

## Feedback from JISC Netskills workshop programme:

### How Can e-Portfolios Support 21st Century Learning?

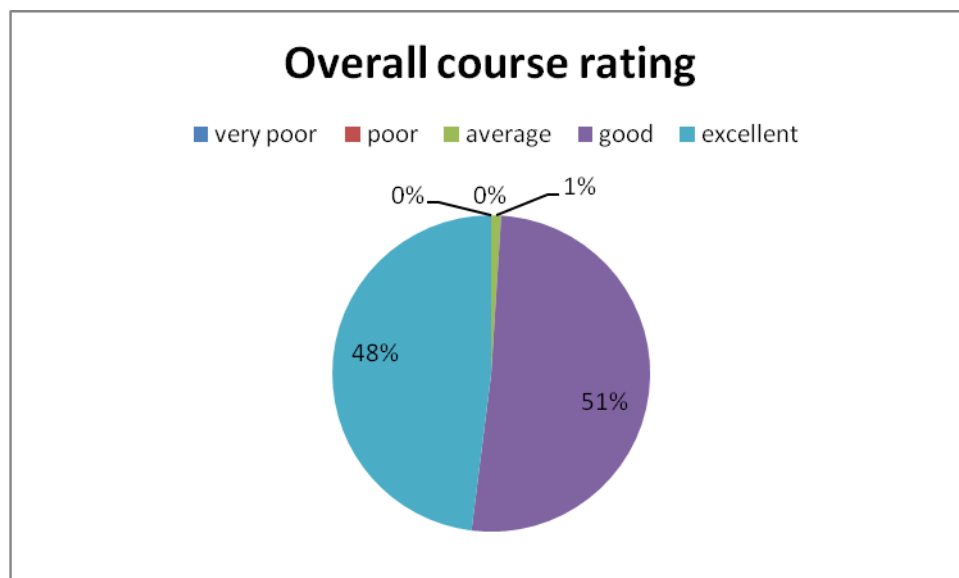
The following document provides a summary of the feedback collected from the e-portfolio workshop programme that took place during 2009 at venues across the UK.

136 participants, from a wide range of educational organisations, took part in the programme. A total of 106 submitted formal feedback.

There was also a great deal of verbal feedback during the course of the workshops.

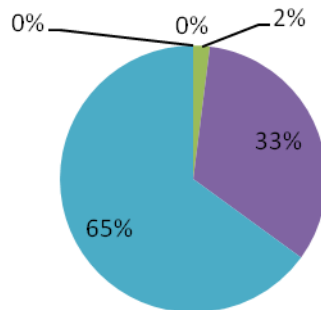
During the programme, adjustments and refinements were made in response to feedback from earlier workshops.

The overall rating of the programme was very pleasing with 99% of participants rating it as good or excellent. Also, 97% said they would be likely to recommend the course to a colleague.



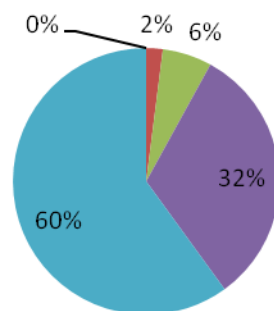
## Value of presentations and discussion activities

■ 1 = Useless ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 = Useful



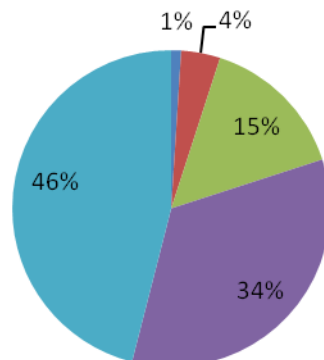
## Clarity of presentations and discussion activities

■ 1 = Confusing ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 = Clear



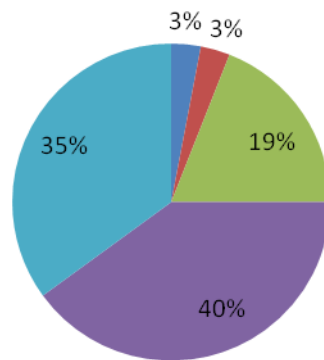
## Usefulness of the hands-on activity

■ 1 = Useless ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 = Useful



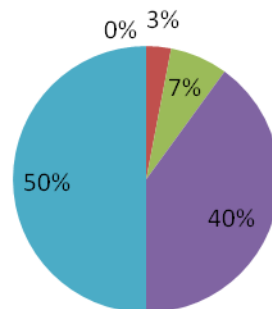
## Interest in the hands-on activity

■ 1 = Boring ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 = Interesting



## Did the course meet its aims and objectives

■ 1 = Insufficiently ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5 = Completely



