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Partnership between Library and Graduate School for Electronic Theses and Dissertations

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Partnership between Library and Graduate School for Electronic Theses and Dissertations

Adrian K. Ho

University of Kentucky Libraries

Jan. 25, 2014

The URLs of the online resources mentioned in this presentation are noted at the end.



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Background

- University of Kentucky
- 2000: Submission of theses and dissertations in paper or electronic format (on a CD)
- 2004: Archiving of and online access to ETDs in DSpace

Background (cont'd)

- 2010: Creation of an institutional repository (UKnowledge)



- 2010: Exploration of having students submit their theses or dissertations directly to Knowledge

Goals

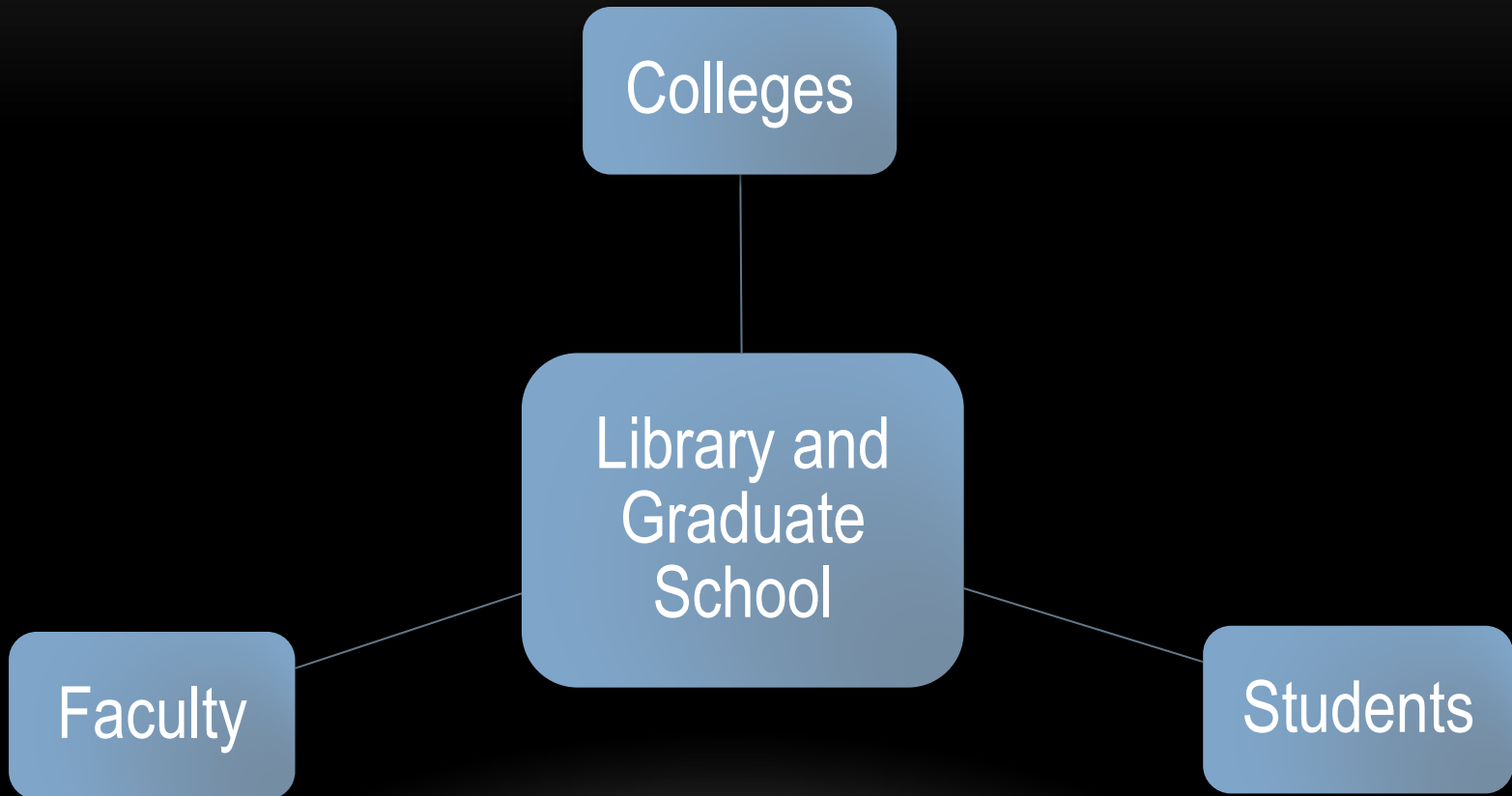
Short-term goals:

