

Title: Electronic Dissertations at West Virginia University: Resources for Effective Promotion

Authors: John H. Hagen (West Virginia University)

Abstract: Implementation of the West Virginia University (WVU) Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) program has proven to be one of our most effective marketing tools to promote the graduate research of our students, faculty and programs. A multimedia demo will be presented which highlights notable multimedia submissions of actual WVU ETDs, including video clips, still shots, and informational slides accompanied by musical background themes. The merits of adopting ETD and other digital document publication programs will be emphasized in terms of positive exposure for the student and institution, new modes of communication, facilitation of research via Web distribution, and cost efficiency. More importantly, the successes of digital library programs have contributed to a process that is transforming West Virginia's economy by shifting its base towards technology and diversification by providing academic research access to the world. During the past year WVU has also completed a major migration project, having successfully moved to an Oracle based environment. Highlights of this project will be included as well.

A copy of the WVU ETD multimedia presentation is available at:

http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/Presentations/WVU_ETD_Demo.exe (Windows projector file format) or
http://www.wvu.edu/~thesis/Presentations/WVU_ETD_Demo.swf (Flash file format)

Title: ETD Implementation in Six Months: Five Principles

Authors: Dianne Harrison, Judith Devine, Althea Jenkins, David Johnson, Robert McDonald (Florida State University)

Abstract: How was Florida State University able to implement an ETD initiative that had most students submitting their theses or dissertations electronically within six months and all students submitting electronically within one year, with an online digital library for disseminating that information? This paper proposes that the five principles guiding FSU's ETD project can be used by other institutions to successfully implement a similar program.

Leadership flows from the top down. Although the National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) created resources that lay the groundwork for initiating the ETD project, an FSU senior administrator (Provost) was first identified and sold on the ideas behind an ETD project. The ETD leadership flowed from the top down, providing the commitment needed to initiate and energize the ETD project as it moved toward the Fall 2002 pilot, then campus-wide for all graduate students Fall 2003.

Problem Solving comes from the ground up. Synonymous with the top down framework for management and the institutional "buy-in" was the "bottom-up"