### I would have liked to have heard more about the following topics:

- Learners' experiences of e-portfolios (from their perspective)
- Evaluating systems
- work placements, employers' views of e-Portfolios
- comparing functionalities between systems
- Everything was interesting and useful
- Use of Blackboard for e-portfolios/staff training
- Use of e-portfolios in VLE (Blackboard)
- Formal model of good practice
- More learner perspectives
- Targeting lower ability learners
- Open source schemes such as Mahara
- Failure stories and lessons learned, difficult projects
- More talks from practitioners
- Different platforms discussed in 'best practice' not just Pebblepad
- Open source vs. commercial tools
- More specific guidance on successful introduction/implementation of e-portfolios - perhaps a more formal session talking about issues/guidelines and pointing us towards sections of the e-portfolio toolkit, what we did was a bit open-ended.
- I liked to know more on how to encourage tutors in HE to use e-portfolio in their curriculum more efficiently.

- Pebblepad. Convergence concepts and partnerships. Demographics and e-portfolios.
- ACL adoption of e-portfolio Case study involving other products
- E-Portfolios for SEN
- Wider industry use of e-portfolios and how other establishments are embedding them - there appears to be a great deal of diverse uses. I am currently studying for a PhD on e-portfolios so for my own interests would have liked to have had further discussions on implementation issues.
- e-Portfolios and how they can be interoperable with VLEs. How staff inertia can be worked with.
- Examples of actual HE usage of e-portfolios: how the students are inducted, how the curriculum is matched in, how assessment uses the e-portfolios, which tools are effective, ...
- New developments in e-portfolio usage with the learner
- open source e-portfolios
- The 'brass tacks' and detail as to specific options and tailoring of 'off-the-shelf' software like capacity for media types etc. and info as to IT support required server space etc.
- The use of e-portfolios for assessment of VQs eg NVQs, evidence types, involving ev/iv/ABs involvement
- How e-portfolios are being used by Professional Institutions and FE
- Specific examples of the use of e-portfolios in work-based learning. Seeing a portfolio in action.

**Would have liked to have heard less about the following topics:**

- Courses where e-Portfolios naturally lend themselves
- Less trying out of portfolios in the afternoon
- Pebblepad - it was almost a commercial for this product.
- enjoyed it all
- punting by e-portfolio vendors
- Not too keen on the PRSD talk although I understand the basic remit - 'all text' is no good for my multimedia students
- e-portfolios for staff
- What is an e-portfolio. I know it is a moot point but I really want to find out more about how others are using them

**Comments about the food/lecture rooms etc.**

- Adequate, though it took a while to find the room!
- Well equipped. Nice lunch.
- Lovely lunch, thank you!
- Good room/catering.
- Very good indeed.
- Pillar in the middle of the room not ideal
- Very good
- Food excellent, facilities good but hot
- Good
- Room was a bit small for the number of delegates
- Rooms were excellent
- Great facilities
- Good facilities
- Yes, the computer room and initial function room were extremely cold, which didn't help with the Snow we were getting.
- Very suitable for the event
- Everything was perfect
- The computers played up terribly. Didn't have latest flash installed.
- Great venue, good food.
- All very good - lots and lots of nice, fresh orange juice - excellent! And my special diet was well catered for.
- rooms and facilities were good
- All sufficient for the purpose.
- all very good
- Excellent
- All were to a professional standard.
- the set up of the room made it difficult at times to see the screen.

- The room layout was along its length. With the amount of candidates I would have suggested a semi-circle from the middle of the room - it would've allowed closer 'Q & A' and movement to add comments on the posters around the room.
- Accommodation & food were excellent
- WONDERFUL food!!! rooms - good.
- very good accommodation and food
- The venue was centrally located and adequate for purpose
- The room was little too small for the numbers (in the morning), making networking difficult
- The sandwiches at lunchtime were boring and all seemed to taste identical
- Very good
- Accommodation and catering good - except for the coffee machines being on the blink! Astonished by how slow their Internet access was when we were all doing the hands-on. Maybe our network speed here isn't so bad after all :-)
- Very high quality.

