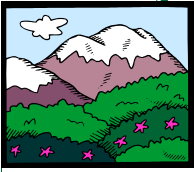


TURN THE PAGE

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NSTCC Library Newsletter

March 2002



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Hazy Shade of Winter

Copyright is complicated. Entire careers are dedicated to understanding it and promoting its privileges and limitations. Dissertations and theses revolve around its many facets. Conferences and seminars, presentations and workshops, explore it and try to make it accessible to those of us who find it confusing or threatening. Being an “expert” in the arena of copyright is indeed a challenging position since various aspects of the copyright issue change almost constantly. I say all of that to freely admit that *I am not* an expert. I am merely a messenger with a message for all of us who use (and whether intentionally or not, *abuse*) copyright laws on a regular basis.

Basically, copyright is the legal right of a creator of any idea to own, control, and profit from his/her creations. The United States Copyright Office defines it as “a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of ‘original works of authorship,’ including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works.” This protection extends to published and unpublished works.

So, what does that mean? In short, it means that we, as an academic community of faculty, staff, administrators, and students, have a bigger responsibility than most of us stop to consider. Each day, copyright is probably violated in some way or another on this – and all other – academic campuses. Do we intentionally set out to undermine such policies? Most of us do not. What are some examples of copyright infringement that may take place on academic campuses? If I decide to show a few minutes of a video to a class – for whatever reasons, without that video being deemed to have clearance for public performance rights, or if specific copyright requests have not been made to show that

video on a certain night to a certain group, then copyright is being broken. If I like a particular cartoon that I am sent by email and print it out to hang up in my office, technically I have ignored the copyright held by the artist whose signature appears on that cartoon because I did not pay him/her or secure permission to display it in my office. If I see a really cool picture on the Internet and set that as my wallpaper without contacting its creator for permission to do so, I have infringed upon the creator’s rights of that picture. If I bring my favorite CD’s and ask Eric Morrirt in the Media Center to make a copy of each of them for me so that I can have a copy for home and a copy for my car, I am asking *him* to break copyright. Likewise, if I bring a CD burner onto the campus and proceed to burn my own copies of CD’s owned by the community college campus or myself, I am also breaking the law. It is easy for us to try to justify such actions by saying “It isn’t going to hurt anyone,” or “I’m just using it for myself, no one else will know.” Regardless of such excuses, however, these are illegal actions.

Copyright can seem tricky. What can you do if something is copyrighted and you want to do the right thing and get permission? In many cases, permission is only a phone call/fax/email away. Often, the problem is planning far enough ahead so that such permission can be obtained and in-hand when the copyrighted materials need to be utilized. The Library can help locate the contact information for most agencies necessary in the pursuit of copyright permission. It just is not always an “automatic” procedure – and that is something that is beyond *our* control. To find out more about copyright and issues such as “fair use” check with the Library for book and video resources, or see the next page for some useful websites.





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Have you read a great new book recently that we own in our Library? We would love for you to tell us about it so we can publish it in *Turn The Page!* In approximately 300 words maximum, give us the 4-1-1 that will make everyone want to read your favorite Library picks! To submit a review, email it to Chrissie Anderson Peters at capeters@nstcc.cc.tn.us. Editors reserve the right to screen and/or edit materials submitted for publication.

A New Wind A-Blowin'

Spring is ALMOST here... In between the days of frigid cold, you can feel a hint of Springtime in the air – a time when everything seems new and fresh. And speaking of new and fresh, check out some of these great new titles!

Fiction titles: *The Sugar Island* (Lamazares); *Light of Falling Stars* (Lennon); *Half-Moon and Empty Stars* (Spence); *Heart of a Warrior* (Lindsey); *Moon Over Lake Elmo* (Thayer); *Rackets* (Kelly); *Naked Came the Phoenix* (Talley); and *Wilderness: A Tale of the Civil War* (Warren).

Non-Fiction titles: *Pearl Harbor: The Movie and the Moment* (Sunshine); *Simple Trompe L'Oeil* (MacCarthy); *Ophelia Speaks* (Shandler); *Cannibals* (Cummins); *Cover Letters For Dummies* (Kennedy); *ICQ FYI* (Coombs & DeLeon); *Violence in American Schools* (Elliott); *Garcia: An American Life* (Jackson); *History of Canadian Literature* (New); *Healthy Child, Whole Child* (Ditchek); *Dance of Connection* (Lerner); *Habeas Codfish* (Levenson); *Dark Dreams* (Hazlewood & Michaud); *Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook: Travel* (Piven); and *Reader's Guide to Women's Studies* (Amico).

Virginia's Periodical Place Reviewed by Virginia Hodges, Librarian



The Library at Northeast State has many interesting periodicals/magazines. Some of the titles are familiar to everyone – *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *National Geographic*, *Reader's Digest*, etc. However, there are a lot of other titles with wonderful information that just may appeal to personal or research needs.

Blue Ridge Country (January/February 2002 – present). A bi-monthly publication (6/year) featuring articles on the history, culture and lifestyle of the southern Appalachian Mountains. Accompanied by beautiful photography, the short articles deal with places of interest and areas of concern. The March/April 2002 issue features articles on hiking in Virginia, acid rain's effect on streams and rivers, touring in Middle East Tennessee's Great Smoky Mountains, a photographic feature on fog and mist on the Blue Ridge, as well as articles on the C&O Paw Paw Tunnel in Allegany County, Maryland, recipes, an almanac of events, and more. The most recent issue is located in the Periodicals area on the third floor, on the popular magazine shelf. Older issues are located on the nearby periodical shelving units.

The Futurist (February 1980 – present). A bi-monthly publication (6/year) featuring articles and reports dealing with future developments and trends, both social and technological. Although the description may sound a bit stuffy, the articles are interesting and cover a wide range of topics. The March/April 2002 issue includes articles on nanotechnology, Utopia, and making the global economy environmentally sustainable. Other issues have articles on: terrorism, immortality, and ocean exploration; and trends for success in the next century, genetic forecasting, and electronic warfare, to name a few. The most recent issue of *The Futurist* is located in the Periodicals area on the third floor, on the popular magazine shelf. Older issues are located on the nearby periodical shelving units.

Copyright and Fair Use Sites

United States Copyright Office

www.loc.gov/copyright

Copyright: Libraries and the Public

<http://copyright.ala.org/>

NEA Today Online

www.nea.org/neatoday/9711/scoop.html

Copyright Resources on the Internet

www.groton.k12.ct.us/mts/pt2a.htm

Nolo — Links to Patents & Copyrights on Left Sidebar

www.nolo.com/lawcenter/ency/index.cfm

University of Texas Links to Copyright Web Sites

www.utsystem.edu/OGC/IntellectualProperty/offsite.htm

Brief Intro to Copyright

www.templetons.com/brad/copyright.html

Big Myths About Copyright Explained

www.templetons.com/brad/copymyths.html

Technology and Learning's Copyright Primer

<http://www.halldavidson.net/Quiz%20.pdf>

Fair Use

http://copyright.ala.org/what_fair.html