Open Educational Resources (OER) Panel Presentation

Special Libraries Association (SLA) Science-Technology Community Webinar, March 29, 2022

Slides & Recording

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Moderator Jocelyn Boice
Agenda

- OER in US Higher Education
- Campus Initiatives
- State Initiatives
- OER & Open Education Conferences, Communities, & Conversations
Poll

Which best describes you?

- New to exploring OER
- Actively engaged with OER
- Formally responsible for supporting educators’ use of OER
Defining OER

UNESCO definition:

Open Educational Resources (OER) are learning, teaching and research materials in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or are under copyright that have been released under an open license, that permit no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation and redistribution by others.
Placing OER in the Open Movement

Open Source: computer software
Open Access: academic journals and scholarly monographs
Open Data: freely-licensed data
Open Educational Resources: teaching and course materials
What are your biggest cost challenges as a student?

- Tuition: 61.65%
- Course materials: 39.56%
- Housing costs: 38.10%
- Food expenses: 31.02%
- Living expenses: 30.18%
- Transportation: 18.49%
- Technology: 15.45%
- Additional school supplies: 7.66%
- Daycare: 3.04%
- Other: 2.16%
In your academic career, has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>Not purchase the required textbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td>Take fewer courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>Not register for a specific course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>Earn a poor grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>Drop a course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>Withdraw from a course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>Fail a course</td>
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</table>
### University of Georgia Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Δ Grade</th>
<th>Δ DFW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Pell eligible students</td>
<td>+7.4%</td>
<td>-2.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell eligible students</td>
<td>+12.3%</td>
<td>-4.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>+8.6%</td>
<td>-2.68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recognizing Open Licenses

Creative Commons License Types

Creative Commons License Chooser
Finding OER

Starting points:

- **Open Textbook Library**: reviewed textbooks
- **Libretexts**: textbooks and other learning objects
- **BCCampus**: textbooks collected by BCCampus initiative
- **OpenStax**: textbook initiative from Rice University
- **Mason OER Metafinder**: searches multiple repositories
- **OER Commons**: textbooks, lesson plans, activities, other OER
Finding OER

Subject Specific OER

- OER Starter Kit: Subject Specific Sources
- Searching Github by License Type
- Google's Advanced Search: license option
- Libguides created by OER librarians
Campus Initiatives

Photo by Hannah Busing on Unsplash
Campus Initiatives

Connect OER is a platform to share and discover information about OER activities at campuses across North America.

Image: Connect OER at SPARC CC BY 4.0
Campus Initiatives

- Awareness, education, advocacy (educators, students, ...)
- Grants to support educator OER adoption, adaptation, and creation
- Course markings
Campus Initiatives: Awareness & Education

● Benefits for educators
  ○ Freedom in selecting course materials.
  ○ Customization and localization of course materials
  ○ Clear rights to adapt, edit, reorder, delete, or remix content.
  ○ Freedom to align content with course structure and topic presentation.

Adapted from Caroline Sinkinson, Melissa Cantrell, & Merinda McLure. 2020. CAMPP Open Educational Resources. [CC BY 4.0]
Campus Initiatives: Awareness & Education

- Benefits for learners
  - Reduce the average annual cost of textbooks (CU Boulder $1,200 for FA22)
  - Reduce student loan debt (CU Boulder average upon graduation $24,000 for FY18 graduates.)
  - Increase student success.
  - First day access to course materials.
  - More equitable education for all.

Adapted from Caroline Sinkinson, Melissa Cantrell, & Merinda McLure. 2020. CAMPP Open Educational Resources. CC BY 4.0
Campus Initiatives: Awareness & Education

- OER Student Advocate Toolkit (2020, California)
- Textbook Affordability Student Toolkit (2018, Open Oregon)
- Student Government Toolkit (2016, Open Textbook Alliance)
- Fixing the Broken Textbook Market (2019, U.S. PIRG)
Campus Initiatives: Adoption, Adaptation, & Creation

Apply for a grant to create or adapt Open Educational Resources

The University Libraries invites University of Colorado Boulder faculty to apply to participate in the 2021–2022 Course OER Creation/Adaptation Initiative. The application deadline is July 6, 2021, and should be submitted by email to: oerleads@colorado.edu.

All faculty, including instructors and senior instructors who have paid appointments through and including the spring 2022 semester, are eligible to apply as project leads. CU Boulder GPTIs and other faculty may be project team participants.

