Celebrating ePortfolio diversity

Sarah Lambert
Manager, eTeaching Strategic Directions
CEDIR
email: slambert@uow.edu.au

ePortfolio is not just a tool, but a process of engaging students in activities that allow them to identify, reflect on and develop evidence of their developing Graduate Qualities and Professional Skills to and justify and explain their skills and qualities to others.

A University of Wollongong ePortfolio Community was launched on 13th May 2008 via the Inaugural ePortfolio Symposium to celebrate and share the diversity of approaches, activities and tools used by the 2007 and 2008 cohorts.

Future plans include working with the emerging National ePortfolio Community (developed and developing by the Carrick ePortfolio project), regular meetings of the UoW ePortfolio Community via CEDIR Academic Staff development programs.

A new ePortfolio working party of the eLearning and eTeaching Subcommittee of UEC will be established to monitor, support and share good ePortfolio practice and oversee a mainstreaming of activities into recurrent funding and reporting structures.

Services Marketing (MARK270)
Location in program: Bachelor of Commerce. Second-year compulsory subject in the Marketing and Management strand
No of students: 250
Aims: To extend learning outcomes of existing assignment to include awareness of industry specific professional skills
ePortfolio tasks: Skills check quiz
Supports for the task: Skills check tutorial task to help students focus on specific Marketing skills required by employers
Tools used: Visio diagram tool for skills check quiz
Contact: Monika Lacey (mlacey@uow.edu.au)

Environmental Science and Systems (ENV391/491)
Location in program: Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) Third year and Honours subject with an integrative capstone function in all specialisations
No of students: 15
Aims: Extend learning outcomes of existing assignment to include awareness of industry specific professional skills and to reflect on where and how these were developed over the course of study at UOW.
ePortfolio tasks: Upload major report to the ePortfolio
Supports for the task: Opinion sought from major report on the ePortfolio
Tools used: Blackboard Portfolio for Vista
Contact: Martin McGlinn, Professional Officer (mcglinn@uow.edu.au) or John Morrison, co-ordinator (johnm@uow.edu.au)

Graduate School of Medicine
Location in program: Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. Used throughout the program
No of students: 60
Aims: Bring together and integrate numerous skill development tasks and outputs for the purposes of monitoring student progress and accreditation
ePortfolio tasks: Clinical Log tool, journal tool in Blackboard Portfolio for Vista
Supports for the task: Introduction early in the course
Tools used: Blackboard Portfolio for Vista
Contact: Martin Clowes (mclowes@uow.edu.au)

Faculty of Education
Location in program: Bachelor of Education. Used throughout the program
No of students: approx 400 students
Aims: Bring together and integrate numerous skill development tasks and outputs for the purposes of monitoring student progress and reflection
ePortfolio tasks: Specialist ePortfolio tool developed with specialist education and skills development
Supports for the task: Specialist ePortfolio tool developed with specialist education and skills development
Tools used: Specialist ePortfolio tool developed with specialist education and skills development
Contact: Ian Olney (ian@uow.edu.au) or Reetu Verma, Reference Group member for Commerce (reetu@uow.edu.au)

Environmental Science and Systems (ENV391/491)
Location in program: Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) Third year and Honours subject with an integrative capstone function in all specialisations
No of students: 15
Aims: Extend learning outcomes of existing assignment to include awareness of industry specific professional skills and to reflect on where and how these were developed over the course of study at UOW.
ePortfolio tasks: Upload major report to the ePortfolio
Supports for the task: Opinion sought from major report on the ePortfolio
Tools used: Blackboard Portfolio for Vista
Contact: Martin McGlinn, Professional Officer (mcglinn@uow.edu.au) or John Morrison, co-ordinator (johnm@uow.edu.au)

Graduate Certificate in Global Workplace Practice
Location in program: Bachelor of Science: Environment and Business degree with an integrative capstone function in all specialisations
No of students: 300
Aims: Bring together and integrate numerous skill development tasks and outputs for the purposes of monitoring student progress and accreditation
ePortfolio tasks: Projects undertaken by students in all aspects of workplace skills, ePortfolio provides opportunity to evidence skills, including skills significant for industry role
Supports for the task: Specialist ePortfolio tool developed with specialist education and skills development
Tools used: Specialist ePortfolio tool developed with specialist education and skills development
Contact: Marina McGlinn, Professional Officer (mcglinn@uow.edu.au) or John Morrison, co-ordinator (johnm@uow.edu.au)