

“We Own It”: Dealing with Perpetual Access in Big Deals

Andrew Waller and Gwen Bird

ABSTRACT: This article presents the results of a survey of Canadian university libraries that investigated whether libraries have been able to stay abreast of the many changes that affect their access to paid-for e-content. This report emphasizes the publishers’ obligations to notify licensees when ownership changes hands and libraries’ need to actively pursue licensed content in ownership transfers. The meaning and application of “perpetual access” clauses in e-journal licenses under change-of-ownership situations is also discussed.

KEYWORDS: Perpetual access, electronic journals, licensing, consortia, academic libraries, research libraries.

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INTRODUCTION

Over the last few years, academic libraries have been steadily canceling print journals that are duplicated in large, publisher-based, bundled electronic journal packages (or “big deals”). These cancellations have been carried out for a variety of reasons; for instance, libraries are unable to afford both print and online formats; libraries want to save space by canceling print; libraries want to make the conversion to the electronic environment; etc. These decisions are often underpinned by a belief that libraries *own* this e-content as a result of licensing

conditions; they believe that they have “perpetual access” to the material. This paper investigates this situation in the Canadian university library community.

BIG DEALS AND PERPETUAL ACCESS: SOME DEFINITIONS

The “big deal”, first discussed by Ken Frazier in 2001¹, is defined here as an agreement to acquire bundled fulltext e-journals direct from the publisher of those journals. Most common in the university library world, the big deal often involves the complete, or nearly complete, corpus of e-journals from a publisher and is usually brokered at a consortial level. Participating libraries usually pay a bit more money for a lot more content and, consequently, reduce the per-title subscription cost. Big deals can also involve other elements such as multi-year contracts and negotiated annual price increases. The definition given here does not cover third party aggregators, such as EBSCO or Gale databases.

“Perpetual access” takes effect at cancellation or termination. When an e-journal or bundle of e-journals is no longer subscribed to, due to cessation, sale, or transfer, the library, or licensee, should have access, if included in the license, to the electronic content that falls into the years for which the licensee had a subscription. For example, library X had a subscription to Journal Y for three years in a big deal. Journal Y ceased publication. Under the terms of the license, the publisher, or licensor, has to make the three years of content to library Y in some way.

PERPETUAL ACCESS SCENARIOS

There are potentially many different scenarios where perpetual access could (or should) take effect, both for individual e-journals and journal packages, including the following. This is

not an exhaustive list. Some of these scenarios have happened frequently while others have yet to occur.

- *When a library has a subscription to a journal that ceases publication.*
- *When a subscription to a journal is cancelled by a library.*
- *When a subscription to a journal is sold or transferred to another publisher.*

In this situation, who will honor the perpetual access, the new publisher or the old publisher? It may depend on where the backfile goes; does it remain with the current issues or stay with the old publisher. Libraries often have to pursue this content but not always; an example of this in practice could be seen in spring of 2005 when Oxford University Press (OUP) sent out a message to serials-related lists calling for previous subscribers to the European Heart Journal, which had recently moved from Elsevier to OUP.

- *When the publisher of a journal goes out-of-business.*
- *When a bundle of journals has a fluid title list.*

Here, journals are regularly bought and sold into and out of packages. Many of the big deal publishers are of this nature.

- *When the publisher of a bundle of journals goes out-of-business.*
- *When the publisher of a bundle of journals is bought completely or partially by another publisher.*

This is not uncommon in the journal publishing world.

- *When a subscription to a bundle of journals is not renewed by a library or consortium.*
- *When a subscription to a bundle of journals is cancelled by a library or consortium.*

This could be a mid-contract cancellation; something which could be a tricky situation in terms of a library acquiring the licensed content.

There are many different ways in which perpetual access is specified in licenses; here are some. Again this is not an exhaustive list. Most of these can also be combined in any number of ways.

- *The license states that perpetual access is included.*

Nothing more is stated. It is not uncommon to see this sort of simple statement but how much use is it? Is it better to specify some method of delivery rather than take what comes from the publisher?

- *The license specifies a particular method of fixed media delivery.*

Frequently-noted formats include CD-ROM, DVD, and tapes, among others.

