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Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, strauchk@cofc.edu

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Dear Editor:

Many thanks for Joyce Ogburn’s very interesting piece chronicling a brief history of licensing milestones of the last 10 years or so It was most informative and useful.

By this note, I want to add an item that seems to have been only indirectly noted but has made a difference to literally thousands of librarians and others engaged in licensing. That is the creation, over time, with support from the Council of Library and Information Resources of a very comprehensive Licensing Web site (LIBLICENSE, at: http://www.library.yale.edu/~license/index.shtml).

This site went “live” in 1997 and contains a wealth of information in addition to the Model License (which a number of publishers and libraries have adapted for their own use) that Joyce Ogburn referenced. For example, see an extensive set of links to licensing information from many organizations; a bibliography that contains references to numerous articles, books, and principles — much of this information with live links to full content. The most interesting part of the LIBLICENSE Web site is the professionally developed and freely downloadable software that enables librarians or others to create their own customized licenses from a set of numerous generic options. The LIBLICENSE site is in continuous review and development, and it benefits from the input of many users who suggest additional resources and improvements.

Sincerely,
Ann Okerson
Yale University Library
<ann.okerson@yale.edu>