Making the most of Electronically Published Theses: Combining Text with Video, Sound and Data

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Abstract

At Linköping University (LiU) Ph.D. theses and undergraduate reports have been published electronically at LiU E-Press since 1997. Ten years ago, the fraction of, *e.g.* Ph.D. theses electronically published was very small. For 2006, 72% of all the Ph.D. theses produced at LiU are available at www.ep.liu.se and with new routines in the Faculty offices beginning in 2007, virtually all will be published online. Even so, very, very few of these publications make full use of the electronic publishing form; *i.e.* virtually all of them are static, text documents. For us, having now established a work flow that should ensure that we electronically publish all theses, the next step is to get authors to break their traditional thinking about publication forms.

At LiU we are now working on encouraging authors to make greater use of the possibilities available with electronic publishing. We have found that simply informing authors of the possibilities is insufficient and so now are in the process of developing working demonstrations of documents with intregrated video or sound etc. with examples from a range of academic disciplines. These will be illustrated along with reaction from future authors.