

# PETE: Planning for E-Thesis Enhancement at MIT

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## **Abstract**

The MIT Libraries are currently planning the transformation of our pilot e-thesis service into a full production service in DSpace. The project has been dubbed PETE, or Planning for E-Thesis Enhancement. This paper describes the PETE planning process -- in particular, how we have used broad stakeholder input to help set priorities and requirements. The paper also discusses key enhancements likely to be undertaken and how they will (a) help integrate the service into MIT's internal processes or (b) add value for e-thesis end users. We are, for example, investigating how to use two tools created by DSpace Federation members -- the Manikin UI and the Configurable Submission System -- to create an e-thesis workflow that eases online submission, taps Institute data stores for metadata, and integrates smoothly into the processes of MIT's disparate graduate programs. To add value for end-users and promote scholarly communication, we are studying inclusion of authors' contact information in item records, support for thesis-related datasets, and improvements to default DSpace search functionality. We are also exploring modifications to our current metadata schema to make it fully compliant with ETD-MS and OAI-PMH, and capable of providing accurate statistical information to the Libraries and MIT's Office of Institutional Research.

*[Please note: The content of this paper will be finalized once PETE's recommendations are formally received and reviewed by the Libraries Steering Committee in April 2007.]*