TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

All that you need to know about OER, ZTC, Inclusive Access, and other ways to provide excellent resources for our courses--that don't cost an arm and a leg!

IN THIS EDITION...

NEWS FROM ASCCC

- Check out the Webinars and Events page for the recordings and materials. The March focus is on its 'Beginner Series'--everything that you would want to know in how to start off in OER.
- OERI Request for Proposals IV have been decided. Here are the projects that green-lit; final projects will be ready for May 2023--More on page 2:
- OERI sent out their Finance Progress Report 2022, which details all that they have done in the last 3 years. It's a great read to find out what is going on in the state, as well as where they plan to go in the next several years.
- ASCCC OERI Canvas Site and the OERI Website have more information on all of these topics, and more.

Next meeting of the Subcommittee:
22 March, 11am-12pm
Email Sarah Harmon (harmons@smccd.edu) for the link. Come join us!
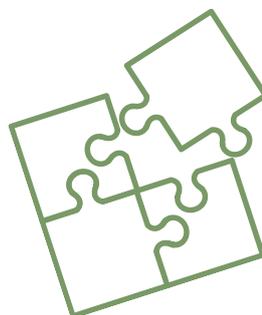
We're still looking for representatives from BDW, Counseling, and KAD!

If you're interested, let Sarah Harmon know!

ASCCC OERI Projects Update

It's time to provide a quick overview of the OER projects that the OERI has funded. Round III is in-process, and Round IV was just announced.

RFP III was funded in May 2021, and the work will be ready for the end of 2022/beginning of 2023. The following projects were funded, and have connections to disciplines taught at Cañada:

- Anthropology:
  - Anthropology elective courses focusing on magic, witchcraft, and religion: *Beliefs: An Open Invitation to the Anthropology of Magic Witchcraft, and Religion; A complete OER textbook*
- Art/Art History:
  - C-ID ARTH 110: *Introduction to Art History I: an OER Textbook for Survey of Western Art from Prehistory through the Middle Ages*
  - C-ID ARTH 120: *A World Perspective of Art History: 1400 CE to the 21st Century*
- Child Development:
  - C-ID CDEV 110: *Child Family Community OER Revision*
- Communication Studies:
  - C-ID COMM 150: *Intercultural Communication Instructor Resource Manual*
- CTE – Various:
  - CTE health and safety courses: *Workplace Safety for US Workers–A practical guide for understanding Health and Safety programs for skilled labor professionals: OER textbook, workbook, and ancillaries for CTE program certifications*
- Early Childhood Education:
  - Infant/Toddler Development and Infant/Toddler Care and Education: *One textbook with 39 sections or mini-chapters in the LibreTexts platform to support Curriculum Alignment Project (CAP) expansion courses: Infant/Toddler Development and Infant/Toddler Care and Education.*
- English:
  - C-ID ENGL 100 and 105: *New content, revisions, and a teacher's guide to enhance an existing textbook for C-ID English 105 and extend it to C-ID English 100*
- ESL:
  - Comprehensive ESL course – one-level below transfer: *Reading, Writing, Research, and Reasoning: a Text Equivalent for Advanced ESL Courses*
- Library
  - Library Services: *Foundations of Library Services Original OER Textbook*
- Physics
  - Astronomy and physics: *Online Question Banks and My Open Math Course Template for Introductory Astronomy Courses that Utilize OER Textbook Astronomy by OpenStax and Additional Online Questions and Features for CCC Lower-Division Physics Courses (C-IDs: 105, 110, 205, 210, and 215) that Utilize OER Textbooks by OpenStax*
- Political Science
  - C-ID POLS 130: *New OER for Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics with Chapter Lecture Slides*

ASCCC OERI Projects Update, cont'd

RFP IV was just announced in mid-February. These projects will come out mid-late 2023. The projects that were funded and have connections to Cañada disciplines are:

- Anthropology:
    - C-ID ANTH 110: *Explorations, Second Edition: An Open Invitation to Biological Anthropology* (CC BY-NC, 2019). An updated, expanded, equity-minded OER textbook
- Ethnic Studies:
    - *New Directions in Chicanx and Latinx Studies OER Textbook and Ancillary Materials*
    - *OER Textbook and Ancillary Materials for "Introduction to Ethnic Studies"*
- Geography
    - C-ID GEOG 125: *Contemporary World Geographies, a textbook-equivalent OER for World Geography*
- History
    - C-ID HIST 160: *Integrating Social Justice, Equity and Antiracism Themes in World History Since 1500*
- Math
    - C-ID MATH 240/250: *Linear Algebra and Differential Equations MyOpenMath Assignments and other Ancillaries*
- Spanish
    - C-ID SPAN 100/110: *Tarea Libre: First-Year Spanish OER Homework Question Bank in LibreStudio and ADAPT*

It should be noted that in both of these RFP's, there are SMCCCD folks involved. Great work by all who are participating!

