

From Assessment Mandate to Course Delivery System:
The E-Learning Journey of One College of Education

A “Best Practices” Session Proposal for E-Learn 2007.

Our college of some 5000 students faced the daunting task of quickly implementing an electronic portfolio system to meet the requirements of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. As an NCATE accredited institutions, we must demonstrate over multiple years that our instruction and associated assessments are standards-based, fair, and consistent across faculty members, and that the results are used as the basis for data-driven decisions about curriculum improvement. After ruling out a home-made system as too difficult to develop, implement, and maintain at the required levels, we explored such available products as *TaskStream*, *FolioLive*, and *TK20*, then eventually chose *LiveText* as the best fit to our needs. When we began to implement this web-based system as our approach to e-portfolio creation and management, we soon realized that its potential far exceeded just portfolios. Experienced users of the BlackBoard course management system began to experiment with LiveText as an alternative CMS and never went back.

In this “best practices” session the presenters will describe their journey and demonstrate the LiveText environment with sample courses that integrate course delivery and student product assessment, all aligned to state and national standards in Instructional Technology and Library Information Systems. The presentation will candidly discuss challenges encountered and solutions tried, both successful and unsuccessful, from the perspectives of both faculty and students, as well as technical support staff. The lessons learned are applicable broadly to the implementation of e-learning on a large scale with minimal resources and little time.