

# Welcome

**ETD 2024: 27<sup>th</sup> Int'l Symposium on ETDs**

**Livingstone, Zambia**

**Nov. 4-6, 2024**

Edward A. Fox

Executive Director, Chairman of the Board

NDLTD, [www.ndltd.org](http://www.ndltd.org)

fox@ndltd.org      <http://fox.cs.vt.edu/talks/2024/>

Professor, Department of Computer Science

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061 USA

# Acknowledgments

- Family, mentors, teachers, students, collaborators, colleagues
- All those working with ETDs
- ND LTD, including its Members and Volunteers: Board, Committees, and multiple special assignments
- ETD 2024 Conference Team
- Sponsors, Invited Speakers, Paper/Poster Presenters, Workshop Organizers, and Attendees (in-person, remote)

# Acknowledgements (2): Mtgs

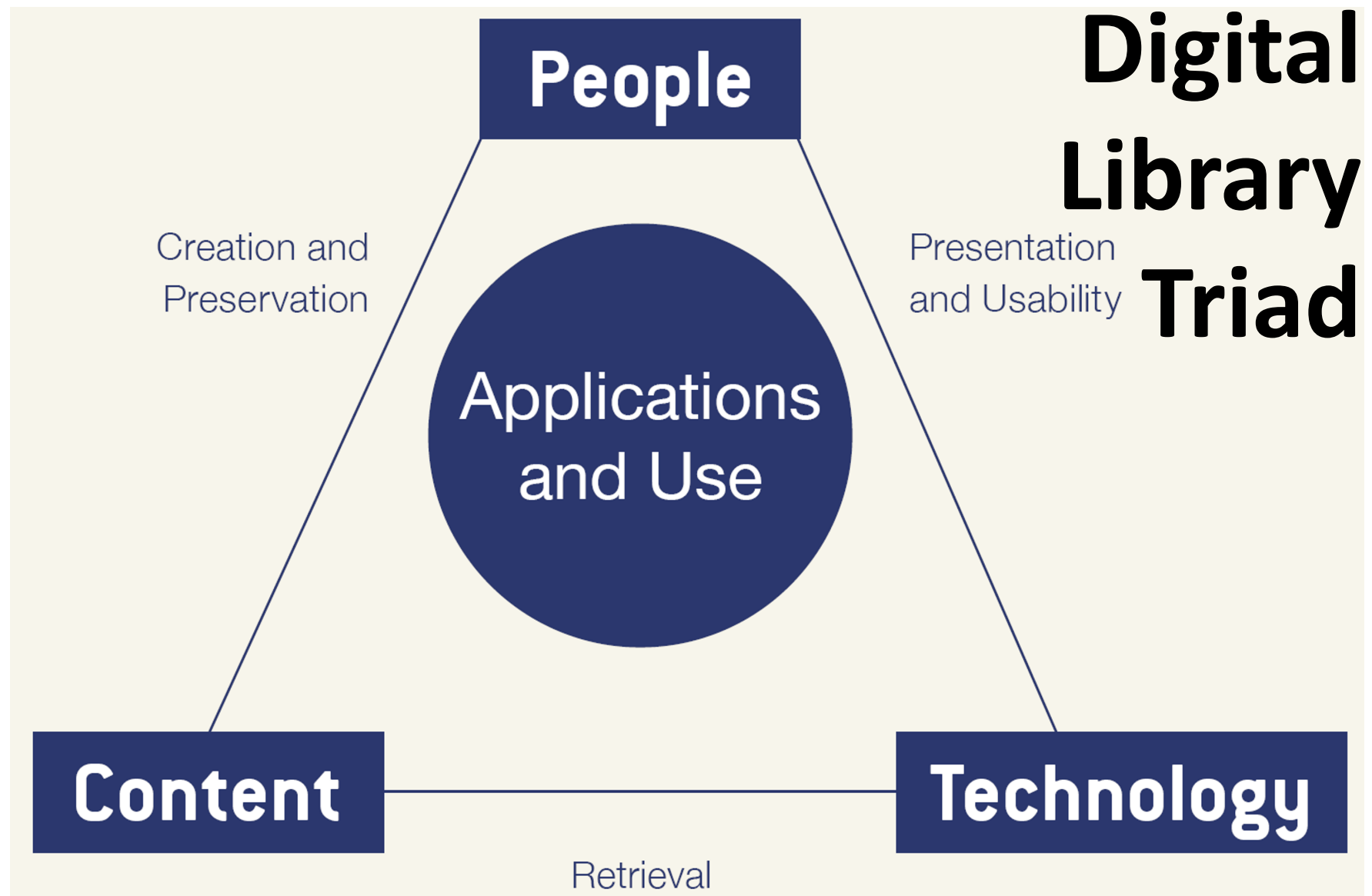
- 1987 mtg in Ann Arbor: UMI, VT, Arbortext, Softquad
- 1992 mtg in Washington: CNI, CGS, UMI, VT+10U's
- 1993 mtg in Atlanta: Monticello Electronic Library
- 1994 mtg at VT: std: PDF + SGML + multimedia
- 1996 mtg with funding by SURA and then also by the US Dept. of Education (FIPSE)
- 1997 meetings in UK, Germany, ...
- 1998 – 1<sup>st</sup> symposium – Memphis (20)
- 1999 – 2<sup>nd</sup> symposium – Blacksburg (70)
- 2000 – 3<sup>rd</sup> symposium – St. Petersburg, FL (225)
- 2001 – 4<sup>th</sup> symposium – Caltech, Pasadena (200)
- 2002 – 5<sup>th</sup> symposium – BYU, Provo, Utah
- 2003 – NDLTD incorporated as int'l non-profit

