

# DIGITAL RIGHTS (COPYRIGHTS)

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## Process to permissions

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Digital Resource Management from Data to Knowledge  
21 – 23 July 2009, Durban, South Africa



# What will be covered

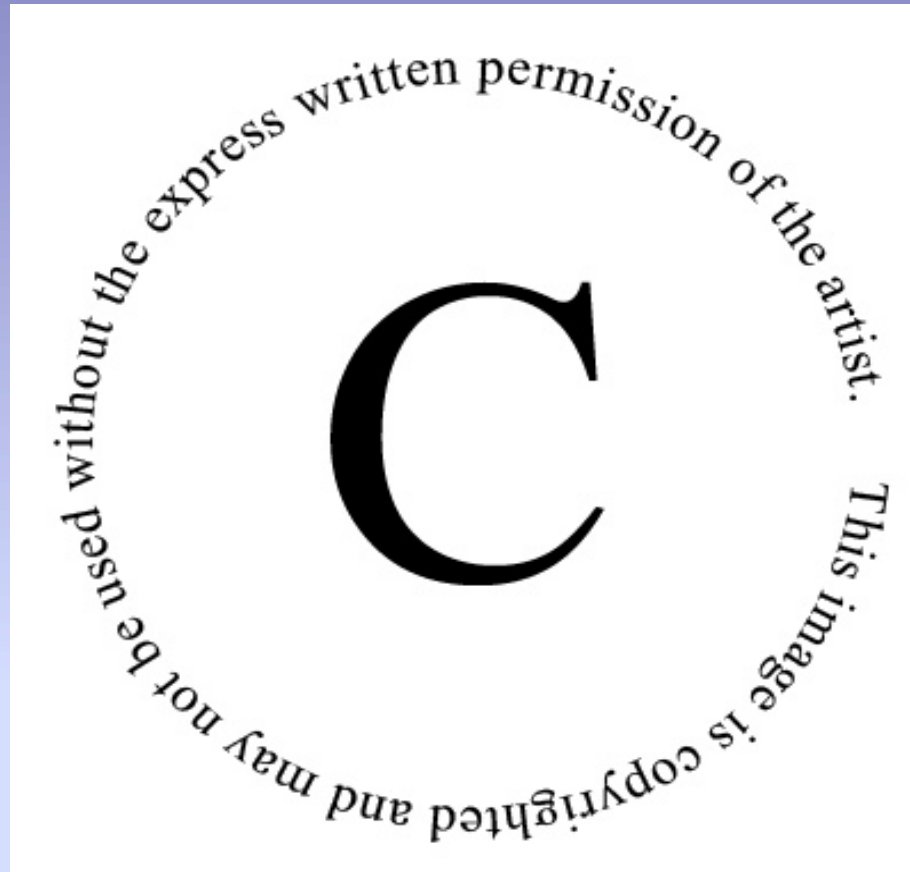
- © Introduction: Rights to digitise  
Background & history  
Copyright treaties & legislation  
Terms, conditions and disclaimers
- © Process to Permissions
- © A Few Examples
- © Open access
- © Conclusion

# INTRODUCTION: RIGHTS TO DIGITISE

*Give to every human being every right that you  
claim for yourself.*

~Robert Ingersoll





Uncommon Depth, Flickr, Jan 2009

We are not removing copyright from the author.  
Request permission to digitise and make available.

# Background of Copyright

“...copyright may be described as the exclusive right in relation to work embodying intellectual content ...”

Owen Dean, Handbook of South African Copyright Law

Protect Intellectual Property (IP)  
from unauthorised usage

IP: 4 forms

Patents, trademarks, designs (Industrial Property)  
and  
COPYRIGHT



# Act for the encouragement of learning

*Annae Reginae*: Statute of Anne in 1700s

Protected author as owner of the right to copy

Control over reprints

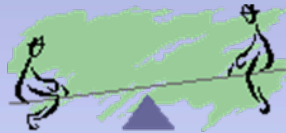
Expired after 14 years



# WIPO (World Intellectual Property Org.)

Oversees regulation of IP

Copyright holders



Users

## Berne Convention

for the protection of literary and artistic works  
(1886, last amended 1979)

Protect rights of creators

Works originating in one of contract States  
given same protection in each of other States.



