

BELLTOWER



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2, SPRING 2008

Twenty sentences or less: Copyright

Copyright. Most have some basic sense of copyright, but do you feel confident enough to take the test?

What is it? Copyright is federal legal protection that prohibits anyone from copying an author's "original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression."

What is an original work of authorship? An original work of authorship is anything that results from artistic or intellectual expression, including songs, photographs, writing, poetry, paintings, software, and movies.

When is a work fixed in a tangible medium of expression? Works become protected at the moment they are created, which means that no registration is required for the legal protection to apply. All that is required is that the work be on some medium perceptible to the senses, either directly, such as text on paper and ink on a canvas, or through a device, such as music through a speaker.

When is there a violation of copyright? Copyright is violated when someone makes a copy of the work. It is also violated when someone makes public display of the work, such as broadcasting a movie to an audience. Possessing a copyrighted work, such as owning a book or music disc, does not grant the right to make copies.

How long does copyright protection last? Nuances exist in the law, but as a basic rule of thumb, works created in 1978 and later have protection for the life of the author plus 70 more years. For works created before 1978, the general rule is that all works published before 1923 are in the public domain. Works published after 1922, but before 1978 are protected for 95 years from the date of creation.

Is there an exception to the rule? It is not a violation of copyright if the person gets the author's permission before making copies. The law itself has several exceptions: the most common one in college or educational settings is called "Fair Use." Fair Use permits a person to make a copy so long as copying satisfies a four element balancing test: what's the purpose of the copying; what's the nature of the work; how much copying is being done; and what's the effect of the copying on the market?

What if I make my roommate a copy of the album that I bought and have on my iPod? It is a violation of copyright unless you have permission or it falls under an exception, such as Fair Use. If you make a copy illegally it is the same as stealing. You may not get caught or face

penalties. But God knows our hearts: all are open and laid bare before his eyes (Hebrews 4:13). It is always best to do the right thing.

Reference:

Kenneth D. Crews. *Copyright Law for Librarians and Educators*, 2nd ed. (Chicago: ALA, 2006).

Reference Toolbox: Surviving Poli Sci Debates By Miriam Stauffer Fairfield, Reference Librarian

I won't mislead you and say that preparing for your Poli Sci debate is going to be easy. Actually, you may work harder on this assignment than you have on any before. But that's why you're paying Geneva College the big bucks: to equip you with the skills to handle tough projects when you arrive at your first job!

Fortunately, you don't have to tackle this project alone. Librarians are standing by to help and the Library subscribes to online databases that will make your debate preparation at least 50% less excruciating. See details below! If you want to, that is. I mean; if you'd rather suffer...

LexisNexis: This database has nothing to do with cars and everything to do with finding cases for your debate. Once you've located it on the Library's "Databases" page, LexisNexis has a little known "legal" section that you can select at the top, left-hand part of the screen.

From there, you can search law reviews and federal/state cases for keywords related to your debate topic. If you already know about a particular case and you want to learn more, you can also search by case name, citation number, judge's last name, or color of suit worn by the defense. Maybe not that last part. But it is pretty powerful!

And as if that weren't enough, once you've found a relevant case, you can "shepherdize" it. Click on the "Shepherd's Citations" link, and you can find out what happened to your case later, including who cited it, and whether they treated it positively, negatively, or otherwise. This can save you from the embarrassment of bringing up a case that was overturned later, and it can lead you to more cases that may be relevant to your debate.

Westlaw Campus Research: Also available on the Library's "databases" page, Westlaw features more ways to find info for your debate. Click on the "law" tab in Westlaw, and you will be richly rewarded with the ability (*continued on reverse*).

to search the **American Law Reports** and **American Jurisprudence 2nd**, also known as Prof. Neikirk's favorite source! Simply select one (or both!) of those sources from the "select databases" list and type in your keywords, such as "abortion" or "gun control." Westlaw also contains federal and state case opinions and full-text law review journal articles.

Perhaps the best news is that these databases are just the beginning! Remember that the Library has many more legal resources for you, including Supreme Court case handbooks and more. The key to success is beginning early. Last minute preparation leads to poor performance!

Finally, you can always turn to your friendly librarians for help. They LOVE to help. They do it all day and they dream about it at night. E-mail the librarians at ref.lib@geneva.edu or visit the Library.

Database Highlighter

NetLibrary E-Books

E-books are books that you can read on your computer from anywhere with web access. McCartney Library has an e-book collection through NetLibrary, a leading provider of e-books. The Library's e-book collection consists of **12,561** titles.

Some people like e-books because they're portable and searchable; others don't like to read from a computer screen. Decide for yourself by searching for *Beyond Winning: Memoir of a Women's Soccer Coach* by S.S. Hanna.

www.geneva.edu/object/lib_genresearch.html

Research Gizmo: E-Journal Portal

If you've already searched MacCAT for a journal title (not a journal article) and have found no results, **E-Journal Portal** is a fast and easy method to discover whether a journal article is available full-text online! With one search you can learn which McCartney Library databases contain the journal title. You may search by title, ISSN number, subject, or keyword phrase.

An important thing to note is that E-Journal Portal doesn't list every online journal we have. Instead, it lists full text that we get through our databases, with years that we have it. It doesn't list online journals that we buy from the publishers or that come free with our print subscription. Those titles are listed in MacCAT.

www.geneva.edu/object/lib_databases

Did you know . . .

that the journal *Preaching* selected the Library's namesake, Clarence E. Macartney, as one of the ten greatest preachers of the Twentieth Century? Read for yourself in the Library's periodicals section: Michael Dudit, "The Ten Greatest Preachers of the Twentieth Century," *Preaching*, vol.15, no.3 (1999), 6-16.

Research Sleuth Winner!

Jason Panella was the first person to respond with the correct answer and citation for the question: "Can you name a former Geneva Student who won the Pulitzer Prize?" The answer is **W.D. Snodgrass**, the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet who attended Geneva before World War II. Thanks to all who entered. Look for more research questions in future issues of the *Bell Tower*.

The Library's Best Stuff: OED

By Katie Floyd, Cataloging Librarian

Most dictionaries list current meanings of words; in contrast the **Oxford English Dictionary** traces how the word has evolved since it first appeared in print. Entries give meanings with quotations that illustrate each sense of the word, citing sources from Beowulf to blogs. It includes slang expressions ("puh-leeze"), phrases ("head over heels"), and some proper nouns ("Glasgow kiss").

The OED is extensive and authoritative. One of the most complex entries, the word "set," lists over 400 senses of the word as a verb. The etymologies and examples for the first edition were gathered by volunteers then vetted by expert editors, including J.R.R. Tolkien. The online version has updates and adds new words quarterly, and requests input from readers for new words and the use of words. This resource will help you to research changes in English meaning, to understand archaic terms, or to expand your vocabulary with OED's "Word of the Day"!

Online: www.geneva.edu/object/lib_genresearch.html

Print: PE1625 .N53 REF

Cool books about the OED available at McCartney Library:

Simon Winchester. *The Meaning of Everything: the story of the Oxford English Dictionary*. (Oxford University Press, 2003).

--. *The Professor and the Madman: a tale of murder, insanity, and the making of the Oxford English Dictionary*. (New York: HarperCollins, 1998).



THE BELL TOWER
is a publication of
McCartney Library
Geneva College
3200 College Avenue
Beaver Falls, PA 15010

www.geneva.edu/page/library

Edited by John Doncevic
Layout by Amy Lynn

Pro Christo et Patria