# Acknowledgements (3): Mtgs

- 2003 – 6<sup>th</sup> symposium – Berlin (215 attendees)
- 2004 – 7<sup>th</sup> symposium – U. Kentucky, USA
- 2005 – 8<sup>th</sup> symposium – Sydney, Australia
- 2006 – 9<sup>th</sup> symposium – Quebec City, Canada
- 2007 – 10<sup>th</sup> symposium – Uppsala, Sweden
- 2008 – 11<sup>th</sup> symposium – Aberdeen, Scotland
- 2009 – 12<sup>th</sup> symposium – Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 2010 – 13<sup>th</sup> symposium – Austin, TX, USA
- 2011 – 14<sup>th</sup> symposium – Cape Town, S. Africa
- 2012 – 15<sup>th</sup> symposium – Lima, Peru
- 2013 – 16<sup>th</sup> symposium – Hong Kong
- 2014 – 17<sup>th</sup> symposium – Leicester, England

# Acknowledgements (4): Mtgs

- 2015 – 18<sup>th</sup> symposium – New Delhi, India
- 2016 – 19<sup>th</sup> symposium – Lille, France
- 2017 – 20<sup>th</sup> symposium – Washington, D.C.
- 2018 – 21<sup>th</sup> symposium – Taipei, Taiwan
- 2019 – 22<sup>th</sup> symposium – Porto, Portugal
- 2020 – 23<sup>th</sup> symposium – Al Ain, UAE
- 2021 – 24<sup>th</sup> symposium – Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2022 – 25<sup>th</sup> symposium – Novi Sad, Serbia
- 2023 – 26<sup>th</sup> symposium – Gandhinagar, India
- 2024 – 27<sup>th</sup> symposium – Livingstone, Zambia
- 2025 – 28<sup>th</sup> symposium – virtual w. [USETDA](#)



