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N E W S L E T T E R

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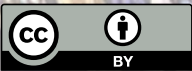
Alex Roberts. "Melissa Reeder." CC-BY 3.0

Dear Creative Commoner,

In an ongoing effort to improve communication efforts with our community, we'll be making some changes to the ccNewsletter. Starting in July and at the beginning of each month thereafter, we'll send out brief e-news updates of the latest and most exciting CC news. On a quarterly basis, starting in September, we'll produce a more comprehensive newsletter including a CEO update from Joi Ito, which will also be available in beautifully-designed PDF format. With so much going on in the world of CC, we hope this new newsletter format will better serve its purpose of bringing important CC developments and milestones to you, our valued supporters and users, in a more timely and efficient way. As a reminder, you can always subscribe to our weblog at http://creativecommons.org/weblog to stay on top of the latest news.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit our recently-launched website, now sporting a much slicker and cleaner design. We'll be rolling out more changes in the near future, so please check back and explore all the ways that our site can help you learn more about CC and get involved in the effort to build a participatory culture.

Many thanks to our CC Philippines team for designing the PDF version of this newsletter, available at:
http://wiki.creativecommons.org/CCNewsletter

Best,
Melissa Reeder
Development Manager
Creative Commons

Breaking News

CC Case Studies: Share Your Story!

Creative Commons Case Studies 2009 has officially kicked off – and we want to hear your story! We're collecting cases big and small on our re-launched Case Studies wiki, an online portal to upload and discover documentation about CC-licensed projects. We want to capture the diversity of CC creators and content by building a resource that inspires new works and informs free culture. The top community-curated stories will be featured on the Creative Commons website and in the next printed volume of Creative Commons Case Studies. You may also have the chance to collaborate with our CEO, Joi Ito, whose doctoral work focuses on select case studies about CC and the sharing economy. Head over to the Case Studies wiki and add, edit, or check out a case study today: http://wiki.creativecommons.org/Case_Studies

Wikimedia Foundation Board Votes to Approve License Migration

The Wikimedia Foundation board has approved the licensing changes voted on by the community of Wikipedia and its sister sites. The accompanying press release includes this quote from Creative Commons founder Lawrence Lessig: "Richard Stallman's commitment to the cause of free culture has been an inspiration to us all. Assuring the interoperability of free culture is a critical step towards making this freedom work. The Wikipedia community is to be congratulated for its decision, and the Free Software Foundation thanked for its help. I am enormously happy about this decision." The addition of the CC BY-SA license to Wikimedia sites should occur over the next month, so keep an eye out for this monumental change.

Read the full press release here: http://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/Press_releases/Dual_license_vote_May_2009

Yahoo! Brings CC Filters to Image Search

Yahoo! announced last week the addition of CC license image filtering options for their image search, so you can now filter images from Flickr that can be used commercially or that can be modified according to the restrictions set down by the image's creator. Yahoo's ongoing support of Creative Commons is vital and greatly appreciated, and we are certain that this search filter will be extremely beneficial for educators, students, artists, and anyone looking to find legally shareable images on the web.

CC News — Arts & Culture

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One of Creative Commons' core goals is to expand the body of open and free cultural works available to the public. This is accomplished through outreach, advisement, and specific project-based initiatives with individuals and communities that promote a similar emphasis on community, sharing, and innovation. This effort is headed by Creative Director Eric Steuer.

Free Music Archive Launches

In early April, WFMU celebrated the launch of its new website, The Free Music Archive, with free downloads available under Creative Commons and other licenses. The FMA has already become a fantastic resource for curated CC-licensed music and is a database that looks to continue to grow in quality and quantity over time. Since there is so much content on the site, the FMA is featuring particular curators such as WFMU, KEXP, and dublab. So go register an account and start downloading some of the 5,000 tracks already posted, or search by license type and help one of the world's greatest independent stations thrive on the net! http://freemusicarchive. org/

Lawrence Lessig's Book, REMIX, Now Available for Free Download

CC founder Lawrence Lessig's latest book, REMIX: Making Art and Commerce Thrive in the Hybrid Economy, is now available for free download under a CC BY-NC license from Bloomsbury Academic's website. We are incredibly excited that a text devoted to the art and value of remixing is being released under a license that allows free and open sharing and reuse. Download today: http://www.bloomsburyacademic.com/ remix.htm

BBC releases R&DTV under CC

The BBC recently interviewed Digg's Kevin Rose for their R&DTV series, a monthly program consisting of interviews with BBC developers and technology leaders. In conjunction to licensing the shows under our Attribution-NonCommercial (CC BY-NC) license,

the BBC is also releasing all of the content left on the cutting room floor in their "Asset Bundles." This is a fantastic effort for the commons, so hats off to the BBC!

