

# THE DIGITAL ARCHIVING & ACCESS PROGRAM

For your dissertations  
and master's theses

UMI<sup>®</sup>

# THE DIGITAL ARCHIVING & ACCESS PROGRAM

## For your dissertations and master's theses

### Preservation. Access. Visibility.

Your institution's scholarly record is too impressive to languish in obscurity, too important to entrust to perishable media. Our Digital Archiving & Access Program (DAAP) is the affordable way to keep your intellectual heritage — the doctoral dissertations and master's theses of generations of scholars — alive for researchers around the world, now and in the future.

### Prominence and permanence

Our experts will help you protect your dissertations and master's theses for posterity and showcase them for use worldwide.

Together we'll assess your situation, identify problems, then customize a solution you can afford from our range of expert services:

- Preservation in two media (microform and digital)
- Indexing in the definitive dissertation database
- On-demand access to full text in three media (print, microform, and digital)
- Offsite backup and storage (microfilm and digital)

We'll fill the gaps in your holdings, preserve your documents in media to meet every eventuality, and give your institution's scholarship a distinctive Web presence.

The Digital Archiving & Access Program >>>

## ▶ The acknowledged experts

For more than six decades, we've kept the scholarly record — in microform, print, and now digital format. Universities worldwide rely on our archival microform masters, and the Library of Congress chose us to be its official offsite repository for digital dissertations and master's theses. In addition, the National Library of Canada has named us exclusive provider of theses and dissertations from all major Canadian institutions.

Our dissertation bibliography, used in virtually every major research library in the world, includes abstracts and citations for 2 million dissertations and theses, with North American coverage dating to 1861. Now a staple in academic libraries, our online database, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses, provides indexing, abstracting, and downloadable full text on demand.

We maintain and preserve our collection of 1.7 million full-text dissertations in microform and store it in temperature- and humidity-controlled vaults. More than 700 institutions regularly submit dissertations to our program — including 99% of all U.S. universities with doctoral programs requiring dissertations. We publish over 55,000 new authors every year.

## ▶ A Success at Brandeis

Here's what University Archivist Karen Adler Abramson (Robert D. Farber University Archives, Brandeis University Libraries), says about the Digital Archiving & Access Program:

"It has been a genuine pleasure working with you to microfilm and digitize our dissertation collection. This project has allowed us to preserve and provide broad access to the scholarship of our doctoral students. Besides facilitating a large-scale retrospective conversion, ProQuest has helped us identify and resolve individual problems."

# CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

## Preservation

### Problem

Paper is a problematic vehicle for precious cargo like dissertations and theses. On one hand, it's fragile — susceptible to fire, decay, and theft. On the other, it's bulky; paper backup copies take shelf space you just don't have.

### Solution

The Digital Archiving & Access Program captures your dissertations and theses in several media, ready for any eventuality. Your patrons can access print, microform, and electronic copies on demand, and you save precious shelf space. Even better, you can be sure your scholarship is safe, since we house the master microfilm (a medium with an estimated lifespan of up to 500 years) in our temperature- and humidity-controlled vaults. We'll also digitize and host your dissertations and theses in our digital database for definitive, trouble-free preservation.

## Access

### Problem

By nature, paper theses and dissertations aren't easily accessible to an institution's scholars. Outside the institution, they may not be available at all.

Limited copies, overdue checkouts, user notations, and highlighting — all these accessibility problems are unique to paper. In this technological age, students and researchers have come to expect user friendliness; at the same time, remote and after-hours users are relying more and more on digital media. Neither paper, nor microform for that matter, affords the instant, guaranteed access most users now expect.

### Solution

The Digital Archiving & Access Program makes your university's distinctive scholarly research available to anyone, anytime, anywhere on the Internet. A strong online presence not only heightens your institution's research profile, it can also help you recruit students and faculty.

# A DIGITAL ARCHIVING & ACCESS PRIMER

The Digital Archiving & Access Program is a comprehensive service available to all accredited institutions, whether or not they've published their dissertations and theses through UMI. This program provides your library with a permanent, accessible, and complete record of your school's output. Here's what we offer and how it works:

## Preservation and Publishing

Titles not already preserved in our microform vaults go through the complete publishing process at our headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Our experts use the utmost care in handling all manuscripts — including bound, unbound, and badly damaged copies. We create a bibliographic citation for each title, assign an ISBN, and enter the full citation and abstract in our suite of dissertation products. We also establish machine readable cataloging (MARC) records for each thesis or dissertation.

We microfilm each title and preserve both master negatives and print master negatives in our temperature- and humidity-controlled vaults. Libraries can order microfilm copies for use on campus while the master remains safely housed in our vaults. Digital copies are created and made available to the library through Current Research@ and the ProQuest Dissertations & Theses database.