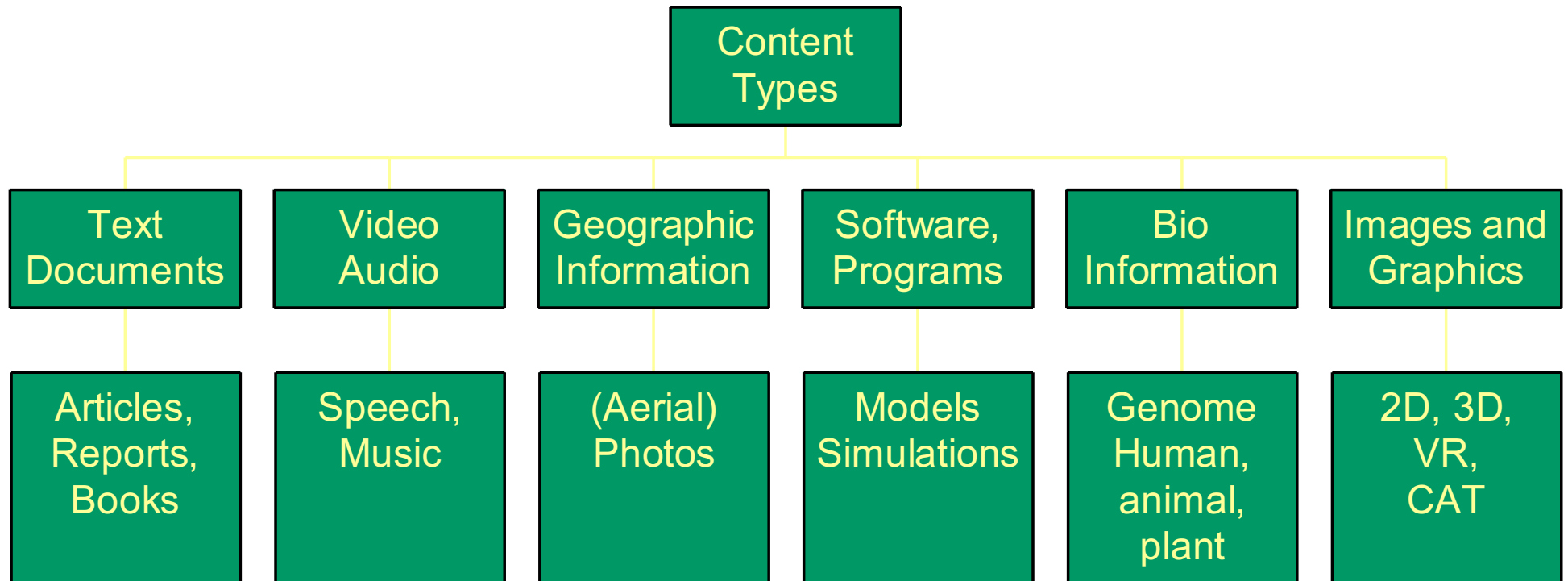
15-17 June 2003 NSF-sponsored Workshop on  
Post-DL Research Directions, Chatham, MA

# PEOPLE:

## How You Can Participate

- Membership (individual, institution, consortium),  
Donations
- Ambassador/mentor (local, national, global)
- [NDLTD Committees and special roles:](#)
  - Conference (incl. awards, webinars)
  - Finance, Journal of ETDs (J-ETD.org)
  - Membership: soon using MemberPress, PayPal, and Stripe
  - Nominations
  - Union Catalog, Global Search
  - Website (news & social media), R&D

