



Law in the Information Age Lecture 2010
An Inaugural Event of the
UC Davis Center For Science and Innovation Studies



Is the
Google Book Settlement
the Copyright Reform We Need?

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October 14, 2010, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.
UC Davis School of Law
Kalmanovitz Appellate Courtroom (Room 1001)

There are numerous respects in which copyright law needs to be reformed. The Google Book settlement will, if approved, accomplish some significant copyright reforms, including allowing orphan books to be made available, clarifying ownership rights as between authors and publishers as to e-books, extending library and archival privileges beyond what current law allows, and providing for a low-cost way to arbitrate copyright disputes. But is this the copyright reform we need? And are the social benefits the settlement may bring about worth the costs it may impose?