Resistance and Refinement:

- An odyssey in ETD training from 2001-2002 at Ohio State University Libraries
- Jane Duffy
- Ohio State University Libraries

Initiating an ETD-friendly training environment at OSU Libraries: student characteristics

- Highly motivated innovators or "Early Adopters"
- Typically with little knowledge of ETD programs or PDF software
- Eager to have new input into scholarly publishing, creation of new knowledge

Historical view of OSU librarians: Libraries a gathering place for dissertation research



External storage facility for OSU Libraries



First wave training issues for OSU Libraries

- "When", "where", "how", "what", "who" issues
- There was a print product already in place
- Challenge was to "make" an ETD

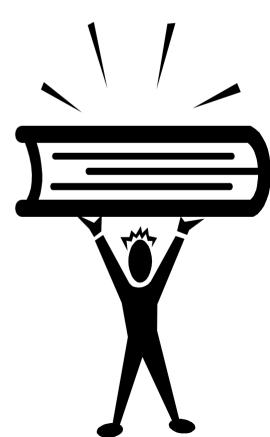
Now that I have all this paper, how may I submit it electronically?



OSU Librarians apply service orientation to "first wave" training sessions: percentage of question types

- How to convert Word files into PDF 100%
- How to convert Mac files into PDF 2%
- Policy and mechanisms for delaying the electronic submission of doctoral dissertations 38%
- Questions about style requirements 98%

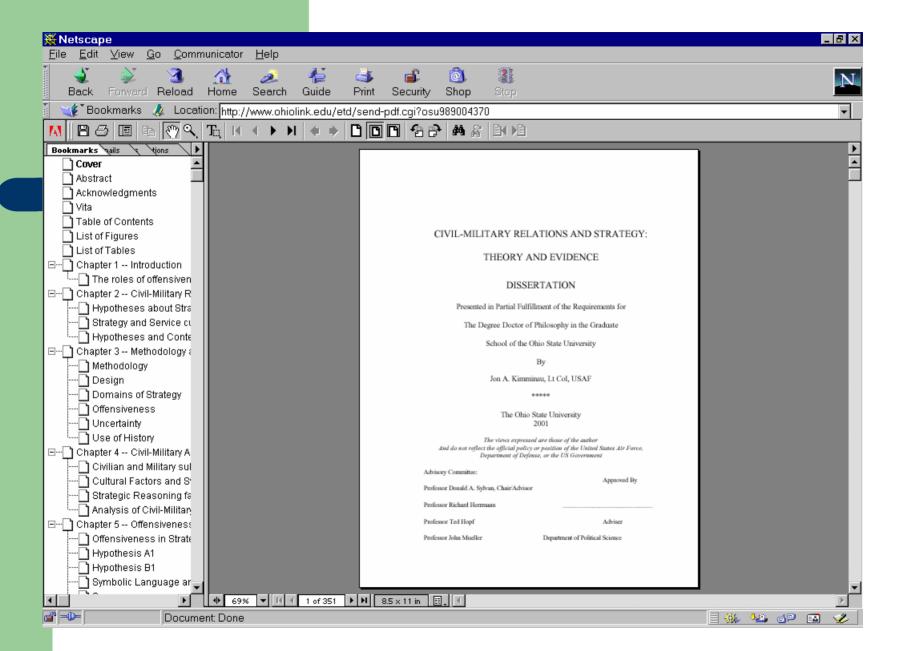
There to help you!!



PDF conversion notes from "first wave" training sessions: percentage of question types

- Compression of the PDF file
 88%
- Embedding fonts 26%
- Creating Bookmarks and Thumbnails 76%
- Setting links 2%





Twin issues attending requirement of ETD's in 2002

- Urgent space requirements for collection managers
- Shift in public service philosophy

As the information age progresses...

• Libraries are running out of space!



