United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

USETDA 2024

Tech's Next Frontier:
Transforming Research & Digital Scholarship

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The United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) will hold its 14th annual conference from September 25-27, 2024 on the campus of Brigham Young University (BYU) and the Marriott Hotel in Provo, Utah and online as a hybrid event via Zoom.

USETDA 2024 will provide excellent educational opportunities for graduate school, disability and student services, offices of diversity, equity and inclusion, library, information technology and industry professionals 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 that supports ETD productivity improvement and ETD professionals. This includes the advancement in ETD operations, the encouragement of the formation of regional ETD associations and networking communities, as well as providing useful and innovative resources, standards, and technology for the development and support of ETD programs. Proposals are welcome from graduate school, disability and student services, offices of

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diversity, equity and inclusion, library, information technology and industry professionals as well as graduate students, and faculty.

The conference theme "*Tech's Next Frontier: Transforming Research & Digital Scholarship*" will delve into technology as it impacts various aspects of the creation and dissemination of scholarly work. 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.

The USETDA 2024 conference will be held as hybrid event on the BYU campus in Provo, Utah and online via Zoom. Group discount accommodations will be available at the Provo, Marriott Hotel. The program will include plenary panel presentations, breakout sessions, flash talks, user group meetings, poster presentations and workshops in which participants can join in the live discussions. Additionally we will host in-person and online networking activities offering a variety of social engagement opportunities for participants including a welcome reception, networking breakfast and dine arounds. Through our Call for Proposals we welcome your experiences as well as how to provide new capacities to re-envision the future, best practices and policies. Presentation materials (slides, papers, posters, videos) will be included in the online proceedings. Visit our Conference Invitation to learn more about the event.

Important Dates

- Call for proposals
  - Announcement: January 8, 2024
  - Submission deadline: March 15, 2024. Extended through April 7, 2024
- Presenter notifications: May 3, 2024
- Registration: May 15 – September 18, 2024
- Book reservations for discount lodging at the Provo Marriott Hotel by September 3rd
- Conference Dates: September 25-27, 2024

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USETDA 2024 Conference Organizing Committee

- Ellen Amatangelo (Brigham Young University Library), 2024 Conference Chair*
- Valerie Emerson (George Washington University Libraries), 2024 Program Committee Co-Chair*^
- Sally Evans (George Mason University Library)*
- Teri Green (University of Toledo College of Graduate Studies)*^
- John Hagen (Renaissance Scholarly Communications, USETDA Executive Director), 2024 Program Committee Co-Chair*^
- Erin Kaufman (University of Iowa Graduate College)*^
- Teri Robinson (Mississippi State University Libraries)*
- Stacy Wallace (University of Florida Graduate School)*
- Emily Wuchner (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate College)*^

*USETDA Board Member
^Program Committee Member

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United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

Conference Invitation

The United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) will hold their 14th annual conference, "USETDA 2024" from September 25-27, 2024 on the campus of Brigham Young University (BYU) and the Marriott Hotel in Provo, Utah and online as a hybrid event via Zoom. To register, visit our registration information Web page.

About USETDA 2024

USETDA 2024 will provide excellent educational opportunities for graduate school, disability and student services, offices of diversity, equity and inclusion, library, information technology and industry professionals 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 that supports ETD productivity improvement and

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The conference theme "*Tech's Next Frontier: Transforming Research & Digital Scholarship*" will delve into technology as it impacts various aspects of the creation and dissemination of scholarly work. 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.

Program Highlights

This year's program includes a variety of engaging panel discussions, presentations, flash talks, networking sessions and a workshop on LaTeX. For complete details, visit our Program Schedule.

Best Practices for Technologically Transforming the Thesis/Dissertation Retreat (Ruth Lu, Ohio University Graduate College and Kristin Terrill, Iowa State University Graduate College)

AI-Facilitated Literature Review: Developing an Instructional Workshop and Leveraging Strategic Partnerships – Panel Discussion (Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton, Iowa State University Graduate College)

The Essay Is Dead. Long Live the Essay…That Accompanies Alternative ETD Submissions (John Fudrow, University of Pittsburgh Libraries)

Stop, Remediate, and Listen: Developing Student-Driven Workflows for Creating and Remediating Accessible ETDs (Josh Cromwell and Jennifer Vance, University of Southern Mississippi

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Preserving Referenced Web Resources in the ETD Process (Mark Phillips and Ko Lauren, University of North Texas Libraries)

Non-Traditional ETDs: Creating Policies and Guidelines for the Future – Panel Discussion (Ericka Findley, University of Utah Graduate School and Kim Fleshman, Bowling Green State University Graduate College)

Using an LMS to Restructure ETD Submission: A Five-Year Review (Teri Robinson and Danny Davis, Mississippi State University Libraries)

Forecasting the Evolution of Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs): A Comprehensive Analysis (Manmeet Kaur, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar)

Using Quantitative Data to Justify a Request for Increased ETD Administrative Resources (Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton, Iowa State University Graduate College)

Author Integrity in Dissertations (Alison Thompson and Austin McLean, ProQuest, Part of Clarivate)

Finding Your Voice: On Composing Your ETD (Joseph Moxley, University of South Florida – Department of English)

Presentation is Everything: Repackaging Information to Streamline the ETD process (Linsey Ford, University of Houston-Clear Lake Library)

Flash Talks: (1) Analyzing the Variety of ETDs Layouts of Central Universities of India: An Analytical Study Based on Shodhganga (Manmeet Kaur, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar – virtual); **(2) What types of sources provide citations to dissertations and theses?** (Joseph Kraus and Christine Baker, Colorado School of Mines Library); **(3) AI Assisted in ETD Backlog Cataloging** (Boutsaba Janetvilay, California State University of Fresno

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Libraries – virtual). **(4) Contributions of National Databases of Electronic Theses and Dissertations to Reducing Information Asymmetry and Generating Value in an Institution** (Tainá Batista de Assis, Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (Ibict) Library / Université de Toulon)

Networking Opportunities

You will have the opportunity to participate in a number of networking activities to discuss a variety of ETD topics with colleagues and special interest groups including the ETD Formatting User's Group, ETD Administrator User's Group, and the Community Engagement Group meetings. In-person gatherings include a Welcome Reception at the Provo Marriott Hotel, a Networking Breakfast and Dine-Arounds.

Conference Workshop

We are pleased to offer intensive learning experiences through our free conference workshop series. This year's workshop is **Practical Guidance for Supporting LaTeX ETDs** (presented by Ryan Ross, Overleaf). For a complete description, visit the conference workshops Web page.

Registration

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to learn more and share your experiences with colleagues at USETDA 2024! Member registration is only $169 or $269 at the non-member rate through September 18th.* The registration fee is the same for in-person or virtual attendance; you will be prompted to indicate your attendance mode in our registration form. To register for the conference, visit our registration information Web

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Be sure to book your reservations at the Provo Marriott Hotel. The USETDA 2024 group lodging discount rate of $179/night is only available through September 3, 2024.

Transportation

Plan your trip with helpful resources for air and ground transport options.

Things to Do

Plan your bucket list of "things to do" while you're in the area.

We hope to see you soon in Provo or online at USETDA 2024!

Warm Regards,
USETDA Conference Organizing Committee

**To qualify for member registration rates, active enrollment in a paid institutional or individual membership subscription plan is required. For details visit our Membership Web page.*

USETDA 2024

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United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

Registration Information

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Please review the following information before registering. You will find our Registration Checklist and Rates Chart listed below.

Registration will be available May 15, 2024 through September 18, 2024 at the rate of $169 for members or $269 for non-members. Presenter rates are available at $69 for members and $169 for non-members. The registration fee is the same for in-person or virtual attendance; you will be prompted to indicate your attendance mode

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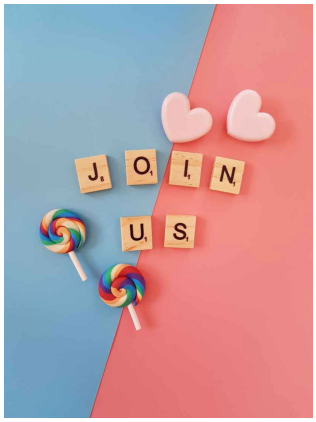
in our registration form. To receive member rates, you must be enrolled in an active paid institutional or individual membership subscription plan. To register follow the registration checklist below.



Membership: USETDA institutional and individual members receive a substantial registration discount over non-member rates to attend the annual conference. Our *Institutional* membership plan provides the discount registration rate to all staff at the member institution or organization. Our *Individual* membership plan provides one conference discount and is intended for individuals independent of organizations or for situations where your institution may not yet offer or support an ETD program. Complete information is available on our membership Web page.

