Background
1. 2002: First electronic dissertations

2. 2002-2009 electronic dissertations sent to UMI/Proquest

3. Spring 2009: pilot project transitioning to Texas Digital Library

4. Spring 2010: all dissertations required to be submitted to TDL.
1. Fall 2010: all master’s students required to submit theses/reports to TDL.

2. All ETDs published Open Access.

3. Doctoral students (not master’s) may also opt to publish their ETD with Proquest
   a) Traditional option only
   b) Even if restricted publication chosen through Proquest, UT will still publish the dissertation Open Access

### Number TDL ETD submissions 2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>1505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010*-2011</td>
<td>496</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>1851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>1762</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>1699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fall 2010 all master’s and doctoral students required to submit ETD to TDL
Embargo Policy
Wait, don’t publish your ETD yet!
Embargo policy

1. 2002-2009: 1 year, no extensions

2. 2010: students more concerned about open access

   a. Meant to address needs of student and needs of institution.
   b. 1 year automatic, upon written request of supervisor. Possible to request extension.
Creative writing

1. MFA creative writing students were exempt from the ETD requirement
   a. Allowed to submit 2 bound copies, 25% cotton paper

2. Workflow issues

3. Creative writing students publish their theses with few if any changes. Open access to thesis could impact ability to publish their work.

4. Met with Michener Center for Writers (MCW) and Department of English faculty advisors and program directors. Promised them permanent embargoes on MFA theses.

5. April 2013 met with 4 MCW students

Number embargo requests 2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>59*</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. No permanent embargoes.

2. Currently 273 files embargoed.
   a) 204 (74.7%) 1 yr or less.
   b) 51 (18.7%) submitted more than 1 year ago.
   c) 18 (6.6%) permanently embargoed

*AHA statement released July 2013
July 2013: Don Quixote encounters some windmills

1. **July 2013 AHA releases recommendation on embargoing history dissertations.**

2. Confusion among our students.

3. Relationships among some faculty with OGS adversarial.

4. Many on campus felt this was a turning point.
Number embargo requests 2009-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of submissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number embargo requests after AHA statement

- August 2013: 467 ETDs submitted, 59 embargo requests: 12.6%
- December 2013: 446 ETDs submitted, 65 embargo requests, 14.5%
Next steps
Time to rethink embargo policy

1. 2011: New Dean of Graduate Studies, increase in embargo requests

2. Associate Dean put together a committee to review policy

3. They recommended 1 year embargo, no extensions, and only in limited circumstances.

4. New Dean of Graduate Studies requested Graduate Assembly form a committee and formalize a policy.

5. AHA statement in July 2013
Graduate Assembly proposal

1. Draft proposal will be voted on April 2014.

2. Get student’s supervisor more involved in the process.

3. Create an automatic 2 year embargo.
Questions