Pharmacy e-Portfolio Projects: Lessons Learned

Software Used: WebCT's Presentation Tool

- **Suggest other HTML editing tools:** It might be good to suggest students to use some other HTML editing tools aside from WebCT's WYSIWYG editor because it's easier to use, and because loading the Java applet in student's home computer may cause problems. In addition, using other editor will give students more flexibility and functionality to build a page.
    - We can instead suggest students to use the built-in HTML editor when they have uploaded a file to the system but want to make some minor changes.
    - If we suggest other softwares, we have to make sure computers in the faculty computer labs also have the softwares installed too.
- **Discourage the use of Microsoft word or FrontPage to create HTML files.** Since these softwares do not create standard HTML files, it causes a lot of problem when students try to format the pages or change the looking feel of their e-Portfolio. This also creates obstacles for us to troubleshoot students' problems. We will instead recommend students to use other software (e.g. Netscape or Mozilla Composer, NVU (Mac), or Dreamweaver (Commercial)).
- **Redesign the template**
    - **Not to insert an anchor right before the headings** where students might want to change the text, to avoid students from removing the anchors accidentally.
    - **CSS:** use an external CSS stylesheet to decrease the file size
    - **Might want to consider creating different pages rather than one long page.** With different pages, we can simply avoid the use of anchors. However, this approach may confuse students: for example, students will need to change the navigation of each page separately.
- Set up a link so students can restore the template if they lost it somehow.
- Give students a quick, simple HTML guide so they can edit some of the code if the HTML editor does not provide such functionality (e.g. inserting an anchor)