



Student ePortfolios: John Kilroy Video 4

Tools

What tools do you use?

I mean, from an institutional perspective, I use a tool called Exabis, which is a Moodle plugin. It's a very simple tool. Like it pretty much has the ePortfolio set up for you. So for people that are new to ePortfolios and might have low levels of digital literacy, it's a really good place to start. OK. Moving then into more of the, I guess, the personalised ones, just normal tools like Wordpress and Weebly and Joomla, website development tools are really really good. But I guess what we are finding more and more now is that there's probably a transition now from ePortfolios into personal learning environments. So a lot of the learning management systems that are on the market now are not, they have a huge amount of the features that you would normally associate with an ePortfolio. So the ability to put your profile, the ability to create content, to share content, they even have game-based features, they have personal learning paths. You can set your own learning objectives. So I guess what we are finding now is that organisations aren't just investing in a learning management system, they are investing in a learning management system that can facilitate personal learning environments, which means to a certain extent, the idea of an ePortfolio might start to not go, but I don't think that's the language that's going to be used.

Open or closed systems?

I have had feedback where people are engaging in institutional portfolios, they start to get a little bit frustrated, you know, at a certain point, like I can't do more. So I think that transition from an institutional portfolio to a personalised portfolio is important and how that happens. Because the flip side of that is, if you throw someone into a personalised portfolio where they are literally given a blank canvas, that can be quite difficult as well, if it's their first time doing it. But at the same time it's probably again positioning it with them up front – we are going to start you off with an institutional portfolio, but there will be scope at the end to transition into a personalised portfolio. So they have a sense of again the journey that they are going to be on.