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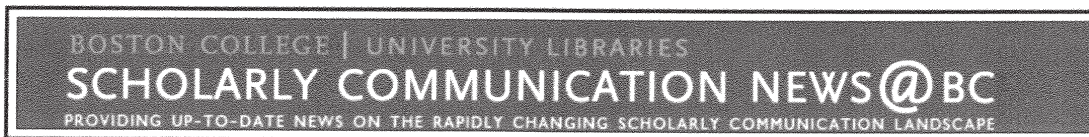
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

Boston Library Consortium Partners with Open Content Alliance

On 20 September, 2007 the **Boston Library Consortium** announced that it was partnering with the **Open Content Alliance** to provide open access to a large number of digitized books.

From the **Press Release**:

> The Boston Library Consortium, Inc. (BLC) announced today that it will partner with the **Open Content Alliance** to build a freely accessible library of digital materials from all 19 member institutions. The BLC is the first large-scale consortium to embark on such a self-funded digitization project with the Open Content Alliance. The BLC's digitization efforts will be based in a new scanning center, the Northeast Regional Scanning Center, unveiled today at the Boston Public Library

> The Consortium will offer high-resolution, downloadable, reusable files of public domain materials. Using Internet Archive technology, books from all 19 libraries will be scanned at a cost of just 10 cents per page. Collectively, the BLC member libraries provide access to over 34 million volumes. . . .

> The BLC's Executive Director, Barbara G. Preece commented, "The Boston Library Consortium is excited about its partnership with the Open Content Alliance and its members. The Consortium believes that this collaboration is the living articulation of the BLC's view to expand access to its rich resources held by the membership. The BLC/OCA project will ensure that materials digitized will remain free and open to scholars and the public." . . . .

Full Text of **Press Release**

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 2:48 PM   0 COMMENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

Publishers' PR Tactic Angers University Presses and Open-Access Advocates

On Tuesday, 11 September, 2007 we posted a letter from Heather Joseph, Executive Director of SPARC, about PRISM -- the Partnership for Research Integrity in Science and Medicine" **http://www.prismcoalition.org** . PRISM is an anti-open access initiative launched with development support from the Association of American Publishers that specifically targets efforts to expand public access to federally funded research results -- including the National Institute of Health's Public Access Policy In the 21 September issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* Jennifer Howard provides an update on the consternation caused by PRISM's anti-open access efforts.

Extracts from The Chronicle Article:

> The Association of American Publishers has landed in hot water with university presses and research librarians, as well as open-access advocates, thanks to a new undertaking that is billed as an attempt to "safeguard the scientific and medical peer-review process and educate the public about the risks of proposed government interference with the scholarly communication process." . . . .

> Reactions to Prism have been widespread and vigorous, with some commentators calling for a **boycott** of the association. The news provoked one university-press director, Mike Rossner of Rockefeller University Press, to make a public **request** that a

ABOUT

Scholarly Communication News@BC provides information updates for the Boston College community about developing scholarly communication issues, policy debates, legislation and innovative examples of dissemination/discourse practices, and is managed by staff of the **Boston College Libraries**. The Library welcomes contributors for both posting and commenting. If you are interested in posting please contact Brendan Rapple or Mark Caprio. Comments will be reviewed by blog moderators with respect to blog purpose and scope.

RELATED LIBRARY PAGES

BC's Suggested Addendum to Publishing Contracts
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Publishing Trends & Research Libraries

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Alliance for Taxpayer Access
Boston Library Consortium, Authors' Rights and Publishing
Budapest Open Access Initiative
Create Change: A Resource for Faculty and Librarian Action to Reclaim Scholarly Communication
Open Access News (Blog by Peter Suber)
Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)
SHERPA: Opening Access to Research

ACADEMIC SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION BLOGS

Duke University
Georgia State University
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Minnesota

BLOG ARCHIVE

disclaimer be placed on the Prism Web site "indicating that the views presented on the site do not necessarily represent those of all members of the AAP." Mr. Rossner continued, "We at the Rockefeller University Press strongly disagree with the spin that has been placed on the issue of open access by Prism."

The Association of Research Libraries sent its members a **talking-points memo**, dated September 4, that deals with some of the arguments made on the Prism site. The librarians' group wrote that Prism "repeatedly conflates policies regarding access to federally funded research with hypothesized dire consequences ultimately resulting in the loss of any effective system of scholarly publishing. Many commentators agree that inaccuracies abound in the initiative's rhetoric." . . . .

Brian D. Crawford, chairman of the executive council of the AAP's professional and scholarly publishing division, acknowledged that the strength of the negative reaction had taken his group by surprise. "We did not expect to have encountered the sort of criticism that we have seen thus far," Mr. Crawford told *The Chronicle*. "We were truly hoping to establish this as a way to have a very productive dialogue on what are important and nuanced issues." . . . .

Mr. Crawford defended his group against charges that it is anti-open access. "We're definitely not saying that open access equals faulty science," he said. "What we're saying is, It's important for publishers to have the flexibility to introduce and experiment with whatever business model they wish to, without government intervention."

Because of the criticisms, however, the publishers' group is taking "under advisement" the idea of adding a disclaimer, as Mr. Rossner suggested. It's also possible that the association will decide to revise the language on the Prism Web site in response to the concerns of university presses and libraries. . . . .

Full Text of The Chronicle Article

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 3:16 PM   0 COMMENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2007

Carlyle Letters Online: Magnificent New Open Access Resource

Duke University Press has just launched the *Carlyle Letters Online* on HighWire Press. This database/web site is freely available to institutions and individuals.

