

# 2010 - The Use of ePortfolios in Adult Learning in Australia - Learning

A supplementary research activity is currently being undertaken to update the data collected by the Australian ePortfolio Project (AeP) team in late 2007. The goal of this 'postscript to AeP' project is to refresh the picture of ePortfolio practice in Australia by collecting new data to identify and map the use of ePortfolios in adult learning across the higher education (HE), vocational education and training (VET) and adult community education (ACE) sectors in 2010.

This new audit of ePortfolio activity (termed AeP PS) will serve to update the data reported in AeP Stage 1, to determine the scope of ePortfolio use, the technological context and the underpinning philosophies and drivers that have contributed to the development and use of ePortfolio tools.

As with AeP Stage 1, there are three separate surveys which have been tailored in order to elicit information from the different perspectives of:

- Learning and Teaching
- Human Resources and staff development
- Management

You are only required to complete ONE survey.

The survey has an exploratory focus. It is anticipated that we may wish to ask supplementary questions as a follow-up and therefore we have requested respondents to identify themselves and provide a contact email address. However, all data collected through the survey will be treated confidentially and will remain completely anonymous. The research findings from the survey may be published in research reports and will be presented at the ePortfolios Australia conference in November 2010. A report will be made available on the Australian Flexible Learning Framework website - <http://www.flexiblelearning.net.au/e-portfolios> and on the AeP website - <http://www.eportfolioppractice.qut.edu.au/>

Please pass the URL for this online survey to other staff in your institution who you feel may be able to complete it effectively on your behalf or to people, either in your own or in other institutions, who you believe can provide different perspectives on ePortfolio practice.

If you have any queries regarding the survey, please contact:

Lynn McAllister  
Senior Support Officer  
QUT eLearning Services

[l.mcallister@qut.edu.au](mailto:l.mcallister@qut.edu.au)

## Statement of Consent

**By making a selection below, you are indicating that you:**

- have read and understood the information document regarding this project**
- have had any questions answered to your satisfaction**
- understand that if you have any additional questions you can contact the research team**
- understand that you are free to withdraw at any time, without comment or penalty**
- understand that you can contact the Research Ethics Officer on 07 3138 2340 or ethicscontact@qut.edu.au if you have concerns about the ethical conduct of the project**
- agree to participate in the project**

Yes, I agree with the statements above

No, I do not agree with the statements above

## Guidelines on how to complete this survey

### Guidelines:

- The survey should take 10-15 minutes to complete
- Please answer each question – multiple choice options allow for multiple answers as well
- We encourage any additional comments you would like to make about your ePortfolio project

**In case we would like to ask you further questions, or write up your project as a case study, could you please let us know your contact details?**

Name	<input type="text"/>
Position/Title	<input type="text"/>
Institution	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

## Your sector

**In which educational sector are you primarily employed? (Please select only one)**

Higher education (HE)

Vocational education and training (VET)

Adult community education (ACE)

Understanding the term 'ePortfolio'

Briefly, in a few sentences, describe what you understand by the term 'ePortfolio'

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## Breadth of use – Scope

### How broadly is the ePortfolio utilised in your context?

	Institution wide	Dept/Faculty wide	Course/program based	Subject/unit based	Work placement	Not used	Don't know
Student use: Coursework/trainee students	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Institution wide	Dept/Faculty wide	Course/program based	Subject/unit based	Work placement	Not used	Don't know
Staff use: Teaching/academic	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Institution wide	Dept/Faculty wide	Course/program based	Subject/unit based	Work placement	Not used	Don't know
Professional staff	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq

### Higher education/Research perspective

	Institution wide	Dept/Faculty wide	Course/program based	Subject/unit based	Work placement	Not used	Don't know
Research students	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq	jq

### Other (Please specify)

## Technological context

### What type of technology is utilised in the provision of the ePortfolio, in your context?

Learning Management System (LMS) (eg Blackboard, WebCT) or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Please specify in the box below

Blog or Wiki - Please specify in the box below

Specific portfolio software - Please specify in the box below

Paper based

PowerPoint

Word document

Database

Web form

Other (please specify)

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## Implementation of ePortfolios

**Who was responsible for the implementation of the ePortfolio in your institution?  
(Please mark as many as apply)**

- Faculty
- Department
- Teaching unit
- Careers and employment
- Information Technology Services
- External agency
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)



