The USETDA has announced USETDA 2020, the 10th annual conference. In an effort to provide a safe meeting environment as well as to preserve the work and funding already put into this year's conference, we sought new opportunities for outreach and engagement. As a result, this year we are pleased to announce:

- The USETDA 2020 Conference has been changed to a free online Virtual Town Hall Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 from 1:00 – 6:30 pm
The USETDA conference (face-to-face meeting) has been postponed until September 2021, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Please visit our USETDA 2020 Conference Update – COVID-19 Statement for complete information about this transition.

USETDA 2020 will provide excellent educational opportunities for professionals from graduate schools, libraries, academic computing and others who work with electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs), institutional repositories, graduate students and scholarly communications. Our goal is to offer relevant, practice-oriented content to support ETD productivity improvement, ETD professionals, advance ETD operations and encourage the formation of regional ETD associations and networking communities as well as to provide useful and innovative resources, standards, and technology for the development and support of ETD programs. Proposals are welcome from library, graduate school and information technology professionals, graduate students and faculty as well as library and information systems/services representatives.

The conference theme “Making Connections – Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age” will focus on the impact and implications of connecting scholars and research from across the country and around the world. We will examine the present use and availability of ETDs and related initiatives. We will also explore new and emerging ETD practices, needs, and influences that impact administrative, graduate school, and library professionals.

Details for the USETDA online Town Hall Meeting are still being determined. For the virtual program, we plan to include a keynote presentation as well as panel discussions in which participants can join in the live discussion. We anticipate that the major hot topic this year will be about making the transition to a home office, including user experiences on best approaches to host virtual consultations and to provide online resources for ETD programs, adaptation stories on how campuses have adjusted their processes for business models from physical to remote access, as well as how to provide new capacities to re-envision the future. Additionally, although we cannot include breakout presentations in the virtual program, we encourage the community to submit proposals on traditional ETD topics and best practices, from which, the presentations (slides, papers, posters, videos) will be included in the online meeting proceedings.

This year’s program includes keynote speaker Joan Lippincott, Associate Executive Director Emerita at the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI).

Joan K. Lippincott is Associate Executive Director Emerita of the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), a joint program of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and EDUCAUSE, based in Washington, DC. At CNI, Joan provided leadership for programs in teaching and learning, learning spaces, digital scholarship, ETDs, and assessment. She served on the boards of the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD), the New Media Consortium (NMC) and on the advisory boards for the Horizon Report for both higher education and libraries. Joan was the editor of the EDUCAUSE Review E-Content column, chair of the Association of College & Research Libraries’ (ACRL) New Publications Board, and served as a member of the ACRL task force that produced the Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education. In addition to serving on the Advisory Boards of the Learning Spaces Collaboratory and the Learning Space Toolkit project, Joan has served as a consultant to many academic libraries for their space renovation projects and has...
been on the planning committee for the *Designing Libraries for the 21st Century* conference since its inception.

In her keynote talk "Making Connections: ETDs, Academe, and the World of Work", Lippincott will focus on four areas in which we can provide graduate students with important 21st century skills: ability to employ digital tools and data management practices most utilized in their field of study; ability to make choices within the scholarly communications and intellectual property systems; ability to understand reputation management; and ability to communicate research findings to the public. Her presentation will also suggest how professionals who work with ETDs can accelerate change and offer practical suggestions for how institutions can provide better support in these areas for graduate students.

Conference information is available by following the resource links at the top of this Web page or in the right side-bar index.

**Forthcoming Resources**

- Welcome to USETDA 2020

**Important Dates**

- Call for proposals
  - Announcement: January 17, 2020
  - Submission deadline: May 8, 2020
- Presenter notifications: July 17, 2020
- Registration: July 17 – September 22, 2020
- Virtual Town Hall Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 (1:00 pm – 6:30 pm)

**USETDA 2020 Conference Organizing Committee**

- Heidi Arbisi-Kelm (University of Iowa Graduate College)*^  
- Valeria Caviness (University of North Carolina at Greensboro Graduate School)*^  
- Valerie Emerson (George Washington University Libraries)*^  
- Sally Evans (George Mason University Library)*  
- Lucy Fazzino (St. John’s University Libraries)*^  
- Teri Green (University of Toledo College of Graduate Studies)*^  
- John Hagen (Renaissance Scholarly Communications, USETDA Executive Director)*^  
- Jessica Horowitz (ProQuest)*  
- Janice Robinson (Brigham Young University Graduate Studies)*  
- Teri Robinson (Mississippi State University Libraries)*  
- Cynthia Tindongan (Ohio University Graduate College)*  
- Stacy Wallace (University of Florida Graduate School)*  
- Emily Wuchner (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate College)*^  
- Aura Young (University of North Carolina Charlotte, The Center for Graduate Life)*^  

*USETDA Board Member  
^Program Committee Member

**Call for Proposals**
Click [here](#) to view the USETDA 2020 Conference Call for Proposals Web page and to submit your paper, presentation, panel session or poster proposal online. Note: the submission deadline will close May 9, 2020.