The search software is often not part of the perpetual access offer; it can be a separate deal. Sometimes a fee is specified. Again, how much use will this be to library users? Will the licensee be able to do anything with the particular technology that encapsulates the content?

- *The license specifies that the content will be stored on the publisher's server.*

This is often for a fee.

- *The license specifies that the content will be stored on a third-party server.*

Again, this could be for a fee.

- *The license allows for local loading of the content.*

A good Canadian example of this is the Scholar's Portal in Ontario. Most of the big deal content available to Ontario academic libraries is accessed through and

hosted on the Scholar's Portal, which is physically loaded at the University of Toronto.

- *The license specifies that the content can be included in a distributed cooperative caching venture.*

At present, the best example of this is the LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) project at Stanford University (<http://lockss.stanford.edu/index.html>).

- *The license specifies that the content can be archived by the licensee in some way.*

These related archival rights are one way of safeguarding perpetual access.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

The authors work in collection management units in two Canadian university libraries where they are responsible for, among other duties, e-journals and big deals. Like many others, both libraries have moved fairly aggressively to the electronic side of the journal world. Both libraries have signed agreements for many big deals and have cancelled large numbers of print subscriptions that are duplicated in these packages, mostly for financial reasons; print is only retained for good reason (e.g. there is material in the print version that is not in the electronic; the print has better images than the electronic; etc.). Many other academic libraries have done the same, in Canada and elsewhere. In these situations, librarians diligently negotiate perpetual access clauses into licenses and reassure users, especially faculty members (who are often the ones who ask "Do we own it?"), that all is well and that the library does own this electronic content.

But is this truly the case? Do libraries own it? There are serious questions about what perpetual access actually means and what it looks like in practice. How has it been implemented

now that big deals are several years old? Simply, is it working? At the authors' libraries, it is difficult to keep track of the titles that are being bought and sold into and out of the various bundles of journals; how are other Canadian libraries dealing with this situation? In order to better examine this topic, the authors decided to survey the libraries participating in the six Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) licenses for fulltext journal packages; the products covered by these deals are

- Academic Press (AP) (now part of Science Direct)
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- Institute of Physics (IOP)
- Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)
- ScienceDirect (Elsevier)
- Springer LINK (Springer)

THE CANADIAN RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

The Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) (www.crkn.ca) began as the Canadian National Site Licensing Project (CNSLP). In 1999, 64 Canadian universities, ranging from the largest institutions to the smallest, from all parts of the country, and representing English, French, and bilingual schools, applied for and received a \$50 million grant from the Canadian federal government's Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to help build the Canadian research infrastructure. This was to be accomplished by licensing online content for all participating institutions in science, technology, and medical fields, through CNSLP. The funding was set up in a diminishing manner over three years with the participants assuming full local funding by the fourth year. There was a competitive bidding process which resulted in the

signing of seven initial licenses, five of which were made up of fulltext journal content (Academic Press, ACS, IOP, RSC, and Springer); deals were also done for Web of Science and MathSciNet. All of these began in 2001. An agreement was later concluded for the ScienceDirect journals, which began in 2003. All of the 64 libraries signed on for the first round of licenses. With the ScienceDirect deal, there was no additional federal money so funding had to come from the individual institutions; all but three universities took up the offer.

The work of CNSLP has continued. With the end of central funding, the governance structure of CNSLP has changed and it is now a free-standing incorporated federal entity, the Canadian Research Knowledge Network or CRKN. Membership has opened up and several new members have been added. The original seven licenses have been renewed without any attrition of participants, CRKN has scaled up four regional licenses for the Kluwer e-journals to a national level, has purchased e-journal backfiles, and is looking at buying material in the social sciences and humanities, which could include some big deal content.

