Copyright at the desk

21 February 2018

Presented by Denyse Rodrigues, E-Learning Librarian at MSVU, and Corinne Gilroy, Manager of Access Services at MSVU.

Scenarios

Professor X

Prof: I need to put this chapter up on my course site. But it's 12% of the book. What do I do?

Staff: You're referring to our Fair Dealing guidelines? They really are guidelines, not rules—they're a starting point for copyright interpretation. I'd be happy to talk about it with you.

Prof: That would be helpful; thank you. And if you don't mind: what's all this about York? People are saying copying is illegal now, and Fair Dealing is out the window. What are my students supposed to do? What am I supposed to do?

Staff: It's important to know that the York case is being appealed. The university's guidelines and practices around copyright remain in place, and fair dealing is still your right.

Prof: OK, well that's good to know, at least. But what do I do about this reading?

Professor Y

Prof: I need to put this chapter up on my course site. But it's 12% of the book. So I guess that's against the rules?

Staff: You're referring to our Fair Dealing guidelines? They really are guidelines, not rules—they're a starting point for copyright interpretation. I'd be happy to talk about it with you.

Prof: OK, and what's all this about York? People are saying copying is illegal now? Fair Dealing is out the window? Are those guidelines even relevant anymore?

Staff: It's important to know that the York case is being appealed. The university's guidelines and practices around copyright remain in place, and fair dealing is still your right.

Prof: OK, but what do I do about this reading?

Questions

- Would your response to Professor X be exactly the same as your response to Professor Y? Why or why not?
- What else is going on in the interactions besides potentially copying 12% of a book?
- What would the consequences be of providing different answers?
- What would the consequences be of providing the same answer?
- Examples of your possible responses?
- What resources would you use if you found yourself in this situation?