

February 2000

## Call for Ideas-2000 Charleston Conference

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### Recommended Citation

Editor (2000) "Call for Ideas-2000 Charleston Conference," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 12: Iss. 1, Article 11.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3409>

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## Libraries and Lawsuits from page 26

Are libraries that perform similar functions to those performed by **UnCover** likely to be targets for a lawsuit? Do we risk liability by relying on the **CCC** and publishers to tell us that it's ok to make a copy of an article? In all likelihood, the risk is quite small for several reasons: libraries do not make a profit on ILL and they don't have a reputation for ignoring or otherwise harming authors attempting to make the publishing industry recognize their claims to a share of the new revenues coming from electronic uses of their articles.

What about the impact of **Tasini**? Does **Tasini** mean that libraries cannot rely on publishers who license databases of elec-

## Rumors from page 14

The **OCLC/WLN Automated Collection Assessment and Analysis Services (ACAS)** now provides comparisons of libraries' bibliographic records with the list of **Outstanding Academic Titles (O.A.T.)** from *Choice* and with the list of titles reviewed in *Booklist* for individual libraries and groups. A library or group receives a list of the titles on the recommended list that are not owned (the miss list). The list is composed of bibliographic records organized in **WLN Conspectus** order. The **Conspectus** order provides an inventory of library collections in twenty-four subject divisions for **Dewey Decimal** and **Library of Congress** classification. The library can also receive lists of matching titles, with brief bibliographical information from the *O.A.T.* or from the *Booklist* file and the library's file, and a statistical summary of matches and misses by **WLN Conspectus** divisions, categories and subjects. For more information, point your Web browser to: <<http://www.wln.org/wlnprods/aca/index.htm>>.

As of February 15, 2000, **Blackwell's Collection Manager** will have a whole new look with many new enhancements and features, including an optional single frame interface and a new search form. Visit <<http://www.blackwell.com/services/cm/cmnewstuff.html>> to learn more!

We are so excited to have **Anna Belle Leiserson** <[a.leiserson@law.vanderbilt.edu](mailto:a.leiserson@law.vanderbilt.edu)> of **AcqWeb** fame contributing a new column to *ATG*! We are calling it **Designing Librarians ...** What do y'all think? Read it in this issue, p.80.

*continued on page 35*

tronic articles to have the rights they claim to have (the rights to create and license the database) and to appropriately share royalties with authors who still own copyright in their contributions to the publishers' collective works? Need libraries worry about such things?

I think we are much more likely to see some increase in the price of databases to accommodate the required "split" with some authors than to see lawsuits against library licensees of those databases. Further, there may be only a small percentage of material in some databases in which the publisher does not own copyright. Remember, these cases are about the rights of freelance authors only and the issues raised would not apply where an author has assigned his or her rights to a publisher, as is often the case in scholarly publishing, or where the author is an employee of the publisher. Libraries were never in the position of making a profit on activities that ignored authors' claims to a share of that profit. Until these cases went against the various defendants, they did not have the incentive to accommodate the authors' desires. Now they do.

Even though libraries technically might be liable for infringement of the rights of freelance authors when they rely

on publishers and the **CCC** to have the rights they say they have, the industry conditions that led to these two lawsuits have changed so much that further lawsuits to remedy the problem do not seem likely. Rather, changes in contracting procedures with freelance authors, changes in publishers' record keeping for authors who retain ownership, and improvements in everyone's ability to identify authors who own copyright in their works and make payments to them are more likely than lawsuits against libraries to further the changes that began with these suits.

Section 201 Ownership of Copyright (c) Contributions to Collective Works — Copyright in each separate contribution to a collective work is distinct from copyright in the collective work as a whole, and vests initially in the author of the contribution. In the absence of an express transfer of the copyright or of any rights under it, the owner of copyright in the collective work is presumed to have acquired only the privilege of reproducing and distributing the contribution as part of that particular collective work, any revision of that collective work, and any later collective work in the same series.

Visit the Copyright Crash Course at <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectual-property/cprindx.htm>. 

## Charleston 2000 Conference — Call for Ideas/Papers/Speakers/etc.

**Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition: Is Bigger Better?**  
**Nov. 1 Preconferences and Vendor Showcase,**  
**Nov. 2-4 Main Conference, Nov. 4 Post Conference**

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, co-ordinating the lively lunches or simulation rooms, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The **Charleston Conference** prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably like it...

The Conference Directors for the **2000 Charleston Conference** include — **Rosann Bazirjian, Chair** (Penn State University) <[rvb9@psulias.psu.edu](mailto:rvb9@psulias.psu.edu)>, **Stuart Grinell** (Ambassador Books and Media) <[bookman@iquest.net](mailto:bookman@iquest.net)>, **Heather Miller** (SUNY-Albany) <[hm766@cnsvox.albany.edu](mailto:hm766@cnsvox.albany.edu)>, **Jack Montgomery** (Western Kentucky University) <[jack.montgomery@wku.edu](mailto:jack.montgomery@wku.edu)>, **Marietta Plank** (Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance) <[mplank@deans.umd.edu](mailto:mplank@deans.umd.edu)>, **Katina Strauch** (College of Charleston) <[strauchk@earthlink.net](mailto:strauchk@earthlink.net)>.



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