There is perpetual access language in all of the CRKN licenses, drawn from the CRKN model license, developed in early 2001. Section 12.4 of the model license covers perpetual access. The first part of this clause reads as follows:

12. 4 On termination of this Agreement, the Consortium, Authorized Users and Walk-in Users shall retain the right to access and use in archived form the content of the Database for the period of time set out in Schedule 3 up to the date of termination, except where such termination is due to a breach of the Agreement by the Consortium which the Consortium has failed to remedy as provided in clause 12.1.1 and 12.1.3, in which case such continuing access shall be provided in

respect of Licensed Materials published up to the date of such breach. On termination of this agreement, the Publisher shall at its option:

- a) provide each Member, on request, with an electronic copy of the content of the Database for the period of time set out in Schedule 3 up to the date of termination, or
- b) provide for continued access to the Licensed Materials on the Server for the period of time set out in Schedule 3 up to the date of termination.²

This is, of course, designed to be adapted to a specific licensing situation but it is roughly comparable to what can be found in many other big deal licenses, especially model licenses.

BIG DEALS: AMERICAN AND CANADIAN ATTITUDES

It should be noted that this paper largely reflects the Canadian university library environment. While many parallels can be drawn between Canadian and American attitudes towards perpetual access and big deals, there are some notable differences, especially regarding the latter. In Canada, the big deal is generally viewed in a positive light and consortia are moving ahead with more purchases of bundled e-journal content. In the United States, a feeling has emerged from some libraries that the time of the big deal may have passed; terms like “orderly retreats” and “cost for content approaches”³ have appeared and a number of large, well-known academic libraries have renegotiated their e-journal packages. The recent ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit reinforces this perspective by urging librarians to “consider rejecting bundled or aggregated license agreements”.⁴ This difference in perspective underlies the survey analyses presented here.

THE SURVEY

Methodology

In order to answer the research questions outlined above, the survey examined sample serials holdings statements and solicited qualitative responses from the 64 original CRKN members, regarding the 6 full-text e-journal packages licensed consortially by this group. There were several factors in favor of this approach. First, CRKN had used an all-in model made it easy to determine which libraries should have access to which content; with respect to this group of publishers, these libraries all have the same rights, with a very few exceptions. Secondly, the libraries are five years into these licenses, and there have been a good number of titles bought and sold into and out of these packages during this time, so there would be something to report on. Third, CRKN has an active listserv for implementers that includes at least one person from each library, and this would facilitate communication with the group

The quantitative part of the survey sought to determine how well libraries have been able to keep their holdings up to date, as an indicator of how successful they have been at tracking these changes. The qualitative part asked librarians involved in tracking this activity for their comments. Comments were also solicited from the consortium and publisher perspectives.

The publishers involved were contacted and requested to provide lists of the titles in this category, that is, either bought into or sold out of the “all e-journals” package licensed by CRKN, during the period 2001-2005. The resulting list included over a hundred titles in all, so a sample was chosen. The list of sample titles was hand-picked, not random, and included 10 titles added and 10 titles dropped, representing 4 of the 6 publishers. The titles were chosen deliberately to represent a range of scenarios. Of the titles dropped, two had been sold by the publisher some years earlier and the libraries had completely lost access to the backfile with the

sale—this is the scenario that libraries are trying to avoid with perpetual access rights, but of course, in the case of a sold title, it can and does happen. In these cases, the holdings survey sought to determine if libraries had updated their holdings to indicate they no longer had access. In other cases, titles had been sold and libraries were entitled to continue accessing years they had paid for, even though they no longer had current access from the original publisher – here the goal was to see if libraries had closed their holdings from the original publisher. The sample titles also deliberately included a mixture of titles that involved transactions that had happened several years ago, and some that were very recent, with the sales taking effect only a few months before the research was conducted in early 2005. Some titles had been the subject of announcements from the CRKN office, while others had been discussed in publishers’ newsletters, or web sites.

For the holdings survey, the authors checked the libraries’ holdings by going to their web sites as a patron would. Where there was a journals A-Z list or other obvious database of electronic journals, it was searched first. If such a list was not linked from the library’s home page, or one click away from there, the library catalogue was used instead. This was an attempt to replicate the experience of a library patron as much as possible. Having the holdings check done by the researchers (rather than self-reported by the libraries) allowed more consistency in the responses, and eliminated a potential source of reporting bias. Four of the libraries did not have a publicly accessible tool of any kind that could be checked, so they were omitted from the survey.