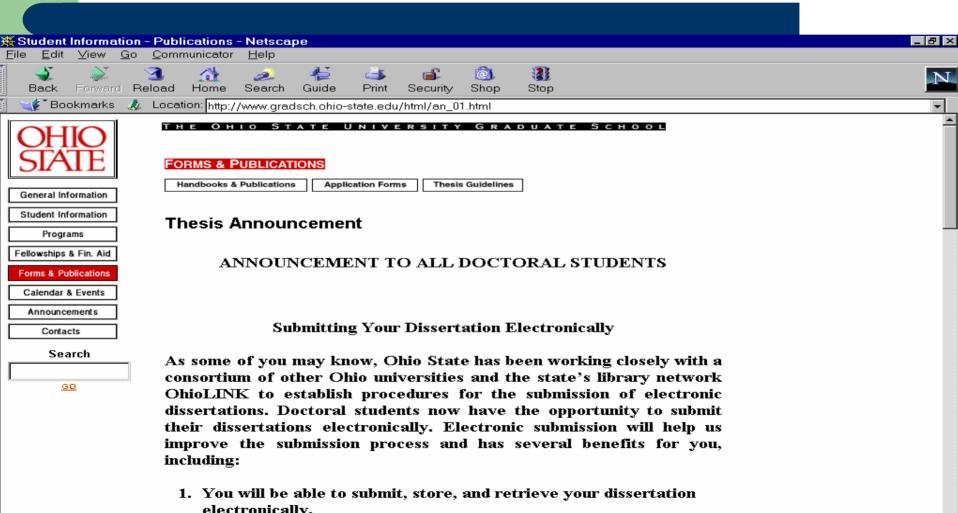
Escalating trend at OSU Libraries: a place where ideas are transformed into knowledge



Second wave training issues for OSU Libraries: percentage question types

- "Why" issues predominate
- Most do not have a print dissertation 86%
- Many have not yet completed coursework
 46%
- Anxiety and concern over how their work is going to be completed 90%

Announcement of requirement for e-submission of OSU doctoral dissertations 2002



Second wave ETD Overview now covers:

- The ETD: definitions and issues
- ETD: compare and contrast with print counterpart
- Worldwide ETD movement toward increased scholarly access

- OhioLINK: Ohio's local ETD initiative
- ETD: the PDF conversion process
- Engaging the ETD initiative: the OSU support network

The Electronic Thesis or Dissertation: Why?

- "It's Alive!"
- Window to the Digital Library and the "new publication"
- Opportunity to learn about electronic document preparation

- New Documents Multimedia enabled
- More fiscally responsible (less expensive to produce)
- Reliable recording and archiving

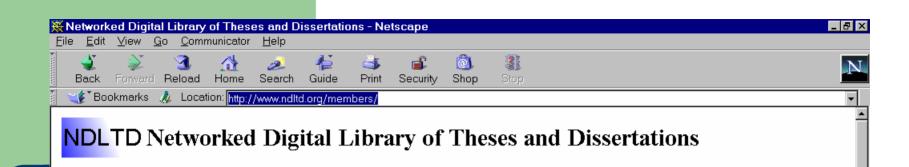
Archiving the Electronic Thesis or Dissertation

- Ohio State University and OhioLINK are committed to making the electronic dissertation last a lifetime
- Regardless of future software or hardware developments and obsolescence
- Regardless of changes in guidelines and standards

Important Note...

- A paper copy of an ETD may be created for relatives...
- Easier to make a print copy of an ETD than vice versa...





Universities, students, publishers, other interested parties, Welcome!

- Researchers, see http://www.theses.org/ to search and browse our digital library of electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs).
- Students, see http://etd.vt.edu/ for help creating and submitting ETDs.

What We Are

- An <u>initiative</u> to improve graduate education, increase sharing of knowledge, help universities build their information infrastructure, and extend the value of digital libraries
- A federation of members
- A project supported by FIPSE and SURA
- A project team based at Virginia Tech
- A recent topic in the news
- Led by a <u>steering committee</u> and working <u>committees</u>.

What We Do at Virginia Tech

• Require students to develop and submit Electronic

Our Objectives

- To improve graduate education by allowing students to produce electronic documents, use digital libraries, and understand issues in publishing
- To increase the availability of student research for scholars and to preserve it electronically
- To lower the cost of submitting and handling theses and dissertations
- To empower students to convey a richer message through the use of multimedia and hypermedia technologies
- To empower universities to unlock their information resources
- To advance digital library technology







