



The Higher Education Academy (UK)
and
JISC (the Joint Information Systems Committee (UK))



in association with:
the National Coalition for Electronic Portfolio Research (USA)
and
the SURF Foundation (NL)

Presented by the Centre for Recording Achievement (UK)
An Associate Centre of the Higher Education Academy (UK)

**The first international residential seminar:
'Researching and Evaluating
Personal Development Planning and e-Portfolios.'**

The Oxford Belfry, Oxfordshire¹, UK, 9th - 11th October 2006

The Context:

The implementation of the UK Higher Education Progress File represents a unique teaching and learning project and – as a sector wide initiative aimed at implementing a particular framework for capturing and enhancing student learning - a world 'first'. When implemented it is intended to provide each student with a Transcript and a means of Personal Development Planning (PDP) by which the student can *reflect upon their own learning, performance and/or achievement and ... plan for their personal, educational, and career development* (Quality Assurance Agency 2001). Recent consultation work within the UK has served to confirm the importance of developing an enhanced evidence base to inform the effective implementation of PDP practice through robust evaluation and research.

The development of electronic portfolios, whilst a global and rapidly developing phenomena for which similarly broad claims are made, is also limited in terms of a research-informed evidential base. In addition to the focus upon the personalisation of learning and their value at transition points, such portfolios are increasingly thought of in respect of assessment and accountability agendas, particularly aligned to the impact of assessment on learning, whether directly or indirectly.

In both areas we need greater attention to more systematic evaluation material that enables decisions to be made about the contribution of such approaches to:

- student learning (and particularly to moves to support more personalised learning);
- student autonomy, self-efficacy, intentionality and life-skills;
- assessment and attainment;
- self identity;

¹ One of Britain's leading conference hotels set in 15 acres, approximately 15 minutes from Oxford city centre.



The Centre for
**Recording
Achievement**



- inclusion and
- presentation for transition.

This key international seminar will bring together leading practitioners and researchers to develop a community of practice that will:

- **Establish a forum for the sharing of evaluated practice amongst e-Portfolio and PDP practitioners.**
- **Showcase work being undertaken by the National Coalition for Electronic Portfolio Research.**
- **Facilitate discussion and critique of appropriate research and evaluation methods.**
- **Help build a more robust evidence-base to underpin the effective implementation and use of e-Portfolios and PDP.**
- **Build research capacity by inaugurating a European Coalition for e-portfolio research.**

It will be of particular interest to:

- Educational researchers.
- e-Portfolio and PDP project leaders.
- e-Portfolio and PDP practitioners.
- Educational developers.
- Teaching fellows.
- HE learning and teaching managers.

Call for Proposals

Proposals are invited from e-Portfolio and PDP researchers and practitioners which:

- Enhance the scholarship of e-Portfolio and PDP.
- Share evaluated practice in using e-Portfolio and PDP.
- Outline evaluations methods used to investigate the impact of e-Portfolio and PDP.
- Explore and critique current research and evaluation methodologies.
- Synthesise current research and evaluation studies of e-Portfolio and PDP.
- Propose innovative research and evaluation approaches for e-Portfolio and PDP.

Proposals can take the following forms:

1. Workshops – these one hour sessions should involve delegates in the exploration of issues around the research and evaluation of e-Portfolio or PDP. Workshop proposals should provide an indication of:
 - Workshop learning outcomes.
 - An outline of the workshop's focus.
 - Proposed workshop activities.
 - Indicative timings.
 - Key References.
2. Papers – these half hour sessions will provide short inputs addressing one or a number of the themes listed above. Proposals should provide:
 - An abstract of the paper.
 - Key references.

A Booking form and a form for the submission of Proposals are provided below.