

Electronic Portfolio Decisions & Dilemmas

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What is an electronic portfolio?

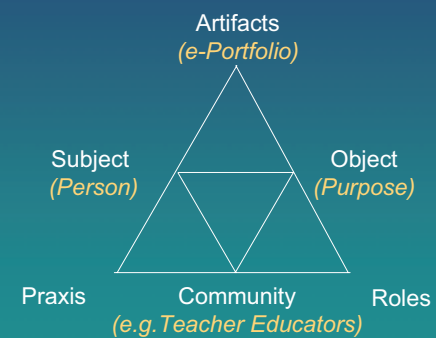
- Collection of work?
- Performance assessment?
- Learning management system?
- Archive of achievement?
- Assessment management system?
- Personal or cultural story?
- Institutional requirement?
- Large scale assessment documentation?

What are people looking for?

- Individual - a meaningful image
- Teacher - evidence of achievement
- Employer - a record of experience

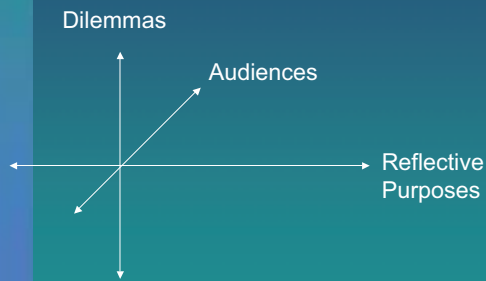
These purposes change *along with* as well as *among* various audiences...and this can lead to dilemmas!

Activity Theory & e-Portfolios



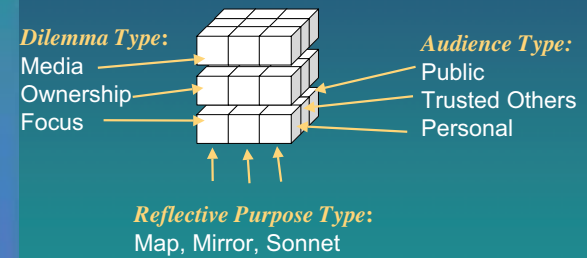
Leontev (1896 – 1934); (Engeström, Miettinen & Punamäki, 1998)

3D Model Framework



(Diez, 1994; Carney, 2002; Gibson & Barrett, 2003)

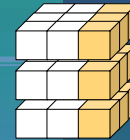
3D Decisions & Dilemmas "Space"



Reflective Purposes

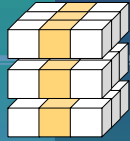
Sonnet

...conceptualizing one's knowledge and practice in artistic and metaphorical terms within an accepted structure of professional practice



Sonnet Questions

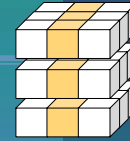
Does an appropriate public recognize the portfolio's structure? Do they "own" the validity of the structure as a professional context for a representation of teaching?



Reflective Purposes

Mirror

...focuses self-reflection, which is central to metacognition and thus learning itself



Mirror Questions

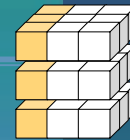
Does the choice of media enhance creativity and assist in the realization of the intentions of the learner?



Reflective Purposes

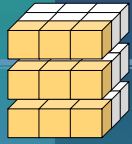
Map

...demonstrates the linkages of knowledge and ability in relation to external principles



Map Questions

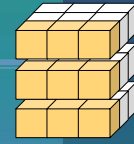
Does the portfolio contain a complete and sufficient linking to standards or external referents for a particular purpose?



Audience Type

Personal

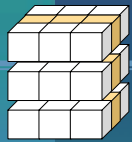
...Allows us to get distance from artifacts we've made, to encounter our intentions in creating them and our satisfaction in meeting our intentions



Personal Questions

Does the structure of the portfolio reveal something about the learner?

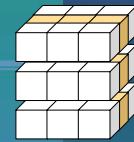
Does the portfolio show how its parts are connected and how they came to be through stages of development?



Audience Type

Trusted Others

...Advisors help us make sense of our work, challenge us to improve to meet higher professional standards, and recognize us when we do



Advisor Questions

Do advisors see clear connections to their professional culture and to the individual?

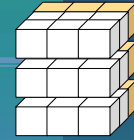
Can advisors trace their edits and influence in the portfolio?



Audience Type

Public

...Teacher education institutions want proof of impact. Academic program reviewers want to inspect & validate. Future employers look to make selection decisions. Researchers look for patterns and evidence

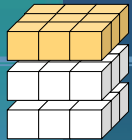


Public Questions

Does the portfolio provide an image of a well-prepared teacher?

Does the public see an image of a professional?

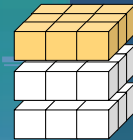
Does the public see ways in which investment in this individual has or will pay off to others?



Mediation Dilemmas

Affordances

...As we interact with and express ourselves through the new media, it acts on us in a reciprocal fashion, altering what is known (epistemology) and how we find out what we can know (methodology)

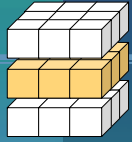


Mediation Questions

Does the use of media enhance assessment and feedback on the portfolio?

Does the use of media reflect best professional practice?

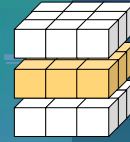
Does the use of media enhance connections to standards and external validity?



Ownership Dilemmas

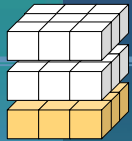
Ownership

...Where the physical image rests – on a server, on a CD, on a web site - it is possible to have several owners in this sense, who have (or not) access to edit or select sub sections for alternative representations



Ownership Questions

Are portfolio statements created by the learner and for the learner's benefit?
Does the learner have the power to create and present any kind of representation?
Can the learner change the meanings of this collection at anytime?



Focus Dilemmas

Focus

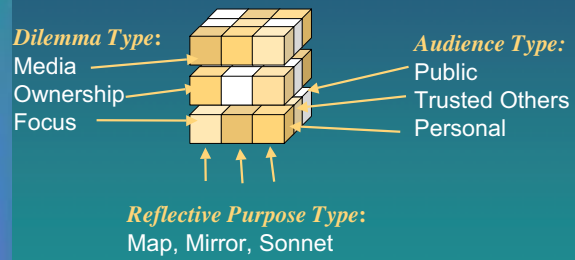
...Concentrates and unifies the intention of the electronic portfolio as an archival record or artifact of activity with content, theme and the ends and means of representation



Focus Questions

Is there a primary message about or image of the learner?
Does the portfolio contain a complete and sufficient linking to standards for graduation?
Is it suitable for gaining employment?

YOUR Decision & Dilemma Path



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