It is anticipated that RFP V will be announced in the coming months. If you have an idea for an OER textbook or ancillary, and would like support and collaborators, then keep a lookout for the announcement!
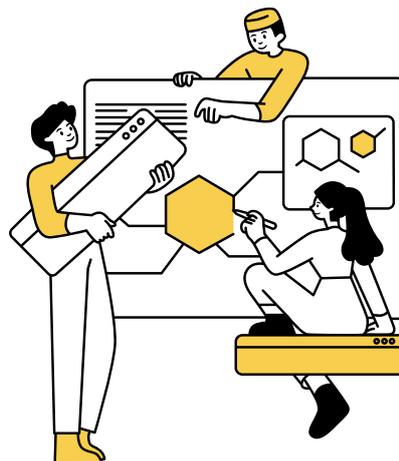
Update on the OER/ZTC Implementation Plan
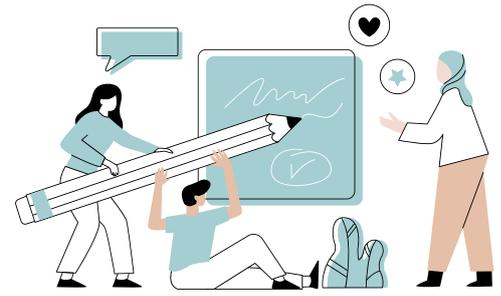
In our November/December newsletter, we indicated that the TAS was creating an OER/ZTC Strategic Plan, based on the work that Sarah Harmon and Diana Tedone-Goldstone did through the Regional Leaders of Open Education program in the fall. This evolved into the OER/ZTC Implementation Plan, which is out for review.

This plan lays out the work that has been done thus far with respect to OER/ZTC work, and includes a 'state of OER/ZTC' for this academic year. We then lay out our plans for the next 5 years, with both mid-range goals and end-of-term goals. With a strong connection to work in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the intent of the Implementation Plan is to ensure that our students and our community have full access to the education that they need and desire–and that open educational resources and zero-cost course materials are an integral part of all efforts to address those needs and desires.

At this stage, the draft is ready for comments. With the link, all SMCCCD employees have access to comment on the draft. We ask that employees only add margin comments; please don't change the wording inside the document. This draft has been shown at Academic Senate for a first read, and will also be discussed at the following participatory governance meetings:
- Distance Education Advisory Committee (DEAC): 3 March
- Instructional Planning Council (IPC): 4 March (first read)
- Curriculum Committee: 11 March
- ACES: 22 March
- Instructional Planning Council (IPC): 15 April (second read)
- Academic Senate: 28 April (Proposed; final read)
- Planning and Budgeting Council (PBC): 4 May (Proposed)

Open Education Week: 7-11 March

It's our most wonderful time of the year...Open Education Week! The first week in March is a global celebration of all things open education. From resources to pedagogy/andragogy to strategic planning, we collaborate with our colleagues and encourage some deep dialogue on all things open.

The District's Textbook Affordability Solutions Workgroup has an OE Week site, which is full of information and links to various events. The main focus for this year is how Open Educational Resources can directly address issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Whether it's creating remixes that address representation and language, open pedagogy/andragogy practices that include the student voice, or even showcasing the variety of materials that students can access through our libraries, these sessions will engage folks in discussions to include our students and address their needs as they achieve educational goals.

The SMCCCD events include:
- Tuesday:
  - CTTL consultation 2-3pm, Meet on campus (9-257A) or via Zoom
- Wednesday:
  - ZTC Pathways, What's Your Plan? Coffee Talk with ISKME: Come join SMCCCD's Textbook Affordability Solutions Workgroup and ISKME for a conversation about ZTC opportunities in Career Technical and Workforce disciplines, with specific reference to OER. We'll talk about current projects in SMCCCD, ISKME's ZTC study on Bay Area Community Colleges, and how we can develop ZTC pathways for the future. Join us via Zoom
- Thursday:
  - OER OpenEd Brown Bag 12:30-1:30 hybrid-on-campus (9-257A) and via Zoom

