



Library License

September Update, 2013

Overview

The Library Lab's Library License project has run its course nicely. With the help of the Berkman Center, we now have draft Library License contractual language. We have a fully developed (and visited) website at <http://www.librarylicense.org>. We also ran a very successful workshop bringing Library License to the attention of the decision makers and researchers across the country.

Since the event, we've had several conversations with Dan Cohen and DPLA about their formal adoption of Library License as a project. Initially, things seemed very promising – a near handshake deal – but after Dan met with the DPLA board, there was push back. While JP and several others have been great supporters of LL, other members of the DPLA board do not feel quite ready to commit quite yet. We will continue to pursue DPLA as a collaborator.

Simultaneously, we are beginning to reach out to other potential collaborators including the ALA and others. We have momentum, and we want to strike while the iron's hot.

We do not anticipate this outreach work to require Library Lab support.

Budget

All incurred expenses were for the Library License Workshop, on April 5th, 2013. There is one supplementary charge, a \$35 travel expense from the visit David Weinberger and I took to Safari Books OnLine on August 28th.

Why did we fall so far under budget?

I think the primary reason the Library License project fell so far under the budget was because we worked very efficiently as a team. The project drew (and continues to draw) on each of our areas expertise and experience. David Weinberger was a great editor, communicator and messenger. Chris Bavitz, David O'Brien, Dalia

Topelson and Caroline Nolan did a fantastic job with the legal thinking and contractual language. I was able to contribute idea/vision-wise, and also design and build the complete website (Had the website been developed outside, that would have been a significant additional line item.) And finally, drawing on the Berkman well of expertise, we focused on producing an event and the follow-up workshop report – recognizing that the convening of a discussion would be the best marketing and development strategy for Library License. This focused our project, giving us an important deadline for public accountability, and set David O’Brien and Caroline Nolan in motion as an amazing event producing and convening team.

Overall, Library License has been great project and we’re all really excited to see where it goes! Thanks Library Lab and Arcadia!

Best,

The Library License Team

Jeff Goldenson, David Weinberger, Chris Bavitz, Dalia Topelson, Caroline Nolan and David O’Brien