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Profile of Bobby Glushko

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Bobby Glushko heads the recently created Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office at the University of Toronto in Toronto, Canada. He is not a member of NASIG but his work, background, and observations are relevant to serialists and will be of interest to many readers of the *NASIG Newsletter*. Bobby is in the enviable position of understanding both Canadian and American copyright and scholarly communication laws and issues, as well as those of many other countries.

Bobby arrived in Canada and assumed his new responsibilities as the scholarly communications and copyright librarian at the University of Toronto in the spring of 2013. Prior to moving to the University of Toronto, Bobby worked for the University of Michigan Copyright Office, where he managed an Institute for Museum and Library Services-funded National Leadership Grant which aimed to expand access to works in the HathiTrust through researching author death dates to determine copyright term. As a lecturer at the University of Michigan's School of Information, Bobby also taught an intellectual property and information law course. Other than that, Bobby says he has "done various work in the public interest and in higher education." When queried about his educational background, Bobby replied,

I hold a bachelor of arts from University of California at Santa Cruz -- Go Slugs! --a juris doctor



from the University of California at Berkeley Law School, where I studied intellectual property law, and a master of science in information from the University of Michigan.

When asked what else about his background makes him ideal for the work, Bobby answered:

I'm deeply committed to the goals of the library and the university. I believe in preserving, creating, and making available knowledge and ideas in a responsible and thoughtful manner. I believe strongly in the importance of the library in the academic enterprise, and I am passionate about providing the highest level of service to our faculty, staff, and students.

Bobby has extensive knowledge of international copyright law and substantial experience in many facets of scholarly communications. Part of his role at the University of Toronto is to help the libraries advance in these vital areas. When he was asked to describe his current position and what he hopes to accomplish Bobby responded:

I head the Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office at the University of Toronto. We offer a set of services to faculty, staff and students at the university, including help with publishing, open access, and general copyright inquiries. Additionally, I work with university administration and the Office of the General Counsel on copyright and scholarly communications policy questions. Moving forward, I hope to increase the breadth and depth of our services, and to take a more active role in the national and international dialogue on copyright. It's a tremendously exciting time for copyright law in Canada, with the Copyright Modernization Act and the Supreme Court's thorough clarification on Fair Dealing in the Copyright Pentology, and I hope to be able to take part in this discussion. Prior to the Copyright Modernization Act and the Copyright Pentology, I would advise my students in the United States that the Canadian Supreme Court still had some clarifying to do if Fair Dealing was to be as robust a doctrine as Fair Use; and Parliament and the Court certainly rose to the challenge.

When asked about the rewards and challenges of the work, Bobby replied:

This is immensely rewarding work! I feel so privileged to be at the University of Toronto, and to lead the Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office. The people here are fantastic, professional,

and a real pleasure to work with. As for challenges, we're trying to build on existing resources to create an office that can provide the level of service that suits an institution like the University of Toronto. It's a big task, and a lot of work; while I feel we're up to the challenge there is no doubt that we have a lot to live up to.

Bobby is quick to point out that he has had "amazing mentors" in both Canada and the United States and he is extremely grateful to them. He is a very dynamic and articulate champion of scholarly communication and copyright issues as well as of libraries and the services they can provide. It appears that Bobby is definitely up to the challenges he has set for himself and the Scholarly Communication and Copyright Office.

No discussion of scholarly communication and copyright with Bobby would be complete without asking him about the differences between American and Canadian scholarly communication and copyright scene.

There are a lot of amazing people working on scholarly communication and copyright in North America. I think one of the most exciting differences between the United States and Canada currently is that the Copyright Modernization Act and the Supreme Court's clarification of Fair Dealing has really opened up a lot of potential for Canadian institutions to do some new and innovative things, such as expanding digitization projects, making works available to people with print or other perceptual disabilities, and better allocating resources to open access and other types of publishing models. I'm excited to see how the established players in the Canadian scene respond to these changes as well.

Bobby also suggests that with the clarification of the laws in Canada, libraries will perhaps have the opportunity to be more assertive with the terms for content licenses including terms for archival rights, interlibrary loan and for the inclusion of materials in course packs.

Since Bobby had to relocate in order to assume his current position, it seemed fitting to ask what it has been like moving to Canada. Bobby replied:

It has been really interesting. Canada and the United States are much more different than I had thought they would be. There are subtle differences here and there. Canada unquestionably has far better potato chips. I feel like I was seriously missing out before.

And as for the biggest differences in work and life between the two countries:

I think there's a really healthy balance to work and life here in Canada. In the United States, I struggled to take my vacation, to balance my responsibilities. That's a lot more doable in Canada, and actually, it's probably resulting in me being more productive and engaged because I'm taking the needed time to rest.

When Bobby was asked what else he would like to tell the world about himself, his family, his hobbies and activities. He answered:

I have a lovely wife and two wonderful daughters who have been immensely supportive of moving to a new country and me taking this role. It has been a big change for us, and I really appreciate their support and love. My two cats had a bit of a transition as well; you'd be amazed how hard it is to get pets across the border! But everyone is settled in, and they love the light and activity of the city.

As for his hobbies, he stated, "I like cooking and going to the gym. I guess I like the second one so much because I like the first one so much." And, when asked about associations he belonged to that he would like to tell readers about Bobby replied, "I'm a proud new Canadian Library Association member."

Perhaps one day Bobby will also become a proud new NASIG member!