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Keep in mind…

- Which of the 10 lessons will work for your institution?
- What are the problems that you currently experience?
- FAQ by faculty members?
- What workable solutions can you offer?
South Africa

University of Pretoria
Background to University of Pretoria, South Africa

- **University of Pretoria (UP)**
  - One of the leading & largest universities in South Africa
  - 9 faculties & Business School
  - Culturally diverse students
  - Lectures presented in Afrikaans, English and Sepedi
  - Offers 230 qualifications
  - In 2011 - 1343 postgraduate programmes
  - Student population 62 500 of which 45 000 are contact students
SA postgraduate student profile

- Many M & D students interrupt their studies after first degree
  - Preparedness
  - Insufficient funding
  - Age 30+
  - Professional & family commitments
  - Computer literacy & connectedness

- Increase of enrolments from Southern African countries

- SA supervisors have a high load of postgraduate students
This road was made by walking...
UPeTD time-line

- 2000: Prof Ed Fox ETD-db
- 2003: Policy accepted
- 2005: Retrospective project
- 2005: NDLTD membership
- 2007: Open Scholarship Strategy
- 2012+: New developments
The UP story

- Will not include details of software and technical issues
- Focus is on challenges we had to face @ UP
- UPeTD
  - 206 theses and 1342 dissertations were submitted in 2011
  - According to regulation students should submit 1 paper and 2 electronic versions
  - University Senate adopted the policy in 2003
  - Theses and dissertations are catalogued in Millenium (library management system)
  - Harvested by Worldcat
Lesson 1: Mandatory policy & Open Scholarship strategy

- Crucial factor for success which clearly define your objectives
- You might need to change regulations at your institution
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

- Huge issue of concern for supervisors and students
- 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
- Signed jointly by supervisors and students
- Vice-Principal of Research & Postgraduate Studies involvement
Lessons 4 : Submission strategy

- 1 Paper copy & electronic versions
- Administered by postgraduate faculty coordinators
- Mediated approach
- Little participation from students
- In-house administration system tracks submissions
- Statistics 2009-2012 : 18% self-submission rate
Lessons 5: Role-players & marketing

Vice-Principal
Research & Postgraduate Studies

Legal Office

Faculty admin, supervisors & students

Interlending, Special collections & Digitization

Cataloguers

UPeTD team
Lessons 6: Clear copyright policy

- General Regulation G57(6)
- Intellectual property produced by students vest in UP
- Benefits for UP
Lessons 7: International cooperation

- NDLTD member since 2005
  - Network of experts
  - Provide useful resources
  - Subscription to the ETD-L listserv
  - Eligibility for the NDLTD awards
    - NDLTD Innovative Learning through ETDs Award 2010
    - ETD leadership award 2010 for Monica Hammes
Lessons 8 : Retrospective digitization

- 2000-2004 voluntary submission process
- Missing items: project was registered and 2 temporary staff members appointed
- Digitized the fronts
- Requests via e-mail
- Interlending office
Dear colleagues,

We seem to receive increasing numbers of messages and invitations to publish articles and books which are actually the copyright of the University.

Various companies are continuously targeting our researchers and postgraduates (often via the internet) for publishing rights for their masters or doctoral theses and books. We are concerned that not all UP authors will contact the library for enquiries about copyright issues.

There are several blogs writing about this issue, for example:
http://antonietamercado.blogspot.com/2011/12/academic-publishing-scams.html
http://chrisnf.blogspot.com/2010/06/lambert-academic-publishing-continues.html

Researchers and postgraduates should be aware that the university owns the copyright on any articles, theses, books etc written by university staff or students unless (or until) an approved agreement with a reputable publisher is signed by a representative of the university. If anyone is uncertain, they should discuss these matters with the Library staff (Ms Marie Theron), or the Deans and Deputy-Deans for Research.

I would request that all Heads of Department ensure that all staff and students are reminded of this.

Regards,
Stephanie Burton

Prof SG Burton
Vice-Principal: Research and Postgraduate Studies
University of Pretoria
Lesson 10: Communication channels

Dear Reader
Is it possible to make a copy of the following thesis available to me in pdf-format?


Kindest regards
Willem

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UPeTD now – 7485 items

http://upetd.up.ac.za/UPeTD.htm
New developments and 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 are incorporated
- Staying up to date with international & current practices
- Migration to DSpace
In conclusion

“The introduction of electronic theses at a traditional institution is likely to be a long and challenging process. Staff…. need to be prepared to encounter negative attitudes”-(Greig 2005)
References


Thank you!

Questions?

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