Copyright reform and education: overview of the global situation

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Delia Browne
National Copyright Director
National Copyright Unit
www.smartcopying.edu.au
https://www.slideshare.net/nationalcopyrightunit
Education no longer means this...
Education now means this...
Copyright laws are outdated & inconsistent

• Outdated laws are holding back innovation in schools: laws designed in the age of the photocopier are not working in the age of the iPad, 3D printer, and data/text mining.

• There are inconsistent rules for educational use around the world: most countries have minimum copyright protection and enforcement provisions in their domestic copyright law (required by multilateral treaties such TRIPS, GATT, WCT), but there are no minimum standards for educational use or other non harmful public interest uses.
The race to STEM

- 75 of the fastest growing occupations require STEM skillset
- Worldwide drive to provide specialist STEM education alongside the standard school curriculum
- OECD reports that STEM deficits in Australia as well as EU are one of the greatest concerns for the business community and government
- Schools are increasingly focusing on real life scenarios that combine skill-based challenges, innovative hands-on practical work, and motivational game-like activities
New learning, technologies and outside experts

• Improve critical and creative thinking, problem solving and communication skills
• Use new equipment, explore new concepts and learn new techniques
• New assessment and data analytics help teachers to quickly evaluate the impact of teaching and learning strategies
• Allows teachers to constantly create new resources for student engagement and learning
• Many schools invite specialists and businesses to work with students
Countries with flexible educational use exception

- United States
- Israel
- Canada
- Korea
- Singapore
Many countries reviewing their copyright laws

• Australia - ALRC & Productivity Commission recommends Fair Use; Copyright Amendment Act; TPM Regulations
• South Africa – debating the 2017 Copyright Amendment Bill
• Singapore – reviewing its fair dealing provision
• EU – wide review
• NZ - Copyright Law review announced
Way forward in Australia

• Fair use would:
  • enable educational uses - irrespective of the technology used - when these uses are fair to copyright owners;
  • allow teachers to make full use of the most up to date digital technologies in the classroom;
  • be considerably easier than the current exceptions framework for teachers and the ordinary citizen to understand and work out the limits of exceptions available to them;
  • promote innovation, match consumer expectations, be more flexible and protect the market for artists and creators.

• The world’s largest exporter of cultural goods, the USA, has a fair use system, as do Singapore, Israel and South Korea.
Copyright reform is key to innovation and education
OER policies

- do not replace the need for copyright reform.
- are a core part of the puzzle in encouraging public access to publicly funded resources in a digital age.
Shared principles and goals of OER & copyright law reform

- Increasing and strengthening the public domain
- Facilitating access to information and knowledge
- Easier, more flexible access for content users
- Fairness to content creators
- ‘Some rights reserved’ rather than ‘all rights reserved’
- Meeting the needs of the digital environment/economy
Teachers love to share and collaborate - teachers need to support copyright law reform efforts as well as grow and advocate for OER
Today’s educators and students need copyright law to be…

- Internet compatible: © laws that are better adapted to the Internet and the freedom which the Internet provides to copy, distribute, adapt and remix resources.
- Technology Enabler: © laws need to ensure teachers and students can use new technology - 3D printing, AI, text and data mining, coding, new online education platforms (e.g., Google Classroom, Edmodo).
- Sharing Enabler: © law prevents content from being shared and copied without permission of the owner. Need © exceptions to allow sharing between teachers, students and the community.
Today’s educators and students need copyright law to be

- Accessible: © laws need to allow teachers to provide content in accessible formats for print disabled, hearing impaired and students with learning difficulties.
- Collaborative: need © exceptions that encourage collaboration between teachers, students and the community.
- Equitable - © exceptions help provide equal access to knowledge for everyone, allowing educational resources to be adapted in other languages or for those with disabilities.
More info on copyright law reform

- **Australia**
  - [Smartcopying website](#)
    - Law reform
    - Fair Use
  - [Fair Use vs Fair Dealing: How Australian Copyright Law Differs](#)
  - [Government response to PC Inquiry](#)

- **South Africa**
  - [South Africa takes steps to adjust copyright law to the digital age](#)
  - [Comments to the South African Parliament on the Copyright Amendment Act (B-13-2017)](#)
More info on copyright law reform

- Canada
  - Fair Dealing Myths and Facts
  - Fair Dealing in Canada – Myths & Facts
- Europe
  - Communia
  - Communia Policy Papers
  - Right Copyright
- Singapore
  - Copyright Review
More Information

Delia Browne
National Copyright Director
delia.browne@det.nsw.edu.au
+61 2 9561 8876

www.smartcopying.edu.au
http://www.slideshare.net/nationalcopyrightunit