"We are excited about the potential for greater international coverage within ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. Innovation is increasingly a global enterprise and the ability to identify and follow researchers from many countries is tremendously valuable."

- Bruce A. Weinberg, Ph.D.



PROQUEST DISSERTATIONS & THESES SUCCESS STORY

Trends in the Evolution of Research and Doctoral Education

How text and data mining of ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global allows researchers to understand doctoral career trajectory patterns.

In the words of poet George Santayana, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

It's a similar spirit that motivates Bruce A. Weinberg, Ph.D in his research at The Ohio State University. A professor of economics and public affairs, his work spans three areas—the economics of innovation and creativity; family and neighborhood determinants of youth outcomes and behavior; and technological change, industrial shifts, and the wage structure.

Bruce A. Weinberg, Ph.D. The Ohio State University

Professor of Economics and Public Affairs

Research Topic: Trends in the Evolution of Research and Doctoral Education

All of these areas require a firm view of the past, in order to develop guidance on how it can impact the present and future. A number of his recent projects drew on invaluable data from the ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global database. Alongside researchers at several universities across the country, the UMETRICS project examined the employment and earning outcomes of Ph.Ds.









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Supported by funded research and combining data from the universities, ProQuest, and the U.S. Census Bureau, the authors tracked and analyzed across the field of study, showing the placement and earnings of the Ph.Ds. The result was an article in *Science* magazine and keen insights into trends in interdisciplinary work, the evolution of research and doctoral education, and graduate school outcomes.

"It's the central portion of a person's career," explained Dr. Weinberg. "It's a crucial, defining moment where we can look in both directions. With ProQuest data, we can link their work backward, connecting to their advisors and what their advisors were working on. But we can also link it forward to see what they produce, in terms of publications and patents, and how they explore other topics and collaborations. It's at the crux of where someone is ending their training and moving on into their later professional career."

Understanding these patterns and assessing the impacts on daily life takes skilled analysis — and given the diversity and complexities of the data, such analysis requires detailed modeling. By using text and data mining in ProQuest, researchers can extract large quantities of data and recombine them into patterns and topics to help enhance the examination of the scholar's topic of choice.

"ProQuest is really a cornerstone for the work we are doing," said Dr. Weinberg. "We now have a record of one of people's most important formative events. It provides us an indicator of when people are receiving doctorates, where they're receiving doctorates from, and the substance of that research. We can take that event and map it to publications, citations, and patents they've received. We've managed to build a whole constellation of data around ProQuest as the keystone."

ProQuest databases are key resources for scholarly research. The ProQuest Dissertations & Theses (PQDT) Global database has over 5 million records, from 1637 to present day, each of them with carefully indexed metadata. In addition, over 200,000 new graduate works are added every year from all over the world, making it the perfect resource to use to understand relationships

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between research studies. Drawing from this vast repository, ProQuest can gather data that provides insights to many aspects of graduate study, research, and dissertations and theses.

ProQuest is committed to connecting the graduate work from colleges and institutions from one side of the globe to the other. With cutting-edge content and data insight, ProQuest provides students and researchers with access to a full corpus of dissertations and theses content so they can see the evolution of research. Through the mining of the ProQuest Dissertation & These Global collection, scholars can identify trends and generate hypotheses that they might have not had otherwise.

"Thanks to the data from ProQuest, we were able to illuminate key aspects of the career journey of scholars," said Dr. Weinberg. "In terms of creating a complete picture to aid in our research, it's been invaluable."

Research projects like Dr. Weinberg's led ProQuest to develop TDM Studio, granting institutions quick access to big data. TDM Studio allows institutions to stay at the forefront of data analytics, bringing together tools and content to uncover relationships, patterns, and connections within datasets like ProQuest Dissertations & Theses.

To find out more about PQDT Global visit dissertations.com Request a demo of TDM Studio at proquest.com/go/TDM-Studio









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