From the press release:

> Duke University Press announces the launch at **http://carlyleletters.org/** of the Carlyle Letters Online: A Victorian Cultural Reference, the electronic edition of The Collected Letters of Thomas and Jane Welsh Carlyle.

> A fully digitized version of one of the most comprehensive literary archives of the nineteenth century, the Carlyle Letters Online features thousands of letters written by Scottish author and historian Thomas Carlyle (1795 - 1881) and his wife, Jane Welsh Carlyle (1801 - 1866), to over six hundred recipients throughout the world.

> In part because of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Delmas Foundation, the Carlyle Letters Online is currently available at no charge to institutions and individuals.

> Undertaken in partnership with HighWire Press, a division of Stanford University Libraries, the Carlyle Letters Online is one of the first electronic scholarly editions to

http://scholcommbc.blogspot.com/

be published by a university press. Leveraging HighWire's award-winning online hosting platform and suite of features, the collection offers users an unprecedented level of functionality and personalization.

Designed as a 'collection that knows itself,' each letter in the collection is comprehensively indexed and searchable by date, subject, and recipient, with similar letters linked to each other through a vast web of interconnectivity that encourages discovery and facilitates research. Users may also take advantage of a simple and free registration to employ an array of personalized features, including saved searches; access to a 'My Carlyle Folder,' in which users can create a personal archive; and options for managing personal alerts to find out when the site is updated.

Created for scholars of all levels, from high school students to professionals, the collection allows users to explore the Victorian era from the unique vantage point of two people placed squarely at the geographic, political, and intellectual center of their century. While a critical reference for Victorian scholars, the Carlyle Letters Online aims also to encourage interdisciplinary study, appealing not just to students of literature and history but also to those of politics, economic history, and women's studies.

For more information about the Carlyle Letters Online, including coordinating editor Brent E. Kinser's introduction to the Carlyles, the history of the print edition, and the history of the electronic project, please visit **http://carlyleletters.org/**

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 3:34 PM   0 COMMENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

Usage of Open Content Licences by Cultural Organisations in the UK

The **Eduserv foundation** has funded a **study** looking into usage of open content licencing by cultural organisations in the UK.

Jordan Hatcher, formerly a Research Associate at the AHRC Research Centre for studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law, is leading a study into how open content licences are currently being used by cultural organisations in the UK. The study began in June, 2007 and is being funded by the Eduserv Foundation. Ed Barker of Eduserv is assisting with the work.

Digital resources produced by publicly funded organisations are a valuable asset to the research and education community. Many people in the sector believe that access to and use of these digital resources could be better and that the wider use of open content licences would help to improve the situation.

A study titled "The Common Information Environment and Creative Commons" was funded by Becta, the British Library, DfES, JISC and the MLA on behalf of the Common Information Environment. The work was carried out by Intrallect and the AHRC Research Centre for studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law and a report was produced in the Autumn of 2005. During the Common Information Environment study it was noted that there was considerable enthusiasm for the use of Creative Commons licences from both cultural heritage organisations and the educational and research community. In this study we aim to investigate if this enthusiasm is still strong and whether a significant number of cultural heritage organisations are publishing digital resources under open content licences.

For more detailed information about this study, please refer to the **full proposal**.

POSTED BY MARK CAPRIO AT 6:30 AM   0 COMMENTS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

SPARC letter to members on the PRISM anti-open access effort

Heather Joseph, SPARC Executive Director, has issued a **letter** to SPARC members about "PRISM" an anti-open access lobbying initiative.

Extracts (**Full letter here**):

Dear SPARC Members,

I'm writing to bring to your attention the recent launch of an anti-open access lobbying effort. The initiative, called "PRISM – the Partnership for Research Integrity in Science and Medicine" (**http://www.prismcoalition.org**), was launched with development support from the Association of American Publishers and specifically targets efforts to expand public

access to federally funded research results – including the National Institute of Health's Public Access Policy.

The messaging on the PRISM Web site, which is aimed at key policy makers, directly corresponds to the PR campaign reportedly undertaken by the AAP earlier this year. As Nature reported in January, AAP publishers met with PR "pit bull" Eric Dezenhall to develop a campaign against the "free-information movement" that focuses on simple messages, such as "public access equals government censorship," and suggested that "the publishers should attempt to equate traditional publishing models with peer review" . . . .

This campaign is clearly focused on the preservation of the status quo in scholarly publishing, (along with the attendant revenues), and not on ensuring that scientific research results are distributed and used as widely as possible. The launch of this initiative provides a timely opportunity for engaging faculty members, researchers, students and administrators in dialogue on important issues in scholarly communications.

To assist in this conversation, the Association of Research Libraries has prepared a series of talking points that explicitly address each of the PRISM messages listed above. These very useful talking points can be found at **http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/issue-brief-aap-pr-prism.pdf**

The reaction to the launch of PRISM by the academic research community has been immediate and quite strong. . . .

PRISM developments will be of interest to many on campus – including those who follow open access and anyone who is involved with PRISM publishers as an author, editor, or subscriber. Please feel free to share this information. To stay abreast of related news, visit the SPARC Web site (**http://www.arl.org/sparc**) or Peter Suber's Open Access News blog (**http://www.earlham.edu/%7Epeters/fos/fosblog.html**).

If you have any comments or questions about this discussion, please don't hesitate to contact me through (202) 296-2296 or email heather@arl.org.