Other webinars/discussions of interest:
- Monday, 2-3pm: Open Oregon: 2-3pm: Creative Commons Licenses Deconstructed Register
- Tuesday, 10-11am: SPARC's webcast: Breaking Down Silos in Open Education: Strategies for Collaboration: Registration Link
- Tuesday, 10am-12pm Portland State: Keynote Address Towards Sustainable OER Creation for Ethnic Studies with Tatiana Bryant Register for Keynote Address
- Tuesday, 11am-12pm: DigiTex: OERigin Stories: Pathways to the Open Movement. RSVP at OERigin Stories Launch
- Wednesday, 10-11am: InclusiveAccess.org is hosting a webcast to examine the growth of "Inclusive Access" textbook billing programs and the challenges they create for students and faculty. Registration is open to the public and the webcast will be recorded.
- Thursday, 10-11:30am Portland State: Open Education Faculty Panel on Equity and Anti-Racism in OER. Register for Open Education Faculty Panel
- Friday, 10-11:30am: 90-minute Open Ed Week Keynote: Towards Openness that Promotes Social Justice with Maha Bali. Register

ZTC Adopter Program: Spring/Summer 2022

Thanks to the updated budget, the TAS will be opening applications for all faculty to do either a ZTC Adoption or ZTC Remix Project. We'll be funding the top 3 Adoption and the top 3 Remix projects, and further support others through Professional Development funding.

You can find more information on our ZTC Adopters Program site. Applications will open up in Mid-March, and close on 4 April. The overall timeline will be as follows:

- Mid-March: Applications open
- 4 April: Applications close
- 18 April: Decisions announced
- May: Trainings and assessments of needs with Sarah Harmon and Diana Tedone-Goldstone
- June and July: Faculty work on projects, with check-ins with Sarah and Diana
- 29 July: Projects due
- Mid-August: Payment of awards to faculty

If you have questions, let us know! We can't wait to see your project ideas!

Latest OER Publications

Some of the latest titles that have come out in the last couple of months:

- Chemistry: _Organic Chemistry I_, by Xin Liu (Pressbooks)
- Communications: _Effective Professional Communication: A Rhetorical Approach_, by Rebekah Bennetch, Corey Owen, and Zachary Keesey (Pressbooks)
- Geology: _The Story of Earth: An Observational Guide_, by Daniel Hauptvogel

You can also check out the ASCCC OER Initiative's list of databases, which includes links to OpenStax, LibreText, MERLOT, and so many more. Their discipline-specific list (on the CCC Canvas page) has multiple resources for many disciplines, along with C-ID connected courses.

We also have a running list of OER resources that are announced on the various listservs. This list is specific to resources that are connected to current Cañada courses. Check it out!

Focus Topic: Online Homework Costs Rising
by Nick DeMello
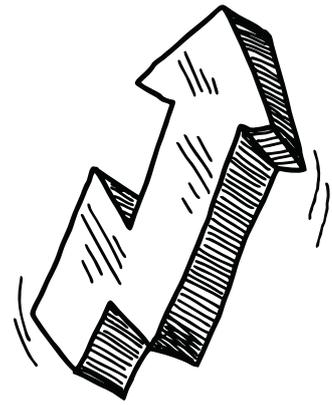
Replacing commercial textbooks with OER reduces the cost of education. It also reduces the profits publishers make. Many publishers are seeing the writing on the wall and shifting to a digital first strategy that provides textbooks at low cost or free. But bundling them with online homework systems.

Originally free to textbook purchasers, online homework systems are becoming many publishers' primary revenue source. They're also replacing textbook costs as a major hurdle for students. Between 2017 and 2020 Pearson, who announced a digital first strategy in 2019, saw the percentage of their total revenue shift from 59% digital in 2017 to 73% in 2020.

Shifting to OER textbooks makes your class more affordable and accessible, but how are you providing exercises and assessments? Are many of us trading one for profit service for another?

You have options. While systems from major publishers have risen in cost steadily, many smaller companies are entering the market. Publisher agnostic, for-profit systems like Activ Learning and TopHat can double as in-class active learning platforms (online or in person) and are mobile friendly. They can also reduce student costs to a third of what major publishers charge.

OER homework is also an option. Building a reusable online homework system for your department can be as simple as a Canvas quiz or printable worksheet scanned back in with CamScanner. More ambitious projects that support randomized questions and auto-grading can be generated with OER systems like MyOpenMath, WebWork, or LibreTexts Query.

IDEA OF THE MONTH
Marking your courses for OER/ZTC in WebSchedule

Spring 2022 was a great milestone for OER/ZTC courses in WebSchedule--we had a record number of sections and courses that were marked as either ZTC (zero-cost) or LTC (all materials at the Bookstore cost $40 or less, in total). The course materials were a combination of open educational resources, websites with public domain information, and articles culled from a variety of databases. Great work!

