

Cornell University Library

University Library Management Team

Notes from the November 18, 1997 Meeting

Attending: Ross Atkinson, Lee Cartmill, David Corson, Claire Germain, Tom Hickerson, Vally Kovary, Janet McCue, Sarah Thomas, Ed Weissman

1. Food and Beverage. We discussed CUL's food and beverage policy and whether or not we should consider a less restrictive policy. The [University of California, Irvine policy](#) is an example of a policy allowing food and beverages in non-public areas. Among the topics discussed were: the "covered beverage" policy in force at the Law Library, and the food and drink area on the first floor of Mann Library. Sarah said she would solicit feedback from libraries across the system and, if appropriate, draft a new policy.

2) ARL Global Resources Program. We discussed the issues associated with participating in and supporting the ARL Global Resource program. This program was created to deal with the cut backs in the acquisition of foreign language materials by North American university libraries and is an attempt to increase access to these materials. (Sarah is the co-chair of the working group for the German Demonstration Project. There are six other working groups. For background on the Program see <http://www.arl.org/collect/grp/index.html>). One of the problems in providing necessary support for these programs at Cornell has been that typically only the selector from the area involved has served as an advocate for the program. This makes it difficult to get the support for special services that are needed (e.g., from processing or interlibrary services.) It was suggested that a better approach would be to name a Task Force comprised of the appropriate selector along with technical and public services representatives to analyze the requirements for specific programs and proposing implementation plans. Sarah said she would hold a meeting of the stakeholders to discuss and plan Cornell's involvement in these projects.

3) The National Humanities Association's Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment. At its September 9 meeting, the Executive Team reviewed the National Humanities Alliance "Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment" (3/24/97). ARL sent copies of the National Humanities Alliance "Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment" (3/24/97) to library directors asking that they try to secure institutional endorsements. (ARL itself has already endorsed the principles.) The ET agreed that this is a good document >from the Library's perspective and that we would like to encourage support for the position it takes. Sarah asked Pat Court to review, distill and provide an executive summary of the key points in this document for review with the ULMT and the Council of Librarians and ultimately for distribution with the document to the faculty and university administration with an indication that the Library endorses the principles. (Pat's summary is appended to the end of these notes.) We commended Pat for the summary, but we agreed that we needed some practical examples of what applying these principles will mean. Sarah will ask Pat and Peter Hirtle, who has analyzed the NHA principles for the Society of American Archivists, to draft a "practical summary" of copyright

issues (e.g., fair use, distance learning, archiving) to distribute with the document and the executive summary.

4. LTD Priorities. Tom distributed a list of active and completed projects. The Load of Microform Analytics was completed and OCLC Repeat Search is ready to roll--the first record run may occur this week. Tom reported that there is a possibility that LTD will have to spend more time than anticipated on the Annex Inventory Control System but that more will be known about this in the next two weeks. There was a question about a new project request that did not appear on the list and we asked Tom to separate out Proposed Projects (needing prioritization) from the Active Projects list. All proposals for new projects should be sent to Tom. The "Currently Open User Requests" list of projects distributed at the August 20 ULMT meeting should be reviewed and Tom should be informed of projects that can be removed.

5. LMS. Tom reported that the LMS steering Committee agreed to invite four vendors to campus. He is trying to arrange two-day visits for each vendor on December 8-9 and December 15-16, with the other two visits in January. Ameritech, Endeavor, VTLS and DRA are being contacted.

Executive Summary of NHA Digital Copyright Principles Ed,
Attached is my one-page executive summary of the Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment of the National Humanities Alliance. I have borrowed heavily on their language to produce a brief overview of their document. I have tried to highlight key principles -- primarily the issue of maintaining the balance between copyright owners and users -- with a quick sweep of the still-developing, complex issues at stake. The ten Principles, in fact, fit on one page and may also be useful for dissemination for some discussions.

I have sent you this information both in paper and electronically. I hope this executive summary will serve Sarah Thomas' purposes in informing and stimulating library and university interest in these important issues.

Pat Court

Basic Principles for Managing Intellectual Property in the Digital Environment

Executive Summary

Prepared for Cornell University

The educational community is heavily invested in scholarly communication, ranging from complex graphical and sound data to plain text, and relies on the rich and timely circulation of information as well as its preservation and organization. As both owners and consumers of this intellectual property, educational institutions understand and seek to continue balance between

the rights of owners and public access, as manifested in copyright law. Digital technologies have the potential to disrupt that balance, with unlimited capacity to disseminate, as well as unlimited capacity to prevent use of information. These Principles have been prepared by the National Humanities Alliance (NHA), Committee on Libraries and Intellectual Property, in an effort to build consensus within the educational community on the use of copyrighted works in the digital environment and to provide standards against which legislative proposals on intellectual property can be evaluated.

The cornerstone of the Principles is that copyright law provisions for digital works should maintain the existing legal balance between the interests of creators and copyright owners and the public, which is consonant with the educational ethic of responsible use of intellectual properties, promotes the free exchange of ideas, and protects the economic rights of copyright holders. Challenges to this balance may be seen as coming from the infotainment industry and from pressures to join international agreements that bestow greater rights on creators than the U.S. tradition. Facts should continue to be in the public domain, and the privacy rights of individuals accessing digital works without recording personal identities must be assured.

Legal, technological, and educational issues combine in the Principles to lay a groundwork of established and developing concepts that need to be considered in the digital environment. The importance of facilitating preservation and migration to new media is recognized as technologies change. Compulsory licensing is red-flagged as needing further discussion. The extension of the First Sale Doctrine that enables libraries to lend remains to be developed for digital works with lockbox or other software. Support of distance learning includes institutional and individual responsibility for copyright compliance.

The NHA has laid out ten Basic Principles with commentaries that embody an overarching conviction that it is in the interest of the evolving U.S. information society that the legal environment foster rather than disrupt the balance between intellectual property owners and the public good that is embodied in current law. Endorsement of these Principles comes from numerous organizations, including the American Council of Learned Societies, American Library Association, Association of Research Libraries, and the Society of American Archivists. For the complete document and a compact version of the Principles, see http://www-ninch.cni.org/ISSUES/COPYRIGHT/PRINCIPLES/NHA_Complete.html.

Pat Court

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