Copyright Exceptions for the Visually Impaired and Print Disabled: International Initiatives to Increase Access to Knowledge

New York Law School

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Speaker
Michele Woods, Senior Counsel for Policy & International Affairs, U.S. Copyright Office

Tuesday, March 16, 2010 • 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.
Room W120 • Lunch will be served.

The visually impaired and print disabled experience widespread barriers in their efforts to gain access to knowledge. These barriers include the shortage of books and other copyrighted works in accessible formats. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has been considering access for the visually impaired and print disabled in recent years as part of its work on copyright limitations and exceptions. In early 2009, in connection with international initiatives, the United States Copyright Office and other federal agencies launched a domestic consultation process to gather information about their experiences with the current U.S. copyright law exemptions allowing the reproduction and distribution of certain copyrighted works for the blind and visually impaired.

Please join IILP and invited guest speaker, Michele Woods, Senior Counsel for Policy & International Affairs with the U.S. Copyright Office, for a discussion about the initiatives taken by the United States to help close the domestic and international knowledge gap for the visually impaired and print disabled. The discussion will also highlight the role of the many federal agencies that contribute to the development of the U.S. intellectual property policy.

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