

Title of Session: e-Portfolios
Moderator: Joseph Ugerotz
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Room: E-Portfolios Group

JeffC: I have a big meeting with the local district on Friday... eportfolios is one of the things I'm putting on the agenda.

JosephU: That's great, Jeff! Once it's on the agenda...what will you say about it?

DavidWe joined the room.

JeffC: I'm going to lurk... my eldest son needs to chat a bit with his friend.

DavidWe waves

JeffC: Well... I'm going to mention OSPI, and anything else that you would recommend.

DavidWe . o O (Jeff is such a lurker!)

JosephU: Ok!

JeffC: I'm going to say that eportfolios can hook up with the CAM and CIM systems here in Oregon (that have really taken a back burner to high stakes testing).

JosephU: I think that's always a good argument...a way to achieve the assessment goals *with* the pedagogical goals.

JosephU: Best of both worlds!

JosephU -)

JeffC: I think portfolio assessment is really the only authentic assessment that makes sense... but with all this quantitative number crunching (and finally the newspapers are catching on that standards for elementary are way too low, which is why their scores are universally high, and the higher grades test lower).

JeffC: ... with all these high stakes tests... it seems that portfolio assessment doesn't even make it to the table any more.

JeffC: What's the agenda for today Joseph?

JosephU: That's a shame, because it's certainly a more accurate assessment...and can be evaluated very rigorously, too.

JosephU: You know...I didn't come with an agenda!

JosephU blushes

DavidWe hands Joseph a blank piece of paper

DavidWe: We can all fill it in

JosephU: There you go! What kind of agenda would you folks like for tonight?

DavidWe smiles

BJB2 thinks

DavidWe: I was downtown today, close to your campus, Joseph, I think, crossing Chambers Street

BJB2: didn't I send you some info on some e-Portfolio resources?

JeffC: How about: What Jeff should say regarding portfolios to the district admin this Friday so they'll be sure to hire him?

DavidWe is currently in New Jersey

JosephU: Hey! That's us, right on Chambers and West.

JosephU: Although I'm not there today--on vacation this week.

BJB2: bless your heart! Thanks for logging in during your vacation!

JosephU: I've been struggling the past few weeks, getting the eportfolio system installed and ready

JosephU: I was really hoping to have a link to show you guys today

JosephU: but....

JosephU: The administrative computing folks have not given us an entry in the external DNS yet.

JeffC: dang

JosephU: So you can only see it on campus.

JosephU: Next month!!!!

BJB2: just something to look forward to, Joe

DavidWe: Be interesting to see it

JosephU: I had some good talks with the Johns Hopkins folks during the installation, and they would very much like to do a guest appearance here.

DavidWe: Cool

BJB2: coolness!

JosephU: So we can look forward to that for next month, too.

DavidWe thinks BJ has been hanging out with teenagers a little too much

JeffC thinks Bj is too hip to be square.

BJB2 winks

JosephU: One thing I've been thinking about (trying to answer objections from IT folks) is eportfolio security...and longevity.

BJB2 . o O (first day back with the kids. I'm a bit frazzled)

JosephU: That's really two things.

BJB2 agrees

DavidWe listens

JeffC: put it on a secure server?

JosephU: Right...but you know, "secure" is a relative thing these days.

JosephU: We have a "tame hacker" at the college, and what we do is turn him loose on anything "secure"

JosephU: if it takes him more than a few hours to break in, it's unusual.

JosephU: If it takes more than a day, then it's secure.

JeffC: lol

BJB2 . o O (unbelievable job description! What a world.)

DavidWe: Talented student

JosephU: Yes. He sort of loves his job too much!

DavidWe: Indeed

JosephU: So for the eports, what I'm thinking (and arguing) is we use this as a teaching tool.

JosephU: Students need to know that there isn't "total" security, although we'll do our best. So they do need to be aware of what they put up there.

JosephU: Especially we need to talk to them and train them about using photos of children.

JosephU: Anyone have thoughts or experience about that?

JeffC: I think that you might want to talk with the security experts at Paypal about secure servers.

JosephU: Yes...I've heard some horror stories about how they've been compromised!

JeffC: I think that if you provide a secure server for your students, and tell them to not share their passwords, that you've done what is right. And... what are the odds that someone would hack someone else's portfolio? There should be some backup server in place as well I guess.

DavidWe thinks there was a story of two young adults arrested in Long Island for hacking someone else's MySpace account

JosephU: Yes--we have to backup. That's set.

JosephU: Usually it's "user error," not any sophisticated hacking. We had one case where all the faculty passwords were posted on a sheet of paper on the department bulletin board.

JosephU: in a public hallway.

DavidWe smiles

JosephU: because the faculty were forgetting their passwords too often

DavidWe: Well, that's one way to distribute information

JosephU smiles

JosephU: so...students are going to lose, forget, change and share passwords, too.

JosephU: But it's true that we can best just do our best.

DavidWe: Should they have to pay a fee if they lose/forget/give out their passwords?

DavidWe . o O (If they lose their dorm key - something similar)

JosephU: Maybe a large fee! In cash! to me!

JosephU is kidding

DavidWe: Well, anything to supplement your time and effort

BJB2 . o O (you'll take checks and credit cards?)

JosephU: will work for cash and new computer gear!

JosephU: by the way...what's the o O that everyone uses here? I don't know that one!

DavidWe: type /th deep thoughts

DavidWe: start with the /th

DavidWe . o O (/th deep thoughts)

JosephU . o O (oh!)

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Good job!

DavidWe: The "think" command

DavidWe: to see the short list of TYPED commands, type /help

JosephU: Gee...I didn't know that I could think here, too!