Both authors sought ethics clearance at their respective universities, and the research plans were also cleared with the CRKN office. An early version of the survey tool was pilot tested with a small number of e-journals librarians, and the tool was refined. The questions in the

qualitative part of the survey were sent via the CRKN listserv, requesting a single response from each institution. A literature survey was conducted, which turned up only a small number of related articles not cited elsewhere in this paper.^{6,7}

Holdings Survey

The table in Figure 1 shows the results of the holdings survey for the 10 sample titles that were sold out of the packages during the study period. Out of the 60 libraries, titles ranged from a high of 60 libraries with correct holdings, for only one title, to a low of 14 libraries with correct holdings. It is interesting to note that the two titles with the highest rate of correct holdings were the ones for which libraries no longer had any rights. Not surprisingly, this indicates that the potential is highest for someone to notice incorrect holdings information when libraries lose all access to a title. There does not appear to be any direct correlation between the date of the sale and the accuracy of the libraries' holdings. The title with the lowest number of correct holdings was sold in 2003. Although this is slightly counterintuitive, it was a particularly complex transaction, so getting the holdings statement right was more difficult for this title than some of the titles that were sold subsequently.

Of course, since the titles in the sample were not chosen at random, these results are illustrative only, and are not statistically significant. The authors were only seeking a sense for how well libraries had been able to stay on top of these changes, and the results do provide that. The answer, if not surprising, is not very good news: generally, the libraries are not doing very well. For example, looking at the five titles with the least up to date holdings, they range from 14 to 28 libraries correct—in other words, for half of the titles checked in this category, less than half of the libraries were able to keep up to date.

Figure 1: Titles Sold

Title	Publisher	Date	Perpetual access?	Library holdings updated (of 60)
Geochemical transactions	RSC	2004	✓	36
Pesticide outlook	RSC	2004	✓	28
Acta mathematica scientia	Springer	2002	✗	60
Computational statistics	Springer	2001	✗	57
Amer. journal of evaluation	Elsevier	2005	✓	26
Cornell hotel & restaurant admin	Elsevier	2004	✓	32
Review of radical political econ	Elsevier	2003	✓	42
Thalamus & related systems	Elsevier	2004	✓	23
Journal of turbulence	IOP	2005	✓	24
Public understanding of science	IOP	2003	✓	14

The table in Figure 2 shows the results of the holdings survey for the 10 titles that were added to the packages. Here, overall, the libraries were doing slightly better. With the titles sold, there were 341 correct holdings statements out of a possible 600, or 57% accuracy. Here, in total, there were 362 correct holdings statements, or 60% accuracy. There weren't any titles that were as low as 14, nor as high as 60 on this side of the survey—the highest number of correct libraries for these titles was 49, and it was for one of the oldest changes in the group.

Figure 2: Titles Added

Title	Publisher	Date	Library holdings updated (of 60)
Accounting forum	Elsevier	2004	27
Applied & preventive psychology	Elsevier	2004	28
Focus on pigments	Elsevier	2002	49
Jrl of cosmology & astroparticle physics	IOP	2004	35
Journal of geophysics & engineering	IOP	2004	44
Organic & biomolecular chemistry	RSC	2003	41
Photochem and photobiological science	RSC	2002	29
EcoHealth	Springer	2004	45
Landslides	Springer	2004	44
Sleep & breathing	Springer	2005	20

There's also another interesting way to look at this data, and that is library-by-library, rather than title-by-title. Figure 3 summarizes the accuracy of libraries' holdings. The number of libraries is on the vertical axis, and the number of correct holdings is on the horizontal axis. Reading from the left, of the 60 libraries surveyed, there was one library that had only one title correct, three libraries that had two correct, and so on. The bars on the far right represent the libraries with most accurate holdings—there was just one library that had correct holdings for all 20 titles. In all, there were 19 libraries that had 15 or more titles correct out of 20, or just under a third of the

libraries. At the lower end, there were 10 libraries or 17% that had four or fewer titles correct out of 20. The average number of correct holdings was 11.7, indicating that the average library had just over half of these titles listed correctly in their catalogue or A-Z list.