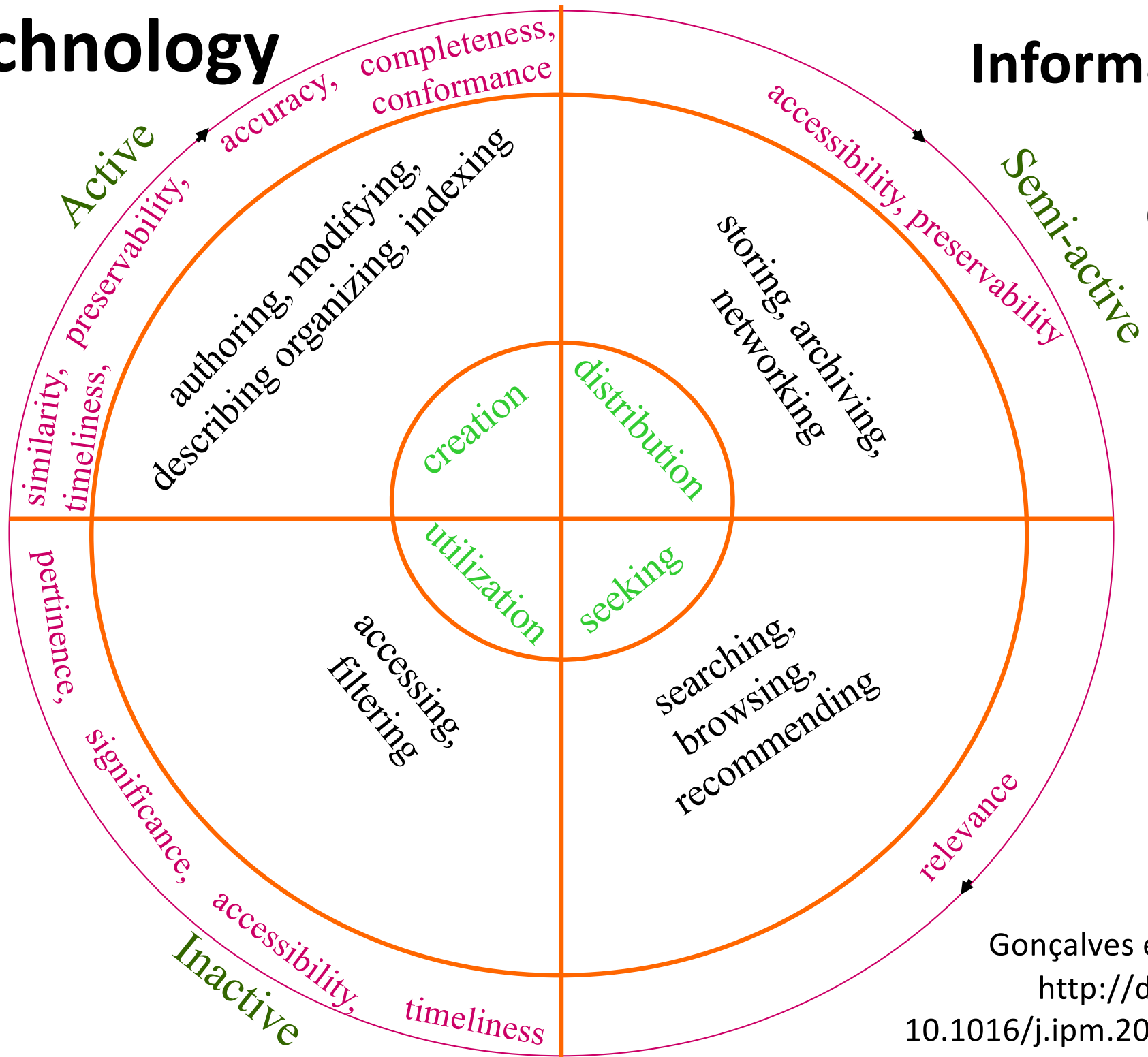
# CONTENT





# Technology

# Information Life Cycle



Gonçalves et al. 2007  
[http://dx.doi.org/  
10.1016/j.ipm.2006.11.010](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ipm.2006.11.010)

# ETD-MS

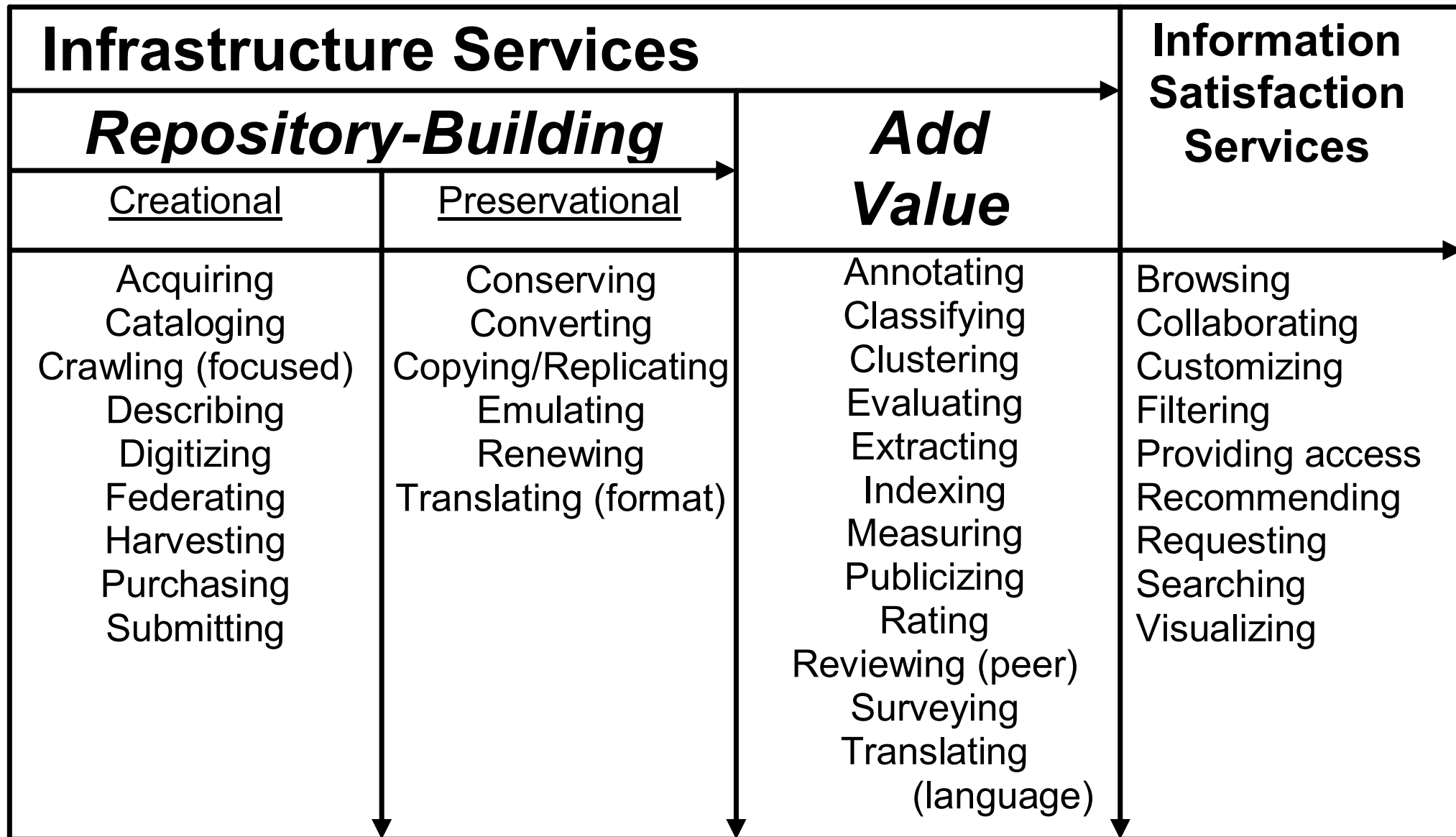
- **ETD Metadata Standard**
  - XML-encoded metadata standard (content and encoding) for Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs)
  - In part conforming to Dublin Core (DC)
  - Adds details about level, etc.
  - <http://www.ndltd.org/standards/metadata>
- With specified relationship to MARC
- **Aim: Rich, high quality metadata**
- **See paper “ETD MS v2.0 ...”**

