ETD implementation – lessons learned @
the University of Pretoria

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Presented at the 14th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations, 13-17 September, Cape Town
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- UPeTD now
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Background to University of Pretoria

- One of the largest & leading research universities
- 6 campuses & sites such as Pretoria Academic Hospital
- 9 faculties, 1 business school, 140 departments, 85 centres, institutes & bureaus
- Offers 230 qualifications
- 2011: 67 981 registered students
- Post-graduate degrees in 2010: 1456 (189 theses & 1267 dissertations)
South African postgraduate student profile

- Postgraduate Studies in South Africa (Council on Higher Education 2009) & The PhD study (ASSAf 2010)
- SA supervisors have a high load of postgraduate students
- Many M & D students interrupt their studies after degree
  - Preparedness
  - Insufficient funding
  - Age 30+
  - Professional & family commitments
  - Computer connectedness & literacy
- Increase of enrolments from Southern African countries
UPeTD time-line

Prof Ed Fox
ETD-db

Retrospective
project

Open Scholarship
Strategy


Policy
accepted

NDLTD
membership

DSpace
migration
This road was made by walking it...
Lesson 1: Mandatory policy & Open Scholarship strategy

Crucial factor for success which clearly define your objectives.

Office of the Registrar

Policy on University of Pretoria electronic theses and dissertations

Policy Group/Category: Academic Doc number: S 4844-46/08

1. Position statement

The University of Pretoria supports free access to research literature for all researchers worldwide and takes responsibility for the dissemination of its own research outputs. Because theses and dissertations are not formally published it is even more important that the University itself should provide access to them.
Lessons 2: Software, server & IT expertise

- Free ETD-db software downloaded on old unused server at Department of IT Technology
- Very reliable
- Dedicated IT support
Lessons 3 : Defined access options

- UP supports free access to research literature
  - Worldwide availability
  - Limited access within the UP domain
  - Restricted access/embargo for 2 year period
  - Total embargo to confidential/sensitive information

- Submission form indicating the access options

- Vice-Principal of Research & Postgraduate Studies involvement
Lessons 4 : Submission strategy

- Mediated approach
- Little participation from students
- In-house administration system tracks submissions
- Statistics 2009-2011 : 17% self-submission rate
- 1 Paper copy & electronic versions
Lessons 5: Important role-players

- Vice-Principal Research & Postgraduate Studies
- Legal Office
- Supervisors & postgraduate students
- Interlending & Digitization Office
- Cataloguers
- UPeTD team
Lessons 6: Clear copyright policy

- General Regulation G57(6)
- Intellectual property produced by students vest in UP
- Benefits for UP

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Lessons 7 : International cooperation

- NDLTD member since 2005
  - Support in harvesting ETDs into NDLTD Union catalog
  - Network of experts
  - Useful resources
  - Subscription to the ETD-L listserv
  - Eligibility for the NDLTD awards
    - NDLTD Innovative ETD Award 2005, 2007
    - NDLTD Innovative Learning through ETDs Award 2010
    - ETD leadership award 2010 for Monica Hammes
Lessons 8: Retrospective digitization

- 2000-2004 voluntary submissions
- Project was registered and 2 temporary staff members appointed
- Digitized the fronts
- Requests via postbox
- Interlending office
Lesson 9: Vanity publishers

VDM Verlag & LAP Lambert Academic Publishing

Dear Publisher

Having reviewed your request regarding the publication of theses and dissertations of students from the University of Pretoria, we have decided that this is not a practice that we would like to encourage.

Copyright in this material is vested in the University of Pretoria, and we have not transferred the copyright to authors. We therefore request that you refrain from publishing such material from the University of Pretoria.

The University of Pretoria's student theses and dissertations are freely available for the use of scholars and the general public at http://upetd.up.ac.za

Yours sincerely

Professor Robin Crewe
Lesson 10: Communication channels

From: “Tumo Mpetsane” <mpetsane1@elecdurban.gov.za>  
To: upetd  
Subject: Accessing of E-Thesis & Research

Good Day

I am an MBA student from UOVS, would like to access the above mentioned at your library, is there in any way I can have a password as it is a requirement.

Regards

Tumo Mpetsane

From: Saurabh Sinha <ssinha@ieee.org>  
To: ETD  
BCC: upetd  
Subject: [EIN990] [M Weststrate] [M Bozanic] Release of PhD(Eng) theses

Dear Elsabe:
As a friendly reminder, Marnus Weststrate & Mladen Bozanic graduated on the 6th, as per plan - it would be wonderful if their theses can be released soon.

Regards,
Saurabh
UPeTD now

- July Ranking Web of World Repositories – no 162
- Current total 6621

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Yearly submission input 6621
# UPeTD usage statistics

## Usage Statistics for upetd

**Summary Period:** Last 12 Months  
**Generated:** 28-Aug-2011 06:48 SAST

### Usage summary for upetd

### Summary by Month

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**Total:** 5176717589 8225662 22897777 716818 25797035
Positive feedback

From: E F Braun <efbraun@uoregon.edu>
To: Elsabe Olivier
Subject: Re: Fwd: Proefskrif: Generaal P.A. Cronje: ’n lewensketo now available

Dear Elsabe,

The Cronje proefskrif has been enlightening! I do not know if I can request theses to enter the digitization queue, but if so, CJ Joubert’s 1954 MA “Die Soutpan van Soutpansberg” (I think it is Historiese Studies) is something that would be of great value. Someone already has scanned the 1933 thesis on the family of Conraad de Buys, which was a wonderful discovery.

Many thanks

E F Braun

[Signature]

Lindsay Frederick Braun
Assistant Professor
Department of History
University of Oregon

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From: George Yonge <gdyonge@ucdavis.edu>
To: Elsabe Olivier
CC: Johan VanWyk
Subject: Greyling DEd study

Dear Elsabe,

Thank you so much for sending a digitized copy of the Greyling study. I have printed a hard copy of it and will begin translating it. When I complete the translation I will send a copy to you for possible library use.

I apologize for contributing additional pressure to your Digitization Office.

I can’t thank you enough for all of your efforts.

Best wishes,

George
New goals

- More advocacy to encourage self-submissions
- More workshops, tutorials, submission instructions
  - Students
  - Supervisors
- Pursue actively more innovative ETDS — audio material, visual images, video links & hyperlinks
- Changing supervisors’ perceptions of ETDS as prior publications
- Staying up to date with international & current practices
UPeTD in the future

- Policy revision
- Migration to Dspace
  - Studies indicate that it offers more functionalities
  - “DSpace is clearly ahead of ETD-db” – (Jones 2004)
- Integration with campus portal environment
  - Automatic transfer of metadata and automatization of work processes
- Investigate other possibilities?
- This is the end of the road for UPeTD...this is the beginning of a new UPeTD!
Other links

- Open Scholarship web
  http://www.library.up.ac.za/openup/index.htm
- UPeTD
  - http://upetd.up.ac.za/UPeTD.htm
Thank you!
Questions?

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