But we also know that there are more faculty who are using OER in their coursework, and would have their courses qualify for ZTC labeling on WebSchedule. We want to get all of that information out to the students! Why? Because if we mark all of our ZTC and LTC courses, then students will have more options–the more ZTC and LTC options they have, the more students can save money on their course materials.

As you set up your course materials for Summer 2022 and Fall 2022, make sure you follow the procedures:

Step 1: Let Jai know
You have ways of indicating this on any of the above-mentioned methods of reporting your adoption. If you are using a series of open-source materials, then please indicate that on your adoption submission. This is so that your materials can be verified that they do not infringe on copyright laws, or are indeed open-source.

Step 2: Let your division assistant know
Next, you need to let your division assistant know that you're using these materials, so that your course can be labeled in WebSchedule accordingly.
- If you are using all free and/or open-source materials, then your course will be labeled ZTC (zero textbook cost).
- If you are using an open-source textbook and an additional material (e.g. lab kit, homework platform) that is $40 or less, then your course will be labeled at Low-Cost OER. (If you don't know how much your materials cost, contact Jai.)

Please email your division assistant, copying Sarah Harmon (harmons@smccd.edu), to let them know. Your division assistant will input that information into Banner, which will then display it correctly on WebSchedule. Sarah will follow up with you to collect a list of what you're using.

Want your materials on reserve at the Library?
The Library staff can put print copies of your ZTC/LTC materials on reserve, so that students can use them as needed. To do that, just let our staff know.
- For digital materials, let Diana Tedone-Goldstone or Valeria Estrada know.
- For print materials, let Tessa Noriega know.

Looking for materials?
If you're looking for course materials that are free/public domain and/or open-source, then please contact Sarah Harmon or Diana Tedone-Goldstone. You can also check out what our Skyline colleagues are doing in their courses--it may inspire you to check out the course materials that are already in use in our district.
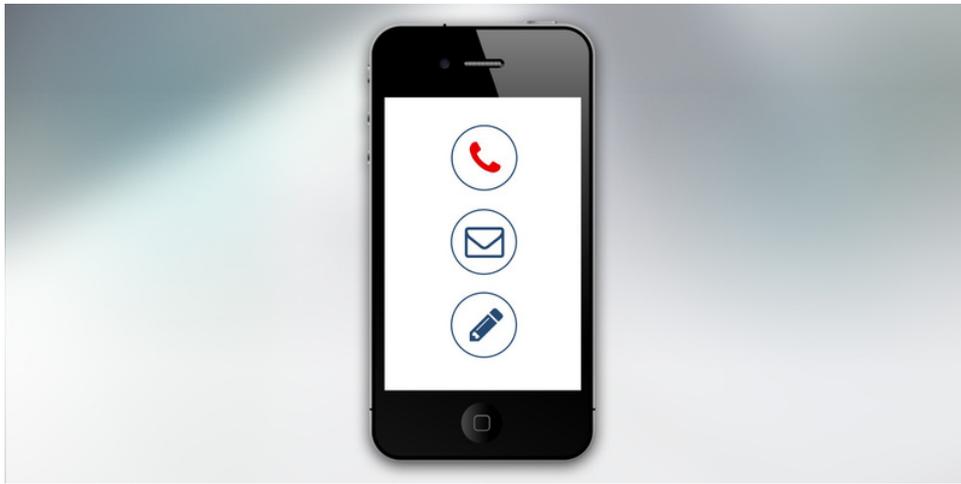
CONTACT US!

Want to know more about Open Educational Resources and Zero Textbook Cost courses? Go to the TAS website for more information.

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Frustrations?
Let Sarah know! (harmons@smccd.edu)

Thanks for reading!

The Textbook Affordability Subcommitte are:

- Nick DeMello, Online Education Coordinator; Chemistry Faculty
- Valeria Estrada, Librarian, ASLT Representative
- Sarah Harmon, OER/ZTC Coordinator/AS OER Liaison; Spanish and Linguistics Faculty
- Allison Hughes, Instructional Technologist
- Ramki Kalyanaraman, Engineering Faculty, Science and Technology Representative
- Jai Kumar, Bookstore Manager
- Tessa Noriega, Library Support Specialist
- Lisa Palmer, English Faculty, Humanities and Social Sciences Representative
- David Reed, Dean of Academic Services and Learning Technologies
- Diana Tedone-Goldstone, Librarian