-- Creates indispensable research solutions that connect people and information

-- Over 200 databases used by researchers all over the world in more than 5,000 libraries
Established in 1938 to preserve threatened scholarly resources on microfilm by Philip Powers, a University of Michigan Business School alumn.

Became the Repository for the National Collection in the 1950’s, by consensus of the Association of Research Libraries.

Designated by The Library of Congress as the official repository for dissertations produced in the U.S.
Dissertation Publishing

• Publishes dissertations and master’s theses 1861 to the present.

• Provide **world-wide access** to:
  – Over 2.7 million citations
  – Full Text
    • More than 2.0 million titles in UMI microform.
    • Over 1.1 million titles in digital format

• Over **700** institutions around the world are partners in the program.
Core Values of ProQuest UMI Publishing

- Recognition
- Exposure
- Dissemination
- Preservation
A published dissertation/thesis provides the new scholar with a *legitimate, citable c.v. entry*—often their first—at a critical juncture in their career.

The UMI® collection of dissertations and theses provides an *external, running record* of an institution’s *graduate/scholarly productivity*. 
Citations, abstracts, and 24-page previews appear in the PQDT database, accessed by more than 3,000 libraries around the world.

Field or subject specific outlets – 3rd Party Index …For example ChemAbstracts, PsycINFO, ERIC, ABI Inform, etc…

Global Access - ProQuest publishes the world’s most widely used PhD and master’s theses research tools

Maximizes the dissertation / thesis’s discoverability.
• Digital Preservation
  – Working toward “Trusted Digital Repository” designation (OCLC/RLG) and OAIS model.

  – In 2008, PQDT audited by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) National Science Foundation grant to study long-lived datasets. Full report by CRL released with many favorable comments for PQDT:

  http://www.crl.edu/content.asp?l1=13&l2=58&l3=174
• UMI maintains and preserves its dissertation and theses collection on microfilm and microfiche.
  – Tests have shown that microform is archivally secure for 1,000 years.
  – UMI microform stored in separate temperature and humidity controlled vaults.
  – On-demand duplication and distribution in paper and microform from a print master.
Preservation

• Designated by Library of Congress as offsite repository for Dissertations
  – LOC does not collect dissertations, rather relies on UMI / ProQuest Collection.
  – ProQuest to turn over complete file to LOC if PQDT becomes unavailable. Provides “safety net” for universities and libraries concerned about stewardship.
  – Full information here:
    http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/1999/99-007.html
• **Graduate School Selection**: Students use PQDT to determine where to pursue graduate studies

• **Recruitment Tool**: Companies and Universities use PQDT to recruit students and faculty.
Publishing Trends

• Institutions are increasing the amount of graduate works sent to ProQuest / UMI
  – 2002: Published 55,000 Graduate works
  – 2008: Published 70,000 Graduate works

• Institutions are increasingly sending Master’s Degrees to ProQuest
In the past seven years, the number of schools submitting Master’s Theses has risen and continues to grow.
What might account for these trends?

1. Lack of library shelf space
2. Condition of material currently on the shelves. (Dust, mold, moisture)
3. Reliable archival backup, superior security and disaster recovery capabilities
4. ProQuest is the national repository for Dissertations and Theses. Inclusion represents a permanent place in the scholarly record.
5. Cost saving:
   • Paper copies reduced, bindery time & resources, ILL & Circulation workload, minimal maintenance on servers
   • Outsourcing the hosting of application
   • No additional IT personnel required
Enhancements include:

- 32 lb. weight paper
- Photographic quality stock
- Color Graphics
- Peerless quality reproduction
- Class A Library Binding
- Supplementary materials
ETD Administrator

- Dissertation submission management and workflow tool
- Student online payment by credit card
- Nearly 200 partners use this system
- **Free to Universities!**

Coming in 2009-2010:
- Online IR Agreement Form (Institutions customize a separate agreement form for their IR)
- Multilingual interface
- Multiple report generation

www.etdadmin.com
New in 2009 for PQDT

• **Full Text Searching**

ProQuest extracts and makes searchable the full text from all dissertations and theses 2008-forward. Only PQDT provides a full text search across this large corpus of dissertations and thesis text.

• **Reference Linking**

ProQuest extracts all bibliographic references for easy access and provides “cited by” statistics to facilitate research exploration.

• **Supplementary and Multimedia Content**

Begun in 2008, PQDT provides access to all supplementary files, including multimedia, datasets and all other content provided by the author / graduate school.

• **New Platform to facilitate searches in 2010!**
International Publishing Expansion

Global Focus

- Europe Manager - Mercedes de Grado
- Asia Manager – Alan Lui
- Latin America – David Mendez
- UK Content – Index to Theses
  - Index to Theses is coming to the ProQuest platform
  - A&I Index listing nearly 500,000 UK dissertations from 1716 - present
  - Companion to PQDT
GradShare

- Online community for research oriented graduate students
- Allows for asynchronous discussions on all topics that relate to graduate life
- Expert Advice from industry experts
- Direct university participation through context-sensitive links

www.gradshare.com
Sponsorships & Awards
$500,000 Annually
Including:
- Council of Graduate Schools
- Canadian Association of Graduate Schools
- Regional Conferences (WAGS, NAGS, MAGS, CSGS, CHBGS)
- International Graduate Leaders Summit
- Dissertation/Theses Awards - Published dissertations and theses are considered for merit awards and recognition by the Council of Graduate Schools and other programs recognizing outstanding graduate scholarship.
THANK YOU!

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