IUPUI ePortfolio Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategies
August 22, 2017

Background

Electronic portfolios (ePortfolios) at IUPUI support the campus’s vision and mission to advance students’ intellectual growth and academic success and provide an innovative and distinctive urban education experience. They both arise from and encourage a campus culture of learning, including the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. As a recognized High-Impact Practice, ePortfolios, when thoughtfully implemented, enhance and deepen student learning and engagement; support students’ personal and intellectual development, both in and out of the classroom, and in other High-Impact Practices; and prepare students to be lifelong learners. By encouraging reflection and metacognition, ePortfolios empower students to integrate their learning experiences, and articulate the ways in which these experiences have equipped them to contribute to the cultural, civic, and economic well-being of their communities.

Well-designed ePortfolios catalyze course, program, and co-curricular improvement and highlight the distinctiveness of an IUPUI education. At the same time, they are a means for documenting and demonstrating student learning, including learning of the PULs, PGPLs, and PCl; they provide valuable information for improving learning; and they offer opportunities for faculty and staff to engage in SOTL work that enhances learning. Our vision and mission statements are intended to support all IUPUI students, faculty, and staff in realizing the potential of ePortfolios as described here.

Vision

IUPUI envisions a campus culture in which ePortfolios are used pervasively to support student learning, development, and empowerment in academic and co-curricular settings. In this vision, all IUPUI students have ongoing opportunities to engage with reflective ePortfolios and access to support for developing such ePortfolios, and all faculty and academic staff have ongoing opportunities to engage with ePortfolio teaching and learning through professional development and campus communities of practice.

Mission

The IUPUI ePortfolio Initiative advances the use of ePortfolios at all levels campus-wide to support and demonstrate student learning, academic success, and personal, intellectual, professional, and civic development, and to help all students make the most of the distinctive opportunities available at IUPUI.

Values

- Multiple opportunities for all students, faculty, and staff to engage with ePortfolios
- Widespread engagement with ePortfolios among students, faculty, and staff
• Ongoing professional development to help faculty and staff enhance their understanding of the value of ePortfolios for teaching, learning, and scholarship (i.e., SOTL)
• Use of ePortfolios to support and demonstrate reflective and integrative learning
• Effective use of ePortfolio pedagogies, informed by both scholarship and practice, to support student learning, development, and success
• Technology as secondary to teaching, learning, and student development. Ideally, ePortfolio technologies are transparent, enabling users to engage in ePortfolio activity with minimum difficulty or constraints.

Strategies and Activities

To carry out its mission and realize its vision, the ePortfolio Initiative adopts a range of strategies that align with key campus strategic priorities:

• Build understanding and appreciation of the value of ePortfolio learning in all disciplines and co-curricular activities
• Develop ePortfolio expertise and capacity to support effective integration of ePortfolios in academic, co-curricular, and experiential programs, including intentional scaffolding of reflective learning
• Promote informed use of ePortfolios for assessment and improvement
• Encourage and cultivate faculty/staff research on effective ePortfolio practices
• Support research on meaningful measures of impact of ePortfolios on student learning and ways to facilitate effective ePortfolio practices
• Disseminate IUPUI ePortfolio scholarship, theory, and practice beyond the campus
• Provide expertise and leadership for campus discussions of/decisions about ePortfolio platforms to support the various purposes and uses of ePortfolios

Specific activities, often pursued in collaboration with other campus units and improvement initiatives, typically address some combination of these strategies, and include:

• Provide resources, consultation, and professional development for faculty, staff, and units at novice to advanced levels of ePortfolio practice
• Sponsor symposia and showcase events that highlight diverse uses of ePortfolios
• Through grants and other mechanisms, support faculty and staff participation in campus, national, and international communities of ePortfolio practice and scholarship to expand their own learning, to contribute to the body of research in the field, and to disseminate IUPUI ePortfolio work
• Advocate for appropriate types and levels of campus support for students engaged in developing ePortfolios
• Work with vendor to advise and advocate for improvements in ePortfolio technology to support IUPUI’s ePortfolio vision, mission, values, strategies, and activities