Warm regards,

Heather Joseph

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 7:22 PM   0 COMMENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

Open Access to Health Research Publications: CIHR Unveils New Policy

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) recently announced a new policy to promote public access to the results of research it has funded. CIHR will require its researchers to ensure that their original research articles are freely available online within six months of publication.

From the **Press Release**:

. . . . Under this new Policy, which will apply to all grants awarded after January 1, 2008 that receive funding in whole or in part from CIHR, grant recipients must make every effort to ensure that their peer-reviewed research articles are freely available as soon as possible after publication. This can be achieved by depositing the article in an archive, such as PubMed Central or an institutional repository, and/or by publishing results in an open access journal. A growing number of journals already meet these requirements and CIHR-funded researchers are encouraged to consider publishing in these journals.

Additionally, grant recipients are now required to deposit bioinformatics, atomic, and molecular coordinate data, as already required by most journals, into the appropriate public database immediately upon publication of research results. . . .

From the official **policy on Access to CIHR-funded Research Outputs**:

5.1.1 Peer-reviewed Journal Publications

- Grant recipients are now required to make every effort to ensure that their peer-reviewed publications are freely accessible through the Publisher's website (Option #1) or an online repository as soon as possible and in any event within six months of publication (Option #2).

- Under the second option, grant recipients must archive the final peer-reviewed full-text manuscripts immediately upon publication in a digital archive, such as **PubMed**

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accessible within six months of publication, where allowable and in accordance with publisher policies. Grant recipients may use the **SHERPA/RoMEO database** to locate summaries of publisher copyright policies. The SHERPA/RoMEO database will help grant recipients determine which journals allow authors to retain copyright and/or allow authors to archive journal publications in accordance with funding agency policies. However, CIHR recommends confirming with editorial staff whether archiving the postprint immediately, and making it freely accessible within six months, is permissible.

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 3:41 PM   0 COMMENTS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2007

Faculty Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Scholarly
Communication: Survey Findings from the University Of California

The Office of Scholarly Communication, University of California recently released a report **"Faculty Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Scholarly Communication: Survey Findings from the University Of California."** This report is an analysis of over 1,100 survey responses covering a range of scholarly communication issues from faculty in all disciplines and all tenure-track ranks.

Full Report; 124 pages [download PDF]
Executive Summary and Summary of Findings; 10 pages [download PDF]
Survey Instrument; 10 pages [download PDF]

Results From the Executive Summary:

- Faculty are strongly interested in issues related to scholarly communication
- Faculty generally conform to conventional behavior in scholarly publication, albeit with significant beachheads on several fronts.
- Faculty attitudes are changing on a number of fronts, with a few signs of imminent change in behaviors.
- The current tenure and promotion system impedes changes in faculty behavior.
- On important issues in scholarly communication, faculty attitudes vary inconsistently by rank, except in general depth of knowledge and on issues related to tenure and promotion.
- Faculty tend to see scholarly communication problems as affecting others, but not themselves.
- The disconnect between attitude and behavior is acute with regard to copyright.
- University policies mandating change are likely to stir intense debate.
- Scholars are aware of alternative forms of dissemination but are concerned about preserving their current publishing outlet.
- Scholars are concerned that changes might undermine the quality of scholarship.
- Outreach on scholarly communication issues and services has not yet reached the majority of faculty.
- The Arts and Humanities disciplines may be the most fertile disciplines for University sponsored initiatives in scholarly communication.
- Senior faculty may be the most fertile targets for innovation in scholarly communication.

POSTED BY BRENDAN RAPPLE AT 5:41 PM   0 COMMENTS

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Volume 23, Number 3, Spring 2005

UCI Libraries Update
A Newsletter for Faculty

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Message from the University Librarian:
Open-Access for Scholarly Communication

The UCI Libraries provide faculty with options for submitting articles to peer reviewed, open-access digital journals and archives that provide high-impact dissemination and long-term preservation of scholarly information that benefits the academy and society.

The escalating costs of publications and increased publishers' restrictions on use have created a crisis in academic libraries' ability to acquire and provide access to research materials. To improve the situation, the UCI Libraries actively seek and support new publishing alternatives and business models that promote educational use and are economically sustainable.

UNIVERSITY *of* CALIFORNIA
Reshaping Scholarly Communication

I encourage you to consider two approaches: publishing in open-access journals with reasonable pricing models, and depositing articles in open archives in your discipline. The Libraries provide financial support by paying institutional memberships that provide significant discounts (ranging from 100% to 20%) to UC authors on publication fees for publications such as *Public Library of Science* journals, *Nucleic Acids Research,* the *Proceedings of the NationalAcademy of Science,* and *BioMed Central* journals. We also co-sponsor open-access journals such as those from Geometry & Topology Publications, Project Euclid, and many others. These publications' copyright agreements with authors generally enable broad dissemination and re-use of materials. Publication costs are supported by low subscription costs, author submission charges (usually covered by grant funds), and various types of subventions from scholars' home institution, libraries, or private funding. Open access is spreading to an expanding number of disciplines.

UC Discounts on Article Publication Charges
osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/alternatives/submit_work.html

Directory of Open Access Repositories
www.opendoar.org

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UCI Libraries Update

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http://www.lib.uci.edu/libraries/update/spring05/spring05.html

National Institutes of Health Public Access Policy
www.lib.uci.edu/scamp/nihpolicy.html

Public Library of Science
www.plos.org

PubMed Central
www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov

Julia Crosara
Web Version: Sage Kim

Rigorous peer review and high standards are the hallmarks of a number of open-access publications. *Public Library of Science* is a prime example; others can be found in the Directory of Open Access Repositories. The National Institutes of Health recently issued its Public Access Policy that calls upon scientists who have received NIH funding to submit their publications to the PubMed Central open access archive within 12 months of final publication.