Very Quiet, Flickr, May 2009

Copyright symbol not required (©)  
Author/Creator owns copyright



# South Africa: Copyright Act 98 of 1978 as amended

## Protects literary and artistic works:

- Literary works
- Musical works
- Artistic works
- Cinematograph films
- Sound recordings
- Broadcasts
- Programme-carrying signals
- Published editions
- Computer programs



Copyright subsists in a work for **50 years** from the end of the year in which the work was made available.

Owen Dean, Handbook of South African Copyright Law

# Exemptions from copyright infringement

## Public Domain

### Examples

- Commissions
- Government documents
- Documents older than 50 years  
(author's life + 50 years)

## Fair Dealing

### Examples

- Research and study
- Review
- Reporting on current affairs

# “Fair” use

- Judicial proceedings
- Quotations
- Illustrations for teaching
- Ephemeral copies
- Works delivered in public for info purposes
- Official texts, political speeches
- Daily news – press

Depends on the portion of the work being used and the commercial availability of the work.



For the SA Copyright Act visit: [www.info.gov.za](http://www.info.gov.za)

World Intellectual Property (WIPO) website  
Directory of National Copyright offices

<http://www.wipo.int/directory/en/urls.jsp>

Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA):

<http://www.wipo.int/clea/en/>



# COPYRIGHT POLICY

## TERMS and CONDITIONS FOR USE

**Permitted uses:** Use of content for educational, scholarly, research and non-commercial purposes

**Prohibited uses:** Commercial purposes, incorporate content into other sites, unauthorised reproduction or other exploitation

- Rights of copyright holders to be respected
- Subject to fair use principles – limited academic/educational uses; download or print limited portion
- Contents may not be modified
- Illegal or abusive use may terminate your registration without notice
- In accordance with laws

Failure to comply is considered **COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT**  
and may result in legal action.



# COPYRIGHT POLICY

## DISCLAIMER

*'The denial, refusal, or rejection of a right, power, or responsibility ...used generally with the purpose of protection from unwanted claims or liability'*  
(The Free Dictionary)

- ▶ In some instances, copyright holders cannot be identified or located
- ▶ Best effort made to establish and obtain copyright permission
- ▶ Contact us if you can supply information on copyright ownership
- ▶ If you feel content violates your copyright (or rights) send a written notice

Consult with a copyright lawyer.



# PROCESS TO PERMISSIONS

*What the world really needs is more love  
and less paper work.*

~Pearl Bailey



# Initial review & research

Material you want to digitise:

- Look for name/s of copyright originators (owners) – person, project, organisation
- Research on copyright owners – find current contact details, email or addresses (internet)
- Check Metadata
- If owner deceased then source next of kin
- Look at document to source more details





# Investigate copyright situation

Assess legal conditions and requirements.

Follow guidelines for Copyright in terms of risk:

- **HIGH**
- **MEDIUM**
- **LOW**



# Requests

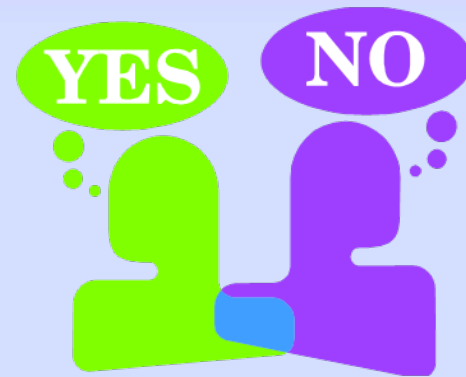
- ✓ Using template, send letter requesting permission
- ✓ Provide inventory of material
- ✓ Consent form should be signed by owner and returned to you (legal document)
- ✓ Follow up; if no response send another request

# Status

Database – document when permissions are granted or refused.