## ePortfolio drivers

Please indicate the degree of importance you attribute to the 'drivers' or 'factors' that have contributed to the implementation of the ePortfolio project at your institution

	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Entry into courses/programs	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very Important	Not applicable
Discipline specific professional skills requirements	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very Important	Not applicable
Improve transparency of learning outcomes	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Practicum or work placement	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Integrative learning	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Improve reflective learning	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Better /varied assessment	jq	jq	jq	jq

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	Very important	Important	Not very important	Not applicable
Recognition of prior learning	jq	jq	jq	jq

**Other? Please specify**

Success factors

What factors do you believe have helped your institution to successfully implement the ePortfolio?

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Challenging factors

What factors do you believe have made it difficult for your institution to implement an ePortfolio ?

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Governance

Which department or division in your institution is responsible for the ePortfolio policies?

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Strategic direction

Which division, department or individual position within your institution provides you with strategic direction in your use of the ePortfolio?

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## ePortfolio philosophy

**Which of the following statements best describes the philosophy underpinning ePortfolio use in your institution?**

**(Please mark as many as apply)**

- It is a secure repository for students to collect and store evidence of their skills and knowledge attainment
- It is a place for students to reflect upon their learning journey – where they have come from and where they are going to – it's about the process of learning
- It is about evidence of skills, but there's also an opportunity to show the process and to reflect on what this means to the student
- It is about reflecting on learning, but there's also the opportunity to collect and attach some evidence for this

Other (please specify)

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## ePortfolio use

### How is the ePortfolio used in your context?

(Please mark as many as apply)

- the ePortfolio is part of formative assessment
- the ePortfolio is part of summative assessment
- the use of ePortfolio is encouraged and supported by teaching or academic staff
- the ePortfolio is available to students as an optional tool, independent of a program of study
- the ePortfolio is about reflecting on learning
- the ePortfolio is about collecting examples of evidence of learning
- course/program time is allocated for students to undertake ePortfolio activities

Other (please specify)

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## Assessment or review of ePortfolios

**Please mark which learning activities are reviewed or assessed  
(Please mark as many as apply)**

- Artefacts in the ePortfolio
- Reflection on process of creating the ePortfolio
- The ePortfolio as a final product
- The ePortfolio is not reviewed or assessed

Other (please describe)

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**In regard to the review or assessment processes around ePortfolios, which of the following apply (Please mark as many as apply)**

- Reviewed/assessed by students or peers
- Reviewed/assessed by teachers/tutors
- Reviewed/assessed by external specialists
- Reviewed/assessed as part of a face-to-face presentation or event
- Reviewed/assessed as part of career planning or mentoring

Other (please describe)

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## Guidance and support for ePortfolio users

**What guidance or support is provided to users of the ePortfolio in your context?  
(Please mark as many as apply)**

- Guidance on the purpose of the system (online)
- Guidance on the purpose of the system (handout)
- Guidance on how to use the system (online)
- Guidance on how to use the system (handout)
- A tutorial program alongside to support the ePortfolio process
- Online tutor/mentor support for feedback
- Tutor support for learners
- IT support for learner and system
- IT developer support for future development
- Electronic diagnostic tools
- Electronic skills development resources

Other forms of guidance and support (please specify)

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## Impact on learning and teaching

**What impacts do you believe have occurred as a result of the use of ePortfolios in your context?**

**(Please mark as many as apply)**

- Too early to tell
- Increased student awareness of eLearning technology
- Increased staff awareness of eLearning technology
- Increased student awareness of learning outcomes
- Increased staff awareness of learning outcomes
- Increased student awareness of reflective learning
- Increased staff awareness of reflective learning
- Increased student awareness of graduate attributes
- Increased staff awareness of graduate attributes
- Increased student awareness of professional/industry skills
- Increased staff awareness of professional/industry skills
- Increased goal setting/career planning activity by students
- Improved assessment or review process

Other (please specify)

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## Impact on learning and teaching

**Have you undertaken any evaluation of or gathered evidence about the impacts you believe have occurred as a result of the use of ePortfolios in your context?**

**Please detail:**

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## Comments or issues

**Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your ePortfolio that you think is important?**

  

**If you are aware of other ePortfolio activity in your institution, please provide the contact details for the appropriate people?**

Name

Position/Title

Department/Faculty

Email