Hang on to Your Rights (Author Rights!): A Survey of Author Rights Services on Library Websites

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Author rights are a core piece of scholarly communication (SC) yet only 67% of library SC web pages promote author rights information and services to users.

**Intro**

Author rights (AR) underpin many scholarly communication (SC) activities. Libraries are well positioned to provide services that inform and support authors in efforts to retain their rights.

**Method**

1. ARL and Carnegie R1 libraries
2. English speaking
3. Web review / data collection
4. Identified trends with author rights

**Discussion**

SC web pages can present author rights in a clear and approachable manner, educating authors and improving authors’ experiences of the publishing process. Libraries can additionally nurture a more open and sustainable scholarly ecosystem by developing author rights services.

Of 145 library websites, 101 had SC pages on which 68 featured author rights. Of the 145 sites, 114 had either an Author Rights page on the SC pages, non-SC pages, or both.

The most promoted aspects of author rights on SC web pages included copyright and author addendums. The least were manuscript versions and Author Alliance Information. Few sites noted legal disclaimers.

**Featured author rights topics on SC web pages**

- Copyright information: 85%
- Author addendum: 82%
- AR definition: 77%
- Sherpa/Romeo link: 63%
- Creative Commons: 57%
- Authors Alliance: 15%