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hi

here are some brief comments - if these can be copied or distributed to participants, i can avoid doing this over Skype and we can move directly to discussion ...

Website Report

- We are in the process of transferring funds from Scott to hire a student assistant.
- John has sent in a CD with video footage related to awards – this will be uploaded when the student assistant starts work.
- With the go-ahead from Tony and much manual effort, all ETD 2005 documents have been ingested into docs.ndltd.org
- With the go-ahead from Peter, ETD 2003 documents will be ingested soon. Their OAI interface seems fairly complete so this should be simple.
- There have been multiple requests for updated linked-in contact information. This has to be looked into – who takes responsibility for this?
- The current website design is from 2003/4. CMSes have matured quite a bit since then (when we wrote our own CMS) so maybe it is time to consider moving to a new technology that allows for easier collaborative editing of content?

Report on Activities in South Africa and Africa

- The national ETD project is making progress - a representative has been sent to Sweden.
- A national workshop of all institutions is planned for late in 2007.
- Tools, systems and workflows are being planned, to be managed by the national research funding agency.
- Parallel activities in institutional repositories and open access in Africa have highlighted ETDs in particular since many institutions have mature ETD collections but fledgling IRs (e.g., workshop in Lesotho/Swaziland in March, Ghana in June this week, possibly Botswana in November).

-h.

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