Project teams will create an original open educational resource (OER) or adapt an existing OER, by updating or localizing it, and create plans to integrate the OER into their own or another educator’s course. These OER will afford the educator, or other educators, new pedagogical possibilities and may result in costs savings for students.

Selected project teams will be awarded a stipend of up to $8,000, to be paid in spring 2022. In order to be eligible for the stipend, teams must complete the OER creation or adaptation by February 15, 2022 and submit a portfolio that documents and assesses the creation or adaptation experience by March 1, 2022.

Image: University of Colorado Boulder Libraries
Campus Initiatives: Course Markings

Images: (L) *Cover, Marking Open and Affordable Courses: Best Practices and Case Studies* CC BY 4.0; (R) CU Boulder *Class Search*
Campus Initiatives: Recognition in Promotion & Tenure & Equity

- **DOERS3 OER Contribution Matrix**
  - Practitioner Perspectives: The DOERS3 Collaborative on OER in Tenure and Promotion
- **DOERS3 OER Equity Blueprint**
State/Federal Initiatives

● SPARC State Policy Tracker

▼ ▶ Connecticut

- **HB 6402 (2021):** Requires the Office of Higher Education to study issues related to higher education. Among other provisions, updates existing statute relating to the Open Educational Resources Council to change a reporting deadline.

- **HB 7424 (2019):** Broad budget bill. Includes Sec. 174 to establish the Connecticut OER Coordinating Council under the Office of Higher Education. This council shall identify high-impact courses for which open educational resources will be developed, converted, or adopted. The council would also establish a program of competitive grants for faculty members of institutions of higher education in the state for the development, conversion, or adoption of OER for high-impact courses. The council shall also promote strategies for the production, use and access of OER, among other actions. Fiscal note specifies $75,000 for grants. OER language was originally introduced as **HB 7162.**
State/Federal Initiatives

- Colorado
  - State OER Council
  - Grant Program
  - Education initiatives: Conferences, outreach, ambassadors, professional development, etc.
  - Course notation
State/Federal Initiatives

- California
  - 2016-2019/5M-results of 37 ZTC pathways/404 courses/19 colleges saves students $700 per year.
  - 2021/115 M investment for ZTC/OER at CC.
  - Single largest state investment in open educational resources to date.
State/Federal Initiatives

- Oregon
  - 2015-2017-first grant program/OER specialist.
  - 2017-2019-continued OER grant program to fund public postsecondary institutions to create or adapt OER course materials.
  - 2019/$669,000- Statewide OER/State OER Librarian.
State/Federal Initiatives

- BCampus has been the leader in Canada in promoting OER—Developed 250 open textbooks (with more than 2000 adoptions) across the B.C. post-secondary education system.
- Major initiatives in other provinces such as Alberta OER
State/Federal Initiatives

- United States 2020/2021
  - 2020 Department of Education ~$6 million to 4 projects.
  - 2021 Department of Education $7 M to nine projects.
State/Federal Initiatives

Some U.S. federally funded projects:

○ West Hills College Lemoore (CA), $1,999,924.00 for California Consortium for Equitable Change in Hispanic Serving Institutions Open Educational Resources (focus on culturally relevant OER)
State/Federal Initiatives

○ Louisiana Board of Regents (LA), $1,985,881.00 for Interactive OER for Dual Enrollment

○ The University of Texas at Arlington (TX), $582,322.00 for OERTransport: Enabling Transportation Planning Professional Advancement
Examples of Funding Options

- Student Associations
- University Administrations
- State Grants
- Federal Grants
- Funding related to general programs for student success, course development, professional development, DEISJ funding, etc.

- Grants
- Summer Salary
- Course relief
- Grad student salaries
OER & Open Education Conferences

- Cascadia Open Education Summit
- Northeast OER Summit
- Open Education Southern Symposium
- OpenEd
- OER (ALT)
- OE Global
OER & Open Education Communities & Conversations

- **Open Education Group**
  See also their [Review Project](#) (aggregates empirical OER-related research)
- **@GOGN_OER**
  (Global OER Graduate Network)
- **Creative Commons Open Education Platform** (global network)
- **LIBOER** (SPARC listserv & forum)
- **OER Digest** (newsletter)
- **Open Education Consortium** (non-profit, global, network)
- **Rebus Community & Open Education Network Office Hours** (live & YouTube)
- Twitter
  - #OER
  - #OEP
  - #OPENED
  - #OPENPED
  - #OPENPEDAGOGY
Any questions?
Attribution

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