

# What's Going on with ETDs in Canada

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# ETDs at LAC

- Ingesting ETDs since 2003
- Paper based theses digitized by ProQuest
- “Harvesting” born-digital theses from universities via Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)

# Pilot Project 2004-2005

- Partnered with Laval, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Waterloo
- Tested efficacy of OAI-PMH
- Application tweaked to ingest ETDs as well as metadata

## 2006 – Present

- Additional universities harvested: Alberta, BC, Dalhousie, Guelph!, McGill, Montréal, UOIT, Québec à Montréal, Queen's, Royal Roads, Toronto, Victoria (12)
- Approximately 99K ETDs in LAC's collection
- One third harvested
- Two thirds from ProQuest\*

# Theses Canada Goal

- Help universities make transition from paper based to ETDs
- Helpful documents\* on Theses Canada Portal:
  - How to Set Up an ETD Submission Program
  - Theses Canada Requirements for Harvesting Electronic Theses and Metadata
- Providing help means knowing status of ETD initiatives at non harvested universities

# Status of ETD Initiatives at Non-Harvested Universities

- Theses Canada sent email surveys in 2004 and 2005
- 2005 survey partially updated in 2007
- Spring 2009 conducted major telephone survey

# 2009 Survey Methodology

- 65 Theses Canada participants
- 42 institutions surveyed
- Did not survey universities where status was known
- Did not survey ten very small graduate schools
- No contact information for two small universities

# Ontario Universities with ETD Programs

- Newest: Guelph!
- Others: UOIT, Queen's, Toronto, Waterloo
- All four require mandatory submission
- All five use DSpace institutional repository (IR) software

# Ontario Universities Almost There!

- Carleton, University of Ottawa – ETD Workshop hosts
- Windsor – almost ready
- Lakehead – pilot project extended. Expect full implementation fall 2010
- McMaster – pilot project spring 2010. Expect full implementation fall 2010

# More Details on Ontario Universities

- See Appendix B handout

## Other Provinces

- Pilot projects: Mount Saint Vincent, Regina
- Pre-pilot discussions: Atlantic Veterinary College (UPEI), Calgary, Concordia, École de technologie supérieur, Memorial, Québec à Trois-Rivières, Sherbrooke, Simon Fraser

# Special Cases

- Simon Fraser digitizes paper theses from students
- Has large collection of ETDs but no true ETD submission program
- Lethbridge program similar to Simon Fraser's
- Students hand in PDF theses to Graduate Office
- IT staff upload theses to IR

# More Details on Non-Ontario Universities

- See Appendix C handout

# Divinity Colleges

- We surveyed four out of twelve
- Why not the rest?
- Theses Canada perspective: important to help mid to large sized universities with ETD implementation so they can help very small universities

## Divinity Colleges Continued

- Likely possible for six divinity schools to submit ETDs through their affiliations with University of Alberta and University of Toronto
- One outcome of survey: Vancouver School of Theology now submitting ETDs to UBC IR

# Slow Implementation – Why?

- Lack of champion
- Staff changes, particularly in Faculties of Graduate Studies, e.g. Lakehead, McMaster

# Harvesting Problems

- Most frequent cause – university migrates to a new version of its institutional repository software

# Institutional Repositories in Canada

- 62% of institutions surveyed have IRs
- Open source DSpace most popular
- Proprietary software used at some institutions: Digital Commons, Content DM
- Open source software used at others: Eprints, Fedora

## Want to Find Out More?

- Come to the Canadian ETD and Open Repository Workshop!
- Where? – Carleton University, Ottawa
- When? – May 10 and 11, 2010
- Workshop website:
  - [http://conferences.uvic.ca/index.php?conference=etd&schedConf=etd\\_May\\_2010](http://conferences.uvic.ca/index.php?conference=etd&schedConf=etd_May_2010)

# Conclusion

- Twenty universities currently accepting ETDs
- Eight conducting pilot projects
- Ten more planning pilot projects
- These Canada anticipates reaching critical mass of universities with ETD submission programs by end of 2010-2011 fiscal year

# Questions?

- For information or assistance contact:

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