

Pharmaceutical Sciences – Lessons Learned

Successes

- ❖ Many students realized how much they had learned/improved over the academic year
- ❖ Students commented that they were now able to identify strengths & weaknesses and identify specific areas needed for improvement
- ❖ Helped improve students proficiencies in software and the scanner

Challenges

- ❖ Students found the assignment to be very time consuming. They also believed it was too much work for the mark assigned.
- ❖ Faculty found grading the portfolios to be time consuming; as a result, it was difficult to get feedback to the students in a timely manner.
- ❖ Most students didn't see the value in reflecting on their learning. Students commented that they didn't feel their self-reflection should have a 'mark' assigned to it.
- ❖ The Faculty has other assignments/activities that engage students in self-reflection; therefore the reflection portfolio was seen by some as repetition.
- ❖ Some students confessed that they didn't provide an honest reflection; rather, they wrote what they thought faculty would like to hear.
- ❖ Software was difficult to navigate (both i-Webfolio and WebCT) and didn't allow the students to be as creative as they might have liked.
- ❖ Submitting the e-portfolio project at the end of the year during exam time.

Recommendations

- ❖ Provide concrete information to users on how engaging in the e-portfolio process will help them in their academic and/or professional career.
- ❖ Allow more flexibility on the format of the portfolio. (i.e., give students the option to do an electronic portfolio or a hard copy portfolio)