Digital Commons at Loyola Marymount University and Loyola Law School

Graduate Students’ Electronic Theses and Dissertations Policy

October 2012

Beginning Spring 2013, the William H. Hannon Library will begin to permanently archive and disseminate electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) of graduate students to the Loyola Marymount University community and the general public via Digital Commons, the University’s Institutional Repository.

*Digital Commons at Loyola Marymount University and Loyola Law School* is an initiative of the William H. Hannon Library and the William M. Rains Library. The repository serves faculty, students, staff, administrators and other institutional interests by collecting, organizing, preserving, and disseminating their scholarship and creative works in a digital, open-access environment. This initiative is consistent with the library’s archival role and responsibility in preserving publications and other artifacts documenting the University’s history and the activities of the LMU community.

The Library has been accepting bound copies of graduate students’ theses and dissertations to add to its collection. However, beginning in 2013, it will no longer require deposit of bound copies, instead it will only accept submission of ETDs to Digital Commons.

Graduate programs may opt in to provide access controls for ETD collections or individual theses. This will be done on a program by program basis. Documented need to control access should be made available to the Library, which will then put the necessary access controls in place. Depending on needs of authors, who may be looking to turn their thesis or dissertation into a publication or have proprietary concerns regarding the content of their work, access controls may be put in place.

**Copyright:**

Graduate students retain copyright to the intellectual property their works represented in their current form in Digital Commons.

**Access and Availability:**

The full text of LMU theses and dissertations will be freely available to any person regardless of institutional affiliation.