License Review Committee (LRC) Annual Report
July 2014-September 2015

In the last quarter during the summer, the LRC began using a new license review process designed and implemented by Jason Price and Carly Ryan, members of the SCELC staff who work on licensing, among many other things. The process captures much more information about the terms of each license than was previously captured. It also presents the information in a summary form for each license that will be made available to SCELC members in a collection of license information and will be used in analysis of licensing terms and conditions. The overall process also streamlines the particular process of making committee review assignments and allows the committee to better track progress on each license review.

The committee also reviewed and added an additional accessibility clause to the SCELC Contract Points document used by the LRC in license reviews. This was prompted by some institutions’ move to require that more stringent accessibility requirements be met by vendors of software and online resources.

The additional clause reads:

“Disabilities Compliance. Licensor shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), by supporting assistive software or devices such as large print interfaces, text-to-speech output, voice-activated input, refreshable braille displays, and alternate keyboard or pointer interfaces, in a manner consistent with the Web Accessibility Initiative Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Licensor shall provide to Licensee a current completed Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with the federal Section 508 standards. If the product does not comply, the Licensee has the right to adapt the Licensed Materials in order to comply with federal and state law.”

During the past quarter, the LRC reviewed 6 licenses:
Digitalia Hispanica
Harvard U Press Loeb Classical Library
Rittenhouse R2 Digital Library
Taylor and Francis Journals
Nature Publishing Group Journals
Palgrave Ebooks

These were the only licenses reviewed in the past year.

The LRC is currently recruiting new members.

Scott Hines, Chairperson, License Review Committee
Linda Wobbe
Sue Aspley (recently began a pause from active LRC participation)
Rick Burke, ex officio
Jason Price, ex officio