The UCI Libraries will assist academic units that wish to participate in the University of California's eScholarship repository, which provides open access to items such as pre-prints, post-prints, working papers, and seminar papers (see related article in the winter 2005 issue of *UCI Libraries Update*).

Open-access journals and archives increase information exchange among scholars, thus advancing research. They also make more resources available for instructional purposes and to the general public for the advancement of society. While open access may not solve the publishing crisis, with our support it has the potential to make a significant contribution.

SCAMP, the Libraries' Scholarly Communication and Management Program, provides contacts and more information.

Gerald J. Munoff
University Librarian

Volume 24, Number 3, Spring 2006

UCI Libraries Update

A Newsletter for Faculty

Volume 24, Number 3, Spring 2006

Message from the University Librarian: Partnerships to Digitize Print Collections

UC Irvine and the other University of California libraries have joined a partnership with Yahoo and other universities in the Open Content Alliance (OCA) to build an openly available digital library with materials drawn from across the world.
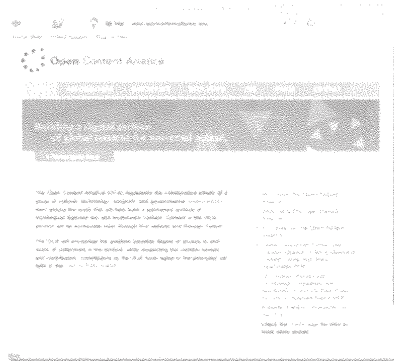
For UC's first project, all UC libraries will contribute books and resources to create a digital collection of out-of-copyright American literature. Other contributors will focus on different subjects and genres to expand the permanent archive of digitized multilingual text and multimedia content. Subsequent UC projects are planned to include American fiction, historical works of mathematics, and 19th Century British poetry.

This project differs significantly from the projects currently underway between a number of universities and Google. The OCA projects focus on discrete, coherent subject collections that are research focused, and, initially, out of copyright. The collections will offer full-text access, based on principles of non-exclusive use, and will be available to read, and in most cases, download or print, as determined by contributors. The OCA consortium is global and includes commercial partners in an open and collaborative process to create a world-class research and educational resource.

UCI Libraries' books will be digitized by the nonprofit Internet Archive using a new technology that scans books at a high rate of speed for lower costs than other

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An Interview with Seymour Menton

Donation of Limited Edition Honors Renée Hubert

New Digital Resources in Engineering and Computing

Cynthia Johnson Heads Langson Reference Department

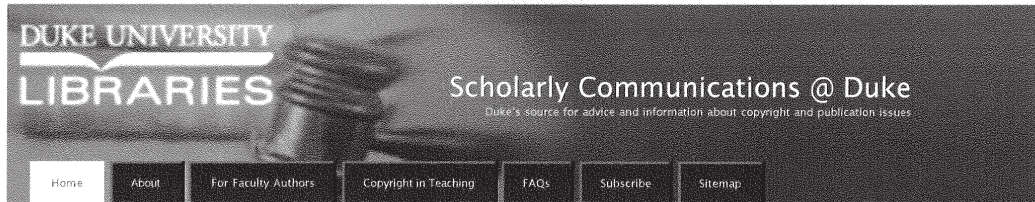http://www.lib.uci.edu/libraries/update/spr06/06spring01.html

processes. Books and other materials will not be dismantled or damaged in this process, as is sometimes the case in microfilming. The materials, indexed by Yahoo, will be available from the UCI Libraries website www.lib.uci.edu as well as at the Open Content Alliance website www.opencontentalliance.org.

OCA's other partners include Columbia University, the University of Texas, the University of Toronto, the National Library of Australia, the National Archives (U.K.), Microsoft, and Hewlett Packard. The OCA is continuing discussions with publishers to explore sustainable business models that allow more copyrighted content to be made widely available.

UCI Libraries are pleased to join the OCA and contribute to making our national intellectual and cultural heritage widely available online.

Gerald J. Munoff
University Librarian

http://library.duke.edu/blogs/scholcomm/category/open-access-and-institutional-repositories/

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Scholarly Communications @ Duke
Duke's source for advice and information about copyright and publication issues

Home | About | For Faculty Authors | Copyright in Teaching | FAQs | Subscribe | Sitemap

When should the government intervene? September 13, 2007

Posted by Kevin Smith in : Copyright Issues and Legislation, Open Access and Institutional Repositories , add a comment

There has not been a lot of comment on this site about the launch of PRISM (The Partnership for Research Integrity in Science & Medicine – a coalition of publishing organizations that is campaigning against the proposals in Congress to require public access to federally–funded research. One reason for this lack of comment is that the actual arguments and assertions made by PRISM are so transparent and easily refuted; I called them simple-minded in an earlier post (here), and I have seen nothing that changes that judgment. Also, lots of other blogs and listservs have dealt extensively with the claims of PRISM, especially after the Director of Columbia University Press resigned from the Executive Council of the American Association of Publishers over its support of the Partnership and the Director of Cambridge University Press wrote a letter repudiating its absurd assertions (see news item in The Chronicle of Higher Education here).