# OAI - Open Archives Initiative

<https://www.openarchives.org/>

- Interoperability
- Standard for transferring metadata among digital libraries
  - Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (PMH)
- NDLTD Union Catalog
- Local site → national/regional site → Union Catalog → service providers (Global ETD Search, ...)

# Applications and Use



# The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations

[www.NDLTD.org](http://www.NDLTD.org)

*Advocate:*

Training Authors

Expanding Access

Preserving Knowledge

Improving Graduate Education

Enhancing Scholarly Communication

Empowering Students & Universities

Leading the Worldwide ETD (Electronic  
Thesis and Dissertation) Initiative

# Mission

- The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) is an international organization that, through leadership and innovation, promotes the adoption, creation, dissemination, use, and preservation of electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs).
- The NDLTD encourages and supports the efforts of institutions of higher education & their communities
- to advance and apply electronic publishing & digital libraries (including repositories), thus enabling them
- to share knowledge more effectively in order
- to unlock the potential benefits worldwide.

# Selected Benefits

- Global ETD Search 6.5M: <http://search.ndltd.org>
- Journal: <http://j-etd.org>
- Social Media
  - <https://www.facebook.com/NDLTD>
  - <https://twitter.com/NDLTD>
  - <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2024919/>
- Awards: <https://ndltd.org/ndltd-awards/>
  - Travel grants
  - Innovative ETDs, Leadership

# Spirit of NDLTD

- Assuage fears->build confidence->promote sharing of graduate research
- Help make a **better** (smaller) world
- **Win-win-win** (everyone can benefit)
- Have **fun** helping others
- Build on **standards**
- **ETDs are preservable, popular, expressive -> “better” (w. multimedia, datasets, software, ...)**
- **Doable**, feasible, learnable, affordable, sharable
- Please support NDLTD!



# ETD 2024 Symposium Theme: ETD Visibility at a Global Scale

- SUB-THEMES:
- Application of Large Language Models to ETDs (e.g., automatic summarisation of ETDs, bibliometric analysis)
- Automatic Analysis of ETDs (e.g., topic modeling)
- ETD Implementation Use Cases (e.g., infrastructure implementation)
- ETD Policies and Practices (e.g., policy implementation)
- ETDs and e-Infrastructures (e.g., national ETD initiatives)
- ETDs and Long-term Preservation
- ETDs and Open Access
- ETDs and Open Science
- ETDs and Persistent Identifiers
- ETDs and Research Data
- General Issues Related to ETDs
- Global Visibility of ETDs
- Graduate Education and Training
- Institutional Repository Platforms
- National and Global ETD Initiatives

Questions?  
Discussion?  
Recommendations?

Please also chat with Board  
members attending, and the  
conference organizers!

Thank You!

[fox@ndltd.org](mailto:fox@ndltd.org)  
<http://fox.cs.vt.edu>