Registration Checklist

1. Check the status of your USETDA membership to confirm registration discount eligibility. To receive a discount, we require an active paid *institutional* or *individual* membership plan enrollment with USETDA. Associate memberships do not qualify.

2. Review the USETDA Conference Rates Chart (below) to confirm applicable fees

3. Pay membership fee (if applicable) via our Membership Web page

4. Purchase conference registration tickets and complete the online registration form via our Events Web page. Members must login before completing the registration form.

5. Book your lodging reservation at the Provo, Marriott Hotel (if you're joining us in-person)

USETDA Conference Registration and Membership Rates Chart

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Membership Enrollment Fee (Annual)		Membership fees must be paid separately from registration via our Membership Web page.
Institutional	$100	Discount member registration rate applies to all staff at the organization
Individual	$50	Intended for individuals independent of organizations or for use where your institution may not yet offer or support an ETD program
Registration Options		Purchase conference registration tickets and complete the online registration form via our Events Web page. The registration fee is the same for in-person or virtual attendance; you will be prompted to indicate your attendance mode in our registration form.
Member registration	$169	Requires valid institutional or individual membership
Non–member registration	$269	
Presenter (Member) registration	$69	Presentation must be accepted by the Program Committee. Requires valid institutional or individual membership
Presenter (Non–member) registration	$169	Presentation must be accepted by the Program Committee
Workshops	$0	Workshop Descriptions

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Payment is expected at the time of registration. We recommend that membership payments be completed prior to purchasing registration tickets via our membership Web page. Discounted member registrations received without valid memberships will be invoiced at the institutional rate and billed to the conference registrant. We accept all major credit cards and PayPal for payment. Instructions for wire transfer and invoices are available upon request at info@usetda.org.

Cancellation Policy:

You must notify the Conference Organizing Committee in advance of the conference date at info@usetda.org. Cancellations will be subject to a 25% service fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellation requests received after September 20, 2024. Cancellations will be processed within 60 days after the end of the event.

USETDA 2024

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Call for Proposals

Click **here** to view the USETDA 2024 Conference Call for Proposals information.

Abstract registration deadline: March 29, 2024

Submission deadline for presentations and papers: September 18, 2024

The USETDA 2024 Conference will be held September 25-27, 2024 on the campus of Brigham Young University (BYU), in Provo, Utah and online as a hybrid event via Zoom.

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Program Schedule

The USETDA 2024 Conference program includes a workshop, panel discussions, individual breakout presentations, user group meetings and flash talks.

Abstracts

- Click on each session number below to link the session abstract.
- Conference Program (pdf) – forthcoming

USETDA 2024 Program Schedule	
Wednesday 9/25/24	
All Times Mountain	**BYU Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3211**
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration & Vendor Fair – Room 3252

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9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Session 1 – **Workshop – Practical Guidance for Supporting LaTeX ETDs** (Ryan Ross, Overleaf). Moderator: Sally Evans
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH – Room 3223
1:00 – 1:45 PM	Session 2 – **Best Practices for Technologically Transforming the Thesis/Dissertation Retreat** (Ruth Lu, Ohio University Graduate College – virtual presentation and Kristin Terrill, Iowa State University Graduate College – in-person presentation). Moderator: Teri Robinson
1:45 – 2:00 PM	Break
2:00 – 3:00 PM	Session 3 – **AI-Facilitated Literature Review: Developing an Instructional Workshop and Leveraging Strategic Partnerships – Panel Discussion** (Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton, Iowa State University Graduate College). Moderator: Kim Fleshman
3:00 – 3:15 PM	Break
3:15 – 4:00 PM	Session 4 – **The Essay Is Dead. Long Live the Essay…That Accompanies Alternative ETD Submissions** (John Fudrow, University of Pittsburgh Libraries – virtual presentation). Moderator: Valerie Emerson
4:00 – 4:15 PM	Break
4:15 – 5:00 PM	Session 5 – **Stop, Remediate, and Listen: Developing Student-Driven Workflows for Creating and Remediating Accessible ETDs** (Josh Cromwell and

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	Jennifer Vance, University of Southern Mississippi Libraries – virtual presentation). Moderator: Kristin Terrill
5:00 – 5:15 PM	Break
5:15 – 6:00 PM	Session 6 – **Preserving Referenced Web Resources in the ETD Process** (Mark Phillips and Ko Lauren, University of North Texas Libraries). Moderator: Teri Green
6:00 – 6:30 PM	Break
6:30 – 8:00 PM	**Opening Reception** (Provo Marriott Hotel – Terrace Lounge)
Thursday 9/26/2024	
All Times Mountain	**BYU Wilkinson Student Center – Room 3380**
7:30 – 8:00 AM	Registration & Vendor Fair – Room 3252
8:00 – 9:30 AM	**Breakfast and Regional ETD Association Networking** – Room 3223
9:30 – 9:45 AM	Break
9:45 – 11:00 AM	Session 7 – **Non-Traditional ETDs: Creating Policies and Guidelines for the Future – Panel Discussion** (Ericka Findley, University of Utah Graduate School and Kim Fleshman, Bowling Green State University Graduate College). Moderator: Kristin Terrill
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Break
11:15 – 12:00 PM	Session 8 – **Using an LMS to Restructure ETD Submission: A Five-Year Review** (Teri Robinson and Danny Davis, Mississippi State University Libraries). Moderator: Teri

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12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH – Room 3223
1:00 – 1:45 PM	Session 9 – **ETD Formatting User's Group Meeting** (Sally Evans, George Mason University Libraries). Flash Talk: Analyzing the Variety of ETD Layouts of Central Universities of India: An Analytical Study Based on Shodhganga (Manmeet Kaur, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar – virtual presentation) Moderator: Valerie Emerson
1:45 – 2:00 PM	Break
2:00 – 2:45 PM	Session 10 – **Forecasting the Evolution of Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs): A Comprehensive Analysis** (Manmeet Kaur, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar – virtual presentation). Moderator: John Hagen
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Break
3:00 – 3:45 PM	Session 11 – **ETD Administrator User Group Meeting** (Austin McLean, April Ellsey, Gilia Smith and Alison Thompson, ProQuest, Part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person presentation). Moderator: Kathy Ivanov
3:45 – 4:00 PM	Break
	Session 12 – **Community Engagement Group Meeting** (Emily Wuchner, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate College). **Flash Talks: (1) What Types of Sources Provide Citations to Dissertations and Theses?** (Joseph Kraus and Christine Baker, Colorado School of

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4:00 – 4:45 PM	Mines Library); **(2) AI Assisted in ETD Backlog Cataloging** (Boutsaba Janetvilay, California State University of Fresno Libraries – virtual presentation). **(3) Contributions of National Databases of Electronic Theses and Dissertations to Reducing Information Asymmetry and Generating Value in an Institution** (Tainá Batista de Assis, Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (Ibict) Library / Université de Toulon – virtual presentation). Moderator: John Hagen	
4:45 – 5:00 PM	Break	
5:00 – 5:45 PM	Session 13 – **Presentation is Everything: Repackaging Information to Streamline the ETD process** (Linsey Ford, University of Houston-Clear Lake Library) Moderator: Teri Green	
6:30 – 8:30 PM	**Dine-Around** (Off-site: dine on your own in small groups)	
Friday 9/27/2024		
	BYU Wilkinson Student Center	
All Times Mountain	**Room 3223**	**Room 3222**
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Session 14 – **Using Quantitative Data to Justify a Request for Increased ETD Administrative Resources** (Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton, Iowa	Session 15 – **Author Integrity in Dissertations** (Alison Thompson and Austin McLean, ProQuest, Part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person

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OhioLINK ETD Center Advisory

	State University Graduate College). Moderator: Teri Robinson	presentation). Moderator: Sally Evans
9:45 – 10:00 AM	Break	
10:00 – 10:45 AM	Session 16 – **New: ProQuest Dissertations now Indexed in Web of Science** (Alison Thompson and Austin McLean, ProQuest, Part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person presentation). Moderator: Ellen Amatangelo	Session 17 – **Finding Your Voice: On Composing Your ETD** (Joseph Moxley, University of South Florida – Department of English). Moderator: John Hagen
10:45 – 11:00 AM	Break	
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Session 18 – **Wrap Up Discussion** (John Hagen, Executive Director – USETDA) – Room 3222	
12:00 PM	Optional Tours (Off-site)	

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Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Wednesday Sessions – BYU Wilkinson Student Center, Room 3211

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (all times are Mountain)

Workshop – Practical Guidance for Supporting LaTeX ETDs. Ryan Ross (Overleaf). Moderator: Sally Evans

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Abstract. This hands-on workshop gives LaTeX novices an opportunity to learn LaTeX basics, have hands-on practice, and see examples of electronic theses and dissertations written in LaTeX. There will also be time for open discussion and Q&A.

