

## **6th Communia Workshop: Memory Institutions and the Public Domain 1-2/10/09, Barcelona, Spain**

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Preserving the Public Domain (BY SA 3.0)**

Abstract:

In the print environment, libraries took possession of scholarly content and through the simple act of keeping the material on shelves, in multiple independent institutions, the materials were for the most part, preserved for all time. Access to this print content did not depend upon paying ongoing fees to publishers or third party services.

In the Web environment, libraries lease access to scholarly content. A large quantity of content is not under the custody of the community it is in private hands. Access to a significant amount of content depends upon continued, ongoing payment of fees to publishers or third party services. Access to this content is limited now and in the future to only those who pay.

Scholars also access open access content in the Web environment. The vast majority of content is not being held in libraries, nor is it being held in independent multiple institutions. While access to this content does not depend upon continued, ongoing fees to publishers or third party services the community should not take for granted that this would always be true. The content may not always be freely available.

Using an open access title that is no longer available from the publisher as an example, this presentation will illustrate how the community is using the distributed digital preservation LOCKSS Program ([www.lockss.org](http://www.lockss.org)) to take custody of and preserve important scholarly materials. Leveraging the LOCKSS technology and Creative Commons licenses give the community the power to ensure open access content remains open access into the future. This presentation will also present the CLOCKSS Archive ([www.clockss.org](http://www.clockss.org)), a community governed archive that makes archived content, that is no available from any publisher, freely available to all.