



# ECEL 2009



## 8th European Conference on e-Learning

University of Bari, Italy  
29-30 October 2009

**Conference Chair:** Jane Klobas, Bocconi University, Italy  
**Programme Chair:** Agostino Marengo, University of Bari, Italy

### Call for Papers, Posters, Round Table Proposals, Practitioner Contributions and Product Demonstrations

#### Mini Track on ePortfolios.

**Track Chair:** Dr Mark Brown Massey University, New Zealand

Over the past 12 months significant ePortfolio activity has continued throughout the world at all levels of education. Europe is no exception and the open source ePortfolio system Mahara has established a strong following. Since its creation in 2001 EIFEL has made Europe an important hub and leader of ePortfolio activity and this Mini Track aims to build on the momentum already established by the EIFEL community.

Importantly the Mini Track acknowledges that portfolios are nothing new in education. Zeichner and Wray (2001) identify three different types of portfolio: (a) a 'learning portfolio' which documents student's learning over time, (b) a 'credential portfolio' which is used for registration or certification purposes, and (c) a 'showcase portfolio' which students can present to prospective employers. An ePortfolio can be designed to fulfill one or all of these roles and is essentially an online collection of digital artifacts and reflections that learners can use for different purposes depending on the purpose and audience.

The benefits of ePortfolios are many and varied. A perceived strength of ePortfolios is their ability to place more ownership of growth in the hands of the learner. In particular, the ePortfolio offers greater opportunity for students to highlight their strengths and provide authentic evidence of life-long and life-wide learning. They also offer potential for students to document a broader range of attributes and dispositions than simply meeting conventional learning outcomes. Despite these benefits, and a rapidly growing body of literature on ePortfolios in the wider context of life-long learning, many questions remain over their use in educational settings.

This mini track seeks to address some of these questions, including:

- How do ePortfolios contribute to life-long learning?
- What principles should underpin the use of ePortfolios?
- What is the relationship between ePortfolios and assessment?
- How should teachers embed ePortfolios in their learning design?
- How should institutions implement and support the use of ePortfolios?
- How does the design of ePortfolios differ across academic disciplines?
- How do you encourage reflection in the design and use of ePortfolios?
- What factors contribute to the successful adoption of ePortfolios by learners?
- Are we ready to introduce a national and international ePortfolio for learners?

Papers are invited on these questions and a wide range of issues related to the use of ePortfolios in education. The Mini Track aims to share and bring together some of the innovative activities occurring across Europe and from a wider international perspective.

#### Important Dates

Abstract submission deadline:	<b>9 April 2009</b>
Notification of abstract acceptance:	<b>16 April 2009</b>
Full paper due for review:	<b>28 May 2009</b>
Notification of paper acceptance (with any requested changes):	<b>6 August 2009</b>
Earlybird registration closes	<b>20 August 2009</b>
Final paper due:	<b>3 September 2009</b>
Final author registration date	<b>24 September 2009</b>

This call for papers and full details of the conference can also be found online at via the conference home page <http://academic-conferences.org/ecel/ecel2009/ecel09-home.htm>