Starting with the end in sight: Graduate Attributes in 1st year ePortfolios

Over the period of an entire undergraduate degree an embedded ePortfolio can respond to a variety of purposes. These purposes may include: reflection, assessment, development or showcasing.

Students in their first year of study in a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood & Primary) were given reflective tasks about the skills and attributes they were bringing to their University study. The exercise had the benefit of raising students’ self esteem by making evident that prior-to-University study had benefit and bearing on University learning. They were also able to very easily identify the many gaps (naturally) expected in first year students’ reflections on ‘graduate’ attributes.

The designers of the Course have decided that the ePortfolio should be introduced into all the years of study along with a Learning Contract.

Embedding of ePortfolios into entire Courses with an emphasis on Graduate Attributes is a project within the Flexible Learning Institute at CSU and has links with University of Tasmania and Latrobe University. Others interested in collaborating should contact: Jennifer Munday jmunday@csu.edu.au; Ben Bradley bbradley@csu.edu.au