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Although we cannot include breakout presentations in the virtual program, we encourage the community to [submit proposals](#) on traditional as well as timely ETD topics and best practices, from which, the presentations (slides, papers, posters, videos) will be included in the online Virtual Town Hall meeting proceedings. At the discretion of the Conference Organizing committee, select presenters and/or presentations may be included in the virtual plenary panel discussions we are planning.

**USETDA 2020 Conference Update – COVID-19 Statement**

**CFP Resources**

- Code of Conduct
- Poster Guidelines
- Selection Rubric

**Conference Invitation**

The USETDA announces our 10th annual conference—USETDA 2020—Making Connections: Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age. In an effort to provide a safe meeting environment as well as to preserve the work and funding already put into this year’s conference, we sought new opportunities for outreach and engagement. As a result, this year we are pleased to announce that the USETDA 2020 Conference will be held as a [free](#) online *Virtual Town Hall Meeting*, scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2020 from 1:00 – 6:30 pm (Eastern). Please visit our [USETDA 2020 Conference Update – COVID-19 Statement](#) for complete information about this transition.

USETDA Conferences are an excellent educational opportunity for ETD professionals from graduate schools, libraries, academic computing and others who work with electronic
theses and dissertations (ETDs). The conference theme "Making Connections – Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age" will focus on the impact and implications of connecting scholars and research from across the country and around the world. We will examine the present use and availability of ETDs and related initiatives while also exploring new and emerging ETD practices, needs, and influences impacting administrative, graduate school and library professionals.

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Program Highlights

The full program includes a keynote presentation, two plenary roundtable panel discussions, three 20-minute brief breakout presentations, two live poster presentations and nine 40-minute breakout presentations including user group meetings as well as a variety of networking opportunities. Select presentations will be delivered "live" via Zoom during the virtual conference. You will be able to view all of the presentations in the Conference Proceedings. You can view the full program in our USETDA 2020 Conference-at-a-glance.

Networking Opportunities
You will have the opportunity to participate in a number of structured as well as informal networking opportunities to discuss a variety of ETD topics with colleagues and special interest groups including live presentations delivered via Zoom with virtual audience participation and discussion options, user’s group meetings and breakout sessions throughout the conference. Zoom sessions will be recorded and archived.

Registration

Don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to learn more and share your experiences with colleagues at USETDA 2020! The conference is free to all, but you must register for access. To register visit our registration information Web page.

We hope to see you online at USETDA 2020.

Kind Regards,
USETDA Conference Organizing Committee

Conference Resources

USETDA 2020 Conference Website

The USETDA 2020 Conference Website provides portals for CFP submissions, registration, proceedings and conference venue information. The relevant links are listed below:

- Call for Proposals (January 15, 2020 – May 15, 2020)
- Conference Overview
- Conference Program Overview
- Organizers and Partners
- Presentations (Proceedings)
- Program Overview
- Registration Form
- Track Policies

Registration Information
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Because registration for the Virtual Town Hall Meeting will be free this year, we would like to encourage membership with the USETDA. Additionally, we are also in the process of adapting our sponsorship options for the virtual venue. All contributions will help sustain the USETDA organization well into the future. Details are available from our Membership Web page.

### USETDA Conference Registration and Membership Rates Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Enrollment Fee (Annual)</th>
<th>Institutional</th>
<th>$100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ETD Association (covers multiple institutions)*</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>*Per member institution plus $100 base fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Consortium (covers multiple institutions)*</td>
<td>$85</td>
<td>*Per member institution plus $100 base fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>Intended for individuals independent of organizations or for use where your institution may not yet offer or support an ETD program.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To become a USETDA member click [here](#) or join and pay when you register below.

**Registration Options**
Regular registration (July 17 through September 22, 2020)

To register click here

Registration is required to participate online.* Contact USETDA for multi-institutional arrangements.

Sponsors

USETDA 2020 Virtual Town Hall Meeting Sponsors

USETDA 2020
10th Annual Conference on Electronic Theses and Dissertations

Virtual Town Hall Meeting
September 23, 2020
Making Connections
Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age

A special thanks goes to the sponsors of the USETDA 2020 Virtual Town Hall Meeting for making this event possible!

