Knowing and Exercising Your Author Rights Best Practices for Posting and Sharing Your Research

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Road Map

Part 1:

Why share?

How can we share our work?

What are some problems?

Part 2:

Copyright concerns

How to read a contract

Asserting your rights





Sharing your work



ResearchGate

Why share? -For yourself!

- Develop a network
- Get better search results for your research
- Reach a broader audience
- Increase the impact of your work

Why share? -For others!



Why share? -For others!

When you want to read my paper and log in from campus, you get this:



When an independent researcher, scholar at a less-privileged institution, journalist, participant in my research, and my mom want to read my paper, they get this:



Why share? -For your colleagues!

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doi:10.1016/j.dcm.2012.05.002

Get rights and content

Why share? -Better search results!

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Why share? -Summary

For me:

- My work gets more hits from searches in Google Scholar.
- More people are reading my article.
- Increased citations and social media buzz.
- Use in journalistic and nonacademic outlets.
- Collaboration with colleagues and scholars from around the world and from all walks of life.

For others:

- Colleagues can read ALL of my papers without searching through journals & navigating paywalls.
- Scholars at less-privileged institutions can access my work.
- Participants in my research can see what I wrote about them.
- Easy access for anyone using any search tool.

Unfortunately, it's not so easy.

What does it mean to be an author?

Copyright: You Need to Know



The U.S. Copyright Office defines copyright as:

- A set of exclusive rights awarded to a copyright holder or owner for an original and creative work of authorship
 fixed in a tangible medium of expression.
- A limited statutory monopoly that gives a copyright holder the sole right to market a work for a limited period of time.

You own the copyright unless...

Time passes.

- it was published before 1923
- it was published between 1923-1964 and copyright was not registered/renewed
- the author died 70 years ago

OR You give it away.

- deliberately designate your work as Public Domain
- sign a Work for Hire agreement
- sign a publishing

agreement

more info: http://pitt.libguides.com/copyright

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Author Addendum

If you don't like your contract, you can try to change it!

The Science Commons Addendum Engine allows you to create an addendum to a copyright agreement which ensures that you retain your rights as an author.

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Thank you!

Contact me any time for help with this topic!

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