

Free copyright in your area

The need to be informed, active, and involved with changing economic and legislative copyright issues has never been so critical as in today's digital age.

The recent changes to the Copyright Act have added to the difficulties of complying with copyright law. Library workers must deal with a diverse array of material formats, each of which poses its own unique copyright challenges.

To provide an understanding of copyright, we will again offer free copyright training sessions to our members. The sessions will be hosted by the relevant State Library in each state and are open to all sectors: special, public, and educational library and information services.

Copyright Training Sessions

Session I: Copyright Essentials – Beginner

This session outlines the essential elements of copyright law and sets a foundation for a firm understanding of the interplay between the competing public policy objectives embodied in the Copyright Act – the balancing of interests between creators and users. It stresses the importance of balanced copyright law, discusses creators' rights in terms of the scope of protection, the rights protected, and infringement, and users' rights in terms of limitations and exceptions to copyright protection.

Session II: Modern Challenges – Intermediate

The aim of the session is to address some of the common copyright questions from librarians working at the 'coal face' and the challenges faced by modern libraries as they seek to provide broader access to their collections. It will propose practical solutions to everyday copyright compliance issues that librarians frequently face. Following the presentation, participants will have the opportunity to workshop questions from the audience.

Session III: Orphan Works – Advanced

This session is based on the ALCC's policy position which considers three ways to set orphan works free: removing the perpetual copyright protection of unpublished works; applying the flexible dealing exception to large scale uses of orphan works by developing a best practice for reasonable enquiries and expanding the concept of a 'special case'; critiquing the approach of using licence based models that commercialise orphan works.

Schedule

The following schedule has been tentatively arranged with State Libraries around Australia:

Date	State	Host	Sessions
28–30 September 2010	WA	State Library	I, II, III
8 October 2010	VIC	State Library and Melb Uni	I, II, III
Mid to late October	NSW	State Library	I, II
Mid to late October	ACT	National Library of Australia	I, II, III
3 November 2010	TAS	State Library	I, II
9 November 2010	QLD	State Library	I, II, III
TBA	SA	State Library	I, II

The Australian Libraries Copyright Committee (ALCC) is the peak consultative body and policy forum for the discussion of copyright issues affecting Australian libraries and archives. It considers the impact of copyright law on its members, develops policy, and provides an effective and unified voice to government, copyright owners and media. The ALCC advocates action to support the role of libraries as information providers and preservers, and the wider public interest in the advancement of learning, innovation, research and knowledge.

About the presenter

Matt Dawes is the Copyright Law and Policy Adviser for the ALCC and its sister organisation, the Australian Digital Alliance (ADA), a non-profit cross-sectoral coalition founded to represent the public interest perspective in the copyright debate and to advocate for balanced copyright law. Prior to working at the ALCC and ADA, Matt was a graduate at the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. Matt's research interests are balanced copyright law and the interplay between competition and intellectual property law.

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ALIA Information Science (SA) – highlighting library information

ALIA Information Science (SA) aims to provide a forum for presenting and demonstrating the application of emergent technologies to library and information agencies and the people who work in them. Our committee meets once a month at a central Adelaide location, where we can be found discussing the latest innovations in our field, both library and technological. There is often lively debate about which innovations to showcase at our next event, and who we should ask to speak – with so many talented individuals in the library field, there is no shortage of inspiration!

Our enthusiastic and active committee is known for hosting regular events which hold broad appeal for information professionals, students, and the wider library community. Successful events run by the group include: CONtemplating VALA: Your chance to Connect with VALA Content & Conversations (2010), New developments at Flinders University Library (2010), and Web 2.0: From the Cradle to the Future (2009).

We currently have twelve committee members, drawn from university libraries, special libraries, and other public and private organisations. Committee membership is flexible,

with some members attending face-to-face meetings and others keeping in touch via email and our Google Groups interface. Some of our group members include Fiona Thomson, Academic Librarian and former systems librarian, University of South Australia, founder member of the ALIA Information Science (SA) group and currently our Treasurer; Christine Cother, Manager Academic Library Services Mawson Lakes, University of South Australia, Convenor in 2008-2009; Tracy Gamlin, Information Specialist, National Centre for Vocational Education Research; Chris O'Malley, Reference Librarian, Flinders University; and Debbie Wallis, Liaison Librarian, Flinders University – Debbie became Convenor of the committee in 2010.

We are always looking for new members and would love to hear from you. To join our committee or to find out more about ALIA Information Science (SA), please contact the group Convenor.

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