

# Institutional issues: a London Casebook

Dr Paul Ayris

Director of UCL Library Services and UCL Copyright Officer

e-mail: [p.ayris@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:p.ayris@ucl.ac.uk)

# Content

- Federal University of London
- UCL (University College London)

# Federal University of London

- Degrees in the University of London have been
  - Federal London degrees
  - Not degrees from individual London institutions**
- Ph.D. examinations were arranged by the federal University
- Copy of the approved Ph.D. thesis deposited in Senate House Library
  - the loan copy
- Second copy held in local institution
  - the archive copy

## New arrangements

- ❑ Several of the large London institutions have obtained, and will exercise, degree-awarding powers
- ❑ UCL will award its own degrees from August 2007
- ❑ Federal system will still obtain for those London institutions which choose to continue to award federal University degrees
- ❑ University Libraries Committee has established an E-Theses Working Group to manage the process
  - ❑ and to look at opportunities for any continued collaboration
- ❑ Grant of degree-awarding powers was trigger for Library's work in UCL over e-theses

# UCL (University College London)

- UCL Library Services set up its own E-Theses Working Group
- Agreed that all UCL research theses from August 2007 should be deposited in the UCL E-Prints repository at <http://eprints.ucl.ac.uk>
- Mandate for deposit was felt to be the right approach
  - Paper to Research Strategy Committee
  - and to Graduate School Education Executive Sub-Committee
- CURL is surveying its members on mandates for E-Theses
  - At time of writing:
  - 7 institutions currently have mandates for e-theses

## UCL mandate

- On what was the UCL mandate based?
- UCL's Student Copyright/IPR policy at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/current-students/rights/ipr/> recognises that students own copyright in their work
- Mandate was based on existing regulations that a paper copy of the Ph.D. thesis should be deposited in the Library
  - As the basis for a mandate, this was uncontroversial

## Advocacy points

- ❑ Existing statistics from the E-Print repository show that UCL research theses are heavily downloaded each month
  - ❑ Visibility is good for research and good for the student
- ❑ UCL Graduate School would receive a showcase for UCL research
  - ❑ Maintained for them by UCL Library Services
- ❑ UCL has an International Strategy
  - ❑ Added visibility of UCL's research output would support
    - ❑ UCL's international branding
    - ❑ Student recruitment

# Discussion Points (1)

- ❑ Difference between mandated deposit and Open Access
  - ❑ As students own copyright in their work, UCL cannot mandate that the deposited theses be Open Access
  - ❑ Open Access is the recommendation
  - ❑ Embargo period of 2 years is possible if student chooses this
    - ❑ Important for externally-sponsored research
- ❑ Impact of deposit on ability of students to publish their work
  - ❑ Cultural issue which resonates with Arts and Humanities
  - ❑ A good print run of a monograph based on a Ph.D. thesis is 400-600 copies
  - ❑ Downloads of electronic research theses can be 100 a month
  - ❑ Both printed monograph and the e-thesis are peer-reviewed
  - ❑ Former by blind peer review, latter by examination process
- ❑ Which is better for the student: formal publication or active dissemination?

## Discussion Points (2)

- ❑ 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Copyright
  - ❑ Copyright, Designs and Patents Act (1988) has use third-party material listed as an exemption for the purpose of examination
  - ❑ For formal publication, copyright permissions need to be sought
  - ❑ What is position for dissemination in repositories?
  - ❑ UCL following Ethos guidance that thesis should be deposited
    - ❑ but that a take-down policy will operate if there are difficulties/complaints
- ❑ UCL Library Services teaches Graduate Students on copyright and IPR issues
  - ❑ Students are responsible for copyright management
  - ❑ Third party rights must be cleared where extensive use of material occurs in the thesis
  - ❑ Copyright classes *very* popular with UCL Graduate students

## Issues for the repository

- ❑ Extra staff needed to deal with deposit of 600 or 700 research theses a year
- ❑ Process of transfer of deposit processes being mapped out in detail by UCL Registry and UCL Library Services
- ❑ Paper copy will still be deposited in the Library
  - ❑ In longer term, UCL Library Services' digital archive will make us look at the requirement for paper deposit again
- ❑ University Library Committee's E-Theses Working Group
  - ❑ planning to identify 500 most popular older research theses requested from Senate House Library
  - ❑ And to digitise them

## And finally

- If you have been, thanks for listening
- Happy to answer questions and hear comments

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