The RoMEO Project: IPR issues facing open-access

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Overview

• The RoMEO project
  - Aims
  - Key findings
  - Outputs

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The RoMEO Project

- Academic author survey
- Journal publisher survey
- Data & Service Provider surveys
- Journal Copyright Transfer Agreement analysis

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RoMEO solutions

• Rights metadata
• Metadata protection solution

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## Authors views on © and self-archiving

- 61% thought they owned ©
- 90% assigned ©
  - 49% reluctantly
- 50% mostly multi-authored
- 25% cleared 3\textsuperscript{rd}-party rights
- Concerned about publisher agreements

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Protection & usage of open-access research papers

- **Authors** happy for others to display, print, save, give & excerpt from papers
- As long as author attributed & exact (verbatim) replicas
- **Users** did not expect to be so liberal with papers

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Journal publishers

- 90% asked for © assignment
- 69% asked for assignment prior to refereeing
  - 15% did not revert rights to author if paper rejected
- 75% asserted Ingelfinger rule

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If authors can’t sign...

- **What if the employer owns copyright?**
  - May get a better deal than an individual author
- **What if a Government owns copyright?**
  - 57.5% have US Govt clause
  - Such works are in the public domain...

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Permitting self-archiving

• 28.5% did grant authors any usage rights
• 49% of journals allowed self-archiving
• No standard conditions

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Academic response to agreements

- Will the author self-archive regardless of agreement?
  - Possibly

- Will publisher allow self-archiving of PDF?
  - Rarely

- Will the postprint be a separate copyright to the preprint?
  - Unlikely

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Data and Service Providers

- Lack of depositor licences
- Views on IPR protection for metadata
- How metadata should be protected
- Standard means beneficial
Rights metadata and metadata rights

1. Determining authors and D/SPs requirements
2. Finding a means of expressing those rights
3. Considering how this may be done under OAI-PMH

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Expressing rights

- Digital Rights Expression Languages (DREL)
  - XrML
  - ODRL
- Creative Commons (CC)
- CC chosen with 2 routes:
  - XML schema
  - ODRL versions

Project RoMEO

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…under the OAI-PMH

- Individual expressions
  - Metadata and resources
- Repository-wide expressions
  - Metadata and resources
- Work continuing with OAI-RIGHTS

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RoMEO Deliverables

- RoMEO Rights Metadata recommendations
- RoMEO Studies Series 1-6
- RoMEO Advocacy Materials
- Directory of Publisher’s self-archiving policies
The RoMEO Project

Project web pages
http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/dis/disresearch/romeo/index.html

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