But even a silly debate can produce significant points, and one of the most important contributions to this argument comes from William Patry, senior copyright counsel for Google, whose blog has been cited here several times before. The "PRISM principles" refer repeatedly to preventing "government intervention" in scientific research. The irony of complaining of government interference in research that is paid for from federal tax monies in the first place should be pretty obvious, but Patry adds another point that is worth our attention. As he says in this post, "Copyright is always Government Intervention." By definition, copyright is a government- granted monopoly that artificially supports the price of intellectual property to provide an incentive to creation. Patry nicely explains the logic behind this government intervention and the reasoning that underlies the attempt to create a balance between incentives for creators and opportunities for users.

However one feels about whether we have struck the appropriate balance in the US or have erred to one side or the other, most will agree that the economic rationale for copyright as a government intervention in the free market is sound. We can only wonder if PRISM, however, will be true to its professed disdain for government measures and support the total abolition of copyright. Such a change would create a genuinely free market, where publishers would be free to compete with each other by publishing the same works at competitive prices; consumers would likely benefit from lower prices for books and movies, but it is pretty certain that creativity would suffer in the long run.

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What faculty think September 11, 2007

Posted by Kevin Smith in : Open Access and Institutional Repositories, Scholarly Publishing, Technologies , 1 comment so far

It is always dangerous to try and speculate about the opinions and attitudes of a large group, especially one af diverse as university faculty. But the University of California's Office of Scholarly Communications always produces great research, and their recent report on "Faculty Attitudes and Behaviors Regarding Scholarly Communication" is no exception. The full report can be downloaded here, and a PDF of the Executive Summary and Summary of Findings is here. This is solid, empirical research that can help guide attempts to reform and renew the system of disseminating scholarly research.

One of the most interesting findings in this report is the disconnect it documents between attitudes and behaviors around open access and, especially, copyright. Faculty members

---

search [   ] go!

Categories
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- Copyright in the Classroom
- Copyright Issues and Legislation
- Digital Rights Management
- Fair Use
- Open Access and Institutional Repositories
- Scholarly Publishing
- Technologies

Recommended readings
- Deep Niche article in The Journal of Electronic Publishing
- Influence of academic values on scholarly publication & communication practices
- Will Fair Use Survive -- report from the Brennan Center for Justice
- "Big Deal" Bundling of Academic Journals
- Value-base Journal Pricing report
- Report: Scholarly Communication: Academic Values and Sustainable Models
- University of California Whitepaper on Copyright Management
- Digital Learning Challenge
- SSRN-Educational Fair Use in Copyright: Reclaiming the Right To Photocopy Freely by Ann Bartow
- Fixing Fair Use by Michael Carroll

Recent Posts
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- Salvos in the Copyright Wars
- Anthropological growing pains
- Why we need to collaborate.
- Can Google inherit quality?

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- E. mara Jones on Anthropological growing pains
- free domain » Copyright & the First Amendment on Copyright & the First Amendment
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http://web.mit.edu/fnl/volume/184/evans.html

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

MITFaculty Newsletter

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A Failure in Communcations
The metamorphosis of academic publishing

Brian Evans

I really have to lean into the wind to make some headway as I come through the wind tunnel at the base of the building. Well, what do you expect? After all, it's March, and this is Building 54. Instead of waiting for the elevators, I decide to walk up to the seventh floor. There is not going to be any time for any other exercise today. How can you work for 12 hours each day, and get further and further behind?

Trudging up the stairs, I go over my list of things to do. Actually the hike is more like 10 floors, but my list is long enough to last the entire trip. On the way past the mail room, I grab my pile of incoming. Let's see: junk, junk, the *Faculty Newsletter* -- put that aside to read cover to cover later -- junk, junk, some papers to review, a few proposals to read, a couple of manuscripts to revise . . . Wait, what's this? A letter from the publisher. Great, our paper was accepted! Here's the copyright agreement. Man, who writes this stuff? Well, at least I can sign this, get it out of here, and get on with life. After all, you don't really have a choice about these agreements, right? There isn't anything you can do, and the media rights don't matter, anyway. Nobody's going to make a movie out of my research.

Well, actually, most of th ose comments are dead wrong. There is a choice, those agreements do matter, and you, the author, are not powerless. There are things you can do about it; but first, a little history.
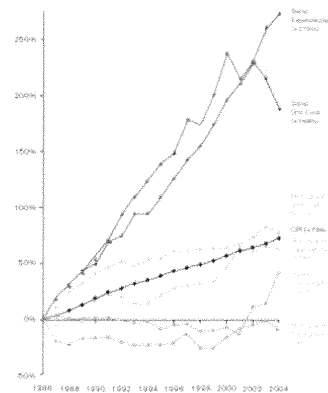
Monograph and Serial Expenditures
in ARL Libraries, 1986-2004
(click on image to enlarge)

For perhaps the last 10-15 years, academic publishing has been metamorphosing in dramatic fashion. Most of us are aware of the transition from print to electronic media. For those with the right institutional connections, access to most major research journals is now possible from our offices or, even, at home. Less apparent to end-users in academe has been the transfer of publication costs from the single subscriber to multiple-journal, multi-user access licenses by libraries, institutions, and systems. These fundamental changes in the business strategies of the commercial academic publishers have caused extraordinarily large increases of cost for colleges and universities (see graph). Additionally, globalization of the scholarly printing trade has dramatically reduced the number of publishers, even as the number of journals has increased.

Intellectual property rights are also in transition. The advent of the Internet and its promise of large amounts of freely accessible information have triggered a movement to replace copyright

law with contract law. Access to scholarly publications is now rented yearly, rather than purchased.

The right to own print copies now incurs charges in addition to simple subscription costs, and many publishers are moving to eliminate traditional print versions entirely.