Participants need no prior knowledge or experience with LaTeX, and sample documents for hands-on practice are provided. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe the basic principles behind LaTeX
- Create a new LaTeX document from a template in Overleaf
- Edit a document with basic formatting elements
- Insert tables and figures
- Cite references and create a bibliography
- Export their work to a PDF
- Find LaTeX and Overleaf help

Keywords: LaTeX, Overleaf, writing, hands-on

1:00 – 1:45 PM

Best Practices for Technologically Transforming the Thesis/Dissertation Retreat. Ruth Lu (Ohio University Graduate College – virtual presentation) and Kristin Terrill (Iowa State University Graduate College – in-person presentation). Moderator: Teri Robinson

Abstract. Thesis/Dissertation writing retreat events have proven to be popular and appreciated perks for graduate students approaching graduation. These events provide students an opportunity to dedicate time to writing or formatting their thesis/dissertation manuscript. They can also function as a micro-symposium where graduate students and thesis/dissertation administrators and support staff can interact and address matters of shared concern. Organizing these events well requires time, imagination, and ingenuity. In this presentation, we will explore the affordances of digital technologies for thesis/dissertation retreat

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events. The talk will describe two case studies: the first, a weekend retreat for Ohio University thesis/dissertation writers that included in-person participants as well as virtual attendees. The second, a half-day retreat held at Iowa State University. The organizers of these retreats used various digital technologies for event planning, advertising, networking, registering participants, facilitating participation, and collecting feedback from attendees. Some technologies that were used include social media, video conferencing, AI design assistance, and QR codes. We will review these technologies in the context of thesis/dissertation writing retreats and provide suggestions for using them in ways that optimize for event accessibility and effectiveness. We will also consider how the use of digital technologies in the context of thesis/dissertation events can both extend the reach of the events, but also present barriers to certain participants.

Keywords: Thesis/dissertation, writing retreat events, best practices for writing retreats, technology-informed solutions, learner-based interactivity for assessment purposes, retreat optimization, AI-design assistance, case studies, evidence-based event planning

2:00 – 3:00 PM

AI-Facilitated Literature Review: Developing an Instructional Workshop and Leveraging Strategic Partnerships – Panel Discussion. Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton (Iowa State University Graduate College). Moderator: Kim Fleshman

Abstract. How should graduate students' use of AI tools be administered when it comes to theses and dissertations? In this breakout session, we will describe how the Center for Communication Excellence (CCE) has taken a leading stance at our institution in establishing recommendations for the use of generative AI in graduate student scholarship. We propose a framework of best practices called AI-facilitated literature review (AI-FLR) intended to provide both high-level guidance and detailed procedures for effective, efficient, and ethical thesis and dissertation literature reviews. In this presentation, we will describe a grant-funded workshop development project that gives graduate students hands-

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on experience using closed- and open-source generative AI tools as scaffolds for their thesis or dissertation literature review. In this workshop, students will gain competence in three stages required for a thorough thesis/dissertation literature review, starting with finding relevant literature and ending with editing the literature review write-up. They will practice critically applying AI tools to mechanical tasks while maintaining responsibility for accuracy and reliability. Finally, they will evaluate the outputs generated by AI tools to reinforce their knowledge of research conduct and writing quality.

The AI-FLR initiative aims to optimize the trustworthiness of scholarship produced by Iowa State University's graduate students by tapping strategic relationships with institutional leaders in the three tactical areas: compliance, education, and governance (Deloitte AI Institute, 2023). In this presentation we will outline how the AI-FLR framework initiative has taken shape through collaborations with Iowa State University units: the University Library, the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, and the Office of the Vice President for Research. What the CCE brings to these partnerships is a sophisticated understanding of theses and dissertations as a genre of academic writing. With over a decade of experience providing individualized, responsive instruction to graduate student writers, the CCE is uniquely positioned to advocate for graduate education stakeholders in the broader context of the university and university governance. In addition to seeking audience feedback on ways to improve the AI-FLR workshop, we will provide recommendations for ETD administrators aiming to broaden their institutional impact through strategic collaborations.

Keywords: AI-FLR, generative artificial intelligence, literature review, graduate writing, trustworthy AI

3:15 – 4:00 PM

The Essay Is Dead. Long Live the Essay…That Accompanies Alternative ETD Submissions. John Fudrow (University of Pittsburgh Libraries – virtual presentation). Moderator: Valerie Emerson

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Abstract. At the University of Pittsburgh, and elsewhere, a traditional ETD was in an essay format that mimicked the format of print manuscripts from days of yore. But as degrees provided students with more opportunities to create non-essay materials for their capstone projects, our ETD process didn't adapt alongside these changes. Through the efforts of a collaborative team including administrators, faculty, and librarians, a discussion loosely termed "Beyond the PDF" aimed to envision how the university could support and preserve graduate works that push the borders of what many would call an ETD.

In this presentation, I will discuss:

- the challenges we discovered in this process,
- the subsequent inquiries into what might be possible to be considered an ETD,
- how our decentralized approval process would need to be changed,
- possible roadblocks for preservation in our institutional repository, and
- how to assist advisors and students in planning for formatting during their research and drafting stages.

Keywords: Essay, ETD, dissertation, thesis, capstone, non-traditional, beyond the PDF, Pittsburgh

4:15 – 5:00 PM

Stop, Remediate, and Listen: Developing Student-Driven Workflows for Creating and Remediating Accessible ETDs. Josh Cromwell and Jennifer Vance (University of Southern Mississippi Libraries – virtual presentation). Moderator: Kristin Terrill

Abstract. The University of Southern Mississippi has included electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) in its institutional repository, Aquila, since 2012. Graduate theses and dissertations are submitted directly by students and approved by the Graduate School before being posted to the repository. While this workflow has

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worked well for the most part, it has resulted in some accessibility concerns as most graduate students do not have training or experience in creating accessible documents.

This presentation will provide an overview of the two-pronged strategy that we have used to make our ETDs accessible. First, we will discuss how we have utilized student workers and graduate assistants to conduct accessibility checks and remediate errors in previously uploaded ETDs. Then, we will discuss our collaboration efforts with the Graduate School to provide current graduate students with resources they can use to create accessible documents when submitting their ETDs to the repository. We will conclude by discussing what has worked well, what improvements are needed, and our goals and next steps.

Keywords: Accessibility, students, electronic theses and dissertations, remediation, Graduate School

5:15 – 6:00 PM

Preserving Referenced Web Resources in the ETD Process. Mark Phillips and Ko Lauren (University of North Texas Libraries). Moderator: Teri Green

Abstract. Web resources play important roles in electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs), representing cited scholarly literature, government publications, websites, social media posts, and other resources upon which students build their ETDs. URLs in the text, footnotes, and references or bibliography sections of ETDs connect readers to the referenced web resources. Preserving these referenced web resources is an important piece of the scholarly communication landscape and is a topic calling for additional attention by the community.

There are two periods when web resources can be archived in the ETD process. The first is pre-submission and relies on the author to proactively archive the web resources referenced in their document. This can be carried out with web-based self-archiving interfaces in existing web archives like the Internet Archive's Save Page Now

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feature. Once in a public web archive, these web resources can be linked to with Robust Links that provide references to the live web resource and the specific web resource in the archive. The second period is post-submission and typically involves the library or repository responsible for the long-term preservation of the ETD to archive referenced web resources. This generally involves parsing the submitted ETD for URLs then collecting the referenced resources with a web crawler. These archived URLs are either included in a larger web archive or packaged and included with the ETD in the repository.

This paper will focus on a pilot project that the University of North Texas Libraries implemented to test a post-submission workflow for identifying and archiving web resources referenced in the 400 ETDs our students submitted in 2023. We will focus on the tools that were chosen for this work including locally developed PDF link extraction scripts and web archiving tools like Browsertrix Crawler. We will also discuss the packaging of the resulting per-ETD web archives using the WACZ specification and interfaces developed for displaying these archived resources within the repository platform. We hope this paper generates discussion of how different approaches to preserving web resources referenced in ETDs might become commonplace in our institutions.

