



Institutional ePortfolios Video 4: Benefits

What are the benefits of using an ePortfolio?

It's not just supporting the traditional curriculum, but it's going to be an opportunity for rewriting the curriculum and changing the curriculum to something that meets, that better meets the needs of the students. Sometimes we are not rewarding what we value. So we might value creativity, but we are not necessarily rewarding it. We are rewarding a checklist of points. So, the ePortfolio can give a little bit more freedom for the student to collect, you know, artefacts they think are valuable, and for the tutor to maybe reconsider their rubrics and even their curriculum to better make use of what we value.

(Dr Bettie Higgs, University College Cork)

I came in initially probably not fully aware of the extent of the work that the students were doing in the ePortfolio so that was really a revelation and to see how far they would take it that they would really, you know, explore their learning so fully in the reflective writing but also explore the technologies in such depth and with strong critical awareness of what they were doing. So it really opened my eyes to the potential of ePortfolios.

(Dr Claire McAvinia, Dublin Institute of Technology)

I feel it's a good selling tool for the programme. Our lecturers seem to think it's a positive thing to have this portable evidence of their practice. It's something that they seem to feel quite proud of when they have produced it.

(Dr Fiona O'Riordan, Griffith College)

Early on, our students, our graduates, were getting hired at twice the rate of the provincial average. And we were brand new. So our inexperienced programme was having the most success in getting students into placements. And part of that was simply because employers knew that our students knew how to use technology, but part of it too was that even employers who didn't understand what the ePortfolio was, were impressed by the fact that the students had it, that they had put the time into it, that they knew what it was, that they were prepared to talk about their experience on the basis of that ePortfolio.

(Dr Bill Hunter, University of Ontario Institute of Technology)