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How Networking on Campus Can Increase Copyright Education

In this session, presenters shared their work and experience in networking and collaborating with campus partners to promote the copyright services from the Center for the Advancement of the Digital Scholarship (CADS), including outreach, education, and consultation from the center. During the session, a hands-on practice was provided for audiences to identify the common partners on campus and to create partner webs for their own institutions.

Background

When the center started in January 2015, the state of the copyright services was poor. There was no dedicated person (e.g., a copyright librarian) for copyright questions and services. Only a very small piece of the job was taken by the scholarly communications librarian. Very few educational programs existed. Only two instruction sessions were offered to the graduate students per year with very low attendance rates. There was also not much traffic in consultation, with only two to four questions every month, and most of the consultations came in at the last minute. Constant copyright frustration was reported from all partners on campus, including the scholarly communications librarian. The copyright website was poorly maintained with minimum upkeep and updating. However, the center did have some positives, such as a copyright policy, other IP policies, copyright and media policies and guidelines, some connection with General Counsel, and an online consultation form.

Common partners

At Kansas State University (K-State), CADS identified their campus partners, including the Office of Honor and Integrity, General Counsel (GC), Academic and User Services, and the Graduate School (GS).

Initial steps for networking and collaboration

(1) An environmental scan of campus and web of collabo-rations was conducted; (2) major needs were identified; (3) a program to connect campus partners was initiated by setting up semester meetings with the contact person from each partner to discuss common education and instruction goals and to share an understanding of the roles on campus and how the center's services can fit within their structure and goals; (4) updates were begun for the copyright website. The center has done tremendous work on updating their website, including reviewing peer institutions' copyright websites, identifying likes and dislikes, reviewing their current copyright website, deciding what needed to be improved and what need to be added, and making the changes.

New integrations

Since the digital scholarship librarian joined the center, more integration with the campus partners has occurred. The center has:

- added information about the copyright website to the GC's website
- met with the GS to utilize current best practices
- hosted open discussions on plagiarism and tool preferences
- connected with the Graduate Student Council (GSC) to increase the awareness and promotion of graduate focused events
- coordinated events with GS and GSC every semester

• sent announcements to graduate student groups/clubs and invited them to talk about their publications and copyright concerns

• added copyright information, such as copyright notice and links to the student copyright page, to all Electronic Theses, Dissertations and Reports (ETDR) templates through the Information Technology Assistance Center (iTAC)

• updated the instruction module for distance education instructors; engaged in outreach to the International Student Center; and

• shared new copyright tools with library Interlibrary Loan (ILL) to bring costs down; and provided information sessions to Open/Alternative Textbook award applicants.

Generating ideas

After communication with and outreach to campus partners, some new ideas came up, including hosting copyright office hours from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. every Tuesday during the spring and fall semesters and organizing a new copyright workshop series. The workshops started by providing copyright education to K-State Libraries' faculty and staff, and then the workshops were opened up to the entire K-State campus community in the spring of 2017. Each workshop focuses on a specific topic, with three workshops a semester. In the spring of 2017, the copyright workshop topics were fair use, Creative Commons, and the "Framework for Analyzing Any U.S. Copyright Problem," which is based on the framework created by Lisa Macklin and Kevin Smith. In the fall, the topics will be educational exemptions in U.S. copyright law, contract addenda and negotiating with publishers, and the public domain. They also met with students at the User Services/ Help desk and library faculty to ensure that copyright referrals would come to the center. They also began hosting informal workshops, such as "CADS, Coffee, and Copyright," in which participants could sit down and talk about their concerns over copyright and their scholarly publications.

Web presence and website usage

Comparing the old site and the new site, much improvement can be observed. The new site is more user friendly with much more information and a clearer navigation bar on the side and links to anchors added to the top individual pages. New infographics and media are now included, such as videos created by the digital scholarship librarian on copyright basics and the exclusive rights of copyright owners. Google analytics shows much better page views for the new site than the old one. The new site is now regularly updated based on continued engagement with partners and feedback. The ability to add files was added to the online consultation form for users to upload material(s) in question. The future plan is to create a separate page dedicated to graduate students, based on information from the GC website and feedback from the workshops.

Success and use

The center has received lots of positive feedback from the campus partners on the new copyright website. Consultations have increased from two to four questions a month to 15–20 questions a month. Among them, fewer last-minute consultations regarding the use of copyrighted materials in graduate students' Electronic Theses, Dissertations, and Reports (ETDRs) were observed, and more thoughtful questions were posed, which demonstrates an effort toward preparedness from the users. The GC now includes the center in copyright issues and suggests the center as resources for campus. CADS also helped develop a New Literacy Alliance module on basic copyright and teamed with liaison librarians to direct students to copyright resources and information. CADS representatives were invited to present to new groups about copyright information, including the web content editors meeting, new undergraduate classes, and faculty meetings, such as the English Language Program's faculty in-service meeting. The center now has higher attendance rates at their events and has received positive feedback and targeted feedback from K-State librarians in event evaluations.

Relevant Resources

Creative Commons Terms: http://www.k-state.edu/copyright/docs/creative-commons-handout.pdf

Four Factors: http://www.k-state.edu/copyright/docs/four-factors-fair-use.pdf

Framework infographic: http://krex.k-state.edu/dspace/handle/2097/34609

Framework text: www.k-state.edu/copyright/docs/framework_for_analyzing_any_copyright_problem_ with_links_added.pdf

Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization Act (TEACH Act) Checklists: http://www.k-state.edu/copyright/docs/teach-act-checklists.pdf