## Who Owns the Copyright to Student Works?

Written agreements between staff members and the publication are the best way to settle that question. See the sample policy of the Student Press Law Center (http://www.studentpress.org/nspa/pdf/wheel_medialicense.pdf) or use the document below as a starting point.

**Sample Student Media Staff Member**
**Agreement about Assignment of Rights**
*(to be signed by each student staff member or, if they are under the age of majority, their parent)*

[Name of Student Media Organization] (the Publisher) is an unincorporated association of students at [Name of School]. _____ (the Staff Member), is an individual seeking to contribute creative work product to the [Name of Student Media Organization]. The Publisher and Staff Member, and his/her parent or guardian if Staff Member is a minor, agree to the following license governing the Staff Member's contributions to the Publisher (the Works).

By contributing the Works to the Publisher, the Staff Member, and his/her parent or guardian if Staff Member is a minor, hereby grants to the Publisher a license for the purpose of the Publisher's inclusion of the Works in its current or future print and electronic media publishing efforts in any format now known or later discovered, including the right to reproduce, adapt, distribute, display, perform and electronically transmit the Works. The works are fully sublicensable by the Publisher.

The Staff Member retains the right to display, reproduce and distribute the Works in Staff Member's portfolio, clip file, Web site and third party trade publications or exhibits for the purpose of promoting or exemplifying the Staff Member's work. The Staff Member may only sell or receive compensation for the Works upon written agreement of the Publisher.

The Staff Member, and his/her parent or guardian if Staff Member is a minor, agrees that this license shall exist as long as the intellectual property is entitled to protection under the laws of the United States and cannot be revoked except with written consent from the Publisher.

| **For Student Media Organization** | | **For Staff Member** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Student Editor | Date | Staff Member | Date |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Adviser | Date | Staff Member Parent or Guardian (if staff member is a minor) | Date |

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