Keywords: Web archives, electronic thesis and dissertations, web resources

6:30 – 8:00 PM
Welcome Reception (Provo Marriott Hotel – Terrace Lounge)

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Thursday Sessions – BYU Wilkinson Student Center – Room 3380 (Auditorium)

8:00 – 9:30
Networking Breakfast *(*BYU Wilkinson Student Center – Room 3223)

9:45 – 11:00 AM

Non-Traditional ETDs: Creating Policies and Guidelines for the Future – Panel Discussion. Ericka Findley (University of Utah Graduate School) and Kim Fleshman (Bowling Green State University Graduate College). Moderator: Kristin Terrill

Abstract. As schools are more frequently encountering a variety of ETD submissions that challenge the structure of the traditional five-chapter manuscript, many schools are beginning to reconsider what exactly a thesis or a dissertation really is. While we have previously discussed some of the submissions we've processed as well as some of the more famous examples of non-traditional ETDs, we seek to extend the discussion to the policy surrounding their acceptance. This presentation looks at a variety of policies we've discovered at a number of schools that address the changing landscape. These schools go beyond providing a list of acceptable formats for supplementary materials: they provide supporting guidelines for the acceptance of alternatively formatted material as the final product itself.

We present these findings as a glimpse towards how our own schools (and yours, too!) may better plan for the future. While we are outstanding proponents of welcoming change, we must seek to reconcile these changes within a profession that largely requires a highly structured set of rules. Allowing for exceptions to the existing formats must necessarily entail the creation of new rules that adapt to the unique creations we will see in the future. Not only must we decide what we should accept and what it should look like, we must also determine policies surrounding how to make the material accessible. This presentation adds to the conversation on how schools can begin (or continue) to shift their own parameters.

Keywords: Non-traditional ETDs, policies, future

11:15 – 12:00 PM

Using an LMS to Restructure ETD Submission: A Five-Year

Review. Teri Robinson and Danny Davis (Mississippi State University Libraries). Moderator: Teri Green

Abstract. At Mississippi State University, theses and dissertations are reviewed and approved by the Office of Thesis and Dissertation Format Review (OTD). OTD is a part of the University's Library and works closely with the Graduate School to set submission standards. In 2019 OTD began using Canvas, the university's learning management system (LMS), for all thesis and dissertation submissions. Students are expected to enroll in a required course during their final semester to gain access to the submission modules in Canvas. All forms and documents are submitted in Canvas, making the process entirely electronic.

While the Canvas course has proved to be easy for students to navigate, it has not been everything the OTD expected or hoped for when creating the course. There are administrative tasks that were not anticipated, reporting tools not working as intended, and difficulty getting all of campus to understand and come on board with the new procedures. This presentation will cover how the process has evolved over the last five years using Canvas and cover some of the benefits and disadvantages discovered along the way.

Keywords: Learning management system (LMS), Canvas, theses and dissertations

1:00 – 1:45 PM

ETD Formatting Users' Group Meeting. Sally Evans (George Mason University Libraries). Moderator: Valerie Emerson

Abstract. The United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) founded the ETD Formatting Users' Group in 2021 to give a platform and a source of support and advice to reviewers of theses and dissertations. At each yearly conference, the group will meet to discuss the past year's challenges, issues, and successes in the field, and to share knowledge and resources with colleagues. Furthermore, we will consider the future of formatting and format reviews: How is our field changing? How should our field

change? Please join us as we present issues, share solutions, and learn from one another.

Keywords: Formatting, format review, users' group

Flash Talk

Analyzing the Variety of ETD Layouts of Central Universities of India: An Analytical Study Based on Shodhganga. Manmeet Kaur (Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar – virtual presentation).

Abstract. This analytical study investigates the differences in Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) design among Central Universities of India using data from Shodhganga. The major objectives of the proposed research are to analyze the range of layouts utilized, assess how well they show academic information, and draw conclusions about how layout modifications affect accessibility and user experience.

The study concentrates on the content analysis of a sample of Central University ETDs and employs a qualitative technique. Chapters organization, overall readability, the use of graphic elements, and formatting styles are among the attributes that are examined. Additionally, the data in each ETD is examined to see if layout choices and consistency or completeness of metadata are connected. Data analysis reveals a large variation in ETD layouts.

The study concludes by emphasizing how crucial it is to see layout design as a significant component of ETD distribution. The accessibility and usefulness of ETDs for researchers, educators, and other stakeholders may be improved by Central Universities by implementing consistent formatting methods and improving metadata completeness. Furthermore, the analysis's conclusions can help develop best practices and recommendations for structuring ETDs, which will improve scholarly communication and the sharing of information within the academic community.

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Forecasting the Evolution of Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs): A Comprehensive Analysis. Manmeet Kaur (Uttarakhand Sanskrit University Library, Haridwar – virtual presentation).
Moderator: John Hagen

Abstract. This study explores the many paths that electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) may take, recognizing and assessing novel trends, challenges, and opportunities. It looks at institutional practices, technological advancements, and literature to forecast how ETDs will develop in higher education. Important study areas include copyright concerns, accessibility, preservation, distribution, and the impact of cutting-edge technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and block chains. This study also discusses the impact of ETDs on academic libraries, scholarly communication, and institutional repositories.

The use of AI techniques in ETDs is becoming more and more essential. They include a number of features that can greatly improve the writing and research processes, including:

1. AI Writing Assistants: These technologies may assist with style, grammar, and maintaining academic integrity, which will speed up the thesis writing process.

2. Data Analysis Software: AI can swiftly process and examine enormous datasets, finding trends and revelations that might strengthen a thesis.

3. Automated Literature Review: AI-powered technologies can identify pertinent studies, condense large volumes of literature, and save researchers time while doing literature reviews.

4. Citation and Reference Managers: AI may help with citation and reference management, guaranteeing correctness and compliance with formatting requirements.

5. Automatic Content Generation: Using natural language processing (NLP), certain AI systems may produce material. This can be helpful

for drafting thesis parts or drafts.

6. Research Paper Organizers: By organizing research papers and PDFs, these programs facilitate access to and study of important materials.

7. Semantic Search Engines: AI systems are able to search databases semantically, eliminating the need for keywords to locate pertinent articles and resources.

These technologies are intended to assist researchers by enhancing academic writing quality, automating repetitive processes, and offering insights. We can anticipate these tools becoming much more advanced as AI technology develops, providing researchers and students with even more support.

Keywords: electronic theses and dissertations, artificial intelligence, evolution

3:00 – 3:45 PM

ETD Administrator User Group. Austin McLean, April Ellsey, Gilia Smith, and Alison Thompson (ProQuest part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person presentation). Moderator: Kathy Ivanov

Abstract. We invite new and prospective users to participate in an interactive discussion of the free to authors and universities ProQuest ETD Administrator workflow and management system. Find out about new developments and improvements and get an update on the ETD Administrator system. Share best practices and learn how to get the most from the system, including populating your institutional repository.

Keywords: ProQuest, ETD Administrator, dissertations

4:00 – 4:45 PM

Community Engagement Group Meeting. Emily Wuchner

(University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Graduate College).
Moderator: John Hagen

Abstract. The USETDA Community Engagement Group was formed in 2021 and focuses on identifying opportunities for members to learn more about important topics in the ever-changing thesis landscape, promoting professional development among members, and creating a space for networking. At this conference, we'll host five-minute flash talks so that our members can share some of their innovative ideas, topics they are exploring, and new discoveries.

Keywords: ETD, engagement, community

Flash Talks

(1) What Types of Sources Provide Citations to Dissertations and Theses? Joseph Kraus and Christine Baker (Colorado School of Mines Library).

Abstract. In order to determine the reach and usage of a specific set of about 65 doctoral dissertations and master's theses that were produced at the Colorado School of Mines from 2007 to 2023, the authors used Google Scholar to determine how many times each of those dissertations and theses had been cited. They also determined what types of sources (such as journal articles, books, conference papers, technical reports, and government documents) cite those publications. Donner (2021) had found that "there are few publications on citation analysis of Ph.D. theses as the cited documents, as opposed to studies of the documents cited in theses, of which there are plenty." Thus, this short talk aims to briefly expand what is known about how researchers cite dissertations and theses.

Donner, Paul. "Citation analysis of Ph. D. theses with data from Scopus and Google Books." Scientometrics 126, no. 12 (2021): 9431-9456

(2) AI Assisted in ETD Backlog Cataloging. Boutsaba Janetvilay (California State University of Fresno Libraries – virtual presentation).

Abstract. Frustrated with the ongoing backlog of electronic theses and dissertations, the author decided to use ChatGPT to help with the process of cataloging. In ScholarWorks, cataloging is about properly describing or creating metadata for an item and adding it to the institutional repository. The purpose is so that we can retrieve the appropriate data on a subject that we are searching for. The primary purpose of the author was to use ChatGPT to assist with assigning the Library of Congress Subject Headings. After seeing a library's presentation on how we can use AI to create a bibliographic MARC record, the author was inspired to test out ChatGPT. The result was positive with regard to how quickly ChatGPT was able to generate accuracy in assigning Library of Congress Subject Headings.