- Eliminate the submission of electronic theses and dissertations on CDs
- Streamline the process of uploading ETDs to UKnowledge
- Speed up the online availability of ETDs

Long-term goal:

- Completely eliminate the submission of theses and dissertations in paper format

Preparation



Concerns

- Quality of theses and dissertations
- Impact on students publishing part of their theses/dissertations as journal articles
- Impact on students publishing their dissertations as monographs
- Premature access to some of the results of a larger research project

Solution

- Embargo policy
- Request to be submitted by the student's academic advisor to Assistant Dean of Graduate Academic Services at the Graduate School
- Legitimate reasons for the request
- Duration: 6 months, 1 year, or 2 years
- Extension of embargo possible

Students' Feedback

- Submission of theses or dissertations anytime anywhere
- No need to buy CDs or DVDs to store and submit theses or dissertations
- Online access to their research much sooner than before
- Helpful to have monthly download statistics
- Concerns over immediate access: embargo option

Submission and Review

- Submission of ETDs directly to UKnowledge by students after they have passed the oral defense
- Checking of formatting and styling by Degree Certification Officers at the Graduate School
- Submission of revised ETDs to UKnowledge by students (if necessary)

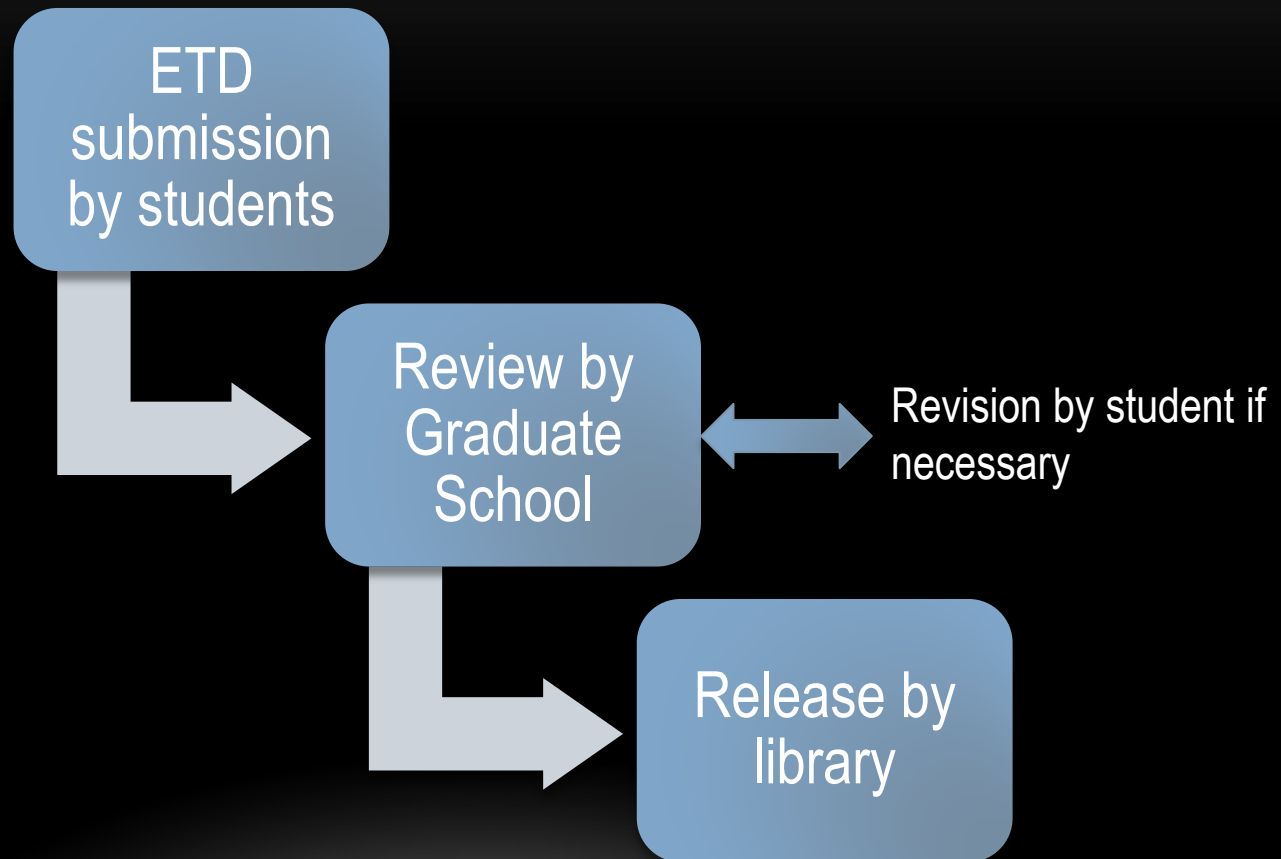
Technical Setup

- The library as the middleman between the Graduate School and Berkeley Electronic Press
- Creation of a demo site
- Customization of the demo ETD online submission form in order to make the submission process as simple and easy as possible

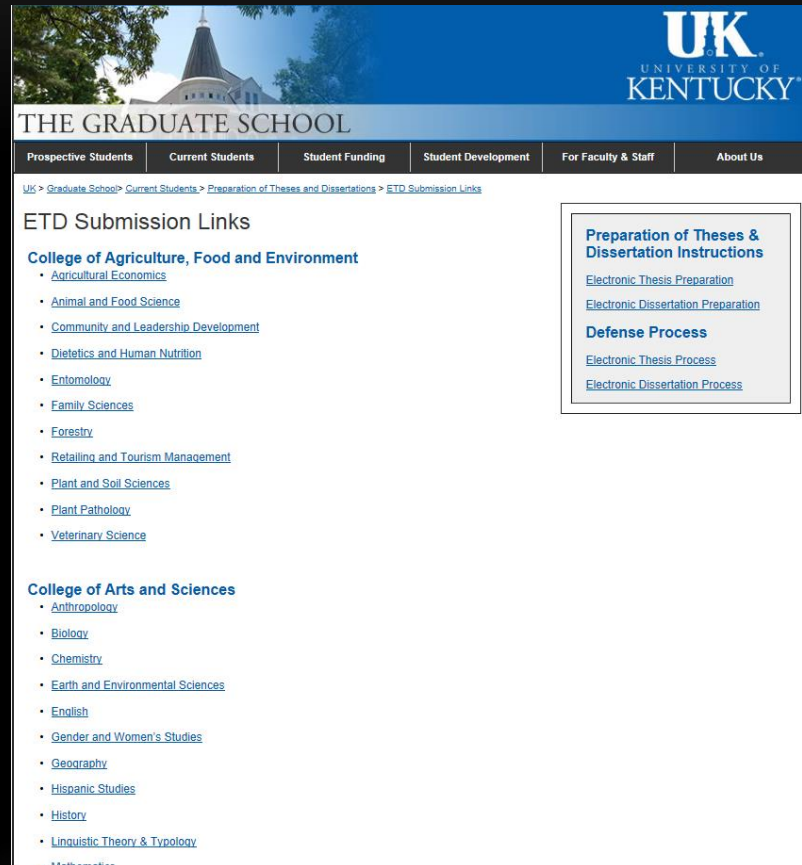
Documentation and Training

- Creation of a submission guide for students
- Creation of a review guide for the Degree Certification Officers at the Graduate School
- In-person training for the Degree Certification Officers
- Collection of feedback to fine-tune the online submission form
- Consultation with the university attorney to update the thesis/dissertation submission agreement

Workflow



Creation of ETD Collections



The screenshot displays the University of Kentucky Graduate School website. At the top right is the UK University of Kentucky logo. Below it is the text "THE GRADUATE SCHOOL". A navigation bar contains links for "Prospective Students", "Current Students", "Student Funding", "Student Development", "For Faculty & Staff", and "About Us". A breadcrumb trail reads: "UK > Graduate School > Current Students > Preparation of Theses and Dissertations > ETD Submission Links".

