

OER, IPR AND LECTURE CAPTURE

DESCRIPTION

Carol Summerside, Development Officer, Quality in Learning and Teaching (QUILT), Newcastle University, talking about solutions to the licensing issues encountered in OER projects.

<http://tinyurl.com/7w4vhmh>

Transcription

Who are you and where are you from?

My name is Carol Summerside. I work in Newcastle University in the Quality in Learning in Teaching unit, which is responsible for quality enhancement and quality assurance here at Newcastle. My particular role is development officer, with specific responsibility for the ReCap Lecture Capture Project.

Can you describe your OER project?

The project I am involved in is the ReCap Lecture Capture Project which has been running here at Newcastle since about 2008. And the purpose of the project is to allow lecturers to capture live the events that they give in lecture theatres. So it records the audio, so what they say, and the visuals, in terms of what they show on the computer screen, what goes through the projector. However we don't record video of the lecturer. The recordings are then turned into various different formats and made available to students via a website where the students have to log in and then they can view the recordings and use them for revision or to make additional notes.

What are the IPR issues and challenges you have faced in your project?

We have had a few IPR issues and challenges with this project. Because we are basically turning something that in the past has always been a one off live event, students are in the room they see it, that's it. Into something that has been turned into a different format and available in a different way for students to watch multiple times... it's raised quite a lot of issues for both staff and students. And I think a lot of them might be similar to types of things people are experiencing with OER type projects.

So firstly one of the biggest ones is staff rights with regards to copyright and performance. So here at Newcastle when staff produce teaching materials they become.... they belong to the university and the university holds the copyright. This is obviously slightly difference

now because they are making.. it's a performance and it's a recording which is something we have never done before. So obviously staff are concerned about that. The Second big one is the issue of third party materials. So things that they have got clearance to use in the lecture environment, they are now unsure whether they can use it in this situation because it is being turned into a different format and made available in a different way. The other one is students. So you know what happens if a students recorded if they are asking a question, if they are giving a presentation, that sort of thing. So we have got concerns around the students from that point of view, but also from the point of view of making sure that the students don't use the recordings in an inappropriate way, so that they don't end up on YouTube or on Facebook or something like that.

How have you overcome them? Can you indicate the tools you have used?

So as I have already explained the ReCap project has raised a lot of issues with regards to copyright, IPR, staff rights, student rights. And it made us very aware that we had no measures in place to cover this type of work or similar things, so you know the virtual learning environment or any OER materials. So we have done a number of things to try and rectify this. The first one has been some changes to staff policy to basically include performance rights as something the University has copyright ownership of. So when the staff make the recordings the university owns the rights to those recordings. However we were very keen that staff still had the right to use it themselves if they did go anywhere else. We've made sure we included that as well.

In terms of students, we have made some changes to the IT services agreement that they sign up to when they start at the University. To make sure that they understand that these recording will be taking place, it's for their benefit, and for use during study but not for them to do anything else with. In terms of the concerns around recoding students, we've managed to avoid too much worry over that by not recording the students. So basically only staff are recorded, if students ask questions we ask the staff to repeat them back so that the student voices aren't heard and because there is no video in the room the faces of the students aren't recorded either. And finally something that we became very aware that we didn't have in place already was a takedown policy for any resources that we put online. So we've developed a generic takedown policy that applies to ReCap but also other projects.