## Retrospective Conversion

By digitizing microform copies, you give researchers quick, easy, enhanced access to your university's dissertations and theses. DAAP lets you leave the hassle behind by providing a complete solution in a single program.

First, we compare our microfilm holdings of documents from your school — the titles you've already submitted to UMI — against the titles you currently have on your shelves. We'll identify gaps for backup via retrospective conversion.

The retrospective conversion process involves scanning and digitizing titles. If your holdings include paper copies never submitted to UMI, you may wish to submit them now for:

- Preservation in microform and digital format
- Publication, indexing, and abstracting
- On-demand full-text access in print, microform, and digital format

## Flexible Conversion Options

DAAP offers flexible conversion options:

- As a complete collection, or by subset (subject, department, degree type, or decade)
- Over the course of a single year, or spread across several years (great for one-time funding situations, since there's no ongoing cost)

Whichever options you choose, these factors stay the same: we host the materials, you own the film, and your library gets free access.

## Enhanced Access

Once you've digitally filled your title gaps, you get FREE access to your *entire* archive of dissertations and theses through our Current Research@ program. Current Research@ provides online access to all citations, abstracts, and full-text titles submitted by your school. Students and faculty get a single, easily accessible, and fully searchable source for your institution's scholarly work.

In addition, all of your university's dissertations and theses will be automatically included in the ProQuest Dissertations & Theses database. It's a great way to showcase your university and its academic history to other institutions, faculty, scholars, and researchers around the world. When you subscribe to ProQuest Dissertations & Theses, your library's users gain full access to your titles, as well as those from hundreds of other universities.

## Summary

The Digital Archiving & Access Program offers all this:

- Quality control measures at every step of the process
- Filming and archiving for the historical record
- Customized gap analysis
- Offsite housing in a temperature- and humidity-controlled environment
- Assignment of ISBN and MARC records to each title
- Full indexing, with controlled vocabulary and subject codes for easy searching and access
- Inspections for completeness and copyright compliance
- Online access to all of your university's titles through Current Research@
- Automatic inclusion in ProQuest Dissertations & Theses

### The genesis of digital technology

In 1938, 22-year-old Claude Elwood Shannon submitted *A Symbolic Analysis of Relay and Switching Circuits* as his MIT master's thesis. Although awarded marginal recognition at the time, the thesis is now universally acknowledged as the foundation of the digital revolution. H.H. Goldstine, mathematician and famed computer pioneer, called Elwood's thesis "one of the most important master's theses ever written...a landmark that changed circuit design from an art to a science." Fundamental to the operation of modern computers and telecommunications systems, the thesis earned Shannon the title "the Father of Information Theory." Information theory has since revolutionized mathematics and cryptography and is the cornerstone of modern economic theory. It's been said that no other scholarly work — thesis, dissertation, or otherwise — has been more influential to so many disciplines as Shannon's 1938 thesis.

### A young writer finds her voice

On reading *Wise Blood*, one of a handful of truly immortal works in 20<sup>th</sup>-century fiction, it's difficult to fathom that its inimitable voice originated from the pen of a 22-year-old writer. But *The Geranium*, Flannery O'Connor's 1947 University of Iowa master's thesis, contained the seeds — trunks and limbs, even — of this remarkable novel. One of the six short stories included in the thesis — "The Train" — would become the opening chapter to *Wise Blood*, and the five others would subsequently be published on their own. Today, O'Connor's thesis is cited as an example of "how to do it right" by advisers in MFA writing programs.

### Other notable master's theses:

- *The Hobo*, Nels Anderson's seminal ethnographic study of homelessness (from his 1925 thesis, *The Sociology of the Homeless Man*)
- *The Tulsa Race Riot*, Loren L. Gill's 1946 history thesis, used by historians to piece together the events of this long-forgotten racial massacre
- *A Life in a Year — The American Infantry Soldier in Vietnam*, the Presidio Press edition of James Randall Ebert's 1993 thesis on veterans' accounts of their war experience

At some institutions and in certain disciplines, master's theses are the terminal scholarly document; at every institution, they document important scholarly insights. Today more and more schools recognize the need to archive their master's theses, showcase them, and make them accessible to researchers everywhere through inclusion in ProQuest Dissertations & Theses.

The Digital Archiving & Access Program is the answer for every school with a master's program — whether or not it uses UMI dissertation services. Our DAAP consultants will gladly work with you to ensure that your master's-level research receives the permanence and prominence it deserves.

## To learn more

For more information on the Digital Archiving & Access Program, call your UMI sales representative at 800-521-0600 or 734-761-4700, ext. 2793; email [umisalesinfo@il.proquest.com](mailto:umisalesinfo@il.proquest.com); or visit [www.umi.com/umi/dissertations/archivinggrad.shtml](http://www.umi.com/umi/dissertations/archivinggrad.shtml).



