

UNB Libraries Support Faculty & Staff with Copyright

UNB Libraries fully support the University of New Brunswick's decision to continue working without an [Access Copyright](#) blanket licence and will continue to manage copyright clearance in-house. UNB Libraries have been charged with supporting the university community to work within the limits of the [Canadian Copyright Act](#). However, while UNB Libraries continue to facilitate copyright compliance on campus, it is the responsibility of all faculty and staff members to ensure that any distribution of copied materials follows the rules set out by the law.

Due to a number of issues for faculty, staff, and students, UNB's interests are not well served under the current [Access Copyright/AUCC Licence](#) proposal. Of primary concern is maintaining UNB's commitment to academic integrity and reputation. For example, the proposed *Licence* requires an unnecessary amount of surveillance (of classroom activities and personal correspondence) that would then be reported to *Access Copyright*. Not only does this represent a burdensome and intrusive task, but it also significantly negates recent gains in copyright legislation that encourage fair distribution of a limited amount of copying for educational purposes, a provision that is not well defined in the proposed *Licence*. Interpretation and application of these laws are shaped by the customs and practices of industry, and therefore we need to understand and use the laws of the *Canadian Copyright Act* to ensure the legislated balance of rights are not lost.

Review of the proposed *Access Copyright Licence* has included a cost-benefit analysis. Textbooks continue to play a major role in our classrooms, and any supplementary materials that our instructors require beyond UNB Libraries' licensed resources comprise a very small percentage of the materials used. Arguably, under *Access Copyright*, students would pay twice for access to the same material—once for the library licensing fee and again to *Access Copyright*. Adding further complication is the fact that the *Access Copyright Licence* is not exhaustive. Some materials used in the classroom still need to be cleared with individual publishers (such as the Harvard Business School and the Brunswick News), which would still require UNB Libraries to

have a copyright clearance process in place, regardless of whether we accept the blanket licence of *Access Copyright*. Consequently, individual [transactional licences](#) with creators and publishers have been deemed a practical and cost-effective alternative to the blanket licence proposed by *Access Copyright*.

UNB Libraries are fully engaged in coordinating the institution's copyright system of compliance. In particular, those instructors who have traditionally used the Course Pack service have been directed to Liaison Librarians to ensure that they are taking maximum advantage of UNB Libraries' extensive licensed resources. As well, UNB Libraries' print collection includes works that will support specific needs in identified subject areas. UNB Libraries' Copyright Office will continue to contact individual content owners in order to clear the rights to use materials that are necessary for the purpose of classroom instruction.

Another important step in UNB's system of copyright compliance is the continuous role of disseminating copyrighted information. While the rules of the *Copyright Act* are fairly consistent, the means by which instructors and students communicate continues to change with the speed of technological advancement. UNB Libraries routinely work with instructors to provide advice when selecting materials for student distribution that balances academic integrity with copying limits when incorporating others' works. In addition, specific sessions are provided on a monthly basis, and individual queries can be directed to [Liaison Librarians](#) or copyright@unb.ca.

UNB is committed to the responsible use of intellectual property. UNB Libraries are well prepared to provide the necessary support for responsible copying practices on campus. Please watch for regular sessions on copyright and contact us for assistance in any area of copyright clearance.