Thus, if a library drops a journal subscription, access to the entire electronic version may be lost, and recourse to a printed copy is much less likely. Subscription rates are now negotiated individually by institutions, rather than being based on standard values for all colleges. A small community college is likely to pay much less for a given journal than a major research institution. Of course, the research institution also has less flexibility in cutting important journals and, consequently, has less leverage in threatening to cut subscription costs. As publishers strive to protect access to journal content, the contract and copyright agreements have become much less standard and, generally, more restrictive.

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In response to these trends, a grass-root, "open-access" movement has developed with the loosely defined goal of providing freely accessible repositories of intellectual material, governed by less restrictive copyright assignments, as defined by a broader portion of the academic community (for example, see sciencecommons.org). The open-access movement is driven by a wide variety of forces, amongst which are desires for fewer restrictions on the use of published material in the classroom, increased accessibility, decreased cost, and greater clarity in copyright issues. Open access journals tend to be concentrated in, but not exclusively restricted to, health, medicine, and biological sciences. Concern for public access has been most visible in these medical fields, with the argument being made that access to publicly funded research should not be overly restricted by private copyright interests. Private funding foundations, including the Wellcome Trust, and other public agencies, e.g., the UK Research councils, are also moving in this direction. In the last year, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have instituted a policy requesting deposit of final peer-reviewed manuscripts into a repository called PubMed Central (NLM). Although the NIH policy stops short of requiring deposits, submission is strongly encouraged.

But what, exactly, are the roles of MIT, its faculty, students, and researchers in all this? First, if the Institute can provide mechanisms to clarify copyright issues and to increase the efficiency of scholarly output of our staff and students, it should do so. Second, it is in the best interest of the Institute to retain control of its intellectual output while insuring broad dissemination, but only if it can be done in ways that are responsible to individual investigators, to the academic community, and to the general public. Finally, it is in the best interests of the entire academic community to encourage balance and cooperation amongst all members of the scholarly publishing community, whether private or public, and if MIT can provide leadership within academe, we should not shirk.

Fortunately, progress on the first item has been made. Owing to hard work on the part of Ann Wolpert and the staff of the MIT Library Systems, the Committee on Intellectual Property, Vice President for Research Alice Gast, and the Office of the Provost, there are now systems being developed to help investigators respond to the NIH policy. In part, the purpose of this article is simply to alert faculty and staff to the fact that there are some tools designed to help the individual investigator. One of the most recent developments is a standard amendment to publication agreements, drafted by the Intellectual Property Counsel, which is available online at *http://web.mit.edu/faculty/research.html; http://web.mit.edu/faculty/agreement.pdf; http://libraries.mit.edu/about/scholarly/amendment.doc.*

The last of these sites also has information about the open-access movement, clarification of the NIH initiative, and discussion of scholarly communications in general. The amendment to publication agreement provides a relatively easy method to standardize copyright assertions for your own work. In addition, library systems staff are available to assist NIH investigators and others in the submission of work to Dspace. Bearing in mind that Dspace is available for

http://web.mit.edu/fnl/volume/184/evans.html

all MIT faculty members, such a repository could be used for a much broader spectrum of the research output of the MIT community, an option that is particularly attractive given the commitment of Dspace to providing a robust and durable Website with upward migration of data.

Progress in the broader community is also possible, I believe. With increased awareness of the issues confronting academic publishing, MIT faculty are in a position to exert responsible leadership with our colleagues at other universities. Tempting as it might be to grab pitchforks and torches and march off to man the barricades, we, as a faculty, need to be thoughtful and constructive in our approach. What we cannot do with any sense of collective responsibility is simply watch. The issues are too important for scientific and engineering research, for universities and colleges, and for the fulfillment of MIT's core mission, to allow outside forces to decide the outcome. It is time for a broad discussion involving a large portion of the faculty and staff to formulate a constructive statement of policy. With general faculty support and awareness, we can exert force for positive change.

Sadly, though, I have been forced to realize it is probably true that no one is going to make a movie of my research. What a shame! Harrison Ford would have been perfect for the lead.

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MIT Libraries News

MIT Student Day of Action for Open Access

Posted February 21st, 2007 by Ellen Duranceau

MIT students supported a national effort when they carried out a â€œday of action for open accessâ€ on the MIT campus February 15.

Inspired by the National Day of Action for Open Access (sponsored by freeculture.org and the Alliance for Taxpayer Access), a group of students devised a project called â€œOverprice Tags.â€

The students who worked on the project were Benjamin Mako Hill (who goes by Mako) and Annina Rust (both pictured below) along with Noah Vawter, all graduate students in the Media Lab's Computing Culture group, as well as Daniel Jared Dominguez and Christine Sprang, both undergraduates. They created unique price tags and affixed them to the 100 journals they identified as costing MIT more that $5,000 per year.

Their goal, according to Hill, was to â€œbring attention to the open access issue and the sky-rocketing price of scholarly journals at MIT,â€ as well as to focus attention on â€œcompelling, publicly accessible alternatives to â€¦ closed and restrictive models of academic publishing.â€

Focusing on journal prices was a way to â€œgrab the attention of people who were unawareâ€ of the barriers to accessing research. As Hill notes, price is one of the barriers, but not the only one. Once they caught a readerâ€™s attention by â€œlooking a magazine with a $25,000 price tag,â€ Hillâ€™s group hoped that readers would be interested enough to follow the link to the "overprice tags" website, where they could â€œstart a real explanation of what the issues are.â€

Thought to be the â€œfirst major MIT Free Culture event,â€ this student day of action has already raised awareness on campus. All responses received so far have been supportive of the project, and many writers expressed interest in getting more involved in events related to open access.

