

# Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography

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Houston: Digital Scholarship

Version 7: 9/22/2021

## Introduction

The *Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography* presents over 150 articles, books, conference papers, technical reports, unpublished e-prints and other scholarly textual sources that are useful in understanding electronic theses and dissertations. Most sources were published from 2000 through 2020. It includes full abstracts for works under certain Creative Commons Licenses. It is available as a [website](#) and a [website PDF with live links](#).

## Dedication

In memory of [Paul Evan Peters](#) (1947-1996), founding Executive Director of the Coalition for Networked Information, whose visionary leadership at the dawn of the Internet era fostered the development of scholarly electronic publishing.



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**INTRODUCTION** This study compares the two most popular electronic theses and dissertation (ETD) management systems used in the American higher education community today: the commercial ProQuest dissertation publishing system and the university repository. **METHODS** Characteristics of these systems are identified and categorized to determine the features, functions, and policies common to both, and those that uniquely characterize one or the other system. Performing such a head-to-head comparison provides valuable information and insights to decision makers responsible for managing or overhauling their university's ETD program. **RESULTS** Comparison of characteristics shows the ProQuest system and the University Repository both provide functional solutions for submitting, storing, disseminating, and archiving ETD's using digital technology. Yet each system also has unique characteristics that distinguish it from the other. **DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION** The authors conclude that there is no single 'best' system for ETD management overall. Rather, it is up to decision makers at each institution to choose an approach that best fits their university's values, goals, and needs. Additionally, the authors point out the need for a single portal for ETDs that allows for search and discovery of these unique works of scholarship wherever the full text resides. Future investigation into possible solutions for such an ETD portal would be a boon not only to universities and ETD authors, but to the diverse researchers, students, professionals, and interested citizenry who could benefit from easier access to this growing corpus of knowledge.

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The preparation and publication of dissertations can be viewed as a subsystem of scholarly communication, and the treatment of data that support doctoral research can be mapped in a very controlled manner to the data curation lifecycle. Dissertation datasets represent "low-hanging fruit" for universities who are developing institutional data collections. The current workflow for processing electronic theses and dissertations (ETD) at a typical American university is presented, and a new practice is proposed that includes datasets in the process of formulating, awarding, and disseminating dissertations in a way that enables them to be linked and curated together. The value proposition and new roles for the university and its student-authors, faculty, graduate programs and librarians are explored.

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**INTRODUCTION** An attractive repository with clear, well-structured and accessible content can be a powerful recruitment and publicity tool for administrators, fundraisers, and others trying to bolster support for repositories. Digitizing ETDs is a lengthy and often arduous process. Once that process is completed, it is often a victory that suffices. As a result, collections frequently receive no further treatment. We demonstrate the benefits of visualizing repository content. **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT** The goal of the project was to create an interactive visualization to make our newly digitized theses and dissertations more discoverable. By leveraging the institutional organization of College, Department and Year of Graduation, we visualized data to help users understand ETD content as a whole and find specific items more easily. **BUILDING THE VISUALIZATION** The process begins with data cleanup involving extracting and normalizing repository metadata, then the data is processed and the Data-Driven Documents (D3) JavaScript library is used to generate the actual visualization. **Benefits of Visualizations to Users:** The visualization allows for the sort of happenstance discovery of materials that are celebrated about shelf browsing and a way to compare the productivity of each college and department at our university. It also illustrates our institution's changes in emphasis over time. **NEXT STEPS** Visualizations have vast potential for creating engaging user interfaces for digital library content. We would like to explore how people are using the visualization as we move forward with this process to visualize multiple collections.

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## About the Author

Charles W. Bailey, Jr. is the publisher of [Digital Scholarship](#) and a noncommercial [digital artist](#) (ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8453-4402>).

Bailey has over 44 years of information technology, digital publishing, and instructional technology experience, including 24 years of managerial experience in academic libraries. From 2004 to 2007, he was the Assistant Dean for Digital Library Planning and Development at the University of Houston Libraries. From 1987 to 2003, he served as Assistant Dean/Director for Systems at the University of Houston Libraries.

Previously, he served as Head, Systems and Research Services at the Health Sciences Library, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Systems Librarian at the Milton S. Eisenhower Library, The Johns Hopkins University; User Documentation Specialist at the OCLC Online Computer Library Center; and Media Library Manager at the Learning Resources Center, SUNY College at Oswego.

Bailey has discussed his career in an [interview](#) in *Preservation, Digital Technology & Culture*. See [Bailey's vita](#) for more details.

Bailey has been an [open access publisher for over 32 years](#). In 1989, Bailey established [PACS-L](#), a discussion list about public-access computers in libraries, and [The Public-Access Computer Systems Review](#), the first open access journal in the field of library and information science. He served as PACS-L Moderator until November 1991 and as Editor-in-Chief of *The Public-Access Computer Systems Review* until the end of 1996.