ETD Submission Links

College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

- [Agricultural Economics](#)
- [Animal and Food Science](#)
- [Community and Leadership Development](#)
- [Dietetics and Human Nutrition](#)
- [Entomology](#)
- [Family Sciences](#)
- [Forestry](#)
- [Retailing and Tourism Management](#)
- [Plant and Soil Sciences](#)
- [Plant Pathology](#)
- [Veterinary Science](#)

College of Arts and Sciences

- [Anthropology](#)
- [Biology](#)
- [Chemistry](#)
- [Earth and Environmental Sciences](#)
- [English](#)
- [Gender and Women's Studies](#)
- [Geography](#)
- [Hispanic Studies](#)
- [History](#)
- [Linguistic Theory & Typology](#)
- [Mathematics](#)

Preparation of Theses & Dissertation Instructions

- [Electronic Thesis Preparation](#)
- [Electronic Dissertation Preparation](#)

Defense Process

- [Electronic Thesis Process](#)
- [Electronic Dissertation Process](#)

Pilot Project

- The Graduate School's online documents updated
- Communication of the pilot project through different channels
- Submission in paper format still acceptable
- Assistance with formatting and technical issues from campus IT unit

Rollout

- Start day: Late July 2012
- Three information sessions per semester (except the summer) to walk students through the submission process
- Staff members from the library and the Graduate School present in the sessions to answer questions
- About 70% of new theses and dissertations submitted directly to UKnowledge in the Fall 2012 semester

Review and Maintenance

- Collection of feedback and suggestions from students and the Graduate School to improve the workflow
- Updates of the submission guide and the review guide
- Metadata problems
- Update of UKnowledge due to names changes for academic departments
- ETD mandate to begin in Fall 2013 semester

Discoverability

- Cataloging of ETDs for library catalog and WorldCat.org
- Search engine optimization thanks to Digital Commons
- Archiving in the ProQuest database up to students

Future Developments

- A means for faculty advisors to approve the revised theses or dissertations online after the oral defense
- An exit survey of students regarding the satisfaction with the submission process
- An FAQ to complement or replace the information sessions
- Students' knowledge of copyright and awareness of Creative Commons licenses for possible use with ETDs

Future Developments (cont'd)

- Students' sharing of research datasets through UKnowledge
- Long-term preservation of ETDs
- Digitization of and online access to "legacy" theses and dissertations
- Collections of professional graduate projects and undergraduate honors theses on UKnowledge

Other Possible Plans...

- Assigning unique and persistent identifiers to ETDs
- Promotion of ORCID IDs to students
- Students' creation of online profiles to proactively share their research and scholarship online
- Review of archiving in the ProQuest database
- Short videos of the submission process to replace the information session

Resources

- ETD-L listserv
- ETD Spreadsheet (Institutions requiring electronic thesis/dissertation submissions)
- Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) Resources
- United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) Resources
- Theses Canada

Resources (cont'd)

- ETD 2014 Symposium
- USETDA 2014 Conference
- Free US ETDs blog

Online Resources Mentioned

Creative Commons licenses

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

ETD-L listserv

<http://www.ndltd.org/community>

ETD Spreadsheet (Institutions requiring electronic thesis/dissertation submissions)

<http://bit.ly/1azapvm>

Free US ETDs blog

<http://sites.tdl.org/fuse/>

Online Resources Mentioned (cont'd)

NDLTD ETD 2014 Symposium

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/library/etd2014>

NDLTD Resources

<http://www.ndltd.org/resources>

ORCID

<http://orcid.org/>

Theses Canada

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/thesescanada/index-e.html>

Online Resources Mentioned (cont'd)

UKnowledge

<http://uknowledge.uky.edu/>

University of Kentucky Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Submission Guide

http://uknowledge.uky.edu/uknowledge_docs/7/

USETDA 2014 Conference

http://www.usetda.org/?page_id=2564

USETDA Resources for ETD Professionals

http://www.usetda.org/?page_id=20

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