For those who would like more information about open access or ideas about how to get involved, Hillâ€™s Open Access at MIT, and the Librariesâ€™ scholarly publishing web site offer summaries of the issues, links to groups who are involved, and recommended actions. You may also be interested in viewing a short slideshow of the MIT Student Day of Action for Open Access.

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http://library.syr.edu/information/libassoc/connection/winter0304.pdf

THE **library** **C O N N E C T I O N**

News from the Syracuse University Library

FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

The Public Library of Science (PLoS) is an example of a new open-access initiative. "PLoS is a nonprofit scientific publishing venture that provides scientists with high-quality, high-profile journals in which to publish their work, while making the full contents freely available online, with no charges for access and no restrictions on subsequent redistribution or use." *(From the PLoS web site; image courtesy of PLoS.)*

Open Access to Scholarship— New Opportunities for the University

New ideas are fermenting in the scholarly communication world. Terms such as open access, institutional and disciplinary repositories, and self-archiving are common currency today, not only on campuses but also in major scholarly journals, such as Nature, and at scholarly organizations, such as the American Council of Learned Societies. Scholars, researchers, and faculty are bubbling with ideas for using networked technologies to increase the speed and ease of communicating research results while decreasing costs. Syracuse University can play a leadership role in these new developments. In this issue, we propose two ways to do so.

The idea of open access is at the heart of the new ferment. Open access, in the academic networked world, refers to scholarly work made available for education and research at no cost to the reader, with a presumption that the work was created with no expectation of direct monetary return (as is the case with most scholarly work).

OBSTACLES TO ACCESS

Such an arrangement contrasts to the predominant publishing mode, which requires libraries to buy expensive subscriptions to journals, and thus to pay for access to what scholars have contributed to those journals for free.

Most scholars are now familiar with the crisis in journals: libraries are spending three times as much as 15 years ago for fewer journals (see chart, p. 2) and, consequently, are buying many fewer books. Mergers and acquisitions among publishers have reduced the 13 major STM (Science, Technology, Medicine) publishers of five years ago to only seven now, and their announced annual profit rates are in the 20 to 35 percent range. Increasingly, libraries are only able to license—rather than purchase—journal content, which further restricts scholarly use. Large publishers are also pushing libraries into bundling agreements so that, as library budgets tighten, they are forced to cancel individual journals from smaller publishers.

New copyright legislation has put constraints on fair use. Publishers have worked with the entertainment industry to limit the "right of first sale," which lets the purchaser of a book lend it or give it away. This right is no longer available at all for digital information. Database legislation is being introduced to make facts protected by law!

OPEN-ACCESS PUBLICATION

Open access is a mode of publishing in which authors retain control over the copyright of their work, while making it freely available to the widest possible readership. Authors can transfer to publishers the rights to post on the web or to publish first in a journal, and can also retain the right to post work themselves, use it as they see fit, and retain control over its integrity. (If an author seeks financial gain from a work, she or he remains free to negotiate those rights with a publisher, as now.)

The intent is to provide information free to readers; however, there are some costs. Models have been proposed that put the costs at the front end, rather like page charges. The Wellcome Institute and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute have already committed to paying the up-front charges for their staff's contributions to open-access journals and to disciplinary repositories. These charges cover necessary administrative and technology costs.

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http://library.syr.edu/information/libassoc/connection/winter0304.pdf

OUR VISION

Our vision of Syracuse University Library—its people, services, collections, and facilities—is of a nationally significant research library that understands the needs of its users and has actively developed the resources and methods to meet those needs now and in the future.

Goal 7.1: Information Technology Implementation for Optimum User Access

Ensure proactive application of the information technologies required to create, integrate, organize, and customize online services and information resources in all formats.

Targets for Transformation, the Library's strategic plan (revised July 2002)

Currently, there are more than 500 open-access journals. A recent, well-publicized example is PLoS Biology, published by the Public Library of Science. Others include some supported by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC, of which the Library is a paying member), such as Documenta Mathematica and New Journal of Physics.

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

Other open-access implementations include institutional and disciplinary repositories. The best known of the latter is the arXiv.org e-Print service, for preprints in high-energy physics and related disciplines, formerly at Los Alamos, and now hosted by Cornell University. BioMed Central publishes more than 50 online journals in biology and medicine, and provides open access on the web.

M.I.T. and the University of Southampton have each created open-source institutional repository software, now in use at dozens of universities around the U.S., from CalTech to Hofstra, and around the world (see the Open Archives Initiative URL for links to many of them). M.I.T.'s DSpace hosts research and teaching material from its own faculty, allowing researchers to select access levels to items they contribute (Southampton's EPrints is similar, but more discipline-based).

An institutional repository highlights the serious academic accomplishments of the institution: research and teaching tools are collocated in one place for all to see. Of equal importance, an institutional archive contributes to a new global system of distributed, interoperable repositories, helping to change the model of scholarly communication.

The growth of repositories has been accompanied by the development of harvesting tools—tools that let a scholar search over the aggregate of institutional archives using one command, rather like Google, but with better results. The convergence of possibilities

means that the present costly and constraining publishing model can be changed for the benefit of all scholars and students, and with a net reduction in cost of dissemination.

WHAT CAN WE DO HERE?

