



## Pocket E-Portfolio Initiative

Presentation Technology Department  
Kennesaw State University



*Red text indicates a link in this interactive document.*

### Origins

In the spring of 2003 Dr. Joan Dominick, Director of the Senior Year Experience Program at Kennesaw State University, contacted the [Presentation Technology Department](#) (PTD) to discuss the possibilities of implementing electronic portfolios into her KSU 4401: Senior Seminar class. [RACCE College Student / Senior Portfolio](#) (paper-based portfolios) were already a requirement for her class, but up until this time web-based and electronic versions of the student portfolios were merely discussed briefly as an alternative option for tech savvy students. Initial discussions with Dr. Dominick led to the development of the KSU Pocket E-Portfolio Initiative, a collaborative effort between Dr. Joan Dominick and the Presentation Technology Department. Subsequent meetings brought a clearer understanding of the portfolio process, as well as a set of goals and expectations for our joint venture. Implementing the development of a pocket e-portfolio for the KSU 4401 class required an extensive amount of initial planning and preparation prior to the first day of classes. PTD was responsible for the design and creation of templates to be used in the process, as well as for the actual training (including supporting materials and handouts) for the students.



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### Making Progress

Beginning with the two KSU 4401 classes taught by Dr. Dominick in the spring semester 2003, the pocket e-portfolio initiative was underway. Students in both of these classes were given instructions on creating their portfolios and then trained in the use of several multimedia software applications (see gray sidebar) to put together an electronic version of their paper-based portfolios. Training was conducted by Jennifer Leifheit and Ben Cope, Instructional Technology Support Specialists in the Presentation Technology Department at KSU. Following the pocket e-portfolio process developed by PTD (see diagram above), by the end of the semester most of the students had successfully completed an interactive electronic portfolio in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF), which was burned onto a CD-ROM and made ready for distribution. During this first semester of training and further development of the pocket e-portfolio process, Dr. Dominick created her own pocket [e-portfolio](#) and learned along with her students the steps necessary for creating a pocket e-portfolio.

### Refining the Process

With the lessons learned from the previous semester and a better understanding of the training process, the second wave of student e-portfolios began in the summer 2003 semester. By this time more [templates](#) had been developed, and better training materials were created to help the students understand the whole pocket e-portfolio process from day one. The workshop materials were also

improved and **sample e-portfolios** were available for students to see the work of others who had successfully completed the process before them. For this second semester of training the templates were made easier to work with in Adobe InDesign 2.0, and training in Adobe Photoshop 7.0 was limited to basic scanning and resizing of images. Based upon the training developed for the KSU 4401 class, PTD created an entire “Pocket

E-Portfolio Series” of workshops to be offered to all students who would like to sign up in the fall. This series of workshops is designed specifically for students who want to learn the skills necessary for putting together a pocket e-portfolio.

<b>Multimedia Software Used for the KSU E-Portfolio Initiative</b>	
<b>Software</b>	<b>Application</b>
Adobe Photoshop	Scanning original documents and resizing images
Adobe InDesign	Designing each screen of the e-portfolio; adding content (text and images)
Adobe Acrobat	Adding interactivity and multimedia elements
Toast Titanium	Burning the final e-portfolio to CD-ROM

## **Lessons Learned**

The Pocket E-Portfolio Initiative at **Kennesaw State University** is a continual work in progress and a product of the lessons learned with each new semester. Following the end of the first semester in which the e-portfolio was implemented, a review meeting was held to discuss and improve the pocket e-portfolio initiative. The first major improvement involved the addition of an “Introduction to Pocket E-Portfolio” workshop, conducted by PTD to give the students a better understanding of the entire e-portfolio process. This introduction was designed to provide students with an overview of the e-portfolio process, as well as to alleviate some of the student’s fears of working with new technology. In addition to the introductory workshop, PTD also developed a timeline for completion of the pocket e-portfolio, as well as guidelines for assessment.

Besides the completion of an interactive electronic portfolio in Adobe Acrobat, one of the goals of the KSU Pocket E-Portfolio Initiative has been to train the students in the technology necessary to create the actual e-portfolio themselves. For some students this has created quite a steep learning curve, but as more training materials are developed and made better through trial and error, this process has become much easier. As a result, the students who complete a pocket e-portfolio not only have their best work to showcase in an interactive CD-ROM format, but also the technological skills and training that go along with it.

## **Contact Information**

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