The SCCO piloted and introduced its new Syllabus Service in 2019. This enhanced course reserves service makes it easier for instructors to provide us with their course reading lists and allows our permissions team to make works available in a copyright compliant manner to students.

Along with introducing the Syllabus Service, the SCCO conducted an outreach initiative across campus to reacquaint instructors with copyright support available at UBC and explain the benefits of the new service. During the course of the Fall and Winter terms over twenty departments across campus were visited.

As a result of the new Syllabus Service, Permissions saw a year of substantial growth. The team purchased licenses totaling $166,792.60 CAD. This includes expenditures on transactional licences and other licences such as public performance rights and e-books.

The total number of items put on reserve in 2019/20 was 44,712, an increase of 41% over last year’s numbers.

Much of the Permissions team’s work is done over the late Summer, corresponding to the start of a new academic year. In August 2019 almost ten thousand items were requested by faculty.

The SCCO spent much of the last year working on a copyright website refresh project. The new site offers users an updated look and feel as well as a redeveloped information architecture that ensures pertinent updates and educational resources are easily discoverable.

On Tuesday February 25, SFU, UBC, Langara, KPU, VCC, and BCIT hosted Creativity in the Arts: The Role of Copyright, an afternoon of presentations and discussion exploring the impact of copyright and fair dealing on artists working in a variety of disciplines. You can watch a recording of Brianne Selman’s keynote address at: http://dx.doi.org/10.14288/1.0392784

The SCCO offers copyright consultations to a large and diverse user base. In 2019/2020 over 250 interactions resulted in 120 hours of engagement with our community members.

As in other years, the most common questions the office received were related to copyright permissions requests, copyright for theses and author rights.
The ORCID identifier appears to be the most widely used identification mechanism by scientists to assert online identity, especially in the Higher Education and Government sector, where it has become a de facto standard. – OECD International Survey of Scientific Authors

As part of the ongoing relationship between UBC Library and PKP, the Library’s Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform was migrated and is now hosted by PKP’s in-house team. This hosting arrangement will allow the Library to focus more attention on our OJS service, and ensure all technical issues are addressed in a timely manner.

Scholarly Communications increased its engagement with faculty and students, offering a dozen targeted workshops that reached almost 250 participants and responding to 140+ inquiries from the UBC community.