>>> "Horwath, Jenn" <jenn.horwath@mohawkcollege.ca> 10/2/2013 1:54 PM
>>> >>>
Greetings,
My name is Jenn and I am a Project Manager at Mohawk College in
Hamilton, Ont., Canada. With my colleague, Valerie Parke, we are
working on a project which will see the implementation at eportfolios
(EPs) at Mohawk College next term. We are greatly impressed by your
eportfolio website<http://eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/> and all the
services and features it offers! We are wondering if we could impose
upon you with a few questions about your eportfolio implementation -
it would greatly assist us as we think through our own project. Any
info at all would be very much appreciated!
Here are a few questions we have:

1)   Do you offer an EP to your students for life or do they have
to pay to access the EP software after graduation? Do you have a site
license for your EP software?

2)   We noticed you have an extensive list of EP
consultants<http://eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/about/contact.htm> - what
services to they offer? Do they have other tasks as well or are they
dedicated solely to EPs?

3)   How did you go about choosing Digication? Was it an RFP
process?

4)   How did you first engage faculty about EPs (when you began
offering EPs, many years ago?)

5)   Do you have any lessons learned for folks like us, just
starting out?

Thank you again for any words of wisdom you have time to share during
this busy time of year.
Sincerely,
Jenn

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Hello,

Thanks for your kind words. I hope the answers below could help you in your ePortfolio implementation:

1. As long as students access their college email, they have access to their ePortfolios. They have access to their email as long as they log in at least once a year. Ergo, if they access their emails at least once a year, then they can access their ePortfolios.

2. Our consultants have peripheral tasks such as helping update/maintain the ePortfolio website; help clean up survey data; coordinate ePortfolio events, such as student ePortfolio showcase, student club ePortfolio showcase, new student orientation; run programs such as the Scholars Program; design banners and templates; provide tech support to the Center for Teaching and Learning professional development seminars, maintain lab equipment and inventory, and all other tasks as assigned.

3. We evaluated around 10 platforms, where we asked both faculty and staff and students to user test these platforms. We had a list of criteria based on what we needed, to wit: ease of use, built-in assessment interface, customization and tech support. Based on the data, Digication came out as the platform that best meets our needs.

4. CTL started piloting eP in some courses taught by faculty who were ready to embrace innovative pedagogy. This was coupled with sustained ePortfolio driven professional development (see: http://www.laguardia.edu/2013-14 Professional Development Seminars/). While this was going on, CTL also closely collaborated with the different departments through their Chairs. The sustained professional development and collaboration was further enhanced with the support the ePortfolio Initiative enjoyed, and continues to enjoy from the College's administration, including our President.

5. I think it's best to establish first why you need ePortfolios in your institution. Is it for programmatic assessment (one of the key reasons why we're using ePortfolios at LAGCC), for student learning, to keep track of student academic growth, for transfer or even

career/employment? Of course, small details such as institutional mission and support, resources (money, labor, tech knowhow, etc), faculty and student buy in have to be factored in your planning.

Hope the above helps. Best wishes and please feel free to contact us if you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

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