

## National Exposure for Successful Fifth Annual Copyright Conference at Ball State University

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by Dr. Fritz Dolak

Copyright and Intellectual Property Office

The Fifth Annual Copyright Conference sponsored by the University Libraries at Ball State University was held at the Alumni Center on Wednesday, April



23, 2008. The Conference was entitled, "Copyright in Oz: Over the rainbow or I'll get your little dog, too?" Ball State University's Copyright Conference is the only annual copyright conference in the Midwest.

Besides attendees from Indiana, eleven other states were represented: Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Attendees included academic deans, library directors, teaching faculty, librarians, media specialists, and lawyers. There were 111 in attendance.

For the third year in a row, the Ball State University Copyright Conference received Continuing Legal Education Credits from the Indiana Supreme Court. This year, Indiana lawyers received 6.4 Continuing Legal Education Credits for Copyright in Oz.



Left to right: Michelle Cooper, Dwayne Buttler, President Gora, David Carson, Kenny Crews, and Fritz Dolak (not pictured: James Williams)

Copyright in Oz was privileged to have Ball State University President Jo Ann Gora open the Conference. President Gora was gracious in her welcoming address. Among a number of issues specified by President Gora, she noted that the Copyright law is a critical issue in higher education. President Gora further

stated that the University will continue to foster ethical and productive use of intellectual property.

Nationally recognized intellectual property lawyers were the speakers for Copyright in Oz:

- Special guest speaker, David Carson, J.D., Associate Register for Policy and International Affairs at the U.S. Copyright Office
- Michelle Cooper, J.D., attorney in the Education Law Group at Bose McKinney & Evans LLP

- Dwayne Buttler, J.D., Professor and first Evelyn J. Schneider Endowed Chair for Scholarly Communication at the University of Louisville, University Libraries
- Kenneth Crews, J.D., Director of the Copyright Advisory Office, Columbia University
- James Williams, J.D., attorney at DeFur Voran LLP and intellectual property lawyer for Ball State University

Among the many topics discussed were in depth presentations and discussions on:

- Orphan Works pending legislation
- Fair Use
- The TEACH Act
- Common Copyright Misperceptions
- The Digital Millennium Copyright Act
- Section 108 Study Group Update re: library copying recommended legislation

Dr. Jay Gillette, Professor of Information and Communication Sciences and Senior Research Fellow at the Digital Policy Institute, live blogged the Conference and his comments can be read at: <http://www.cicsworld.org/blogs/jaygillette/>

Many positive comments were received about Copyright in Oz. Among them, Carla Myers, University of Akron, wrote the following:

*“The conference was fantastic! The facilities at Ball State were beautiful and the Wizard of Oz theme was lots of fun. The speakers were wonderful; it was so nice to hear from people like Ken, David, Michelle and Jim, who are experts in the field, aware of the current issues, and present the information in an engaging and interesting manner. I especially enjoyed the Q & A and the break-out sessions. The topics covered at the conference were very relevant to the copyright issues we are currently facing in our library. I left the conference with a better understanding of Copyright Law and feel well prepared to tackle some of the issues we have been dealing with.”*

Plans are currently under way in preparing for the Sixth Annual Copyright Conference, April 15, 2009 with a planning meeting scheduled for August 28, 2008 at [Bose McKinney LLP](#) in Indianapolis, IN.

For additional information about the annual Copyright Conferences at Ball State University, please contact:

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And please visit the homepage of the 2009 Copyright Conference:  
<http://www.bsu.edu/library/conference/copyright/>