In 1990, Bailey and Dana Rooks established [Public-Access Computer Systems News](#), an electronic newsletter, and Bailey co-edited this publication until 1992.

In 1992, he founded the [PACS-P](#) mailing list for announcing the publication of selected e-serials, and he moderated this list until 2007.

In 1996, he established the [Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography \(SEPB\)](#), an open access book that was updated 80 times.

In 2001, he added the [Scholarly Electronic Publishing Weblog](#), which announced relevant new publications, to [SEPB](#).

In 2001, he was selected as a team member of [Current Cites](#), and he has been a frequent contributor of reviews to this monthly e-serial until 2020.

In 2005, he published the *Open Access Bibliography: Liberating Scholarly Literature with E-prints and Open Access Journals* with the Association of Research Libraries (also a [website](#)).

In 2005, Bailey established Digital Scholarship (<http://digital-scholarship.org/>), which provides information and commentary about digital copyright, digital curation, digital repository, open access, research data management, scholarly communication, and other digital information issues. Digital Scholarship's digital publications are open access. Its publications are under Creative Commons licenses.

At that time, he also established *DigitalKoans*, a weblog that covers the same topics as Digital Scholarship.

From April 2005 through September 2021, Bailey published the following books and book supplements: the *Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography: 2008 Annual Edition* (2009), *Digital Scholarship 2009* (2010), *Transforming Scholarly Publishing through Open Access: A Bibliography* (2010), the *Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography 2010* (2011), the *Digital Curation and Preservation Bibliography 2010* (2011), the *Institutional Repository and ETD Bibliography 2011* (2011), the *Digital Curation Bibliography: Preservation and Stewardship of Scholarly Works* (2012), the *Digital Curation Bibliography: Preservation and Stewardship of Scholarly Works, 2012 Supplement* (2013), and the *Research Data Curation and Management Bibliography* (2021).

He also published and updated the following bibliographies and webliographies as websites with links to freely available works: the *Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography* (1996-2011), the *Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography* (2005-2012), the *Google Books Bibliography* (2005-2011), the *Institutional Repository Bibliography* (2009-2011), the *Open Access Journals Bibliography* (2010), the *Digital Curation and Preservation Bibliography* (2010-2011), the *E-science and Academic Libraries Bibliography* (2011), the *Digital Curation Resource Guide* (2012), the *Research Data Curation Bibliography* (2012-2019), the *Altmetrics Bibliography* (2013), the *Transforming Peer Review Bibliography* (2014), and the *Academic Library as Scholarly Publisher Bibliography* (2018-2021).

In 2011, he established the LinkedIn Digital Curation Group.

For more details, see the "Digital Scholarship Publications Overview" and "A Look Back at 32 Years as an Open Access Publisher."

In 2010, Bailey was given a Best Content by an Individual Award by *The Charleston Advisor*. In 2003, he was named as one of *Library Journal's* "Movers & Shakers." In 1993, he was awarded the first LITA/Library Hi Tech Award For Outstanding Communication for Continuing Education in Library and Information Science. In 1992, Bailey received a Network Citizen Award from the Apple Library.

In 1973, Bailey won a Wallace Stevens Poetry Award. He is the author of *The Cave of Hypnos: Early Poems*, which includes several poems that won that award.

Bailey has written over 30 papers about digital copyright, expert systems, institutional repositories, open access, scholarly communication, and other topics.

He has served on the editorial boards of *Information Technology and Libraries*, *Library Software Review*, and *Reference Services Review*. He was the founding Vice-Chairperson of the LITA Imagineering Interest Group.

Bailey is a digital artist, and he has made over 600 digital artworks freely available on social media sites, such as Flickr, under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial licenses. A list of his artworks that includes links to high resolution JPEG images on Flickr is available.

He holds master's degrees in information and library science and instructional media and technology.

You can contact him at: publisher at digital-scholarship.org.

You can follow Bailey at these URLs:

Digital Artist weblog: <http://www.charleswbaileyjr.name/> and RSS feed (<http://www.charleswbaileyjr.name/feed/>)

*DigitalKoans* weblog: <http://digital-scholarship.org/digitalkoans/>

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## Citation

Charles W. Bailey, Jr., *Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography*, 7th version (Houston: Digital Scholarship, 2021), <http://digital-scholarship.org/etdb/etdb.htm>.

Bailey, Charles W., Jr. *Electronic Theses and Dissertations Bibliography*. 7th version Houston: Digital Scholarship, 2021. <http://digital-scholarship.org/etdb/etdb.htm>.

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