(3) Contributions of National Databases of Electronic Theses and Dissertations to Reducing Information Asymmetry and Generating Value in an Institution. Tainá Batista de Assis (Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology (Ibict) Library / Université de Toulon – virtual presentation).

Abstract. Universities are the main locus for the production of scientific information, and the products generated in their postgraduate courses are essential for promoting the country's scientific and technological development. The digital environments that manage and provide access to these scientific productions have become fundamental components, contributing directly to the generation of new knowledge. In 1959, Mikhailov stated that the advancement of science and technology is only possible with well-organized information systems, and that sharing research results is an essential activity for the progress of a country's Science and Technology (S&T). Nevertheless, the development and consolidation of national databases and networks of electronic theses and dissertations are driving the dissemination of knowledge as a common good throughout the world, under the pillars of transparency and democratization of access to information and knowledge. In this sense, this paper aims to discuss the contributions of these spaces as instruments to mitigate information asymmetry and their impact on value generation/measurement. To this end, the scientific methodology chosen is exploratory research, with the aim

of broadening the discussion around the value of national electronic databases of theses and dissertations, by demonstrating the contributions of the Brazilian database called the Brazilian Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (BDTD). The research concludes that there is concrete evidence of the contributions of national electronic databases of theses and dissertations, especially the BDTD, to reducing information asymmetries in science, as well as generating new knowledge and value for their institutions.

5:00 – 5:45 PM

Presentation is Everything: Repackaging Information to Streamline the ETD Process. Linsey Ford (University of Houston-Clear Lake Library). Moderator: Teri Green

Abstract. From the time our library began accepting ETDs, all resources related to them – templates, format guidelines, submission information, and help videos – have been housed in a LibGuide to which all students are directed. While this put everything in a convenient location, students were not taking the time to view the material. As a result, all but a small percentage of students came to the required formatting appointment with no clue what they were doing. As the sole librarian who oversees the submission of ETDs for the university, working with students who don't take advantage of the information provided to them can be both frustrating and time-consuming.

After several semesters of dealing with this problem, I began to consider how to get students to actually engage with the myriad resources available, to streamline the process and prevent unnecessary stress. I ultimately decided to create a tutorial to present the same information in a different format, breaking it into steps and using videos, images, quizzes, and interactive activities to clarify the process and make the information more memorable.

I plan to share my experience designing and implementing a mandatory tutorial created in Articulate for use by graduate students prior to ETD formatting appointments, which has led to a significant increase in student preparedness and overall efficiency in the

formatting and submission process. The presentation will include an explanation of the various types of information included in the tutorial and how it was presented to students, discussion of some of the most noteworthy findings, both data-driven and anecdotal, and mention of lessons learned so others might benefit when conducting similar projects.

Keywords: Streamlining ETD process, formatting, tutorial

6:30 – 8:30 PM
Dine Arounds (meet in Provo Marriott lobby)

Friday, September 27, 2024

All conference sessions to be held at BYU Wilkinson Student Center

9:00 – 9:45 AM (Session A – Room 3223)

Using Quantitative Data to Justify a Request for Increased ETD Administrative Resources. Kristin Terrill and Lily Compton (Iowa State University Graduate College). Moderator: Teri Robinson

Abstract. Time, training, buy-in: these were some of the most prominent themes that emerged from a roundtable session on digital accessibility that we facilitated at last year's USETDA. So, what does it take to convince leadership and gatekeepers to provide ETD administrators with essential resources? In this presentation, we will explain how we used quantitative data from ProQuest ETD Administrator, our institutional repository (IR), and our appointment records to build a case for increasing thesis/dissertation administration funding.

Our analysis was motivated by the problem of creative components —non-thesis master's capstone projects. These documents are stored in the IR and, thus, are covered under the institution's digital accessibility mandate. However, currently, these files are not reviewed prior to IR release, so there is no way of ensuring that they

are digitally accessible. By contrast, the Graduate College has established a robust and functional review process for theses and dissertations. Having enacted a plan for incorporating digital accessibility review into this existing process, our next challenge is to develop a parallel workflow for creative components.

Intuitively, we know that current resources are not enough to a) review creative components for digital accessibility, and b) educate student authors to make their documents accessible. To make a convincing case for increasing staffing, we used available data to quantify how existing resources are used in thesis/dissertation administration. Our analysis shows that reviewing creative components would necessitate at least 167 additional hours (approximately four 40-hour work weeks) per semester. It also showed that the sole factor that significantly decreased reviewing time was pre-submission format consultations with trained graduate assistants. These results indicate a clear need for additional staffing; they also justify the allocation of existing funds to our thesis/dissertation consulting program by showing that consultations reduce re-work for both reviewers and students. We will report on the outcomes of this analysis, as well as some interesting insights that we gained, such as proportions of students using different template platforms. We will discuss implications for how we can best support students' learning needs when it comes to digital accessibility.

Keywords: Digital accessibility, creative component, institutional repository, budget justification

9:00 – 9:45 AM (Session B – Room 3222)

Author Integrity in Dissertations. Alison Thompson and Austin McLean (ProQuest, part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person presentation). Moderator: Sally Evans

Abstract. The session will provide background and context on plagiarism in the media and the ramifications for authors and institutions. University panelists will share strategies for plagiarism prevention and author integrity checks. We will discuss the originality of AI-generated content and find out how universities are creating

policy around this emerging technology. A Clarivate representative will share information about author integrity best practices and resources for academic partners.

Keywords: Plagiarism, author integrity, generative AI

10:00 – 10:45 AM (Session A – Room 3223)

New: ProQuest Dissertations now Indexed in Web of Science. Alison Thompson and Austin McLean, (ProQuest, part of Clarivate – virtual and in-person presentation). Moderator: Ellen Amatangelo

Abstract. The Web of Science platform provides access to multiple databases that provide citation data from academic journals, conference proceedings, and other documents in various disciplines. As of 2023, Clarivate has integrated ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (PQDT) metadata and abstracts with Web of Science. This integration provides authors and institutions with a significantly higher reach for their research and enables Web of Science users to access early career research alongside the data sources referenced above. The session will include partner testimonials to share their experience with PQDT/Web of Science firsthand.

Keywords: ProQuest, dissertations, Web of Science

10:00 – 10:45 AM (Session B – Room 3222)

Finding Your Voice: On Composing Your ETD. Joseph Moxley (University of South Florida – Department of English). Moderator: John Hagen

Abstract. The goal of this session is to help ETD authors better understand the writing process, the importance of "felt sense" and "believing" to composing, creativity — and impact. Moreover, I'll introduce strategies for managing the process, from logging work to leveraging AI. Naturally, I'll deal with academic conventions and other constraints on composing, especially academe's failure to embrace change/multimodal compositions. Ideally, participants will leave the panel inspired, ready to seize their agency.

11:00 – 11:45 AM (Room 3222)

Session 18 – **Wrap Up Discussion** (John Hagen, Executive Director – USETDA)