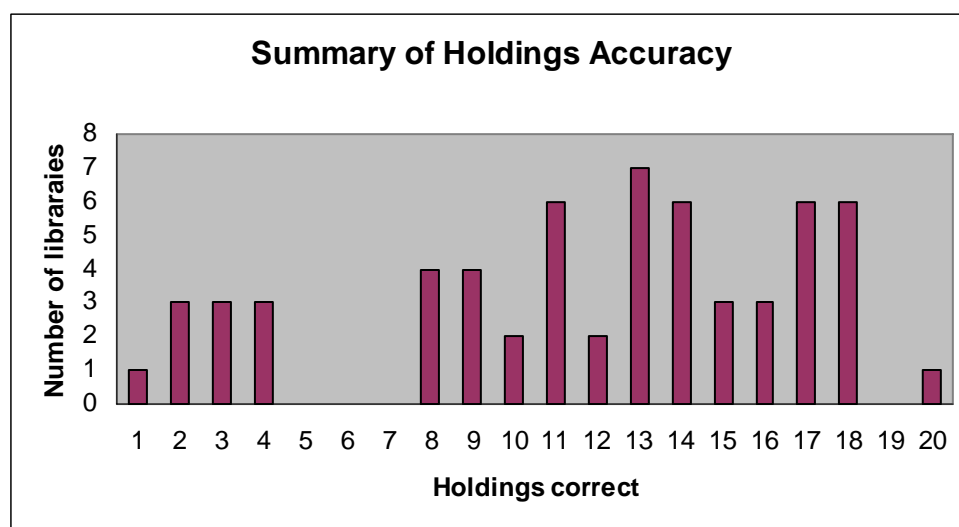


Figure 3

Looking at this data begs the question, “What does it matter?” Some libraries take the position that it is fine to allow user inquiry to drive the updating of e-journal holdings in the big deal environment. The theory here is that if a title is in demand, the library will hear from users about it. Other libraries firmly believe that inaccurate holdings lead to great frustration on the part of library users, detracting from the credibility of libraries, electronic journals and library systems. While this philosophical debate cannot be resolved here, what is clear is that this group of universities is collectively spending many millions of dollars a year to provide access to these electronic journals. If new titles are not added into A-Z lists or catalogues, some readers are likely not finding all the material that has been paid for. And with the ubiquity of linking

solutions, the libraries may also be generating and paying for ILL requests for items that should be available on the desktop, immediately. Finally, if libraries do wish to maintain current access to the titles in question and they don't know they've been sold (as indicated by open holdings), it will be difficult for them to pursue a current subscription with the new publisher.

Qualitative Survey

For this part of the survey four questions were emailed to the CRKN implementers listserv, asking for a single response from each institution (see appendix 1 for full list of questions). The authors followed up lightly to encourage response from non-responding libraries and in total, received 23 responses, for a response rate of 36%.

The first question asked "Is your library actively tracking titles transferred into and out of electronic journal packages licensed directly from publishers?" Fourteen libraries responded "Yes", and 9 responded "No". An interesting way to look at these responses is to correlate them with the accuracy of the holdings statements of these libraries. Among the 14 libraries that said they were actively tracking such changes, the average number of correct holdings was 12.5 out of 20. Among the 9 libraries that said they were not actively tracking, the average number of correct holdings was 11.7. Although these numbers are not statistically significant, they are surprisingly close to one another, given the amount of labor that goes into this activity at the local level.

The second question asked "Have you ever claimed your library's perpetual access rights to a journal that has been *sold or transferred* by the publisher? If yes, please provide details (if responding from Ontario, please give examples outside of Scholar's Portal)." Eight libraries responded "Yes", 13 responded "No", and two libraries responded "Not sure". The caveat about

Scholar's Portal was included because the large scale local loading that comprises that project provides a province-wide perpetual access strategy for libraries there. On the spectrum of ownership vs. access that is the subject of this investigation, these libraries are much closer to owning the content in question.

