From:
 Community College Futures Assembly [phillip@coe-ufl.ccsend.com] on behalf of Community College Futures Assembly [futures@coe.ufl.edu]

 To:
 kscott@trenholmstate.edu

 Cc:
 Subject:

 Nomination for the 2013 Bellwether Awards! Apply Now

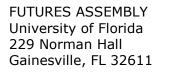
I am pleased to inform you that H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College has been nominated for the 2013 Bellwether Award for the following program:

E-Portfolios: Methodology to Validate and Promote Critical Workforce STEM Skills

This prestigious award recognizes outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges. The awards are presented annually at the Community College Futures Assembly. The 2013 Assembly-- themed *Forces for Good*- will be held January 26th - January 29th at the Hilton WDW in Orlando, Florida. Finalists will be competitively selected, invited to present at the Assembly, and will also be granted a discount registration rate. The brief Bellwether application and proposal forms should be completed to finish the submission process. Further information regarding the Bellwether Award -- including the application and instructions -- is available <u>http://futures.education.ufl.edu</u>. The application deadline is November 2, 2012.

For more information please read the Bellwether F.A.Q. at <u>http://futures.education.ufl.edu/bwfaq.html</u>, or contact Tim Wilson at <u>futures@coe.ufl.edu</u> or 352-273-4293. The application deadline is November 2, 2012.

The Bellwether Awards are co-sponsored by:



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Phone 352 273 4293 Email: <u>futures@coe.ufl.edu</u> Website: <u>http://futures.education.ufl.edu/</u>

• See Next Page for the origination of the Program noted above.







5:00 PM - 6:00 PM top

<u> E-Portfolios: Methodology to Validate and Promote Critical Workforce STEM Skills</u>

- Ken Scott

Participants learn how e-portfolios are used to validate and promote workforce readiness in STEM education. This session is particularly valuable to community college faculty members.

Your 2012 STEMtech Conference Session

Print Delete Reply Reply to All Forward Previous Next Close		
From:	Edward J. Leach [leach@league.org]	Full header
Sent:	5/14/2012 4:00:18 PM	
To:	kscott@trenholmstate.edu [kscott@trenholmstate.edu]	
Cc:		
Subject:	Your 2012 STEMtech Conference Session	
Attachments:		

Hi, Ken,

Thanks again for your interest in the 2012 STEM*tech* conference. With your permission, I would like to make your session titled *E-Portfolios: Methodology to Validate and Promote Critical Workforce STEM Skills* one of our special sessions at this fall's conference. I have a slot available at 5:00 – 6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 30.

- Special Sessions are one-hour sessions intended to inspire participants through new ideas, technologies, and techniques.
- Special Sessions are highlighted in the *Conference Program*, which should result in larger audiences than expected for Concurrent Sessions.
- Special Sessions will be videotaped and made available online through iStream, the League for Innovation's web-based, multimedia portal that provides access to professional development resources.
- Special Session presenters receive a complimentary conference registration.
- Special Session presenters are engaging and inspirational national experts who can discuss real-world successes, challenges, and other critical issues. Special Session presenters should be able to provide an overarching vision or more detailed perspective about practical and innovative solutions to today's challenges and opportunities.

Thanks again and I look forward to hearing from you as to whether making your session a special session is okay with you.

Edward J. Leach Vice President, Services and Programs Director, <u>STEM*tech* Conference</u> League for Innovation in the Community College 1333 S Spectrum Boulevard, Suite 210 Chandler, AZ 85286 (480) 705-8200, x233 <u>leach@league.org</u> @leache: 1 of 50 Essential Twitter Feeds for STEM Educators 5. Content of Presentation: Please submit an electronic copy (via email or on disk) of a 50-words-or-fewer description for the Assembly program AND an additional one-page summary explaining why this program or activity meets the award criteria and how it will be presented as a concurrent session at the Community College Futures Assembly (sessions will last one [1] hour). We ask that all application materials be kept together, so space is included at the end of this document for these descriptions.

