

As I am sure you know, there has been much debate, uncertainty and confusion with regard to the copyright situation in Canada over the past two years. I am writing to let you know that, after careful consideration, Brock University has signed the Access Copyright licence developed by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

The licence gives certain rights to Brock faculty and students to copy and share published materials within Access' repertoire, as well as providing cost savings for course packs. A review of Brock's copying practices and resources suggested that the licence was necessary to give the University time to develop the structures, processes and supports needed to operate effectively without a licence in the future. In the interim, the licence will protect faculty and students from copyright infringement claims.

The University shares the concerns which have been raised with respect to the licence developed by AUCC and is determined to work to avoid any adverse consequences. The University hopes to be in a position to operate without the Licence by the end of 2015, and with this in mind will be establishing a copyright working group with broad-based faculty, student and other representation to review copying practices at Brock and determine the best ways to manage the University's copyright needs.

The University remains committed to exercising its fair dealing rights and making the most of the resources available to its members under institutional licences, open access arrangements, Creative Commons licensing and exceptions under the Copyright Act.

If you have any questions about what this means for you, the University's copyright coordinator/legal advisor Chabriol Colebatch will be offering workshops over the summer to help instructors understand and apply the new licence, and is available for individual consultations.

For further information, visit [brocku.ca/library/campus-copyright-information](http://brocku.ca/library/campus-copyright-information) or contact Chabriol at [ccolebatch@brocku.ca](mailto:ccolebatch@brocku.ca), x3232.

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