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Partnership between Library and Graduate School for Electronic Theses and Dissertations

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

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
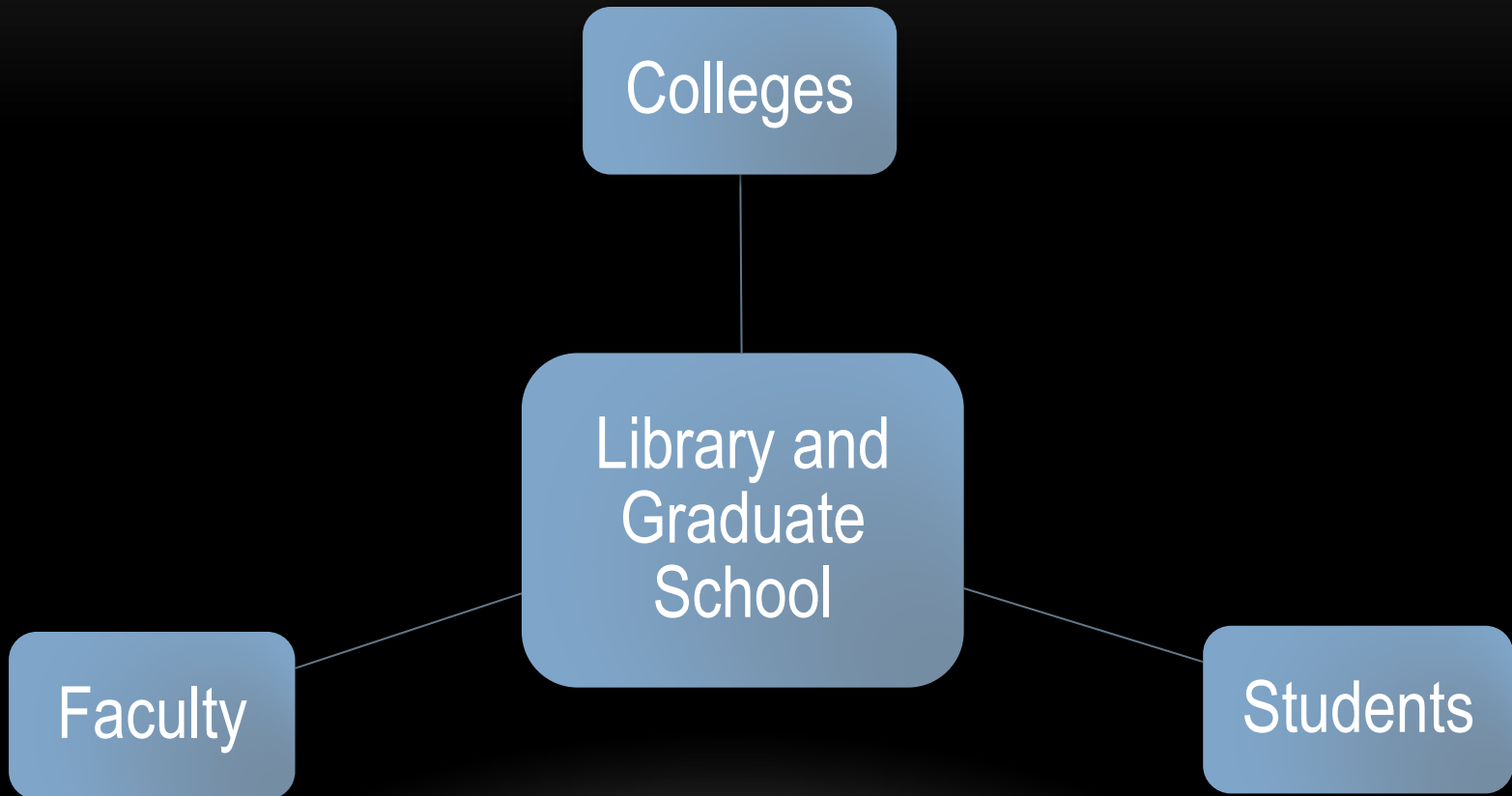
Goals

