

Interim Activity Report

***Copyright and Access to e-Resources in Africa's Education and
Research Contexts: the case of selected Ugandan Institutions***

**Dick Kawooya
International Fellowship Program
2006-2007**

Introduction:

The interim activity report highlights key events and developments since the fellowship program started. Overall the fellowship has enabled me closely examine copyright-related questions in the African context specifically in research and educational settings. My research and advocacy activities happened in a context where there is general awareness of intellectual property but national laws reflect fairly recent trends at the international scene. The mismatch between legal and policy infrastructure, on one hand, and general practice is of dire concern in Uganda and elsewhere in Africa and indeed much of the global south. Activities involved in centered on issues of policy and legal nature vis-à-vis access to knowledge in a variety of settings. Below is a brief chronological outline of the activities.

April

- i). Attended the *Access to Knowledge Conference*, University Law School *New Haven, CT*—supported by OSI/IPF
- ii). IPF workshop, Budapest Hungary – IPF training
- iii). Research proposal review

May

- iv). Attended the First Openness Conference – University of Illinois, Chicago – supported by organizers (funding from OSI)
- v). Literature review and initial contacts (contacts in university and research institutions)
- vi). Develop study Design and methodology

June

- vii). Presented at a Training Workshop on Copyright and Access to Knowledge, Bangkok Thailand organized and supported by *OSI and Consumer International, Asia*. Seconded by *eIFL.IP*. Also attended Asian Commons.

July

- viii). Traveled to Uganda for fieldwork
- ix). Attended *the International Copyright Law Summer Course*, Institute for Information Law University of Amsterdam. Supported by OSI – Information Program.
- x). Presented on *Copyright Consideration for Digitization Initiatives* at a digitization workshop organized by Makerere University Library services
- xi). Fieldwork in Uganda including securing Government approval through the Uganda National Council of Science and Technology

August

- xii). Continued with fieldwork – visiting and conducting focus group discussions and interviews with students, faculty and researchers
- xiii). Participated in an online discussion forum on the Internet in Higher Education, Research, Science, and Technology Development in Sub-Saharan Africa a study, commissioned by the German Federal Parliament and conducted by Newthinking Communications GmbH and the German Development Institute.
- xiv). Presented paper titled *Copyright, Indigenous Knowledge and Africa's University Libraries: the case of Uganda* at the IFLA Congress, Seoul Republic of Korea.
- xv). Fieldwork – data collection and literature review
- xvi). Unable to attend and present at the workshop organized by the Association for Promoting Intellectual Property Rights (APPIA) in Cameroun. Presentation made on my behalf by *Ian Brown* titled *Limitations and Exceptions for LIS Institutions*.

September

- xvii). Traveled back to US
- xviii). Preliminary analysis of the data

October

- xix). Submitted draft research paper
- xx). Analysis of data and writing on-going

Projected/planned activities for 2006-2007

October/November 2006

- i). Presentation at the *Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF4)* - organized and supported by Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and The University of the West Indies Distance Education Centre (UWIDEC), Ocho Rios, Jamaica.

March 2007

- ii). Information Dissemination Public Dialog - Information dissemination public dialog to be organized for education and research institutions, policy makers (e.g. Uganda Parliament, Law Reform Commission), civil society organizations and other stakeholders in access to knowledge campaigns (eIFL, INASP, CUUL, IUCEA , etc).

Deliverables

- i). Research paper based on fellowship research activities
- ii). Policy paper with specific policy recommendations drawing from the research paper, and
- iii). Series of working papers and articles focusing on specific aspects of the overall research project. Number of paper incumbent upon availability of time.

Beyond the Fellowship

Copyright and education Research Agenda for Africa

- i). Expect to be part of a five year research program building on work started during the fellowship. The program in preliminary stages of development is to be supported by an international government agency. I have served as an informal resource persons to this program.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- ii). I was appointed Adjunct Instructor at the *School of Information Studies* University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. I am affiliated with the *Center for Information Policy Research* School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. I will continue working on fellowship research within the Center’s research framework.
- iii). Contributor to a UNESCO Manual on Copyright and Libraries under eIFL.IP
- iv). To help promote eIFL.IP’s Model Copyright Law in Africa