ScholarWorks for Dissertations and Theses

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Advancing Your Research Skills for the Digital Age
Maira Bundza
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
Advantages for grad students

- Higher visibility – Google optimized
- Show future employers or next grad school
- Permanent URL
- Get reports on how many people are looking at your work
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Electronic submissions

- All WMU dissertations and theses available on ScholarWorks from campus computers from 2012
- Electronic submission mandatory for dissertations starting in 2013
- Easier for everybody - don’t need to scan work
- Sign off on ScholarWorks Access Agreement
- May eventually be able to submit right into 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
- Sign ScholarWorks Access Agreement