A New Addition to Our Suite of Copyright Pages: Copyright for Librarians

Dr. Fritz Dolak
Manager, Copyright and Intellectual Property Office
Special Assistant to the Dean
Senior Fellow, Digital Policy Institute
July 14, 2010

The University Libraries at Ball State are unique when it comes to assisting its students and faculty in copyright and intellectual property issues. There are only two universities in the State of Indiana that have copyright resources for their universities and the University Libraries at Ball State is one of them. That resource is the Copyright and Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) and is a service of the University Libraries Dean’s Office. CIPO and it has created a suite of three, copyright resources for the university:

- Copyright for Students [http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/students/](http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/students/)
- Copyright for Distance Educators [http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/distanceed/faculty/](http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/distanceed/faculty/)
- Copyright & Intellectual Property Homepage [http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/](http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/)

As a result of various consultations over the years as well as discussions at the University Libraries’ annual copyright conferences [http://www.bsu.edu/library/conference/copyright/](http://www.bsu.edu/library/conference/copyright/), the need for a distinct, resource copyright page for media specialists and librarians became apparent.

There are many very informative pages available for librarians and media specialists to access on copyright to assist not only the K-12 teachers and students, but also for those at the academic level as well. However, the vast majority of these pages are “how to” or “what you need to do” or “FAQs” or “self taught” modules in their content and presentation of copyright.

On the other hand, there are not many copyright pages for librarians that provide just a listing of useful resources only as links for librarians and media specialists to review to assist them in support of their K-12 and academic classrooms. The new addition to the University Libraries’ suite of intellectual property pages is the Copyright for Librarians page [http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/librarians/](http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/copyright/librarians/) and is intended to not only provide a list of useful links but also to provide links that can most impinge on libraries and media specialists but also on those issues that can impinge on the classroom use of copyrighted materials.

Copyright for Librarians is a work-in-progress and will continue to expand in its scope and listings of resources of intellectual property link. The Copyright for Librarians page will provide current and useful copyright information for media specialists and librarians.