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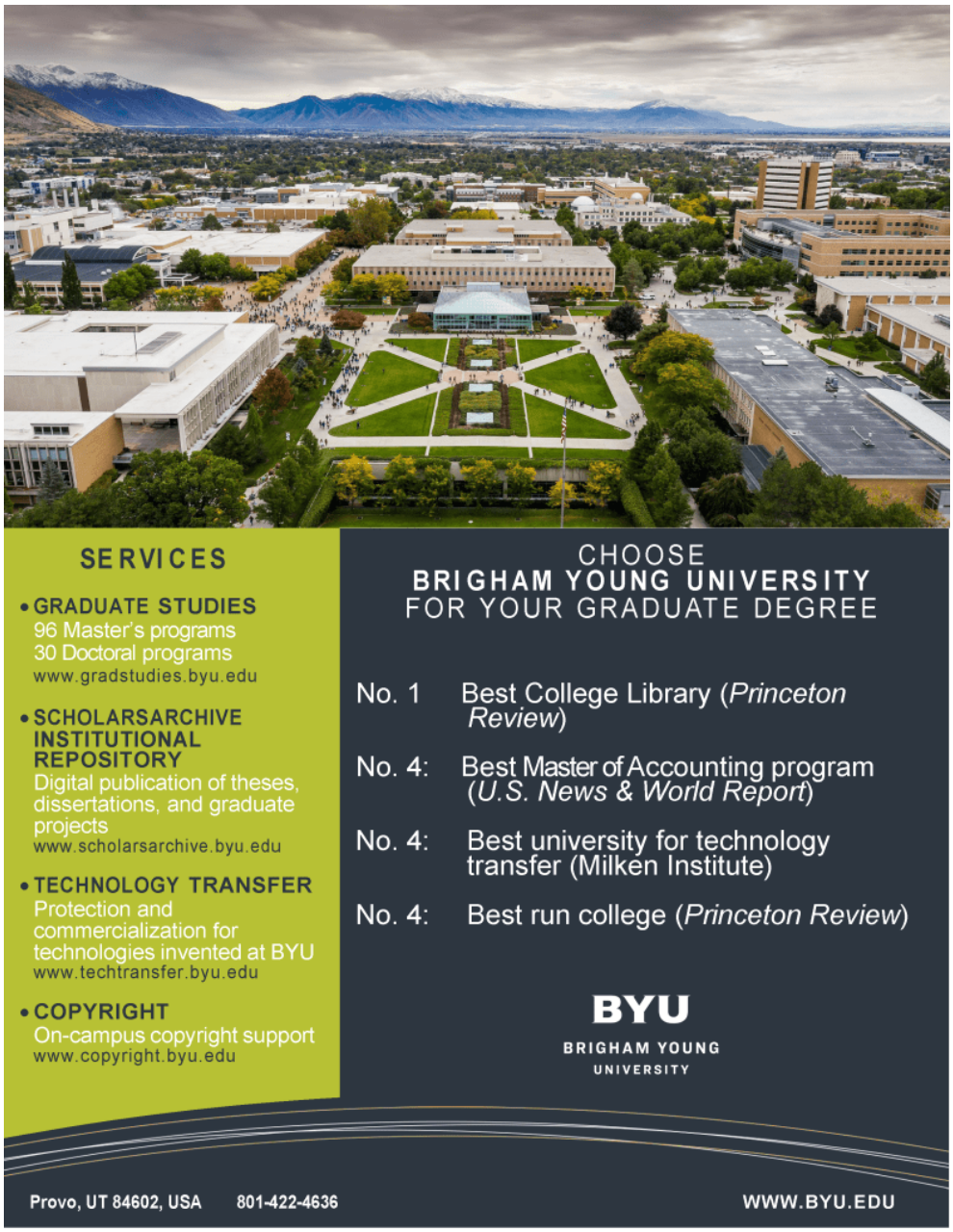

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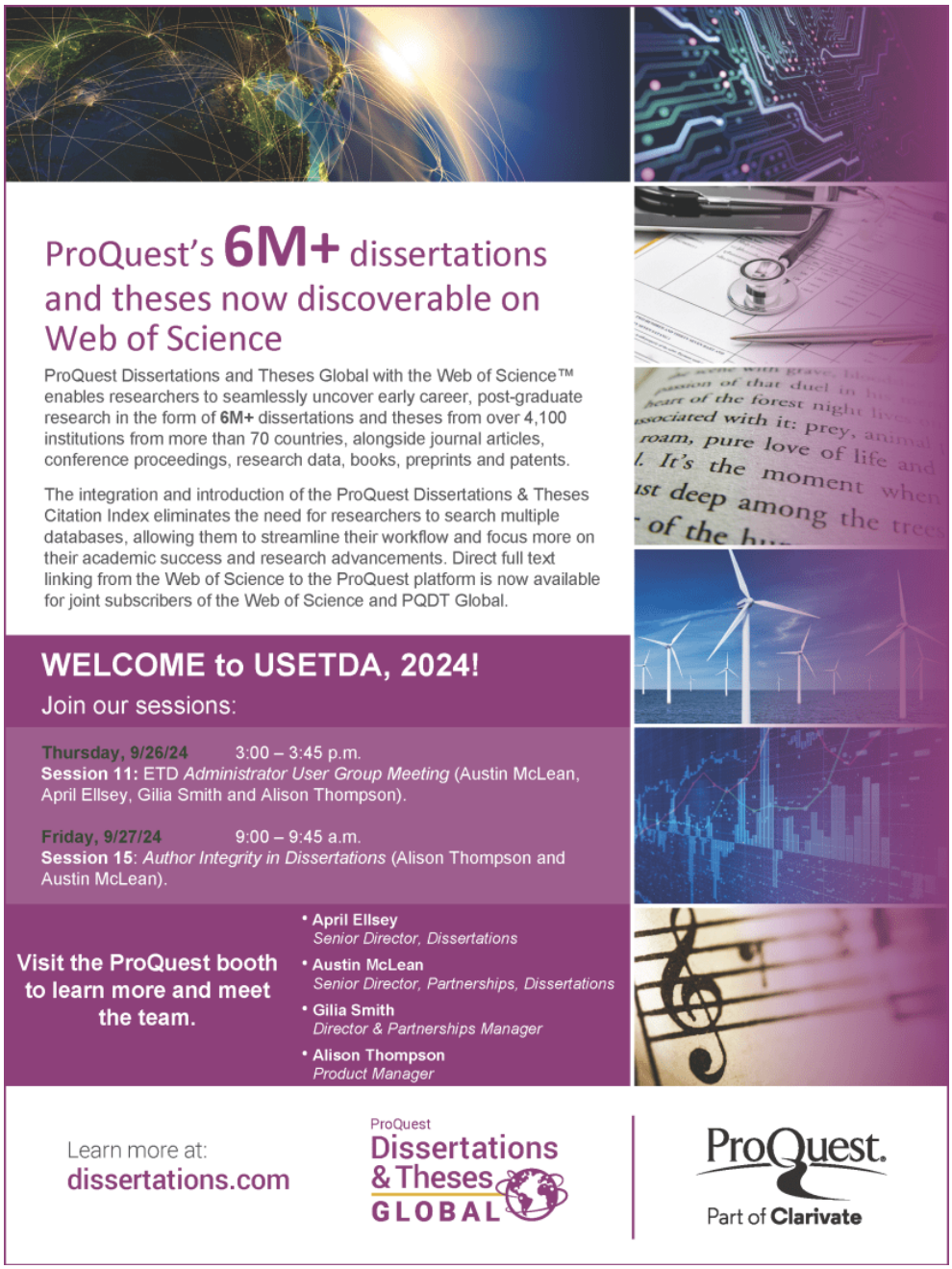

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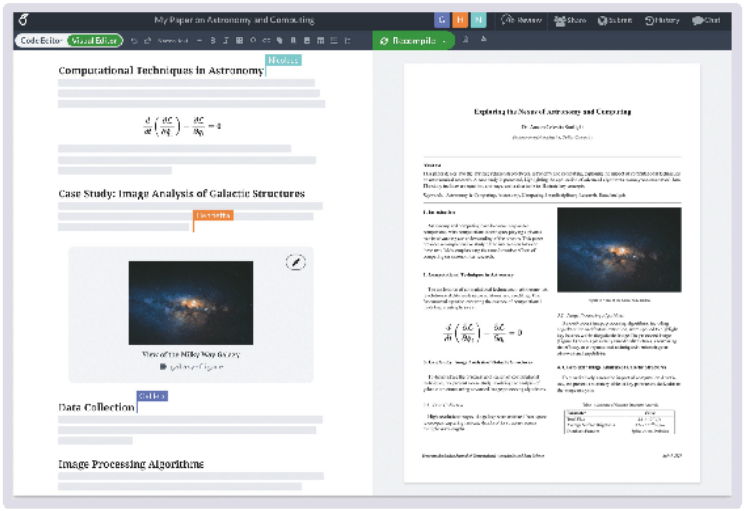

