

academic standards, and perhaps even social norms. To change dissertation requirements or standards is to put pressure on that matrix. Therefore, change is likely to be a slow and difficult process.

We will go on to summarize discussions around re-envisioning the Ph.D. and, by extension, graduate education in the United States. As ETD programs are adopted more widely, we will argue that ETD planning should be responsive to this larger context.

The ETD community has made great strides in tackling the challenges of making dissertations electronic. Meanwhile, 142 years after the first dissertations were submitted in the United States, there is a rising tide of commentary and discussion about the appropriateness of the dissertation as we have known it. We see promising points of connection between these two communities and believe they would benefit from greater alignment of priorities.

References

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Title: ResearchBlog at The ETD Guide: Creating a Community for Academic

Authors: Joseph Moxley and Anne K. Jones (University of South Florida)

Abstract: We have created a multi-user blogging space to foster collaboration between academic communities and between students writing theses and dissertations committee members: <http://researchblog.org>. Blogs are frequently updated pages that allow for the creation of a more direct and personal online, written voice. Already, many innovative graduate students blog their research ideas in order to gain feedback and to network with other academics all over the world. Phdweblogs.net is an initiative to bring together PhD students' weblogs from all around the world facilitating online networking and researching. Researchblog is structured similarly to writingblog.org- another blog we maintain that has 500+ users. Individuals maintain blogs and then these daily entries are posted within the individual's blog, but also the most recent entries from each blog are posted to a central page. This enables the bloggers at etdguide.org to see the thoughts of the different writers all blogging at etdguide.org, combining features of the discussion board with features of the blog. Unlike other research blogging sites like phdweblogs.net, the blogging space at etdguide.org will connect students writing ETDs with the professors that chair ETDs and librarians with both the writers and the committees creating ETDs. This blog will allow for the questioning of the direction of ETDs by those who are stakeholders in ETDs. It will also

introduce ETDs to the larger electronic audience and provide a unique opportunity for the study of the ETD process, and it will bring users to The ETD Guide. Research bloggers at other sites will also be able to submit their blogs via .rss feed.

Title: Accessibility of theses and dissertation in long term. Swedish project SVEP

Authors: Eva Müller (Uppsala University)

Abstract: One of the objectives of the project funded by the Swedish Royal Library's department for National Co-ordination and Development (BIBSAM) and called SVEP (coordination of academic electronic publishing in Sweden) is to ensure the accessibility of theses and dissertations produced at Swedish universities in the long term.

The project deals with development and practical implementation of a generalized archiving workflow between a local repository and a national archive, focusing on the variety of publishing platforms and systems currently used by Swedish universities. This workflow is based on usage of URN:NBN as an unique identifier. Some other questions - for example: What is a minimal level of preservation metadata for theses and dissertations - are also explored.

As the start point for the project are solutions developed by DiVA project used. Because of a lack of practical examples of implementations of solutions supporting long term preservation and accessibility within the library community, we believe the project results will be broadly useful.

Title: Long-term Access of Theses and Dissertations: The SVEP Project in Sweden

Authors: Eva Müller (Uppsala University)

Abstract: The SVEP project, funded by the Swedish Royal Library's department for National Coordination and Development (BIBSAM), has as its overall mission the coordination of academic electronic publishing in Sweden.

One of the goals of the project is the development and practical implementation of a generalized archiving workflow between a local repository and a national archive. In doing this, we will attempt to accommodate the variety of publishing platforms and systems currently used by Swedish universities. This new workflow will be based on the use of URN:NBN as an unique identifier. We will also develop a basic technical infrastructure to support the transmission of dissemination and submission information packages (DIP/SIP in OAIS parlance) between university repositories and the National Library Archive.

A primary objective of SVEP is to ensure long-term access to theses and dissertations produced at Swedish universities. Therefore, we will also attempt to determine the minimum level of preservation metadata required to support archiving and subsequent discovery of these documents.