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The NDLTD and ETDs in the Global Context

Managing Electronic Theses:
a DART-Europe Master Class

LIBER 2010

The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD)

- 1987 - concept of ETDs discussed in the USA.
- 1996 - NDLTD established.
- 1998 - first of the annual symposia held.
- 2003 - annual symposium held in Europe.
- 2010 - Union Catalogue provides access to over a million readily available ETDs worldwide.

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



NDLTD: Mission

- “The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) is an international organization dedicated to promoting the adoption, creation, use, dissemination and preservation of digital theses and dissertations. The NDLTD supports universities and their communities in using electronic publishing and digital libraries to more effectively share knowledge in order to unlock the potential benefits worldwide.”



NDLTD: Focus

- Enhancing scholarly communication
- Preserving knowledge
- Expanding easy access to theses
- Improving graduate education
- Empowering universities
- Empowering authors



NDLTD: Goals

- To be the leading international institution for the promotion of ETDs worldwide
- To encourage ETD-related events regionally and globally
- To expand open access to ETDs
- To encourage institutions to develop ETD programmes
- To promote the benefits of ETDs to students and supervisors
- To encourage innovative ways of expressing research results through creative ETDs



NDLTD: Membership Benefits

- Support for harvesting your institution's ETDs into the NDLTD Union Catalog, thereby increasing their visibility
- Eligibility for NDLTD ETD awards
- Eligibility to serve on NDLTD committees and working groups
- Discounts on exhibits and displays at annual symposia
- Conference registration fee discounts for selected events

http://www.ndltd.org/events_and_awards/conferences



NDLTD: International Symposia

Papers and presentations:

http://www.ndltd.org/events_and_awards/conferences

- 1998: Memphis, Tennessee
- 1999: Blacksburg, Virginia
- 2000: St. Petersburg, Florida
- 2001: Pasadena, California
- 2002: Provo, Utah
- 2003: Berlin, Germany
- 2004: Lexington, Kentucky
- 2005: Sydney, Australia
- 2006: Quebec City, Canada
- 2007: Uppsala, Sweden
- 2008: Aberdeen, Scotland
- 2009: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 2010: Austin, Texas
- 2011: Cape Town, South Africa
- 2012: Lima, Peru
- 2013: Bidding open

NDLTD: Awards

- ‘Innovative ETD Award’ – a key category that has not yet been won by an author from a European institution.

- Examples:

Zimmermann, Andre. ‘Experimental investigations of step-pool channel formation and stability’ (2010 winner)

Tickhill, Justin. The Virtual Pig Head: Digital Imaging in Cephalic Anatomy (2008 winner)

http://www.ndltd.org/events_and_awards/awards/etd-awards



NDLTD: Resources

- The 'ETD Guide' - a manual written by NDLTD members
- Advice on setting up an ETD submission programme
- Details of the NDLTD ETD Email list
- A link to the 'Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography' by Charles W. Bailey
- Information about copyright and Intellectual Property relating to ETDs
- Information about metadata and technical standards
- Information about ETD preservation

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



NDLTD: Co-ordinating Role

- Representatives from various countries submit reports to the NDLTD annually to keep Board members informed about international activities
- Opportunities to publicise European ETD activities via NDLTD Web pages
- Opportunities to serve on the NDLTD Board of Directors or Working Groups
- Opportunities to host the Annual International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations
- Encouragement to hold regional ETD conferences

ETD: Regional Developments

Examples:

- Launch of the United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) in October 2009
- Peruvian consortium submit a bid to host the 2012 ETD Symposium (2009 / 10)
- Ohio ETD Association Fourth Annual Conference. Dublin, Ohio, USA; April 2010
- Canadian ETD and Open Repositories Workshop. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; May 2010
- Managing Electronic Theses: A DART- Europe Master Class. Aarhus, Denmark; June 2010



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