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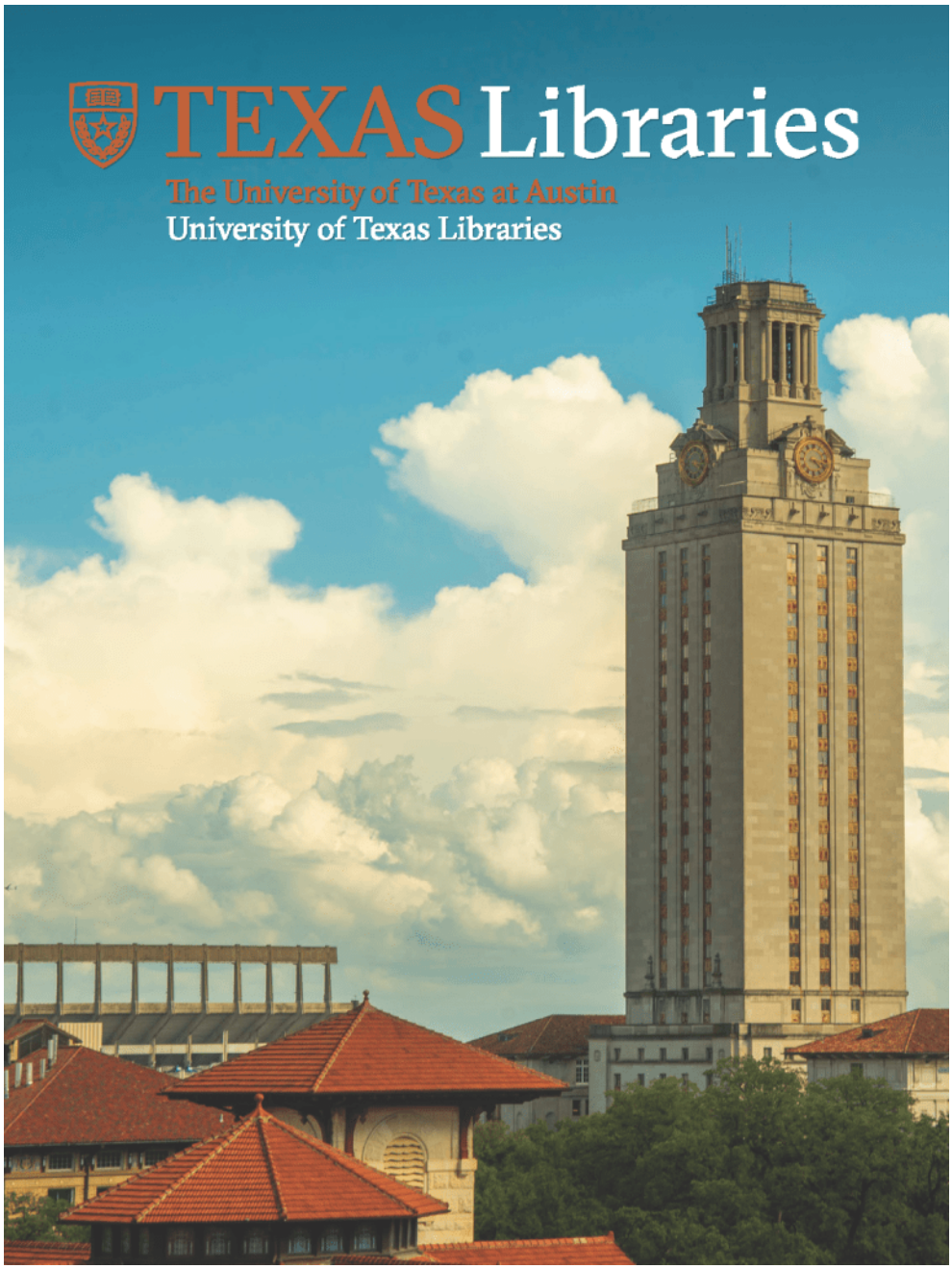

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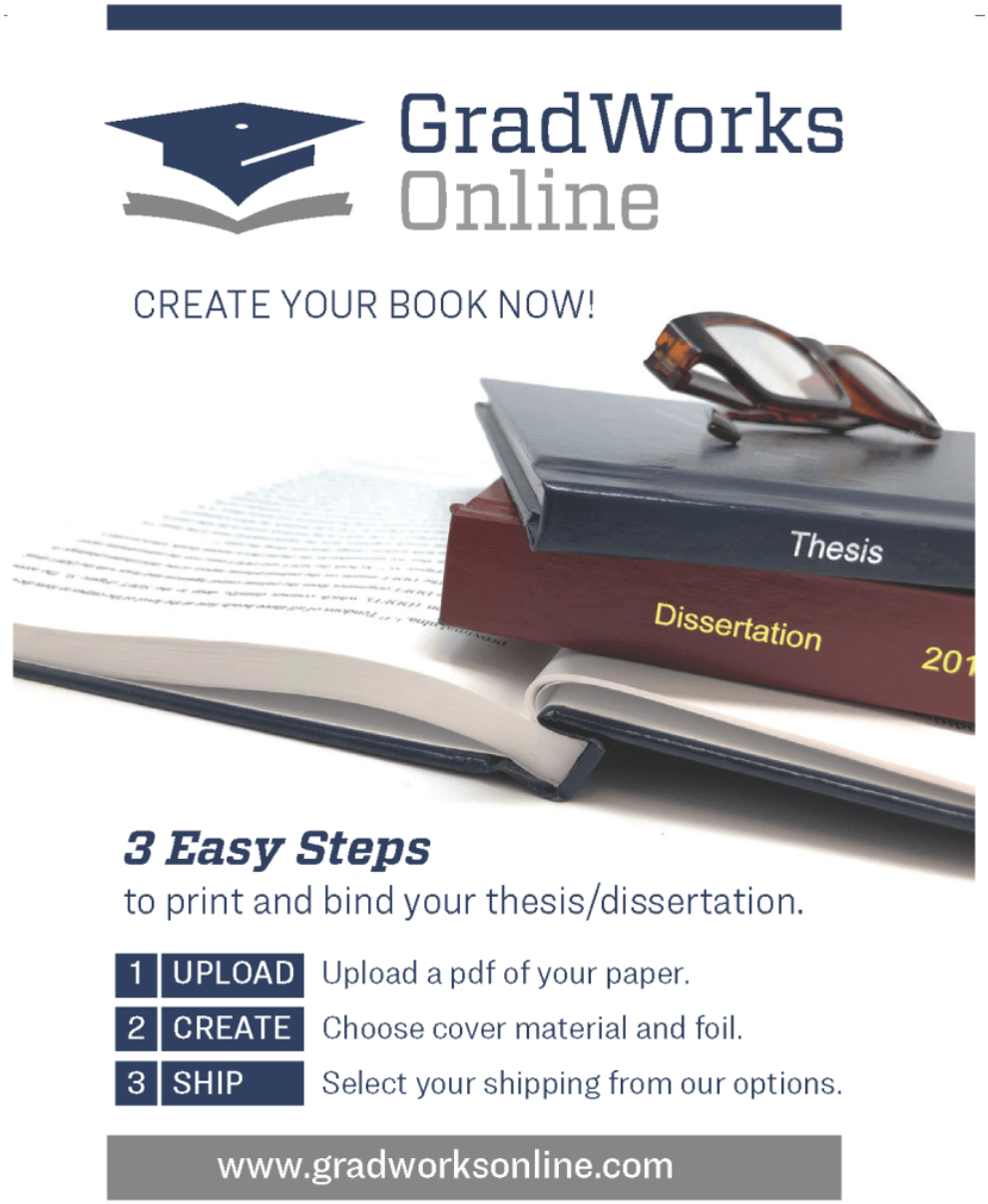

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Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD)

OhioLINK ETD Center Advisory Council
Formerly OETDA

Texas Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (TxETDA)

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Renaissance Scholarly Communications
Bridging the Knowledge Divide — Consulting Services for Digital Library, Open Access & Social Justice Advocacy
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♦ digital libraries
♦ institutional repositories
♦ intellectual property
♦ ETD program implementation
♦ multimedia production
♦ conference planning / organizing
♦ sponsorship fundraising
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John H. Hagen, Consultant / Owner
www.renaissance-scholar.com
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United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

Sponsorship

The United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) will hold its 14th annual conference from September 25-27, 2024 on the campus of Brigham Young University (BYU), in Provo, Utah and online as a hybrid event via Zoom.

USETDA 2024 is for graduate school, disability and student services, offices of diversity, equity and inclusion, library, information technology and industry professionals and others who work with electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs), institutional repositories, graduate students and scholarly communications. Our goal is to offer

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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 "*Tech's Next Frontier: Transforming Research & Digital Scholarship*" will delve into technology as it impacts various aspects of the creation and dissemination of scholarly work. 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 Conference sponsorship options listed below. 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 August 2, 2024.

About USETDA 2024

USETDA 2024 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 hundreds of 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 and graduate school related services. Part of the conference includes an ETD

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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. To learn more about the conference, visit our online program schedule.

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 2024 Sponsorship Options

Platinum Sponsor $5,000

- Logo depicted on the front cover of the digital and print Conference program
- Mention in all conference literature as a Major sponsor
- Logo displayed on the USETDA Conference Website*
- One full-page color advertisement in the Conference Program (camera ready, 7.5 inches wide by 10 inches high)
- Full page display in the virtual conference exhibition area*
- Two-table display in the conference exhibition area
- Opportunities for one-on-one video conferencing with audience participants via Zoom breakout
- Welcome address from the sponsor (10 minutes) during a plenary session**
- 5 Complimentary Registrations

Gold Sponsor $3,000

- Logo depicted in the digital and print Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Associated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Website*
- Half-page color advertisement in the Conference Program (camera ready, 7.5 inches wide by 5 inches high)
- Half-page display in the virtual conference exhibition area*

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- Full-table display in the conference exhibition area
- Opportunities for one-on-one video conferencing with audience participants via Zoom breakout
- Welcome message during a conference lunch (2 minutes)
- 2 Complimentary Registrations

Silver Sponsor $2,000

- Logo depicted in the digital and print Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Affiliated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Website*
- Quarter-page color advertisement in the Conference Program (camera ready, 3.75 inches wide by 5 inches high)
- Quarter-page display in the virtual conference exhibition area*
- Full-table display in the conference exhibition area
- Welcome message during the conference networking breakfast (1 minute)
- 1 Complimentary Registration

Bronze Sponsor $1,000

- Logo depicted in the digital and print Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Affiliated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Website*
- Quarter-page color advertisement in the Conference Program (camera ready, 3.75 inches wide by 5 inches high)
- Quarter-page display in the virtual conference exhibition area*

Partner Sponsor $500

- Logo depicted in the digital and print Conference program
- Mention in all Conference literature as an Affiliated Sponsor
- Logo displayed on USETDA Conference Website*

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

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

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

Logo graphics should be submitted at the time of sponsorship confirmation (TIF or EPS for print display and png or jpg for online display). Advertisements must be submitted no later than August 10, 2022 (camera ready PDF with or without bleed marks).