The responses from libraries that said yes to this question included some good examples, many of which will be familiar to those who work with e-journals: *EMBO*, and the *Journal of Fish Biology* were mentioned, as were the Duke University Press journals that were withdrawn from Project Muse. Although the latter deals with distribution rights rather than an outright sale, it still raises issues about perpetual access.⁵ In summarizing the responses to this question, it is worth noting that less than 35% of libraries surveyed had actively claimed perpetual access rights to sold titles. This illustrates the point that, to date, libraries haven't had to cash in on perpetual access rights on a grand scale.

The third question asked "Have you ever exercised your perpetual access rights under a license to journal content for which you have *cancelled* the current subscription? If yes, please provide details (if responding from Ontario, please give examples outside of Scholar's Portal)." In response to this question, seven libraries said "Yes", 11 libraries said "No", three libraries said "Not sure", and two libraries wrote in "Not Applicable", because they hadn't cancelled any journals during this period. Again, only 30% of libraries had exercised their perpetual access rights under these conditions, confirming the view that libraries don't have a lot of experience with this yet.

The fourth question on the survey asked "We welcome any other thoughts that you have on the issue of perpetual access and e-journal packages." Here several libraries volunteered that perpetual access rights were very important to their libraries in considering acquisition of e-

journals. More than one library responded that they had not known that the CRKN deals included perpetual access rights, and had therefore not been canceling print. Because the license only covered termination, there is certainly room for ambiguity here. Finally, a number of libraries responded that it was very difficult for them to track these kinds of changes, and that a central effort to do this, perhaps through the consortial office, would be very welcome. Some, but not all, of the changes that we tracked had been announced by the CRKN office via the implementers listserv. While these titles tended to have more accurate holdings than the ones that had not been announced, they were not perfect. There is still considerable local labor involved in monitoring and responding to such messages.

Publisher & Consortium View

The Executive Director of CRKN had the opportunity to comment informally on the preliminary findings of the study. She observed that it is as much a challenge to track these changes at the consortial level as it is at the individual library level, and that this is a common refrain of consortia managers. She also remarked that consortium managers don't get the day-to-day input that individual libraries do from working directly with the journal collection, nor do they have the tools to manage the title changes, although some are now starting to utilize Electronic Resource Management systems for this purpose.

The publishers involved were also invited to comment on their role in providing perpetual access in this scenario. One publisher replied that the company places a high value on the stability and continuity of its journals publishing program, stating, "Stability and continuity make our lives and jobs much easier". In a reminder that the world of publishing is still very much a business venture, one publisher replied, "Occasionally journals are bought and sold for purely financial reasons, and there is no way to avoid this. We do not apologize for this." However,

this same publisher stated that when they sell a title they always seek to allow, through the legal terms of the sale, continued access to back volumes for its prior subscribers. This would be a useful industry standard to enforce, and libraries are well positioned to advocate for it. There are bilateral agreements in place between some pairs of publishers to arrange this, but as yet no standard across all publishers. More than one publisher replied that they do what they have to do to stay in business and they try to be diligent about getting information out to subscribers about changes that take place in their title lists. Other publishers have made their position on perpetual access known via company newsletters or press releases.⁸

Further Research

Two areas presented themselves as worthy of further investigation. One has to do with the size of the libraries. Several of the responses to the fourth, open-ended survey question indicated that smaller libraries found themselves unprepared to handle the work associated with maintaining holdings statements in the big deal environment. One typical comment was, “As a smaller institution we are having difficulty keeping up with the addition of new titles”. Yet it is not really known whether it is actually true that smaller libraries have more difficulty keeping their holdings up to date than larger libraries—on the surface, it appears that libraries of all sizes are struggling with this task. In this study there was no objective data available to measure the size of the libraries, but this question would merit further research.

The second area that deserves comment is the role of mechanically created lists in updating e-journal holdings. It was obvious to the authors in checking holdings that many of the libraries’ A-Z lists were from commercial providers such as Serials Solutions, SFX or EBSCO’s A-Z service. However, conclusions could not be drawn here either, since libraries may be using

these tools behind the scenes, for example to update holdings in their library catalogue. It was not transparent what tool might have been used, but further investigation on this question would be useful.

