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It Doesn't Take a Rocket Scientist: Navigating the Universe of Theses and Dissertations at the University of Central Florida

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It Doesn't Take a Rocket Scientist: Navigating the Universe of Theses and Dissertations at the University of Central Florida

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The Problems

- 10,000 Graduate Theses and Dissertations (T & Ds)
- 2 different formats (print and electronic)
- Multiple physical and virtual locations to find them
- No consistent metadata
- Difficult to search
- Print-only not easily usable

Searching for T & Ds...

...Can be a challenge.

3 different cataloging conventions:

- Fully cataloged with specific Library of Congress call number and subject headings
- Partially cataloged with general call number and subject headings
- Fully cataloged with specific subject headings but general call numbers

We eventually hope to...

- Create ONE place to find ALL graduate T & Ds
- Create consistent records for ALL T & Ds, including Graduate and Undergraduate Honors
- Raise awareness of the collection and its research value
- Digitize ALL print-only T & Ds (long-term)

Honors in the Major Theses

- Program began in 1989
- Over 1,600 published
- ~1,000 in print
- Records in library catalog
- Metadata in Digital Collections

Honors in the Major (print)

RTDs

Retrospective Theses & Dissertations

- Project begin in 2009 to digitize print-only theses
- Over 800 currently done
- Available in Digital Collections
- Only a few in library catalog

Honors in the Major (electronic)

Honors in the Major Theses

- Electronic submission began in 2011
- ~600 electronic
- Available in library catalog
- Metadata in Digital Collections with link to electronic version

UCF Student Scholarship

- Print-only, print and ETD, and ETDs
 - all in the library catalog
 - 3 different cataloging conventions
- Digital Collections
 - RTDs
 - ETDs
 - Print-only
 - Honors

UCF Student Scholarship

Print-only

Print-only Theses and Dissertations

- Published between 1972 and 2004
- Over 5,000 volumes
- Only basic catalog information, some without descriptive subject headings

ETDs

Electronic Theses & Dissertations

- Started in 2004, exclusively digital in 2008
- Over 4,000 have been published
- All held in library catalog
- Metadata in Digital Collections with link to electronic version

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