



E-Learning Development/Support - Project Proposal Form
 Please use this form to apply for e-learning funding or requests for e-learning consultancy/support

1	Name of College: Worcester College of Technology
2	Project Title: e-portfolios for HE in FE
3	Name, e-mail and phone number of project contact: Peter Kilcoyne pkilcoyne@wortech.ac.uk
4	Date Proposal Submitted: 8.1.09
5	Are you applying for consultancy/support or funding: Funding
6	<p>Project Overview and Rationale:</p> <p>e-portfolios have been identified as a key component in the offer made by institutions delivering Higher Education. For example the DfES e-Strategy (2005) proposes a personal online learning space for every learner, which will contribute to an electronic portfolio, building a record of achievement for lifelong learning. Similarly the HEFCE strategy for e-learning (2005) includes an objective to encourage electronic support for describing learning achievement and personal development planning (PDP)</p> <p>In response to these strategies, the College wishes to begin to explore how we might develop, embed and make best use of e-portfolios within our HE provision. At present the College has no e-portfolio system for its HE learners. It is hoped that funding through the LLN would enable us to begin to explore and develop effective and innovative usage of e-portfolios by students.</p> <p>Through this bid we would like to work with a small number of HE course teams to raise awareness of e-portfolios, explore how using e-portfolios might benefit learners train tutors and learners in their use and plan how best to embed this practice in our HE provision. We would then begin the usage of an e-portfolio system on those courses. The project would be evaluated through focus groups and a report and video will be put together showing examples of best practice and discussing lessons learned.</p> <p>In order to minimise overheads regarding development and software costs usage would be made of the Mahara system that has been developed through the Wider Horizons Project.</p>
7	<p>Key Objectives and Project Deliverables – what will the funding achieve</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Awareness raising of e-portfolios amongst HE tutors. 2) Training in the use and application of e-portfolios for students on HE in FE courses.

	<p>3) To pilot the use of e-portfolios by students studying courses in 4 different curriculum areas. (Sports, Theatrical Make up, Management and Teacher Training.</p> <p>4) To evaluate the use of e-portfolios on these courses through focus groups involving students and staff.</p> <p>5) To write a report and create a video to share experiences about e-portfolios with LLN partners.</p>
8	<p>Expected timescale for completion of project:</p> <p>15 months</p>
9	<p>Team Members, roles and responsibilities –</p> <p>Project Manager – Peter Kilcoyne – Project Management, training, facilitating focus groups and report writing</p> <p>Project Officer – Adam Salem – training, project support, creating video</p> <p>Sports Tutor – Stella Reeves – leading implementation in Foundation Degree in Fitness Training Healthy Lifestyle for the sports industry</p> <p>Management Tutor – Donald Kerr – leading implementation in BSc Management Studies</p> <p>Teacher Training Tutor – Carole Clark –Leading implementation on Initial Teacher Training PTTLs course.</p> <p>Theatrical Make up Tutor - Jacqui Dowdeswell – Leading implementation in HND Design (Theatrical Make-up and Costume)</p>
10	<p>Budget. How much are you bidding for and how will the money be spent? Please be as comprehensive as possible –</p> <p>Project Director 10 days at £100 per day £1 000 (this does not cover full cost of this role but the college will part fund this aspect of the project)</p> <p>Project Officer 20 days at £80 per day £1 600</p> <p>4 x lead tutors x 20 hours at £25/hr (attending training and meetings and supporting students) £2 000</p> <p>Cover for training of other tutors on courses involved 4 tutors per course attending one hours training at £25/hr £400</p> <p>Total Costs £5 000</p>
11	<p>Which students/courses are involved – Students on the following courses</p> <p>Foundation Degree in Fitness Training Healthy Lifestyle for the sports industry BSc Management Studies Initial Teacher Training PTTLs course. HND Design (Theatrical Make-up and Costume)</p>

12	<p>Are other colleges in the network involved in the project in any way - Findings and best practice would be disseminated through a report and video covering implementation, best practice, what problems were found and how these were dealt with. If there was interest from LLN partners a training event would be held at WCT.</p>
13	<p>Explain how the outcomes of the project will meet the LLN guidelines -</p> <p>Improved access: Learners will be given access to a Web based e-portfolio. This will improve access to their own information and digital assets for themselves as well as tutors and employers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage effective learning: An e-portfolio is a tool that can be used to encourage effective learning. For example using blog tools in an e-portfolio will encourage reflection on what has been learned as well as a student's strengths and weaknesses. <p>The ability to share digital assets with other students through an e-portfolio can encourage peer to peer learning.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Raise awareness of e-learning innovation: e-portfolios will be a new e-learning innovation to students and tutors at WCT. It is also hoped that we will develop innovative applications of using this technology with our students. 3. Encourage sharing of good practice: Good practice developed through this project will be shared with LLN partners through a report, video and if sufficient interest a training event. 4. Sharing of content: - all training materials developed through this project would be shared with LLN partners
14	<p>What are the main risk factors and how will you plan for these:</p> <p>Low uptake – we will regularly check on usage of e-portfolios and extra support will be given to courses and or students that are not making extensive usage of the tools. Technical Problems – WCT technical staff will offer technical support if required</p>
15	<p>How will you disseminate the findings:</p> <p>Through report video and possible training event.</p>
16	<p>General comments and any further information you think might support your bid.</p> <p>This project will link in well with another e-learning project that is being developed at WCT in partnership with other H and W colleges. This is the mylearningtube project. This is an m-learning project that involves providing students with handheld video cameras for recording video blogs and evidence of skills attainment. Video content created through this project would make excellent content for populating e-portfolios. As all the LLN partner colleges are</p>

	taking part in this project the lessons learned would be valuable for all partners.
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