



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Call for Proposals

ASERL Mini-Grant: Applying Fair Use Principles in Resource Sharing Contexts Spring 2014

Overview

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) coordinates a very active Scholarly Communications Interest Group for our members. This has included a large variety of professional development webinars for ASERL librarians and others with an interest in the evolving fields of Scholarly Communication, Intellectual Property, Copyright, and Fair Use. ASERL has also submitted an amicus brief on behalf of Georgia State University in their defense of the e-reserves lawsuit brought by Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Sage Publishing, and underwritten by the Copyright Clearance Center. More recently, in October 2013 ASERL joined with four other research library consortia to pen an open letter affirming the principles of Fair Use of copyrighted materials within educational settings.

As part of this work, we have found a need for an expert review of the application of Fair Use principles within library Resource Sharing contexts. A recent poll of ASERL libraries indicates approximately 1/3 do not have formalized resource sharing policies, and fewer libraries include guidelines for the application of Fair Use principles as part of their resource sharing policies. To this end, ASERL invites proposals from teams of librarians to further study this issue and develop tools to aid librarians.

Desired Outcome

ASERL seeks to support the development of well-researched and documented guidelines, a checklist, or similar tool to aid Resource Sharing librarians and other library staff to determine if a request from another library or unaffiliated patron to borrow materials falls within the bounds of Fair Use, or if copyright/license fees should be paid to the rightsholder. [For an example of this type of document, see the “Intellectual Property Rights Strategy for Modern Manuscript Collections and Archival Record Groups” developed by the Triangle Research Libraries Network , <http://www.trln.org/IPRights.pdf>.] The end product of this mini-grant must be licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International license, including attribution to the authors and to ASERL as the sponsoring organization.

Grant Award

ASERL will award a single grant not exceeding \$2,500.00 for this program. Grant funds may NOT be used for:

- Construction or capital expenses;

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- Indirect costs or overhead expenses;
- Lobbying or political activity; or
- To reimburse expenses incurred prior to the project plan's approval

Who Can Apply?

Because this particular question falls across professional sub-domains within the field of librarianship, applications must be submitted by a team consisting of at least one copyright specialist and one resource sharing librarian. Applications may include other team members with expertise in other aspects of librarianship and/or intellectual property issues, as desired. Applications from ASERL librarians/staff are preferred, although applicants who are not affiliated with ASERL institutions will be considered.

Application Process

- Each application must contain Contact information for the project director/principal, including name, title, mailing address, email address, and telephone number.
- Each application must contain a Statement of Need and a Narrative to describe the applicants' understanding of the issues at hand; the goals, objectives, and anticipated activities for addressing the stated need(s); and expected products / outcomes;
- Each application must contain an Action Plan for the project, including a timeline that fits within the grant period described above, and key personnel who will undertake the work. The Action Plan must describe how work will be completed in the grant period, who has responsibility for completion of each activity, and a description of resources the applicants will need to conduct the stated activities. The Action Plan should include a description of how the applicants will disseminate information about the project and share the results of their work. If applicable, the Action Plan must describe any resources ASERL would be expected to contribute to maintain the activities / products / outcomes following the completion of the grant period;
- Each application must contain a Budget Summary and Narrative with detailed explanation of anticipated expenses;
- Applications cannot exceed 4 pages in total, and must be delivered by email to ASERL Executive Director (jburger@aserl.org) no later than June 1, 2014.

Timelines / Grant Period

- Applications must be emailed to jburger@aserl.org no later than June 1, 2014.
- ASERL staff will review applications during June and seek any clarifications by June 30, 2014.
- The ASERL Board will determine the award recipients by August 15, 2014.
- Awards will be announced by August 30, 2014, with grant activities expected to commence no later than October 1, 2014.
- All grant-related activities must be completed by May 1, 2015.
- Grant recipients must provide brief monthly telephone updates and a final performance and financial report to ASERL by June 15, 2015.