CONCLUSION

We can conclude that there are roles for all the players in the serials chain in this situation. Librarians need to do their best to track down content to which they are entitled by contract; to do less is to short change the library user and engage in poor financial stewardship. The intermediaries in the serials world, especially providers of tools such as Serials Solutions and SFX, need to keep on top of the changing content in packages, getting accurate holdings information from libraries (i.e. what are you subscribing to exactly?) and getting accurate, frequently updated content information from publishers. Serials agents can be included with this group—on the question of how serials agents are repositioning themselves to add value in the age of e-journals, there may indeed be an important niche for them here, if they are not left out of the deals altogether. Publishers need to provide regular, clear information to libraries and to the intermediaries on the state of their title lists. This information should include titles that have transferred in and out of their lists. It should be provided in machine readable form, and pushed to libraries that want this, rather than residing on a web site. Lastly, publishers have to be prepared to honor their licenses and work with licensees to set up access to subscribed-to content. It would be useful to see an industry standard developed for the disposition of backfiles in the sales of journals from one publisher to another.

In addition, broad observations can be made in three other areas.

Challenges Not Yet Faced

The library community has not faced some potentially interesting and/or troublesome situations involving perpetual access yet, at least not in a major way. For instance, libraries have not had to track down and claim large amounts content from publishers that have gone out-of-business but have not been purchased by other publishers; it is still more or less a title-by-title situation. Also, publishers and libraries have not yet gone to court over perpetual access (at least not as far as the authors know). Lastly, what about perpetual access for individual articles, when these have been removed from e-journals, for whatever reason? Libraries focus on perpetual access at the journal level but there may be concerns at a finer level.

No Going Back

It is clear that users of academic libraries like e-journals and they like having access to many e-journals, quickly and easily. As a result, libraries will be dealing with issues relating to e-journals, including perpetual access for quite some time. As well, the academic library community has been through a flurry of big deals and other purchasing models in recent years. These will continue to exist and new opportunities will arise but this may also be the beginning of a time of maintenance, when libraries will have to put energy and resources into regularly tracking down e-content that they are entitled to by contract.

Early Days

In many ways, it could be argued that these are still the early days of electronic journals; paper journals are centuries old while e-journals, for all intents and purposes, are less than a decade old. Libraries are also dealing with the online environment, in which change is rapid and never-ending. There is good and bad to this: on the bad side, it means that libraries will be dealing with constant change; on the good side, it means that libraries exist in interesting times

and that librarians can often make their own solutions. The options for dealing with perpetual access are not yet time-tested or time-honored.

NOTES

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APPENDIX 1

Dear Colleagues,

This is a message from Andrew Waller, at the University of Calgary and Gwen Bird, at Simon Fraser University. We're working on a project investigating perpetual access to electronic

journals, with a particular focus on six packages that were licensed by the CNSLP/CRKN between 2001 and 2005. We are asking for your participation by inviting you to respond to a few brief questions below by **Friday, May 13**.

The results of our project will be presented at the 2005 NASIG conference under the title *We Own it: Dealing With "Perpetual Access" in Big Deals*, and will also be published in an issue of the *Serials Librarian* featuring the NASIG 2005 proceedings. All responses presented in our presentation and publication will be at the aggregate level. Neither you nor your library will be identified at the individual level. In addition, we will be glad to share aggregated data with any interested partners.

Please limit your response to one per institution, from person who knows the most about this topic at your library. If you have any questions or comments about our project, please feel free to contact us:

Gwen Bird: gbird@sfu.ca

Andrew Waller: waller@ucalgary.ca

We are asking about perpetual access rights to electronic journals including, but not limited to the CNSLP/CRKN packages. Please feel free to provide examples from other licenses in which your library participates.

a) Is your library actively tracking titles transferred into and out of electronic journal packages licensed directly from publishers?

Yes / No

b) Have you ever claimed your library's perpetual access rights to a journal that has been *sold or transferred* by the publisher?

Yes / No / Not sure

If yes, please provide details (if responding from Ontario, please give examples outside of Scholar's Portal).

c) Have you ever exercised your perpetual access rights under a license to journal content for which you have *cancelled* the current subscription?

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