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The 2024 ABC Copyright Conference: An Introduction

Jean Dryden,
Guest Editor

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This issue contains many of the papers presented at the 2024 ABC Copyright Conference held at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, in June 2024. The ABC Copyright group is a Canadian grassroots organization of individuals involved in the day-to-day aspects of copyright and how it affects their respective organizations. Founded in 2002, the group has over 380 members, comprised mainly of copyright administrators at postsecondary institutions across Canada. The general purpose of the group is to share ideas, issues and concerns, potential solutions, and resources through annual conferences and the group's listserv. The annual conference provides a forum for discussing topics of current interest to Canadian copyright librarians and their allies.

The 2024 conference theme was "Copyright: Riding the Wave." The conference program and the slides from many of the presentations are available at <https://abccopyright2024.com/>. However, this issue of the journal includes only selected presentations: some authors were not ready to publish, and other presentations did not lend themselves to publication in a scholarly journal. While the articles started as conference presentations, they were further developed based on feedback from conference attendees and from peer reviewers. Authors of seven articles elected to submit their articles for peer review; all nine articles are consistent with the journal's editorial standards.

The papers cover a wide range of topics. Some focused on Canadian copyright issues, e.g., fair dealing, use of Canadian literature in teaching, and guidance on a reasonable search for accessible formats. Other topics, although discussed in a Canadian context, addressed matters of broader interest, including secondary publishing rights, copyright as social policy, quantification of risk, licensing employee-created works, and copyright anxiety in post-secondary education. This special issue brings the research being done in Canada to a wider audience, and provides an opportunity for cross-fertilization.

It has been a great pleasure to bring these topics to a wider audience, and I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who have contributed. First, to the authors who have worked hard to transform their presentations into articles. Thanks are also due to the reviewers for their thoughtful reading of the manuscripts and their constructive suggestions. The support and assistance of Tucker Taylor, JCEL's Chief Editor, was invaluable as I learned the intricacies of JCEL's journal management system. I am grateful for the opportunity to bring this issue to fruition.