Hands-On Introduction to the Model Publishing Contract for Digital Scholarship

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What is the Model Publishing Contract?

Contract:
https://www.modelpublishingcontract.org/

Purpose: A new model contract for long form digital scholarship and/or open access publication mechanisms of the future.

Partners: Emory University & University of Michigan

Sponsor: Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
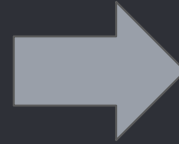
How was the contract conceived?

Background

Emory:
"The Future of the Monograph in the Digital Era"

Michigan:
"A Study of Direct Author Subvention for Publishing Humanities Books at Two Universities"

The Process

Met with core group of experts

Created outline of new contract

Hired attorney to draft new contract

Core experts reviewed/revised draft contract

Sought feedback from the community

   Draft available for open comment

   Stakeholders meetings

Revised draft incorporating feedback

What is new about the contract?

Responsive

Acknowledges Subventions

Modular

Author Friendly

Why might you want to use the contract?

As a scholar, you are publishing...

...an online, open access work.

...a digital scholarly object that will have a print component.

...a multifaceted, collaborative work that will develop in phases.

...a book with an open access corollary.

...with the support of an institutional or funder subvention.

As a publisher, you want to make your contract...

...more adaptive to digital scholarship.

...more author friendly.

Things to consider when using the contract

You don't have to use it as written.

You don't have to use the whole thing.

You don't have to use everything at once.

Questions?

Schedule A: The Work

What is the thing being published? Technical requirements, responsibilities for hosting, preservation, maintenance, etc.

Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use

How the work will be distributed and how readers will be able to make use of it. Open licensing, if applicable.

Schedule C: Funding and Stakeholders

Subvention or other financial support, detailed cost estimate/budget, and any funding agency requirements.

Schedule D: Publication Schedule

Milestones and timeframe for completion of work, delivery to Publisher, peer review, etc.

Schedule E: Royalties & Revenue

If applicable, how proceeds from sale of the work will be divided between Publisher, Author(s), or other parties.

Schedule F: Authors + Other Contributors

Who did what? How are they credited?

Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author

Permissions and content included as a fair use.

Schedule H: Marketing Efforts

Publisher's marketing plans and Author's responsibilities.

Which schedules are essential?

Schedule A: The "Work"
Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use of the Work
Schedule D: Publication Schedule
Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author

Books & Book-like Objects

Schedule A: The "Work"
Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use of the Work
Schedule D: Publication Schedule
Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author

Books & Book-like Objects (for sale)

Schedule A: The "Work"
Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use of the Work
Schedule D: Publication Schedule
Schedule E: Royalties and Revenue Sharing
Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author
Schedule H: Marketing Efforts of Author and Publisher

Book + Companion Website

Schedule A: The "Work"
Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use of the Work
Schedule C: Funding and Stakeholders
Schedule D: Publication Schedule
Schedule E: Royalties and Revenue Sharing
Schedule F: Authors and Contributors to be Credited
Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author
Schedule H: Marketing Efforts of Author and Publisher

Dynamic Multimedia Works

Schedule A: The "Work"
Schedule B: Distribution and Re-Use of the Work
Schedule C: Funding and Stakeholders
Schedule D: Publication Schedule
Schedule F: Authors and Contributors to be Credited
Schedule G: Content Not Original to Author

Questions?

activities + discussion

Reverse Engineering

Using a publication or project you recently worked on in your library publishing operation, think about how you might have used the Model Publishing Contract to support this work.

Assemble the schedules you might have used, and brainstorm when and how you might have used them. What changes would you have needed to make to these documents to use them for the project in question?

Reverse Engineering

Assemble the schedules you might use, and brainstorm when and how you might use them. What changes would you have needed to make to these documents to use them for the project in question?

Need ideas?

http://www.enchantingthedesert.com/home/
http://www.mappingsenufo.org/

From the Author's Perspective

Many of us who work in library publishing also provide scholarly communication guidance for faculty and students seeking to publish their work.

If a faculty member came to you with this contract in hand, how might you advise them to proceed?

Credits