

POSTER ABSTRACTS

WEDNESDAY JUNE 10 4:15 P.M. – 4:45 P.M.
THURSDAY, JUNE 11 5:15 P.M. – 5:45 P.M.

Current practices and workflows among North Carolina ETD programs

- » Anne Marie Taber, UNCG Libraries
- » Mary Early, UNCG Graduate School

Objective: To examine current practices with special attention to workflows and divisions of labor among ETD programs in North Carolina

Methods: The authors will administer a broad, simple online survey to acquire information from colleagues in the NC ETD community. Surveys will be emailed in early March with data collected throughout the month, then analyzed with results written up in April.

Preliminary survey questions:

- How many graduate degrees are offered by your institution?
- How many require submission of a thesis or dissertation?
- Is electronic submission required or optional?
- Does this vary by academic unit?
- Which departments are involved in administering ETD at your institution?
- Who was responsible for determining the division of labor between libraries, graduate schools, and IT departments?
- How much collaboration and communication exists between these departments?
- Which personnel perform what ETD tasks?
- Is there a written procedure or workflow for the ETD process?
- Does your institution provide digitization and storage or contract it out?

Results: We anticipate finding a variety of collegial relationships between academic departments, as well as a variety of systems and processes designed by universities to accommodate organizational structures, academic programs, and other requirements.

Conclusions: By examining existing task relationships and workflows, we hope to identify patterns so as to offer suggestions for institutions planning ETD programs and those wishing to improve or streamline current programs.

ETDs and Open Access: Enter the NDLTD Open Access Day Contest

- » Charles Greenberg, Cushing/Whitney Medical Library, Yale University

Open access is the cornerstone of the open knowledge movement. For much of human history knowledge was a gift and even a necessity for preserving history, faith, health, and scientific discovery, shared openly without an expectation of compensation. Knowledge was recorded for posterity, often with no commercial intent.

The invention of movable type and printing presses introduced the concept of a knowledge mass market, and knowledge eventually became known as a commodity to be sold, marketed, or even given away with embedded advertising. Commercial publishing expanded the quantity and availability of printed knowledge, while copyright laws protected the author and publisher's monopoly over distribution, reproduction, and performance.

Libraries and universities have historically expanded access and asserted free, unencumbered access to knowledge for all visitors and readers, though the growth of academic and public libraries are limited by budgets constraints. The existence of a networked digital library of theses and dissertations asserts a right of public access, fair use, and the existence of non-commercial interests supporting the public good.

The 21st century rapid expansion of the digital scholarship movement and access to electronic theses and dissertations empowers readers everywhere to consider how much we take for granted in a world offering more and more open access.

There are dramatic, entertaining, and inspiring stories to we hope you can share about how open access to academic scholarship furthered both student, institutional and commercial success. NDLTD is sponsoring a 2009 YouTube contest, open to the global academic community of scholars and students, to tell stories and share the benefits of open access to electronic theses and dissertations.

The contest winners will be announced on the 2009 Open Access Day and on the NDLTD Web site, and submissions will be featured in the future on the NDLTD site. Please submit your video here: www.youtube.com/group/etd2009.