"RiP: A Remix Manifesto" Released; Online Remixing through Kaltura

RiP: A Remix Manifesto, a community-driven documentary that focuses on copyright and remix culture is just beginning to creep out into theaters, after its U.S. premier at SXSW in March. While the film mainly focuses on the story of Greg Gillis of Girl Talk, it includes interviews with a wide variety of figures, including Lawrence Lessig and Cory Doctorow. Perhaps most interesting is that the filmmakers have teamed up with open source video platform Kaltura, enabling anyone with a computer to remix the film, only at opensourcecinema.org. All the footage of the film is released under an Attribution Noncommercial (CC BY-NC) license.
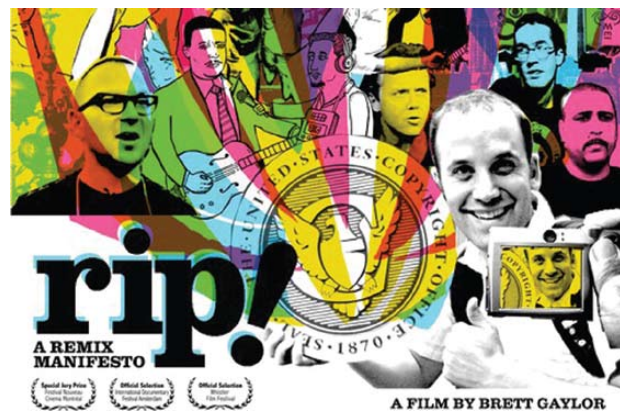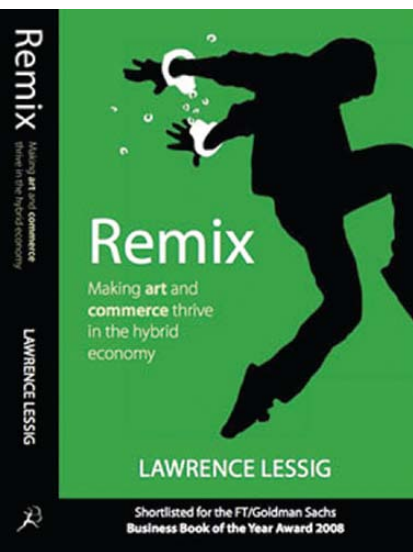
CC News — International

German Film Museum Integrates CCPL in Documentation Project

The German Film Museum "Deutsche Kinemathek" is running a project called "Wir waren so frei" (literally "we were so free" but meaning "we took the liberty") to collect material documenting the peaceful revolution in Eastern Germany in 1989 and the reunification in 1990. It calls on the general public to contribute private photos and films of the era, and to do so under a CC license. To learn more, visit https://www.wir-waren-so-frei.de/.

In Malaysia, Creative Commons Movement Growing Fast

CC Malaysia (CC MY) was recently covered by *The Star*, the largest newspaper in circulation in Malaysia, in an extensive article titled "Creative Commons movement steps up." It features, among other things, the team's proud achievement "Here in my home," a CC-licensed video with a powerful message of unity, shot last year in Kuala Lampur with Malaysian Artistes For Unity. To learn more or view the video, visit: http://creativecommons.org/weblog/entry/13906

Launched! Creative Commons Czech Republic

On April 16, at the Multiplace Festival in Prague, the Czech Republic officially became the fifty-second jurisdiction worldwide to offer localized Creative Commons licenses. Creators in the Czech Republic can now publish and share their creative works using free Creative Commons tools adapted to Czech language and law.

Norwegian Minister Publishes Book under CC BY-SA

Norway's Minister of Government Administration and Reform, Heidi Grande Røys, launched a new book titled "Delte meninger" (in Norwegian this has the dual meaning of "shared opinions" and "conflicting opinions"), about sharing and the social side of computer networks. There is also a website dedicated to open, public debate about the issues raised in the book. Both the website and the print edition will carry a ported Norwegian CC BY-SA 3.0 license. The print edition of the book will be published by Universitetsforlaget and is the first instance of a major book in Norway that carries a Creative Commons license.

250,000 Images Donated to the Commons

250,000 images were recently donated to Wikimedia Commons, a sister project of Wikipedia. The images, part of the German Photo Collection at Saxony's State and University Library (SLUB) and available under Germany's ported CC BY-SA 3.0 license or in the public domain, are being uploaded with corresponding captions and metadata. Volunteers have been linking the photos, which depict scenes from German history and daily life, to personal identification data and relevant Wikipedia articles.

Quelle: Deutsche Fotothek

Creative Commons works internationally to "port" the core Creative Commons licenses to different copyright legislations around the world. The process involves both linguistically translating the licenses and legally adapting them to particular jurisdictions. This work is lead by International Director Catharina Maracke and volunteer teams in each jurisdiction who are committed to introducing CC to their country.