ETD similarities with its print counterpart

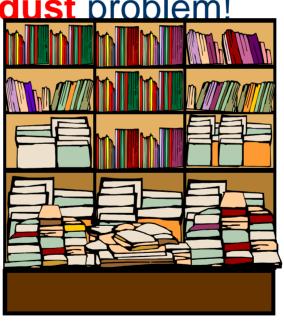
- Demonstrates original research and/or argument by a graduate student
- Features text, figures, charts, bibliographies, endnotes, footnotes
- Outlines research question, literature review, methodology, results, discussion, conclusion

ETD differences from print counterpart

- Allows expression of ideas through new media, in new ways
- Far less expensive to prepare
- *Electronic format allows greater access to your research – anyone on the Web may access your work
- *No shelf space, no dust mites

Facilitating greater circulation of ETD's

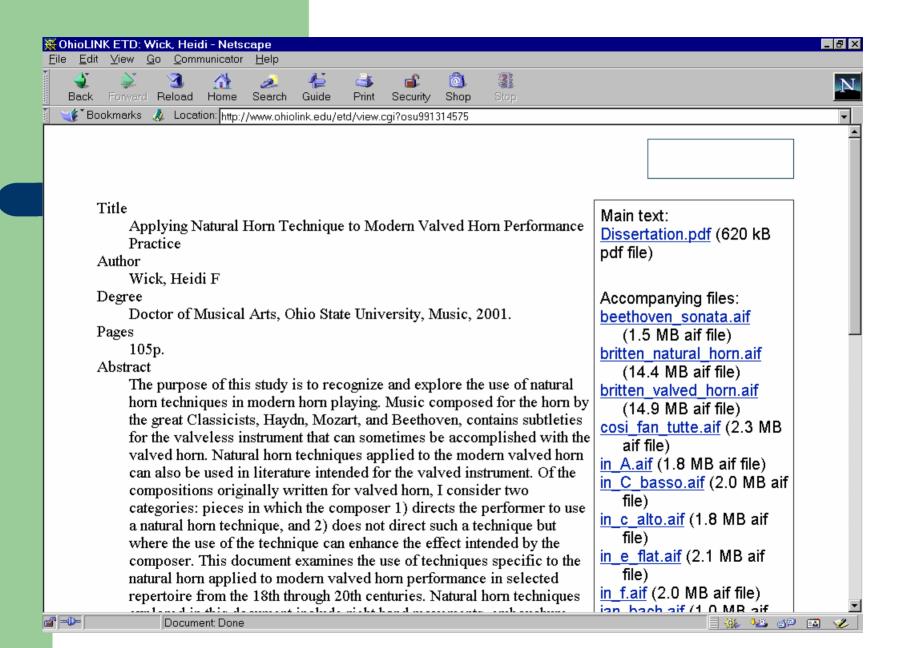
More about the dust problem!



Intellectual Freedom or...Creativity!

 Multimedia allows the writer to support textual argument with contextual materials





Creativity may also be expressed by scholarly impact

 The e-dissertation's arguments and conclusions may also, lead through increased access to new research, further intellectual development



ETD's are in very high demand

 At West Virginia University, successful downloads to ETD's totaled

2,000,000

Second wave training issues for OSU Libraries

- Becoming engaged in the scholarly communications process
- Becoming de facto publishers of dissertations

Emerging issues for second wave ETD training

- 1) Paradox: we are leading the way in the dissemination of new knowledge while returning to some very traditional library functions
- 2) Return to the scriptoria of the fourteenth century

ETD training librarian as facilitator of new knowledge

- Providing authors with help in determination of the extent of multimedia inclusion, e.g., how much of a file to include
- Providing assistance in the selection of compatible files

ETD training librarian as mediator among stakeholders

- Librarians are emerging as apologists for electronic documents, especially for traditional print-oriented faculty
- Interceding for value of the ETD

ETD training librarians

- Function as cross campus collaborators with departmental computing, academic IT services, software vendors and more
- Serving as a hub for the campus ETD movement

Predictions for 2003 and beyond!

More and more students will be cognizant of ETD software

Many are beginning to create a born digital dissertation

Increased awareness of the value of electronic documents in the academic community

Role of librarians in ETD training: a vision for 2003

- Increased ability to negotiate between technical and intellectual issues attending the ETD
- Increased fluency and ease among other ETD stakeholders
- Ability to recognize the value of resistance and stocktaking while developing a new hybrid of service, leadership and integration