

To: COPPUL Directors

From: COPPUL Scholarly Communications Working Group

Date: June 12, 2012.

**RE: Recommended Activities for COPPUL Scholarly Communications Working Group 2012 – 2013**

---

The COPPUL Scholarly Communications Working Group (formerly COPPUL Scholarly Communications Task Group) sets forth the following recommended activities for COPPUL Director's input and approval for the 2012 – 2013 fiscal year.

### **1. Review of COPPUL licensing language to support scholarly communications**

In light of the rapid pace scholarly communications is evolving in the academy, it is timely that the working group embark on a review of the licensing language used in the COPPUL model license to ascertain its support for author's rights, grant funding open access mandates and other emerging scholarly communications arenas. The Association of Research Libraries (ARL), for example, has recently provided libraries with licensing language to help libraries negotiate retention of rights for authors to use their own work.<sup>1</sup>

The Working Group is charged with reviewing the COPPUL model license, report our findings and make recommendations for a revision as appropriate.

### **2. COPPUL Scholarly Communications Think Tank**

The Scholarly Communications Working Group operates as a "think tank" for issues in Scholarly Communications at the request of COPPUL Directors. Our objective is to conduct independent, current, comprehensive research, and analysis on issues brought to us from the COPPUL Executive Committee and to report back our findings.

### **3. 2012 Open Access Week Planning:**

The Working Group will continue to develop collaborative opportunities for COPPUL Members to engage in the 2012 International Open Access Week event. This will include:

- Continuing the development of the ***COPPUL Guide on Archived Scholarly Communications Lectures*** that the members of the working group first compiled in 2011 as a means of showcasing COPPUL libraries Open Access Week activities and as an economical way of providing COPPUL libraries the opportunity to use these offerings for their own Open Access Week offerings or other scholarly communications educational programs:  
[http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/coppul\\_oa\\_lectures](http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/coppul_oa_lectures).

---

<sup>1</sup> Author Rights Model Licensing Language resource blog: <http://authorrights.wordpress.com/>

It is likely the guide will migrate to a new COPPUL webpage platform in the future.

- Sponsor partial funding for up to two talks that will be live webcasted and archived for later viewing at COPPUL libraries during the 2012 Open Access Week events. The Working Group will organize an *Expression of Interest* from COPPUL Libraries and a methodology for approving talks. The budget is \$1000.00 per talk to a maximum of \$2000.00 for COPPUL sponsorship. The criteria will include responsibility of the successful applicant to organize and pay for live webcasting and archiving of the talk that will later be accessible on the *COPPUL Guide on Archived Scholarly Communications Lectures* ([http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/coppul\\_oa\\_lectures](http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/coppul_oa_lectures)).
- The Working Group will deliberate on utilizing Open Access Week events as a means to explore remote or in-person *Community Engagement* activities noted in #5 below.

#### **4. COPPUL Scholarly Communications Toolkit**

Build upon the work of the *COPPUL Guide on Archived Scholarly Communications* and turn it into a Scholarly Communications toolkit of offerings for COPPUL Libraries. The Working Group will be tasked with evaluating other existing library association scholarly communications toolkits and developing a toolkit that is uniquely relevant to COPPUL libraries and not duplicative of other resources. Links to those resources that are deemed appropriate for COPPUL libraries will be added to the toolkit. A mechanism for continued maintenance and currency of information for the resource will be part of the Task Group's objectives.

#### **5. Community Engagement (COP)**

The Working Group plans to engage scholarly communication practitioners at COPPUL institutions in a community of practice (COP).

**Definition:** A community of practice is most simply defined as a group of individuals or organizations who are carrying out like activities, often with aligned goals, in a networked state of regular communication. The Working group has characterized a Scholarly Communications COP characterized as follows: a) The domain: A community of practice has an identity defined by our shared domain of interest. Membership therefore implies a commitment to the domain, and therefore a shared competence that distinguishes members from other people. Outlook domain of interest is scholarly communication. b) The community: in pursuing their interest in their domain, members engage in joint activities and discussions, help each other, and share information. They build relationships that enable them to learn from each other. c) The practice: a community of practice is not merely a community of interest, they are practitioners. They develop a shared repertoire of resources: experiences, stories, tools, ways of addressing recurring problems – in short a shared practice.

There are three goals for the COP for this period:

- Formally gather information (via a needs assessment survey and interviews with key individuals at COPPUL member institutions) including assessment of other recently delivered library surveys (i.e. CARL Scholarly Communications Research Study, ACRL Scholarly Communications survey delivered to small liberal arts colleges) on the specific and most important desirable learning objectives of COPPUL member institutions for their scholarly communications programs.
- Commence a training agenda in light of gathered learning needs with a COPPUL-hosted or COPPUL-sponsored workshop. The workshop program will be designed based on the information provided by needs assessment, and will also address emergent events of interest and importance of immediate relevance to COPPUL member institutions (for example, developments in Canadian copyright law). We plan for a 1-day workshop hosted at a COPPUL member institution in the winter term of 2013. The workshop design will incorporate a peer training model, and will incorporate topic lectures and active learning modules.
- Officially launch the COP at the workshop mentioned above.

The Working Group would be pleased to discuss any of these points in greater detail at your request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

COPPUL Scholarly Communication Task Group

*Michael Hohner (University of Winnipeg)*

*Inba Kehoe (University of Victoria)*

*Joy Kirchner (University of British Columbia) - Chair*

*Carol Shepstone (Mount Royal University)*

*Marinus Swanepoel (University of Lethbridge)*

*Leah Vanderjagt (University of Alberta)*

*Andrew Waller (University of Calgary)*