DavidWe: We aim to encourage thinking

DavidWe smiles

JosephU projects <http://olms.cte.jhu.edu/olms/output/page.php?id=2845>

JosephU: so that's how you do that!

JeffC: Well... at least you know how to project urls!

DavidWe smiles

JeffC wonders if we should be looking at something in particular on that page.

JeffC also wonders if this would serve as a model for my local school district, and if this portfolio software is open source... uh... free?

JosephU: well--that's the system that we're using. they redesigned the website

JosephU: it's not free!

JosephU: but you get what you pay for

DavidWe: Here are the tech requirements, Jeff:

DavidWe: <http://olms.cte.jhu.edu/olms/output/page.php?id=2858>

DavidWe: Do you know what the cost per user is, Joseph?

BJB2 . o O (and don't they offer longevity in some form?)

JosephU: there are different models for it--you can buy from the publisher, and it's about \$30 per user per year

JosephU: that's more for students to pay for themselves

JosephU: you can have them host it at JHU. That's thousands per year. not sure how many

JosephU: Or you can install and host it on your own server, and that's what we're doing.

JeffC: ok... that pretty much takes the local school district out of the picture... no way I'd encourage them to spend \$150K a year on a portfolio system.

JosephU: That's \$39k, one-time perpetual license, for unlimited users. Includes installation and support and training

JosephU: But can you convince to spend 39k once? (plus hardware?)

JeffC: hmmm... \$39K once... that's more enticing.

JosephU: But I'm not really trying to sell this.

JosephU: Open source is appealing, because it's nothing for the software.

JeffC: plus the hardware for the servers? and unlimited free upgrades?

JosephU: Yep. that's right Jeff

JeffC: at this point I'm selling "free" stuff... because free is what I know best.

DavidWe . o O (free coffee, too?)

JosephU: JHU is not in this to make money. they really didn't design it to sell, but for themselves

JosephU: The problem with "free" is that you still have to pay for a programmer

JosephU: (at least one)

JeffC: I'm thinking of pushing OSPI in the shortrun anyway... and then maybe get to something more robust like what you have at JH in the longrun... I know... free generally isn't free.

GentianaC joined the room.

JosephU: What do programmers make in a year?

JosephU: Hi Gentiana!

JosephU: I think, Jeff, that OSPI is going to be wonderful...very soon.

DavidWe waves to Gentiana

BJB2: we're discussing e-portfolios, Gentiana

BJB2: welcome to the discussion. Do you have an interest in e-Portfolios?

BJB2 wonders if Gentiana is shy?

JosephU: Maybe just listening

BJB2 . o O (or doesn't see the chat window?)

JosephU: Jeff, have you looked at Moodle? (I'm sure we've talked about it before).

JeffC: moodle rocks

JosephU: yes--very rockish

BJB2: . o O (RogerMG was just logged in...and was asking about the Blackboard thing)

JosephU: rockesque?

DavidWe: . o O (coolness?)

JosephU: ah the blackboard thing!

JosephU: my friend Michael Feldstein is all over that!

JosephU: like a cheap suit.

JosephU: those corporate vampires!

DavidWe laughs

BJB2 nods. I wasn't really worried

DavidWe: . o O (Dang! There goes that endorsement from the Blackboard folks.)

BJB2: but apparently it's offensive to Blackboard users

JosephU: we're actually one of bboards biggest customers!

BJB2 wonders if Joe has thought about a tenant building in Tapped In?

JosephU: we have a huge number of courses up, and I've done more with bboard than I like to remember

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: No t-shirt for you!

JosephU: I've already got a coffee mug!

BJB2 chuckles

JosephU wonders what's a tenant building?

DavidWe: More formal "presence" in Tapped In for an organization

BJB2: Joe, click on the Tapped In tab at the top of your screen

DavidWe: costs some do-re-mi

BJB2: you'll see the campus map

DavidWe: Pepperdine University has a building, for example

BJB2: the buildings represent the various tenants of TI...they pay for the service

JosephU: oh I see

JosephU: I will think about it--talk the idea around

DavidWe: For New Yorkers you also get a super and a doorman with a uniform

JeffC wonders where the Johns Hopkins building is?

JosephU left the room.

BJB2 . o O (and the support of TI)

JeffC: now look what we've done

BJB2: I knew I should have told him not to click on a building!

JosephU joined the room.

JeffC: shh... here he comes

JosephU: well, now I know what happens if you click on one of those buildings!

BJB2: welcome back, Joe. Did I mention about clicking?

JeffC wonders if Joseph was looking in the Pepperdine basement to see if Johns Hopkins was down there.

JosephU: you might have mentioned it...but I was in Pepperdine!

JosephU: Ah, Malibu!

DavidWe: More fun to be in Malibu

BJB2: I didn't, Joe

BJB2 . o O (happens all the time when I do the tours)

BJB2: we knew you'd be back

JosephU: I used to work as a camp counselor near Pepperdine. It's a nice area

JosephU: but somehow their building here looks entirely different

BJB2: they have an MAET program in Tapped In

DavidWe: It's the beachfront property

JosephU: I hate to do this to you, folks, but I'm hungry for dinner. I'll try to get a better agenda, and do more promotion, for next month.

DavidWe: Thanks for logging in during your vacation, Joseph

JosephU: np

DavidWe: Good to learn about the Johns Hopkins stuff

JeffC: Just get us the hacker codes for your site.

JosephU: the passwords are on the bulletin board

DavidWe: I'll be right over

BJB2: thanks, Joe. Really appreciate you logging in.

JeffC: right

JosephU: good night!

DavidWe waves bye

DavidWe: Ciao