

Notes from E-portfolio group taken at Chat, Chow, Web 2.0 September 24, 2008  
Recorded by Patrick Barlow

Group Members: Steve Bouler, Val Robeson, Sharon O'Reilly, Heidi Johnson, Randy Krainock, Laurie Ziliak, Patrick Barlow

### Issues, Ideas, and Concerns

Steve: Uses an e-portfolio for sharing personal work, has concerns about ability to continue its use as the new website format may not support it. He has concerns about access and also ownership of e-portfolios. It appears that the current direction of the website runs contrary to having individuals being able to control their own content.

Val: Identified that there is a rights/ownership issues with e-portfolios. She added that she uses e-folios for students in Human Services to help students collect evidence for their ability to show necessary skills related to program goals and also for potential internship sites and employers. Students typically refine their e-folio between their work here and applying for jobs. Usually these e-folios contain multiple aspects or projects.

New idea for e-folios, make use of them to keep alumni connected. Host them and allow alumni to update and modify them.

Sharon: What tools are used to create them?

General discussion that there are software packages.

Steve: Has been asked about letters of recommendation that he needed to complete online and also students who need to submit electronic files to faculty for review for grad school/employers. He also thinks it may be good for submission of faculty documents for 3<sup>rd</sup> year reviews and tenure.

Val: Spoke to experience of that same idea although there is a snag if it's on a CD and the reviewers do not have the appropriate software to view the documents. Web based efolios avoid this concern.

Laurie: Who/What defines what is included in a portfolio?

Patrick: I added that it may be discipline specific (e.g. education is mandated to demonstrate students have skills meeting all the state standards).

General Question: What would be your dreams for use of efolios?

Steve: Creation of a product that would allow students to post auditions and not need to travel to various places in person (thus taking them away from rehearsals). He notes concerns for size and need to maintain video quality.

Sharon: Has ideas about the plusses of organization and allowing for collection of historical information. She sees a need to put it to use in a way that would bring students together to work in groups. These could incorporate live data and create an interactive format possibly for sales/marketing students.

Laurie: students and alumni to use e-folios to provide to prospective employers/students/etc a “sense of place” and window into their experience at SMU. It could include the various groups that a student was involved and have documents in addition to straight academic ones.

Sharon: it would be nice to have difference levels of access that people could control, (e.g. public, gallery view of artworks).

Val: Connect use levels with ownership levels. Example, Steve could create his own play and by sole owner and control all access. Steve’s work though in directing a play on campus would be a shared ownership in which campus official could make use of that content as well.

Steve: Concern in looking at the website for SMU when looking for a position that it was limiting and hard to access desired information (e.g. which professors were teaching which theater classes and what courses were currently being offered). A new portal would help address this and also the concern about needing to type the same username and passwords over and over.