E-portfolio: Challenges and Revisions

Jennifer Bellot, PhD

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Director

Thomas Jefferson University

Doctor of Nursing Practice program

- ♦ 2-4 years post MSN
- Part-time or Full-time
- Rolling admissions, 3 yearly points of entry
- Entirely online
- Course plans vary in order
- Post BSN options now available (6 years?)
- MSN CRNA students will earn DNP soon (different accreditor)

E-portfolios

- Encouraged, not required, by DNP accreditor
- Required by CRNA accreditor
- Criteria from DNP faculty is that:
 - E-portfolio is useful to *faculty*
 - E-portfolio is valuable to *students*
 - Product is portable
 - Exercise is worth credit/grade

Challenges

- ▲ Low participation rate due to: unclear purpose, no credit, Blackboard Learn update
- Difficulty orienting students, requiring credit due to multiple points of entry, course plans
- ♦ No "faculty champion"
- Different accreditors, different requirements

A solution?

- Creation of e-portfolio faculty team
- Purpose/criteria still the same; now incorporating requirements from multiple accreditors
- ♦ Will be portable, reflective of program objectives, academic "essentials" and rubric-based
- ♦ Can be used to show employers and stakeholders the "value add" of a DNP

To be determined...

- Making this portfolio "ours"
- How to orient students
- ♦ How often to "check in" or give credit *during* the program
- Is Blackboard the right host considering our accreditation requirements, student needs and program structure?