What role does Syracuse University want to play in shaping the future of research dissemination?
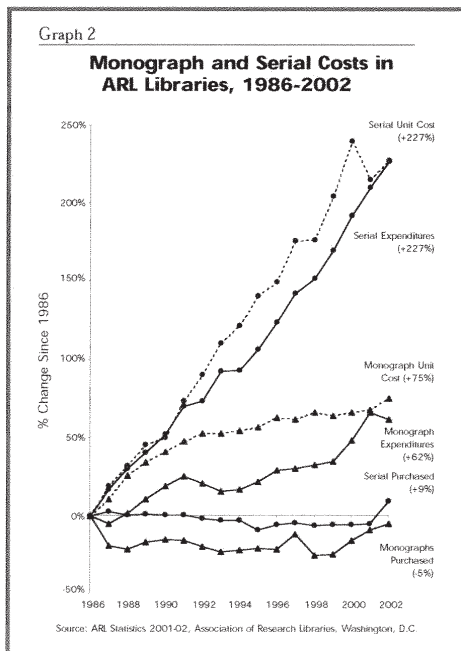
First of all, we need to talk about the new publishing models. Reasonable questions arise concerning peer review, effects on promotion and tenure, the relative status of major disciplinary journals and the new open-access journals, faculty retention of intellectual property rights, costs (to whom?), and disturbing the existing publishing model, which has taken centuries to build.

What about long-term digital preservation? What does it mean to make institutions, instead of publishers and scholarly societies, responsible for scholarly output? Are multiple solutions possible? Faculty must feel comfortable with new modes if they are to have any chance of success.

We in the Library have particular skills and knowledge to bring to these discussions. SU's Computing and Media Services will contribute its skills and knowledge to building the infrastructure. SU Press, the University Art Collection, and University Archives can bring important resources to the digital table. The college deans and the University administration should be involved from the beginning, which we believe should be soon.

It may now be time for SU faculty to join in supporting the open-access journal movement. To that end, the Library proposes for the next three years to subsidize the publication charges for articles by SU faculty published in open-access journals and disciplinary repositories. There is much to be worked out, and we look forward to discussions among faculty and the departments most affected on such questions as these: What defines an open-access journal? Should subventions be faculty-based or article-based? What limits can or should there be? What should the budget model eventually be? The Library will initiate forums and discussions during the spring 2004 semester. Interested faculty may contact Peter McDonald, associate University librarian for collection development, at x2977 or apmcdona@syr.edu.

—Peter S. Graham
University Librarian

Graph 2

Monograph and Serial Costs in ARL Libraries, 1986-2002

Serial Unit Cost (+227%)
Serial Expenditures (+227%)
Monograph Unit Cost (+75%)
Monograph Expenditures (+62%)
Serial Purchased (+9%)
Monographs Purchased (-5%)

Source: ARL Statistics 2001-02, Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C.

http://library.syr.edu/information/libassoc/connection/winter0304.pdf

New Initiatives in Open Access

Visit these web sites to learn more about open access:

Budapest Open-Access Initiative (BOAI) is a statement of principle, strategy, and commitment to making research articles in all academic fields publicly available on the Internet. The initiative has been endorsed by a growing number of researchers, universities, laboratories, libraries, foundations, journals, publishers, learned societies, and scholars from around the world. The BOAI recommends using two complementary strategies: self-archiving in institutional/disciplinary repositories and open-access journals. http://www.soros.org/openaccess/

SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) is actively promoting both open-access journals and the development of institutional repositories. Developed by the research library community—including SU Library—SPARC has a number of open-access partners, including Algebraic and Geometric Topology, Documenta Mathematica, eScholarship, Geometry & Topology, and Journal of Insect Science. http://www.arl.org/sparc

Public Library of Science (PLoS) began as a grassroots initiative, signed by more than 30,000 scientists, to encourage publishers to deposit their journals in central archives, such as PubMed Central, within six months of publication. Having generated only modest response from publishers, the leaders of the PLoS are developing their own set of open-access journals (PLoS Biology has just appeared). http://www.publiclibraryofscience.org/

Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities is an October 2003 statement of many European research organizations (e.g., CNRS, Max Planck Society). It supports open access, encourages scholars to so publish, and encourages experiments in funding and support. http://www.zim.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html

Open Archives Initiative (OAI, supported by NSF and the Digital Library Federation) develops and promotes interoperability standards that aim to facilitate the efficient dissemination of content. The OAI has its roots in an effort to enhance access to e-print archives as a means of increasing the availability of scholarly communication. The fundamental technological framework and standards that are developing to support this work are, however, independent of both the type of content offered and the economic mechanisms surrounding that content. They promise to have much broader relevance in opening up access to a range of digital materials. OAI is committed to exploring and enabling this new and broader range of applications. http://www.openarchives.org

Oxford University Press has partnered with Oxford's Library to provide an institutional e-print archive with online access to articles by Oxford University-based authors, free of charge to researchers across the globe. http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/

Bibliography on Open Access

Here are citations and links to much more information about open access, repositories, and new modes of scholarly communication.

The Open Archives Initiative link above will lead to a list of more than 400 existing repositories. Some of the better known among them are the following:

Dspace at M.I.T. (https://dspace.mit.edu/index.jsp)

Collection of Digital Archives (CODA) at CalTech (http://library.caltech.edu/digital/)

Eprints.org, at the University of Southampton, is home source for over 100 repositories.

A directory of more than 500 open-access journals may be found at http://www.doaj.org/.

A registry of institutional repositories and open archives may be found at http://gita.grainger.uiuc.edu/registry/.

Extensive further information and bibliography on open access issues may be found on the Library Open Access web page at libwww.syr.edu/publications/openaccess.