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
Executive Director, USETDA
johnhagen@usetda.org

Conference Sponsorship Resources:

- Conference Information
- Sponsors
- Sponsor Exhibits
- Conference Registration / Sponsorship Online Payment
- Invoices available upon request

Candid Guidestar non-profits transparency program

USETDA 2024

Resources
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ETD Surveys
ETD Terms and Definitions
Graduate College and Library Resources
Institutional Repository Software/Services/Systems
Preservation Resources
Tutorials
Resources for Students

ETD Organizations

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Transportation

Airport Service

- There are a variety of transportation options from Salt Lake City International Airport to the Provo Marriott Hotel. Please note, direct air service is not available for flights from SLC Airport to Provo. The distance from SLC to Provo is 45 miles.
  - Lyft
  - Uber: $64 one way
  - Bus: Greyhound- $33 one way (1.5 hours)
  - Train: Amtrak and FrontRunner Provo-Ogden – $3 – $10 (2 hours)
  - Private ground transportation services ($300+)
  - Rentals
  - Ride-Share List (Add your contact information and flight arrival and departure details to our ride-share list to

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contact colleagues interested in sharing local transport from SLC airport to the Provo Marriott Hotel via Lyft, Uber, private shuttle or car rental.

Provo

- We will provide limited daily van shuttle service between the Provo Marriott Hotel to the BYU Campus. The distance from the Provo Marriott to campus is approximately 2 miles.
  - **Wednesday, September 25:**
    - Pick up at Provo Marriott at 7:30-7:45 am, drop off at Wilkinson Center by 8:00 am
    - Pick up at Wilkinson Center at 6:00-6:15 pm, drop off at Provo Marriott by 6:25 pm
  - **Thursday, September 26:**
    - Pick up at Provo Marriott at 7:00-7:15 am, drop off at Wilkinson Center by 7:30 am
    - Pick up at Wilkinson Center at 5:45-6:00 pm, drop off at Provo Marriott by 6:15 pm
  - **Friday, September 27:**
    - Pick up at Provo Marriott at 8:15-8:30 am, drop of at Wilkinson Center by 8:45 am
    - We will assess transportation needs at the conference The main conference ends at 12:00 pm, but we have optional library tours planned from 12:00-1:00, some people may need to depart to the airport directly from campus while others may want to return to the Provo Marriott immediately following in the conference at Noon.
    - We will likely provide pick up at Wilkinson Center at 12:00 pm, drop off at Provo Marriott by 12:30 pm
- Parking
  - Free parking is available on the BYU campus, available adjacent to the Wilkinson Student Center, also at the Law Building and the Museum of Art. You just need to mention at the parking booth that you're here to attend the USETDA Conference.
  - Free parking is also available at the Provo Marriott Hotel.

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Bucket List – Things to do while in Provo…

Provo

The Provo Farmers Market runs every Saturday from at Pioneer Park (about four blocks from the conference hotel). It is a large market with food trucks and booths, fresh produce, craft and art vendors, and live music. Pioneer Book is a fun used bookstore close to the Farmers Market that's worth a stop. Dive into the vibrant culinary scene of Downtown Provo Restaurants.

You can take a self-guided tour of historic buildings close to downtown Provo. Download the PDF here, or the ios app here.

BYU campus has several museums that are free and open to the public:
Bean Life Science Museum
BYU Museum of Art
Museum of Paleontology
Museum of Peoples and Cultures
BYU Library Exhibits

Provo Canyon offers scenic drives, parks, camp sites, mountain hiking trails, and river rafting.

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Salt Lake City

Salt Lake City is home to Temple Square and the headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Free tours are available for visitors in many of the buildings. The temple is currently under renovation, but a replica can be viewed in the Conference Center across the street. The Church History Museum and the Church History Library are also located close to Temple Square.

Salt Lake FanX runs September 26th-28th in the Salt Palace Convention Center. Tickets can be purchased here: https://fanxsaltlake.com/ticket-info/. I list of celebrity guests can found here: https://fanxsaltlake.com/fanx/guests/.

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Greater Utah

Utah has several national parks, trails, and monuments. More information about them can be found here: https://www.nps.gov/state/ut/index.htm

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United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

Welcome to USETDA 2024

Conference Resources

The USETDA Conference Organizing Committee is pleased to welcome you to USETDA 2024, our 14th Annual USETDA Conference – "Tech's Next Frontier: Transforming Research & Digital Scholarship." Join us September 25-27, 2024 on the campus of Brigham Young University (BYU) and online for this hybrid event.

This year's program includes two interactive plenary panel discussions, a workshop, eleven 45-minute in-depth presentations, user group meetings, as well as a variety of networking opportunities. All presentations will be streamed live and recorded via Zoom during the conference and in-person and virtual participants will be able to interact with each other throughout the event. You can view the entire conference session line up including times and locations in our program schedule.

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Most of our conference functions will take place on the BYU campus – Wilkinson Student Center unless otherwise noted. Join us Wednesday morning for a comprehensive 2-hour workshop on providing guidance for supporting LaTeX ETDs. Wednesday evening join us for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at our welcome reception at the Provo Marriott Hotel terrace lounge. Thursday morning we'll open with our networking breakfast on campus. Thursday afternoon includes our user group sessions and Thursday evening includes our dine-around excursions to enjoy local cuisine and culture among colleagues. Join us Friday at 11:00 am for our closing session and wrap-up session!

We hope you will take some time to explore the variety of presentations we're offering as well as to engage with colleagues in the USETDA community. We are all about learning and sharing with each other in a congenial atmosphere. We also hope that you will continue the conference excitement throughout the year by participating in our group activities and exploring for like-minded colleagues in our members directory. Below you will find a list of resources to help you navigate the conference program online.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at info@usetda.org.
– USETDA 2024 Conference Organizing Committee

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Dine Around

Thursday, September 26, 2024
Meet at 6:30 pm in the main lobby of the Provo Marriott Hotel

The Local Organizing Committee for USETDA 2024 invites you to join us at some of our favorite dining locations to sample the great food and drink that Provo has to offer. Dinner is on your own, organized in groups. This is an opportunity for a casual night out with other conference attendees to share a meal and some great conversation within walking distance from the conference hotel. Sign-up sheets will be available at the registration desk. Options include:

Los Hermanos (Mexican)
1 E Center St. (8 minute walk)
$13-$25
Menu

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Station 22 (American)
22 W Center St. (5 minute walk)
$15-$25
Menu

Guru's (Eclectic)
45 E Center St. (7 minute walk)
$10-$21
Menu*

Vegan Sun (Asian)
225 W Center St. (6 minute walk)
$10-$15
Menu*

*Menu includes vegan and gluten free options

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United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association

Workshops

The USETDA is pleased to offer intensive learning experiences through our conference workshop series. This year's workshop is 2.5 hours in length, to be held in-person on the BYU campus and online via Zoom. Workshop descriptions and presenter information are listed below. All workshops are offered free of charge to conference registrants – be sure to enroll for this workshop when you register. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 25th (9 AM – 12 Noon Mountain time).

Practical Guidance for Supporting LaTeX ETDs

Presented by Ryan Ross, Institutional Sales Manager at Overleaf.

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This hands-on workshop gives LaTeX novices an opportunity to learn LaTeX basics, have hands on practice, and see examples of electronic theses and dissertations written in LaTeX. There will also be time for open discussion and Q&A.

Participants need no prior knowledge or experience with LaTeX, and sample documents for hands-on practice are provided. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Describe the basic principles behind LaTeX
- Create a new LaTeX document from a template in Overleaf
- Edit a document with basic formatting elements
- Insert tables and figures
- Cite references and create a bibliography
- Export their work to a PDF
- Be able to find LaTeX and Overleaf help

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