

98e Graduate Thesis and Peer-Reviewed Articles: Any Efficient Connection?

Ryan P. O'Hara, Mario A. Oyanader, and Pedro E. Arce

The writing of a Master or Doctoral Dissertation is a major undertaking by a graduate student during her or his research training at a graduate program. In today's situation, the "other" important aspect is the generation of peer-reviewed publications as a leading form of disseminating and communicating new and relevant results. Usually, students need to be trained in the generation of publications as they will face a peer-reviewed process that is very demanding, particularly when the manuscript has been submitted to a widely circulated journal. Students face these two aspects within important time constraints and under the need to do well in both activities. Some schools use the "paper-chapter" format where publications already published and/or under review are used to "make up" the graduate level thesis, but many do not have this option. This contribution will outline an efficient process that allows the students to write the thesis using an approach that is inherently designed for a quick adaptation to generate the graduate level thesis. The approach will be illustrated with successful cases and advantages of the approach, as well as items for further improvement, which will be highlighted.