Title: Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) at ETSU
Authors: Celia M. Szarejko, Katherine A. Libby, Bill R. Williams (East Tennessee State University)
Abstract: East Tennessee State University (ETSU) began working to implement electronic publication of theses and dissertations in 1999 through a collaborative effort initiated by the Graduate School with the Sherrod Library. The Graduate School saw electronic publication as a way to reduce turnaround time and cost to students in the publication process and to increase the visibility of ETSU research. The Sherrod Library saw the partnership as an opportunity to integrate access to ETSU theses and dissertations in both print and electronic formats, gain experience with building and managing a digital library collection, and reduce operating costs associated with storing, cataloging, and providing interlibrary loan service for theses and dissertations. After pilot testing in 2000, ETDs became mandatory at ETSU in 2001.

The Sherrod Library Systems Department manages both the ETD and Voyager library collection management systems at ETSU. Working with both systems provided an opportunity to explore ways to link the two for resource discovery and access purposes. We developed Perl scripts to create MARC bibliographic and holdings records for ETDs from data in the ETD database, load them into the library catalog, and send a summary log to the Cataloging department by e-mail so that staff could review and correct the records if needed. A more recent script-writing effort built support for the OAI Protocol for Metadata Harvesting into the ETD archive so that ETSU ETD metadata can be included in the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) Union Catalog.

This electronic poster session (web site) reports on ETSU’s experience to date with ETDs from the perspective of the Sherrod Library.
the production, retrieval and long-term availability of digital dissertations. To keep the outcome of that project state-of-the-art, to initiate necessary further developments, and to build up a network of competence, the project “Build-up of a Co-ordination Agency for Online Dissertations and Post-doctoral Theses” has been set up to expand the Co-ordination Agency DissOnline. The Co-ordination Agency is a unique institution to co-ordinate ETD publishing in Germany, and is responsible for attending the largest collection of ETDs in Europe (>20.000 dissertations and post-doctoral theses, accessible free and in fulltext).

The project comprises an analysis of the current infrastructure concerning online dissertations at German universities, including a comparison of the different promotion regulations, workflows, online support systems and portal software. The FAQ system is being built up in revised form, and the recommendations for doctoral candidates, libraries and universities will be replenished and enhanced. Legal issues are being dealt with in collateral service contracts.

The first major project part, the ETD publishing infrastructure analysis and a survey among doctoral candidates, has been completed in 2003. The results of the analysis will be presented. Not all universities in Germany have accepted the publication of doctoral theses as ETDs yet, and quite a number of faculties do not support ETD publishing. Additionally, the efforts made by libraries and universities to advertise for ETDs did not reach the majority of doctoral candidates. Therefore, the Co-ordination Agency DissOnline has been designing several leaflets supporting the ETD promotion.

The results of the infrastructure analysis and the survey are being considered extensively by the design of the new interactive DissOnline information system. That new information system will be shown and explained. It is completely written in XML with XSL(T) transformation.

The outcome of the project shall be proposals to a uniform, workable procedure DissOnline in Germany that are to be discussed and harmonized with universities, computer centres and libraries.

Title: The Development of CALIS ETD Sharing Project
Authors: Xiaoxia Yao, Long Xiao (China Academic Library and Information System)
Abstract: As a national wide academic library consortium, China Academic Library and Information System (CALIS) contributes to resource sharing among all the universities in China. Results of the study indicate that the need to Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD) has seen a significant increase every year. So it is well understood that ETD sharing is extremely important for CALIS to help its members to serve their end users.