

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



September 21, 2016

Campus ePortfolio Committee:

Lisa Hinchliffe, Library—co-chair
Staci Provezis, Provost's Office—co-chair
Robert Baird, CITL
Phyllis Baker, LAS & Student Affairs
Johnell Bentz, EDU & GCL faculty member
Taylor Judd, Media

Kate LaBore, CITL
Nicole Lamers, LAS
Michele Plante, iSchool
Joe Post, Grand Challenge Initiative
Gayle Spencer, Student Affairs
Tracy Tolliver, Technology Services

Dear Colleagues:

Digital repositories of student work (also called electronic portfolios/ePortfolios) allow students to curate a collection of their work from courses, internships, and various activities. Ideally, the ePortfolio allows for students to reflect on their learning over time and to integrate their learning across the various experiences that they encounter. This curation, reflection, and integration has been proven to increase students' engagement with learning and to enable students to be better communicators of their knowledge and skills. Moreover, the collection of student work allows institutions to acquire authentic examples of students' work that can be used to assess student learning. More and more institutions have acquired and now require for students to build ePortfolios for the reasons stated above.

At Illinois, ePortfolios became a central part of the Grand Challenge Learning (GCL) initiative and an ePortfolio committee was established as a subcommittee of the GCL leadership team in Spring 2015. Over the last year and a half, the committee selected a system to be used for ePortfolios, purchased the system, began implementation of ePortfolios in GCL courses, and created resources to support ePortfolio adoption. The campus is now in the place to consider a wider adoption of ePortfolios for a broader group of students, which makes it appropriate for this group to become a free standing committee.

A Digital Learning Environment Task Force has been charged to review the integration of digital learning across campus and to establish a broader vision of learning technologies on campus. The ePortfolio committee will work separately but in concert with this task force.

I write to formally invite you to serve on the Campus ePortfolio Committee for the 2016-2017 academic year. The Campus ePortfolio Committee work should include:

- identifying ways to better communicate about ePortfolios;
- providing guidance for the creation of resources for ePortfolio work;
- outlining the criteria for and creating a process to award top ePortfolios; and
- determining how ePortfolios will be assessed.

Lisa Hinchliffe and Staci Provezis have kindly agreed to co-chair this ePortfolio Committee. I understand that all of you have agreed to serve; thank you so much. Staci will contact you shortly to set up a schedule of meetings.

Thank you in advance for your work on establishing a culture for assessment and ePortfolio use on our campus.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Tucker III
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Innovation

c: Michel Bellini, Mark Henderson, and Kelly Ritter