Creative Commons Hong Kong Making Progress after Launch

Six months after the official launch of Creative Commons Hong Kong last October, there is an estimated 221,788 online works released under the newly ported Hong Kong CC licenses. A number of visible local projects are adopting CC. Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) offers contributors the option of licensing their work under CC online in the "Hong Kong Illustrators" special event – "Let's Draw Together!" RTHK is also conducting a consultation on releasing part of the archive under CC.

Wiki Loves Art/NL

Creative Commons Netherlands and Wikimedia Netherlands have teamed up to organize Wiki Loves Art /NL, a month long photo contest inspired by the Wikipedia Loves Art event that took place in the US and the UK in February. Throughout the month of June, the public is invited to take photos of artwork in more than 30 museums throughout the Netherlands and upload them to the Wiki Loves Art flickr group under a Creative Commons Attribution Share-alike (CC By-SA) license. All uploaded pictures will be screened by a jury. Those with sufficient quality will be transferred to the Wikimedia commons for use in Wikipedia articles, and the authors of the 10 best pictures will be awarded with prizes. If you are in the Netherlands in June, join us for Wiki Loves Art /NL! For more information including a list of participating museums, visit www.wikilovesart.nl

CC News in Science

Open Source Drug Discovery, Research and the Public Domain

The Tropical Disease Initiative recently released a "kernel" for open source drug discovery, made available in the public domain under the Science Commons Data Protocol. The kernel (http://tropicaldisease.org/kernel/) includes 297 potential drug targets against 10 selected genomes for organisms that cause tropical diseases and is freely and publicly accessible. You can read more about this in Nature Biotechnology (subscription required: http://www.nature.com/nbt/journal/v27/n4/full/nbt0409-320.html) or for free in PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases (http://www.plosntds.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pntd.0000418).

Over at EMBL — the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, they have also made some key data related to drug testing and side effects available in the public domain (http://sideeffects.embl.de/download/) via CC Zero (CC0) – a public domain waiver.

The resource, the SIDER Side Effect Database, contains information on marketed medicines and their recorded adverse side effects and drug reactions. Included in this dataset is information on the frequency of these drug reactions, other drug and side effect classifications, as well as links to other relevant resources. To date, 888 drugs are listed in the database, a tremendous resource for research and drug discovery.

The mapping of labels and euphoria-related side effects are now public domain, with some other side effect information available for download under a CC-BY-NC-SA license.

Have you made your information available using CC0? We'd love to hear about it. Drop us a note at science@creativecommons.org.

My name is NP_001119589.1 — A Look at the Recent Shared Names Workshop

As the volume of online scientific information increases, and as information sources become increasingly cross-linked, inconsistent nomenclature for these links becomes a significant annoyance for computational applications that would recognize and exploit such links. Lack of common notation ultimately means an infrastructure that does not scale and that doesn't lend itself to experimentation and creativity. Thus nomenclature for cross-references is an area that's ripe for standardization.

Science Commons has been working since 2006 to understand the social and technical conditions that might bring about such standardization using widely deployed web standards such as URIs, HTTP, and RDF. In Fall 2008 we articulated a proposal, strictly limited in scope to references to well known key resources such as PDB, and circulated it to several key bioinformatics projects that would have a significant interest in such a standard, were it to be adopted. The proposal was favorably received, and we organized a steering committee to develop and deploy a standard. A workshop was convened on April 29 to educate the larger community about the plan, hear about experience with related systems,

and solicit review of requirements. With about 25 attendees and a focused agenda, the workshop was a success.

Although much work remains to be done, we are pleased with the plan's reception in the community and that the steering committee has chosen to take responsibility for bringing about the technical and organizational infrastructure that will be needed to bring the standard to fruition.

For more information, visit http://sharedname.org/

GreenXchange, Health Commons in the News and on the Radiowaves

Worldchanging.com has a new piece up on the GreenXchange, a project of Nike and Creative Commons, housed at Science Commons. The article, "Green Xchange: Creating a Meta-Map of Sustainability" details the underlying concepts for the project, the obstacles, and includes a look into the future. The project, announced at last January's World Economic Forum in Davos, pairs together the Creative Commons licensing structure (metadata, human readable aspect, legalese) with the right technology to allow companies to share their patents related to sustainability. The goal – to bring the efficiencies of open collaboration and innovation to the problems of sustainability. You can read the article over at Worldchanging. org (http://www.worldchanging.com/archives/009822.html).