Gold

Ohio Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association
Graduate School & Libraries

Bronze

Sponsorship

Exhibition Area

USETDA 2020 Virtual Exhibition Area

USETDA 2020
10th Annual Conference on Electronic Theses and Dissertations

Virtual Town Hall Meeting
September 23, 2020

Making Connections
Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age

In 1939, ProQuest began preserving dissertations on microfilm. More than eighty years later, the latest iteration of our ETD Administrator takes dissertations into the future.

At ProQuest, we’re proud of our partnership with universities, where technology and imagination help protect, preserve, and disseminate graduate work.

Learn more at dissertations.com.
Sponsorship

The United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) has announced their 10th annual conference. In an effort to provide a safe meeting environment as well as to preserve the work and funding already put into this year’s conference, we sought new opportunities for outreach and engagement. As a result, this year we are pleased to announce:

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Please visit our USETDA 2020 Conference Update – COVID-19 Statement for complete information about this transition.

USETDA 2020 is for professionals from graduate schools, libraries, academic computing and anyone else working with electronic theses and dissertations. Our goal is to offer relevant, practice-oriented content to support ETD professionals, advance ETD operations and efficiency, and encourage the formation of state-wide ETD associations in the United States.

The conference theme “Making Connections – Scholarly Communication in the Digital Age” will focus on the impact and implications of connecting scholars and research from across the country and around the world. We will examine the present use and availability of ETDs and related initiatives. We will also explore new and emerging ETD practices, needs, and influences that impact administrative, graduate school and library professionals.

Sponsorship Options

The USETDA offers a variety of conference sponsorship options to help support our mission as well as to promote your brands, products and services. You will find the USETDA 2020 Conference sponsorship options listed below as well as online. Please take a few moments to consider which level of support you could offer and the benefits we provide. Sponsors are welcome to submit a research-based program for consideration in the Call for Proposals (not intended for product demonstrations). Responses to this sponsorship invitation should be sent no later than July 31, 2020.

About USETDA 2020

USETDA 2020 is the national conference for ETD professionals from all areas: graduate schools, libraries, and information technology specialists. Our focus is on relevant and current issues with an emphasis on sharing practice-based resources from around the U.S. We anticipate over 200 people will attend, with most constituents being from the United States. In past years we have averaged 100 participants attending and had numerous corporate and non-profit sponsors, including colleges and universities, institutional repository and archival system providers, digital technology applications companies, bookbinders and other library related services. Part of the conference is the ETD Technology Fair, where vendors can set up exhibits and interact with our audience. Additionally, there are opportunities to participate in the conference during plenary and breakout sessions as well as through advertising and distribution of your promotional materials at the venue and online. We offer a variety of accommodations to suit your promotional needs.

USETDA conferences are a fantastic venue for you to reach out to your constituents. Please consider showing your support by sponsoring this important event.

USETDA 2020 Sponsorship Options

Platinum Sponsor $5,000

- Logo depicted on the front cover of the digital Conference program
- Mention in all conference literature as a Major sponsor
- Logo displayed on the USETDA Conference Web site*
One full-page color advertisement in the digital Conference Program (camera ready, 7.5 inches wide by 10 inches high)
Full page display in the virtual conference exhibition area
Presentation and welcome address from the sponsor (10 minutes) during a plenary session**

**Gold Sponsor $2,000**
- Logo depicted in the digital Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Associated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Web site*
- Half-page color advertisement in the digital Conference Program (camera ready, 7.5 inches wide by 5 inches high)
- Half-page display in the virtual conference exhibition area
- Welcome message during the electronic town hall meeting (2 minutes)

**Silver Sponsor $1,000**
- Logo depicted in the digital Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Affiliated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Web site*
- Quarter-page color advertisement in the digital Conference Program (camera ready, 3.75 inches wide by 5 inches high)
- Quarter-page display in the virtual conference exhibition area
- Welcome message during the electronic town hall meeting (1 minute)

**Bronze Sponsor $750**
- Logo depicted in the digital Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Affiliated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Web site*
- Quarter-page color advertisement in the digital Conference Program (camera ready, 3.75 inches wide by 5 inches high)

*Indicates the conference website information will stay online after the event.

**The USETDA Board provides guidance for sponsored presentations during conference.

As an additional benefit, all sponsors receive a complimentary one-year USETDA membership.

USETDA is a public 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Contributions to the USETDA are tax deductible for individuals and organizations.

**Contact Person:**
John H. Hagen, USETDA Executive Director

**USETDA 2020 Conference Sponsorship Resources:**
- USETDA 2020 Conference Information
- USETDA 2020 Conference Sponsors
- Download USETDA 2020 Sponsorship Options Contract (pdf) / (docx)
- USETDA 2020 Conference Registration / Sponsorship Online Payment