



ODSJEK ZA  
**INFORMACIJSKE** ZNANOSTI  
Filozofski fakultet, Sveučilište u Osijeku

DEPARTMENT OF  
**INFORMATION** SCIENCES  
Faculty of Philosophy, University of Osijek

[web.ffos.hr/infoznanosti](http://web.ffos.hr/infoznanosti)

## **Students' Copyright Protection in Institutional Repositories**

Ivana Čadovska, Tihomir Vranješ, Boris Bosančić



# STUDENTS' COPYRIGHT PROTECTION IN INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

## Importance and interest of the study

The issue of copyright, especially with the advent of new technologies, is the provocative question in the scientific and academic community. Despite the copyright regulations similar to most of the countries in the world, the problem of unauthorized exploitation of works is growing. In terms of solving the above problems, a lot is said about the theoretical and legal solutions, but practical options that are free and easily accessible are often forgot.

Department of Information Science  
Faculty of Philosophy Osijek  
Croatia

Ivana Čadovska [icadovska@ffos.hr]  
Tihomir Vranješ [tvranjes@ffos.hr]  
Boris Bosančić [bbosancic@ffos.hr]

## Methods used for the study

The method used in the work is quantitative methodology (survey questionnaire). The polling is based on a simple questionnaire that collects students' opinions on publication of their works in a common repository of the Department and basic questions about copyright.

Examinees: students from the Department, n=100

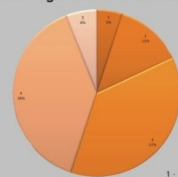
Hypothesis: Expectations are that students do not know much about their rights about their works but awareness is growing when they are on higher years of the study.

## About the Repository

<http://oziz.ffos.hr/repozitorij/>

Digital Repository of the Department of Information Science is a pilot project of future institutional repository that stores all types of intellectual content that the Department produces in its research and teaching activities. Since 2007 students and professors of the Department are participating in its building. Repository is currently storing students' BA and MS thesis. Plans for the future are to store teaching and science materials from staff and students of the Department. The current phase is based on determining the access rights to the materials in the Repository and their licensing in accordance with copyright law.

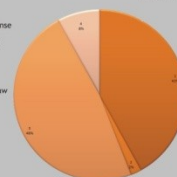
## Knowledge of copyright protection and transfer of copyright and the laws and regulations related to them



1 - Lowest, 5 - Highest

- 1 - I am familiar with that; it is protected through the license
- 2 - I am familiar with that; it is protected through written authorization of the author
- 3 - I am not familiar with that
- 4 - I do not have to protect it; works are automatically protected with the copyright law

## Familiarity with the abilities of copyright protection on the Internet



## Creative Commons - possible solution?

Creative Commons is a nonprofit corporation for providing free licenses and other legal tools to mark creative work. Creator of the work can easily combine several types of licenses to mark his work. There are six main licenses offered:

### Attribution



### Attribution Share Alike



### Attribution No Derivatives



### Attribution Non-Commercial



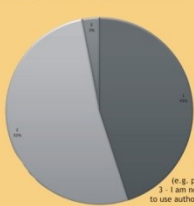
### Attribution Non-Commercial Share Alike



### Attribution Non-Commercial No

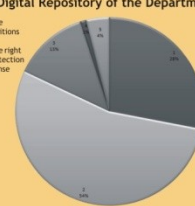


## Personal opinion about access to the authors' works on the Internet



- 1 - Completely free access
- 2 - Restricted access (e.g. password-protected access)
- 3 - I am not for the transfer of rights to use authors' works over the Internet

## Preferred option on the transfer of the rights to use (and publish) of students' BA and MS thesis in the Digital Repository of the Department



- 1 - Written statement on the transfer of the right to use (and publish) without conditions (i.e. completely free access)
- 2 - Written statement on the transfer of the right to use (and publish) with password protection
- 3 - Creative Commons or other similar license
- 4 - Another option
- 5 - I do not agree on publishing under any circumstances

## So what do the students think they know?

According to the research, Department's students are not aware about possibilities of the copyright, especially on the Internet. Students rate themselves with an average grade, as expected, but the rating does not grow as the year of study is higher, which is unusual. But when it comes to rights associated to their students' works and theses, they are much more referred and aware of the risk. Most of them agreed to protect their work on some option. 78% of them said that they preferred non-commercial use of their works (i.e. permitted to copy, distribute and transmit the work, stating the name of the author). Creative Commons can be possible free solution for these terms.

## Importance of the research:

### Copyright

- Provocative question
- Problem of unauthorized exploitation of the authors' works

## Results:

- Students are not aware about the possibilities of the Copyright
- Most of them agreed to protect their work in the Repository, but in contrary, they want to use others' work fully open