Final determination: Use/ don't use

- Fair dealing
- Best effort
- Public domain
- Not subject to copyright



# General

- ✓ Ensure that consent form is signed once it is received from owner
- ✓ Make copy for your records
- ✓ File correspondence and consent forms

NB. Paper trail

- ✓ Update database

# *Letter of Request*

The rights holder grants you permission to:

- Create digital images as reproductions of historical material in digital form
- Retain digital images in archives – supplemented with index, metadata, other
- Modify and adapt **without changing** the content
- Distribute and make publicly available to users
- For educational and scholarly purposes



# EXAMPLES OF PERMISSIONS

*A memorandum is written not to inform the reader but to protect the writer.*

~Dean Acheson



# Interviews

## Copyright held by:

- Interviewer and/or interviewee (one or both)

Safest to get permission from both

## Case scenarios

- Permission not granted
- Interviewee deceased – no response from next of kin

# Theses/Dissertations

Copyright held by:

- Owner = author

Contact institution

Best to contact both

Case scenarios

- Thesis already in Institute's repository
- Student has ceded copyright to institute
- Institute wants proof that author has granted permission



# Journals

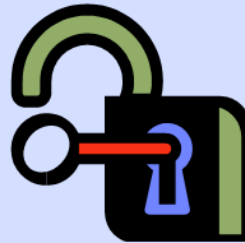
## Copyright held by

- Publisher
- Editor/ Co-editors
- Members of Consortium

## Case scenarios

- Multiple editors
- Editor deceased
- Commercial publisher

# OPEN ACCESS



# Information commons

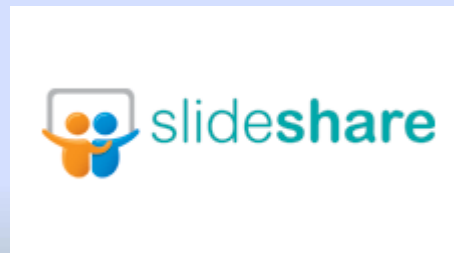
Research outputs are made available via digital files through internet.

## USERS

Find & make use  
of resources

## AUTHORS

Make information available  
Exposure



# CREATIVE COMMONS

[http://  
za.creativecommons.org](http://za.creativecommons.org)



## Copyright licences

- Keep copyright
- Allow others to copy/distribute
- Attribution/Credit

License specifies:

Use/re-use

Modify

Options:

Public domain, Attribution,  
Share-alike, non-commercial...



ncomment, Flickr

# CONCLUSION

# Some myths

- ✘ “It’s not a violation if I don’t charge for it.”
- ✘ “The work has no copyright notice on it so it’s not copyrighted.”
- ✘ “I gave credit to all authors so it’s free advertising.”
- ✘ “The author lives in another country so their work isn’t protected here.”

Brad Templeton, 10 Big Myths about Copyright Explained  
([www.templetons.com/brad/copymyths.html](http://www.templetons.com/brad/copymyths.html))



# References & Useful Websites

- The African Copyright and Access to Knowledge Project – ACA2K (<http://www.aca2k.org>)
- Handbook of South African Copyright Law, Owen Dean, Juta & Co., 2006 (rev. Ed.)
- Handbook on Copyright and Related Issues for Librarians, EIFL ([www.eifl.net](http://www.eifl.net), EIFL IP, Issues and Campaigns)
- Publishers' Association of South Africa ([www.publishsa.co.za](http://www.publishsa.co.za))
- Shuttleworth Foundation (<http://copyright.shuttleworthfoundation.org>)
- UNESCO Guidelines for Digitisation ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org))
- University of Witwatersrand, subject portal on copyright (<http://web.wits.ac.za/Library/ResearchResources/SubjectPortals/>)
- Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org>)

