

# ScholarWorks Copyright Questions

## Background

The [original Metadata Dictionary](#) included only three fields related to copyright (Rights Statement, Copyright Date, and License). We now have the following six fields enabled in production (see the [Metadata Dictionary summary](#)), but the fields vary from one work form to another.

Field	Definition	Formatting	Student Research	Publication	Research data	OER
Date copyright	The date of copyright if different from the date issued (e.g., the date of copyright differs from the date published in ScholarWorks.)	Follow <a href="#">ISO 8601</a> guidelines. <b>Examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• YYYY-MM-DD</li><li>• YYYY-MM</li><li>• YYYY</li></ul>	NA	Optional	NA	NA
Rights statement	The rights statement describing the underlying rights status of the resource.	Choose from controlled list. <b>Note:</b> If preferred rights information not listed, record in Rights Note/Rights URI field.	Optional	Optional	Mandatory	Mandatory
Rights holder	A person, family, or organization who owns any one of the <b>exclusive rights</b> of copyright in a work. These include the right to (1) reproduce the work, (2) prepare Derivative Works of it, (3) distribute copies of it, (4) perform it publicly and (5) display it publicly.	Choose from list. <b>Examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Copyright owned by author</li><li>• Copyright owned by institution</li><li>• Copyright owned by third party</li></ul>	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional

Rights URI	A free-text rights statement describing a resource. This should be a URI to a resource that offers descriptive terms.	Free-text. <b>Examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC-EDU/1.0/">http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC-EDU/1.0/</a> (external statement)</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.cpp.edu/~brncoscholar/rightsreserved.html">https://www.cpp.edu/~brncoscholar/rightsreserved.html</a> (local statement)</li> </ul>	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
Rights note	A free-text rights statement describing a resource. This may be local description which extends upon the rights statement (above) or other descriptive terms.	Free-text. <b>Example</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All items in Bronco Scholar are protected by original copyright, with all rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.</li> </ul>	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional
License	Licensing and distribution information governing access to the work. Select from the provided drop-down list.	Choose from controlled list.	NA	NA	NA	Optional

## Concerns

- It seems that additional rights fields were created during the migration process to accommodate legacy data from different campuses, but this has led to confusion, and that confusion is likely to increase as students and faculty begin self-submitting to ScholarWorks.
- The above fields and our implementation of them do not necessarily align with Dublin Core standards (see below), and the specific use cases for each field are unclear within the work forms.
  - From the core list of 15 DC elements:
    - **Rights:** “Typically, rights information includes a statement about various property rights associated with the resource, including intellectual property rights. Recommended practice is to refer to a rights statement with a URI. If this is not possible or feasible, a literal value (name, label, or short text) may be provided.”
  - Additional DC elements:

- [Date Copyrighted](#): “Typically a year. Recommended practice is to describe the date, date/time, or period of time as recommended for the property Date, of which this is a subproperty.”
- [License](#): “Recommended practice is to identify the license document with a URI. If this is not possible or feasible, a literal value that identifies the license may be provided.”
- [Rights Holder](#): “Recommended practice is to refer to the rights holder with a URI. If this is not possible or feasible, a literal value that identifies the rights holder may be provided.”
- [Rights Statement](#): “A statement about the intellectual property rights (IPR) held in or over a resource, a legal document giving official permission to do something with a resource, or a statement about access rights.”



## Practices Vary Across the CSU

- Rights Statement is used by some campuses, but it is not currently displayed in Samvera due to issues with the legacy data vs. the controlled terms list. If that data were displaying, we would see a variety of use cases. For example:
  - San Francisco: Copyright by [Author Name], [Year] ([sample record](#))
- Several campuses are also using other rights fields. For example:
  - Fresno ([sample record](#))
    - Rights holder (Author Name)
  - Fullerton ([sample record](#))
    - Rights holder (Author Name)
  - Northridge ([sample record](#))
    - Date copyright (Year)
    - Statement of responsibility (by [Author Name])
  - Pomona ([sample record](#))
    - License

## Practices of Other Institutional Repositories

- Other institutional repositories tend to rely on 1-2 rights fields or simply a blanket rights statement for all content. See below for examples:

- Single rights statement with URI from [Oregon State](#)

Rights Statement	Copyright Not Evaluated 	Rights Statement	In Copyright 
Publisher	Oregon State University	Publisher	Oregon State University

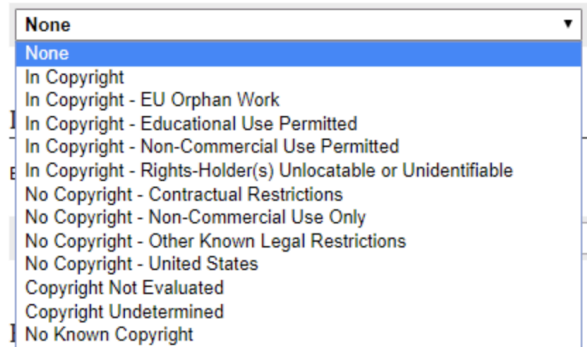
- Blanket rights statement from [University of Toronto](#) (DSpace)

Items in TSpace are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

- [Digital Commons](#) allows for the following rights-related fields, but they are not all automatically active:
  - **dc.date**
    - dc.date.dateCopyrighted
  - **dc.rights**
    - dc.rights.accessRights
    - Dc.rights.license
  - Example: [University of Maine](#) (Digital Commons) has implemented a free-text Rights and Access Note field as well as a Rights Statement dropdown similar to ours

#### Rights Statement

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- See also the Texas Digital Library recommendations (page 15):  
<http://hdl.handle.net/2249.1/68437>
  - “We recommend that this field include the name of the rightsholder and date of copyright (e.g. Copyright © 2015, Kristi Park).”