#### **Comments on pre-course publicity, information and administration:**

- Effective.
- Good
- Give out JISC Infonet link for preparation
- Very well organised
- Server issues
- Some discrepancy on the times
- Fine
- Good, sound could be louder on video
- Very useful, good for preparation of course
- All worked well even with late enrolment
- None
- Excellent administration, I received very helpful emails and a letter about prior the event
- I did not get notification about the Actual venue name and room on time. Could you please e-mail this information out rather than posting it, PLEASE!
- No problems
- I booked late and found your staff extremely helpful in securing a place following a cancellation.
- no - it was all good, found my way there without any problems!
- Neil Turner Pre-course admin was quick, simple and accurate
- very detailed and as complete as possible - room location made clear on site.
- Good communication
- I forgot to bring my joining instructions to London so tried to look up the course on the Netskills website. Except if it was there I couldn't find it. It was a stroke of luck the course organiser emailed a pre-workshop questionnaire and I then asked him. Very poor website.
- Very good
- Good
- Efficient and professional

#### **Further comments on the course or suggestions for improving the workshop?**

- Good variety of activities and group and individual tasks. Very worthwhile and interesting presentations – not too clear about the point of the grid activity – difficult to answer for one big varied institution.
- Very interesting, great presentations/case studies – lot to think about!
- Very good
- More hands-on session and less of discussion activities
- Perhaps some learners' experiences.
- Would have liked more pedagogy – but maybe another day!
- Print-out of slides – some difficult to read, too much text and too small
- Have a list of attendees so contact can be made afterwards
- Perhaps workshop specifically for Specialist Colleges/SEN?
- Useful presentation for practitioners
- Met my needs all around, thank you
- Excellent, thank you ☺
- Gathered very useful contacts

- Very good, good networking
- More case studies of different systems (Mahara)
- Enjoyed hearing from a student and seeing their e-portfolio, group work at round tables very good and hands on
- Excellent opportunity to see what's happening across the industry
- Liked the focus of networking
- It was good to have a mixture of presentations and hands-on.
- I would like to thank Dave Hartland, Lisa Gray and Helen Richardson for facilitating this event and being such helpful and friendly.
- Have modelling available prior to filling in the matrix.
- Thanks - well delivered and supported course
- Really, I thought it was very well done. Thanks very much :-)
- no I thought the workshop was very good the practical session was not relevant to me but would be a very useful session to others
- Very interesting day .
- Possibly to ask any attendees to try setting up a wiki/blog prior to attendance and to have a workshop to allow attendees to showcase what has worked with more luddite colleagues!
- Very worthwhile :-)
- This workshop, apart from the hands on element, was a mirror image of a similar event hosted by RSC London last year.
- The guest speaker was great. I await the electronic version of the course materials that is to be distributed.
- I would market it to target more specific groups although I appreciate that fewer numbers would attend, but the needs amongst the attendees varied greatly and this 'watered down' the discussion content and suitability to the point that value-per-customer was less than it could have been.
- I thoroughly enjoyed the day, and especially delighted with the practical advice and real life exemplars from e-portfolio projects in Colleges
- In my group there seemed to be a couple of table thumpers who were dragging out their pet e-portfolio moan/issue for the nth time and weren't prepared to listen to another point of view. One of my group became quite hostile when he and I were discussing standardisation of e-portfolios (content not interoperability) and then wouldn't speak to me for the rest of the day. He was coming to the debate from a very FE mindset with competency/skills testing with formulaic tick-box approach to e-portfolios and was reluctant to consider a more free-form approach.
- I would like to see more examples of use from employers, how employers view e-portfolios particularly with graduates but also in work based learning. I would also like to know the 'level' at which it is pitched e.g. beginners, active users etc.
- Very useful day, lots of food for thought. Are you able to email out (or provide a link to) Merv, Geoff and Neil's Powerpoints?
- A very helpful course with very knowledgeable presenters and delegates.
- Feel re-inspired – Thanks!

**Would you recommend this course to your colleagues?** 97% Yes, 3% No