Content of Presentation:

Community Colleges are tasked with designing innovative programs to ensure student learning outcomes are developed and achieved. Within this process, the need to validate and promote student learning via the e-portfolio has become a critical asset of the workforce. E-Portfolios enable students to market their skills, abilities, and community service.

Program Summary: As part of the instructional programs and services offered by H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, the Computer Information Systems Department offers a capstone course titled, DPT291: Case Study in Computer Science. The case study is specifically the process to design and develop an e-portfolio for each student. What makes this course/program an effective force for the good of the community and the workforce is that students design e-portfolios that not only 'advertise' their artifacts over time, this course also develops a web site/e-portfolio that validates and promotes their skills, abilities, and community service. While student learning outcomes are vital to student success, it is a critical issue that students are able to promote themselves as part of the workforce domain in terms of job availability and/or the economic environment. What makes this program a viable solution to such a critical issue is that considerable information has been published in recent times that pertains to the skills gap—or what the workforce has defined as the inability of employers to find qualified, skilled employees. In other words, the e-portfolio process has the specific intent to support connections with business and industry by enabling students to market themselves to those very business and industry segments that have noted they have current skills gaps. Setting aside the skills gap issue, e-portfolios precisely target business and industry domestically and globally who simply need a pool of qualified candidates for employment.

The innovative approach to this program is that students not only design and develop an e-portfolio, but they also learn the entire process from a technical perspective. By using this methodology, students are able to build an exceptional e-portfolio that will become an item on the Internet that is searchable via major search engines. By implementing this process, students who successfully develop their e-portfolio can then have it located by employer searches, as well as other searches seeking specific skills that students have achieved via their student learning outcomes. Although e-portfolios have become a validation and promotional resource for students who seek employment, professional development in an academic institution or opportunities for community service, a holistic approach across higher education has yet to materialize. Moreover, e-portfolios are part-and-parcel of the total social media network movement. For example, as students—and the workforce and higher education—utilize social media tools and technologies, it is but an extension of this phenomenon to include the e-portfolio within these real-time communications to validate and promote student skills, abilities, and community service to the workforce. As such, the skills gap has a resource from the future workers of America in terms of their student learning outcomes to align student abilities, skills, and community service to business and industry.

Personal branding expert and *Forbes* author Dan Schawbel predicts that, within 10 years, résumés will be a thing of the past. Whether this comes to full-fruition, trending analysis and research indicates that e-portfolios are used not only for student validation and promotion of their repertoire of skills, abilities, and community service, but they are also being used for accreditation, employees, and campus culture. DPT291, the course or program at Trenholm State Technical College, is the process by which we in the Computer Information Systems Department are preparing our graduates to gain competitive advantage in the global marketplace of the future.

This session, *e-Portfolios: Methodology to Validate and Promote Critical Workforce STEM Skills*, will demonstrate the viability of the program at Trenholm State, as well as demonstrate the techniques used to accomplish the outcomes of the course/program. Consequently the presentation plan is as follows:

- 1) Begin with a 15-minute open-discussion specific to e-portfolios, such as sharing information about how these tools are being used, the benefits and difficulties in designing and maintaining an e-portfolio, and the value to students in promoting their skills, abilities, and community service before a global workforce;
- 2) Conduct a 30-minute interactive demonstration of how the e-portfolio is designed, how it can validate STEM and other student learning outcomes, how these materials are posted, where are they hosted, cost vs. free basis, and what employers think about students who have e-portfolios to demonstrate their skills within the STEM and other areas of concentration. Handouts and select published research and other journal articles will be used to add validity to the interactive demonstration;

Provide a range of comments from employers and organizations of the importance to validate STEM skills using an e-portfolio. This material will add workforce input into the critical importance of not only developing STEM skills, but it will also provide discussion of the collaborative nature of how those in the hiring positions view the e-portfolios as a valuable resource for considering prospective employees. This portion will take 15 minutes and includes Q&A to focus the group on the topic being discussed