At the College of Education of the University of Missouri – St. Louis, we have set out to look for solutions to 3 major barriers we found to institutional implementation of electronic portfolios:

- Fear of being evaluated on visual elements rather than on content,
- No obvious common software platform for portfolio development
- Evaluation and management difficulties with typical storage and software technologies

As a way of overcoming these barriers, we are developing experimental portfolios with a web-based knowledge sharing technology developed by Xerox Corporation. Similar products are available from other software developers with varying costs and varying capabilities. We will provide an overview of our work to date, provide our research on other technologies with similar capabilities, and hope to launch a discussion that explores the broader issues associated with institutional and regional implementation of electronic portfolios using this strategy. One primary concern is the need to address inter-institutional standards, particularly for 2-year to 4-year college transitions and transitions to long-term professional development. Other key issues include student/faculty trust, usability and stability, long-term management, security, and ownership of portfolios.