

To: NDLTD Board

From: **Awards Committee**
Suzie Allard
Susan Copeland
Jude Edminster
Christine Jewell, Chair
Max Read

Subject: Committee Report and announcement of 2009 award winners

Date: June 9, 2009

Committee membership for 2009/10

Call for volunteers to serve as chair

Possible objectives for the coming year:

- Formalize criteria to facilitate ranking of candidates
- Find ways to increase nominations
 - Send our calls throughout the year
 - Identify potential candidates using the [Visualizer](#)
- Re-establish Adobe support
- Follow up on awards sponsorship by Elsevier's SciTopic program

Award Winners

The Committee selected 3 Innovative ETD, 2 Innovative Learning, and 2 ETD Leadership award winners.

Innovative ETD

Raquel Gutierrez / "Life-Affirming Leadership: An Inquiry into the Culture of Social Justice." Ph.D., Leadership and Change, Antioch University, 2008

URL: http://rave.ohiolink.edu/etdc/view?acc_num=antioch1226609058

Lara Fackrell / "Equestrian communities: design features and development process." Master of Landscape Architecture; Kansas State University, 2008

URL: <http://hdl.handle.net/2097/792>

Kelly C. Barkhurst / "Design Taking Action: A holistic approach to design problem solving applied to disease education." Master of Fine Arts, College of Creative Arts, West Virginia University, 2008

URL: <https://eidr.wvu.edu/etd/documentdata.eTD?documentid=6003>

Innovative Learning Through ETDs

Shirley Stewart Burns / Ph.D. History, West Virginia University

Shirley's ETD, "Bringing Down the Mountains: The Impact of Mountaintop Removal on Southern West Virginia Communities", has allowed her to accomplish her goal of raising the public consciousness and discourse about mountain top removal. She was able to reach a world-wide audience almost instantaneously, resulting in publication of a book that is now in use in the K-12 and higher education curriculum. A press release about her success is available at <http://wvutoday.wvu.edu/news/page/6644/>. Her dissertation is available at <https://eidr.wvu.edu/etd/documentdata.eTD?documentid=4047>

Jeffrey Cougler / Master of Fine Arts, Computer Graphics Design, Rochester Institute of Technology

Jeffrey's thesis project, titled "ASL Finger Challenge, is an online interactive, instructional application for improving finger spelling reception when using American Sign Language. The significance of his work and its applicability to finger spelling in other languages was recognized and rewarded with a Fulbright Scholarship to Italy. From January through July 2007, Jeffrey conducted research in Rome, Italy, where he created an additional fingerspelling reception module using the Language of Italian Signs.

ETD Leadership

Thomas Dowling, Assistant Director, Library Systems, Client/Server, OhioLink, Columbus, OH, U.S.A.

Thomas has led the way in the adoption of electronic theses and dissertations in Ohio by creating and managing OhioLINK's Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center, a consortium of 88 universities and colleges. [OhioLink](http://www.ohiolink.edu) serves as a model for digital library consortia networks, and is the first ETD consortium established in the world. The OhioLink Web site is available at <http://www.ohiolink.edu/etd/>.

John H. Hagen, Manager, Institutional Repository Programs and Coordinator, Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Program at the West Virginia University (WVU) Libraries, Morgantown, WV, U.S.A.

Over the past decade, John's commitment to ETDs at WVU has resulted in a program that serves as a model for many other universities. John has led regional and international workshops for the NDLTD, and he has hosted many visitors who come to WVU to learn about the ETD program. John has become recognized internationally for his ETD implementation and open access advocacy. More information about John is available at http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/theses/index_JH.htm.