

AN EXAMINATION OF COPYRIGHT POLICIES CONSIDERING OPEN ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS: ELEMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES FOR THE TEACHING OF DIGITAL INFORMATION COMPETENCIES

Description

The research aims to study the dimensions of copyright and intellectual property in the context of the improvement and propagation of initiatives, practices and policies of open access to scientific publications in Brazil. Part of the research will consist of the collection and analysis of the literature about Brazilian and international copyright laws, to understand how they ensure the possibility of making available and spreading scientific literature in open access media, visualising its possible reuse in legal and ethical ways. The empirical part of the research will study various kinds of copyright transfer agreements utilized in open access scientific publications in several countries, as well as information reuse licenses in those same publications, licenses that affect the later self-archiving or deposit of these items in digital open access repositories. In this manner, it will be possible to gauge the openness of those publications, using the Budapest Open Access Initiative's (BOAI) good practices outlines as a base. The third research front will approach the need to incorporate copyright elements in information literacy resources, to promote information competencies. Librarians and information professionals are not required to be proficient in the details about licensing and intellectual property, as well as, frequently, the researches themselves are not informed about their copyright obligations, and usually do not have the time to seek information about their publication options. The modern information literacy standards incorporate copyright, specifying that the information literate person would understand question related to intellectual property, copyright status and Creative Commons licenses, among others, in relation to the reuse and creation of digital material. But the recruitment and involvement of librarians and information professional in open access initiatives will mainly depend on the knowledge and comprehension that these professionals have about intellectual property, licensing, copyright and questions related to possible copyright limitations to educational use. However, there is a visible gap in the availability of material specifically on the open access scenario where some librarians and information professionals act in Brazil. It is expected, therefore, that the results of this research could assist in the development of informative materials aimed at librarians and information professionals in Brazil, in the hope that these professionals could replicate these competencies within their respective user communities.

Research Area: Knowledge and Information for Innovation

Teaching Staff: Ariadne Chloe Mary Furnival (responsible)