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Thinking Ahead: Dissertations & Theses

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Thinking Ahead: Dissertations and Theses

February 17, 2015

Hacking the Stacks - Inside Scoop on Library Resources for
Graduate Level Research from WMU's Research Experts

Maira Bundza, ScholarWorks Librarian

Where are you?

- ▶ Master's or Doctoral?
- ▶ Thesis or dissertation
 - ▶ Haven't started
 - ▶ Have done literature review
 - ▶ In the middle
 - ▶ Finishing up

Finding other dissertations and theses

- ▶ Dissertations guide - <http://libguides.wmich.edu/dissertations>
- ▶ Dissertations and Theses Global (ProQuest)
- ▶ WorldCat Dissertations and Theses
- ▶ Center for Research Libraries - will order foreign dissertations
- ▶ Dissertations and Theses @ Western Michigan University

Getting copies of other dissertations and theses

- ▶ WMU Dissertations and Theses in print
- ▶ Dissertations and Theses @ Western Michigan University
- ▶ ScholarWorks - since 2012
- ▶ Dissertations and Theses Global(ProQuest) - more full text available each year
- ▶ Interlibrary Loan

Showcasing Work

- ▶ WMU wants to
 - ▶ showcase the work of its students and faculty
 - ▶ disseminate it globally
- ▶ Library has always kept all WMU dissertations and theses
 - ▶ Available through Interlibrary Loan
- ▶ ScholarWorks provides a platform
 - ▶ scholarly and creative work

ScholarWorks at WMU

- ▶ Scholarly institutional repository

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48th International Congress on Medical Studies
May 9-19, 2015

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Advantages for grad students

- ▶ Higher visibility - Google optimized
- ▶ Show future employers or next grad school
- ▶ Permanent URL
- ▶ Make available to people around the world who don't have access to the ProQuest database
- ▶ Get reports on how many people are looking at your work
- ▶ Become part of Digital Commons Network, a network of open access work in numerous academic fields

Electronic submissions

- ▶ All WMU dissertations and theses available on ScholarWorks from campus computers from 2012
- ▶ Electronic submission now mandatory
- ▶ Easier for everybody - don't need to scan work
- ▶ Sign off on ScholarWorks Access Agreement
- ▶ May eventually be able to submit right into ProQuest and ScholarWorks

Embargoes

- ▶ Not make full text available to world until later
- ▶ If plan to publish or patent work, may want to embargo
- ▶ Most publishers do not consider a dissertation in a database a publication
- ▶ Some publishers do
- ▶ Embargo up to 10 years
- ▶ Designate embargo on ScholarWorks Access Agreement

Questions?

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