In the world of Open Science, the radio program "A World of Possibilities" has a fantastic new piece up on "Open Source science" and Health Commons. The podcast explores the Health Commons approach of creating a

more open system for the exchange of medical information that cuts across sectors, medical professionals, cultural boundaries, etc. to leverage the power of the network and accelerate the pace of drug discovery. The segment also takes a look at the personal reasons behind this collaboration and the benefits of an "Open Source" approach to sharing biomedical knowledge. Featured in this segment are representatives from two of Health Commons' partners: Marty Tenenbaum, the chairman and chief scientist for CollabRx; and Gavin Yamey and Peter Jerram from the Public Library of Science. To listen to the podcast, visit http://www.aworldofpossibilities.com/details.cfm?id=358

Materials Transfer Work Presented at CHDI Meeting in Cannes, France

Representing Science Commons, Thinh Nguyen attended CHDI's Annual HD Therapeutics Conference, held this year in Cannes. During the four-day conference, Science Commons was invited to present a poster highlighting our collaboration with Coriell and CHDI regarding transfer of research materials. The audience included leading researchers in Huntington's Disease (HD) and neurology working on diagnostics, therapeutics, and prevention for HD. The Science Commons presentation supported poster presentations presented by CHDI and Coriell at the conference. As a result of the presentation, we hope that more researchers will become aware of the MTA system being made available through Coriell, not only as users of the materials but also as potential providers themselves in the future. For more information on our Materials Transfer work, visit http://sciencecommons.org/projects/licensing/
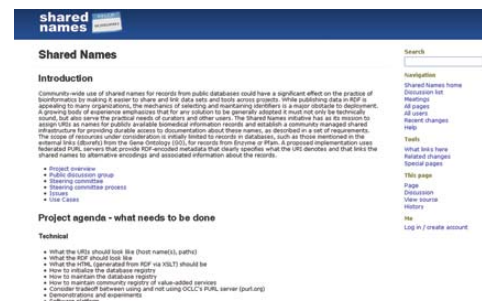
CC News in Education

Latest inside OER: CK-12 Foundation's Neeru Khosla on Open Textbooks

We were so excited back in March about the new Physics Flexbook aligned to Virginia's state standards that we had to catch up with the foundation that helped to make it possible. The obvious choice was Neeru Khosla, co-founder of the CK-12 Foundation, "a non-profit organization with a mission to reduce the cost of textbook materials for the K-12 market both in the U.S. and worldwide." The Flexbook is their web-based platform for open textbooks (openly licensed via CC BY-SA) which maximizes and enhances collaboration across district, county, and state lines.

Open textbooks are oft termed the future of higher education, but Neeru makes the important point that openness matters even more with younger learners. "[The] lack of content availability erodes young students' ability to learn, as they are not able to have a strong base of knowledge to rely on." This is where the CK-12 Foundation comes in by focusing specifically on K-12 education and working with states to make sure the Flexbooks are not only high quality, but align to state and district standards. (Read more at http://creativecommons.org/weblog/entry/14141.)

Student Journalism 2.0

Student Journalism 2.0 is a ccLearn project and recent winner of the Digital Media and Learning Competition, which encourages explorations of "digital media's ability to help people learn." (See the full press release at http://www.macfound.org/site/c.lkLXJ8MQKrH/b.5104329/k.87/DML_Competition_2009.htm.) Sponsored by the MacArthur Foundation and HASTAC, 19 international projects received a total of $2 million in grants for project proposals dealing with Innovation in Participatory Learning. Student Journalism 2.0 will deal more specifically with the changing media landscape, via the medium of high school students (aka our future journalists):

"For journalism students, the digital age requires more than hands-on reporting, writing, and publication of stories. Students must also embrace the capabilities of the Internet for virtual collaboration, viral dissemination, and feedback loops that inform and deepen original stories. All of these web-based opportunities depend on knowledge and proactive application of open content licensing, such as with Creative Commons, and appropriate metatags and technical formats. Student Journalism 2.0 engages high school students in understanding legal and technical issues intrinsic to new journalistic practices. The lessons learned during this pilot project will be documented in anticipation of a national-scale, follow-up project."

The full project proposal is available at http://learn.creativecommons.org/student-journalism-2-0. Also see http://creativecommons.org/weblog/entry/14034 for competition details.

ccLearn, the education wing of Creative Commons led by Executive Director Ahrash Bissell, works with an international community of open education advocates and supporters to improve open learning on the internet. Truly open learning happens when learners (you, me, and everyone else we know) can not only access educational materials but improve upon them, adapting the resources to our individual needs and local contexts, without the restrictions imposed by standard copyright laws. Through openly licensed educational materials, also known as open educational resources (OER), we can collaborate across state lines and country borders, discovering opportunities for partnerships we never knew existed.

We rely on our supporters to continue our work enabling stories like those listed above. Check it out:

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Creative Commons newsletters are also posted to the CC Weblog. For back issues please visit
http://wiki.creativecommons.org/CCNewsletter