   – What’s available?
   – What’s needed?
   – Best practices

2. Shared environment
   – First principles
   – Collaborations: e.g., KEWL.NetGen and

3. Pilots and research and collaboration

- Manifesto and champions
- Implementation strategy
- eP account for all learners
- eP account and training for all educators
- eP system among institutions
  – Tools
  – Access
  – Secure storage
  – Standards and learning outcomes

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Quality Assurance Action Plan

1. Determine perspective (provider or learner)
2. Develop consensus-based quality standards
3. Use standards for design and development
4. Provide mechanism for demonstrating compliance

Quality assurance must be:
• Objective
• Professional
• Credible
• Recognized
• Continuous
• Iterative
For More Information…

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