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

Colleges

Library and Graduate School

Faculty

Students

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

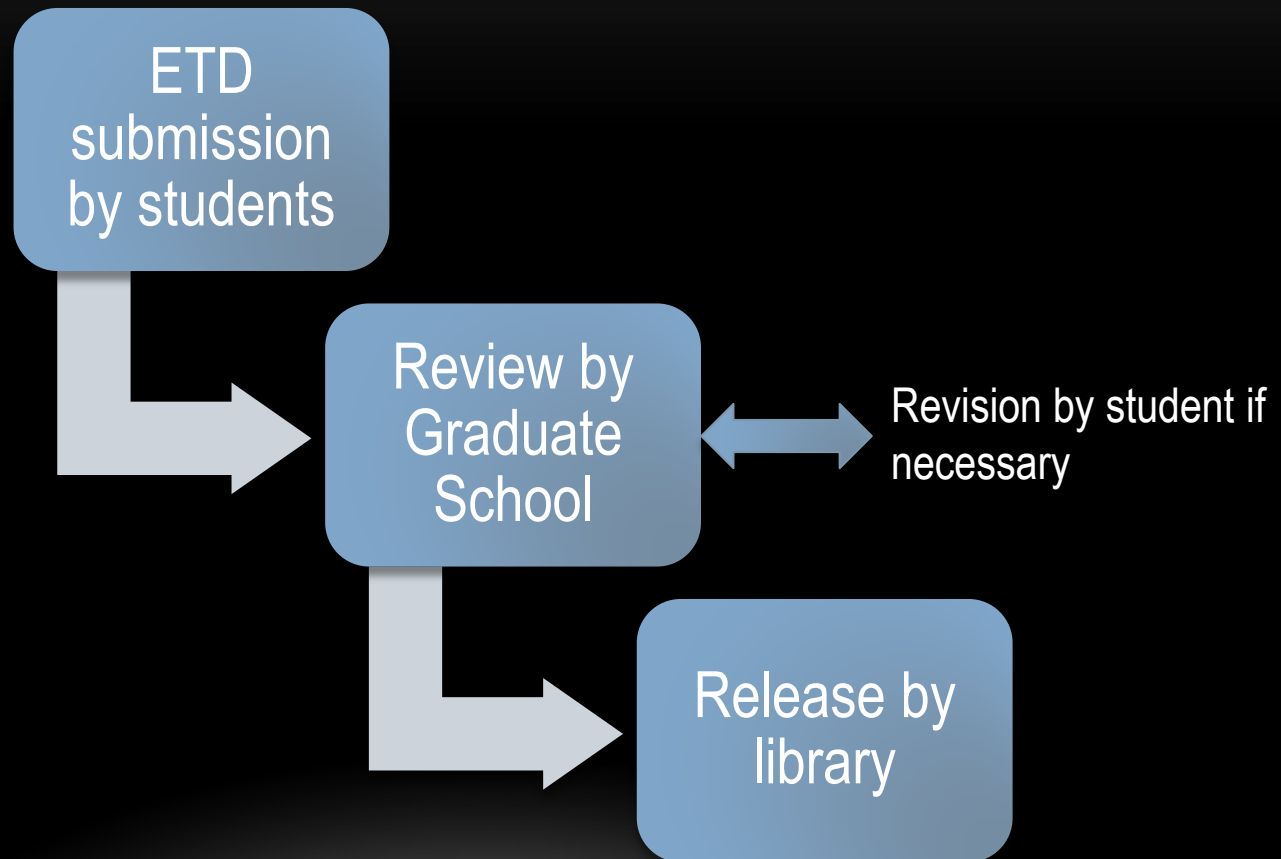- Submission of revised ETDs to UKnowledge by students (if necessary)

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
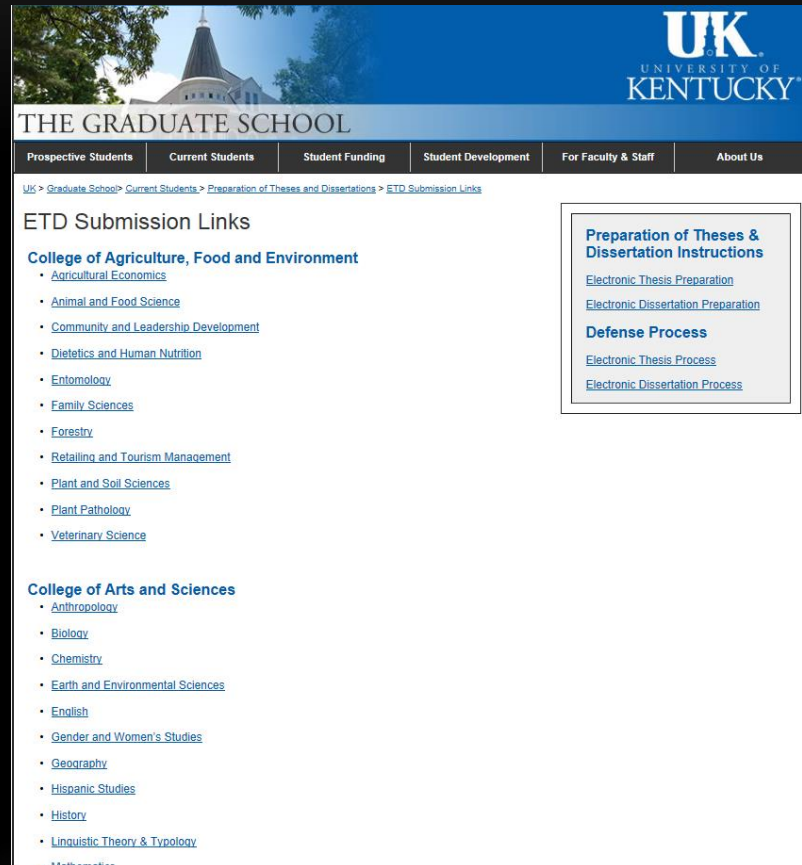
Documentation and Training

- 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

ETD submission by students

Review by Graduate School

Revision by student if necessary

Release by library

Creation of ETD Collections

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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