In the Limelight

WENDI A. MALONEY

The Copyright Office conducted a seminar for students enrolled in Catholic University's Copyright and Licensing Institute on May 24. Part of the university's graduate program in library and information science, the weeklong institute acquaints students with copyright law and licensing issues affecting libraries.

Peter Vankevich, head of the Public Information Office (PIO), organized the seminar, and he and colleagues Ted Hirakawa, Rob Kasunic, Chris Reed, and John Saint Amour gave presentations about the work of the Copyright Office and issues of concern to the copyright community. Each received a specially made hat bearing the logo, "Respect Copyright," that the class prepared for the occasion.

After the presentations, the students toured the Library of Congress and enjoyed an Office ice-cream social that took place on May 24 to celebrate the reduction of copyright claims in process. (See the June issue of Copyright Notices for details.)

Later, participants created a blog about their experience. A student named Orlanzo wrote, "Ted Hirakawa I thought was very interesting, informative, and extremely knowledgeable about the registration process and the different steps it entails."

A student named Mark wrote, "I loved Mr. Vankevich's interjections of stories and tidbits from his time at the Copyright Office. No matter how clear the facts are, stories help us to understand the human elements of the work."

Maria wrote, "Chris Reed...spoke to us about some of the legal aspects of work at the Copyright Office.... Mostly, Chris discussed the Google book settlement and orphan works, explaining both issues succinctly yet giving a thorough background of the issues."

"John [Saint Amour] was a great speaker," Denise stated.

"Rob Kasunic confirmed the ambiguity of copyright," Dayne wrote, adding that he appreciated Kasunic's "willingness to be transparent in

an area of federal government where people often expect you to have an easy answer

packaged and delivered with a bow on top."

"The experience ... reinforced how important copyright issues are to librarians," Stacey wrote.

Professor Lesley Ellen Harris, the institute instructor, said the Copyright Office seminar was a highlight of the course. "We all want to work there, as everyone seems so hospitable, knowledgeable, fun, and funny!" she wrote. ©



John Saint Amour models his "Respect Copyright" hat.

Digitization Project < Continues from page 1>

applications and served the dual purpose of application and catalog record. After a card was folded, it could contain four separate "sides," each with important information. A future task for the preppers will be to unfold the cards and separate each set using yellow cards obtained by Project Manager Alicia Mroczyk. These inserted cards will signal to the scanner where an individual record begins and ends. A special challenge to this phase of the card catalog digitization project is that all the cards in the 1870 through 1936 group are not the same size. ©