Interdepartmental Collaboration to Promote OER to Faculty

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Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others.

-William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Discuss

• What are your conceptions about OER?
• What do you know about OER use on your campus?
Ohio Northern University

- 2,800 FTE
- Approximately 300 faculty
- **The Ohio Northern Promise**
  - “The Ohio Northern Promise ensures that higher education, historically a key enabler of social mobility, remains accessible and affordable for bright young students and their families...”
Textbook Costs

- Quadruple the rate of inflation since 2006
- Students choose not to buy books
- Grades suffer


Open Educational Resources

• Not just open textbooks!
• Adaptable
• Free
• Many high quality
• Librarians can help with location and selection
Discuss

• So why don’t faculty use these amazing, money-saving resources?

"Money Down The Drain 2" (CC BY 2.0) by ccPixs.com
Barriers to Adopting Open Educational Resources

- Not enough resources for my subject
- Too hard to find what I need
- No comprehensive catalog of resources
- Not used by other faculty I know
- Not high-quality
- Not knowing if I have permission to use or change
- Not current, up-to-date
- Too difficult to integrate into technology I use
- Lack of support from my institution
- Too difficult to change or edit

ONU Survey

IF YOU DO NOT USE OER, WHY NOT?

- Not high quality: 13%
- Not enough resources for my course: 10%
- Too difficult to find what I need: 11%
- Too time consuming to find and incorporate: 21%
- Lack of institutional support: 9%
- Other: 36%
ONU Survey

- I use some "free" downloadable resources for one of my classes, but did not know, specifically about "OER" before this survey.
- Haven't investigated; I don't like the open access movement though for theses and dissertations
- I didn't really know this was a thing I should be looking for!
- Too lazy to figure out hwat [sic] is involved
- Too much material to cover, too little time.
- I am staff, not faculty
- Variations on lack of awareness (9)
- Variations on "I don't know enough about it" (3)
Collaborating with Education Technology

• Open Access Week 2016
  • OER Workshop
  • Poor attendance
  • Opportunity to collaborate
  • Discussed targeted workshops
    • Would include information on Open Access publishing
Implementation

• Outreach to Nursing Department
  • Receptive to new ideas
  • Faculty experience with Open Access
  • Good material available

• Decision to use Course Management System
  • Faculty ownership

• Educational Technology sets up CMS

• Librarian researches OA/OER in discipline to customize presentation
Implementation

- One hour session
- Discussion of Ed Tech manager’s experience with publishing
- Information on Open Access publishing
  - Why to consider
  - How to do it
- OER
  - What are they
  - How they meet student needs
- Access to Moodle course
Overview

In some cases a good publisher or open "free" educational resources or literature may be available for your particular purpose and there is no need to create your own. OER and OA are usually licensed with Creative Commons licenses that grant users specific rights for reuse, remix, and distributing content.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this session you will be able to;

1. Explore OA and OER available to higher education.
2. Search and select resources that could be used in your course(s) to achieve learning objectives.
3. Continue to search and add resources to this site.

You are enrolled as an instructor with all editing privileges.

OER Samples

- Chemistry
- Essentials of Chemistry
- General Chemistry: Principles, Patterns, and Applications
- Audio - Human Anatomy
- Video - The Brain That Changes Itself
# Open Educational Resources - Chemistry

Open Educational Resources are distributed across the Internet and there is no one definitive source for finding them. To facilitate your search for OERs for your course, the following are selected online resources to consider. Please feel free to add to this list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MERLOT II</td>
<td>Resources for teaching chemistry from MERLOT, a curated collection of free and open online teaching, learning, and faculty development services contributed and used by an international education community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Science Digital Library</td>
<td>The National Science Digital Library provides high quality online educational resources for teaching and learning, with current emphasis on the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Most resources in the library adhere to principles of Open Educational Resource (OER) access, although some resources are restricted to provider site membership, or may have a cost associated with them (indicated in the full record of the resource).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ChemCollective</td>
<td>Virtual labs, scenario-based learning activities, tutorials, and concept tests organized by faculty and staff at Carnegie Mellon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Structure Elucidation: A workbook of unknowns</td>
<td>Workbook for solving the structures of organic compounds from spectroscopic data. (Notre Dame)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhET Interactive Simulations</td>
<td>Founded in 2002 by Nobel Laureate Carl Wieman, the PhET Interactive Simulations project at the University of Colorado Boulder creates free interactive math and science simulations. PhET sims are based on extensive education research and engage students through an intuitive, game-like environment where students learn through exploration and discovery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What worked</td>
<td>What didn’t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Personal contact</td>
<td>• Still too many resources!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Customized resources</td>
<td>• Underestimated the amount of questions on OA publishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• As yet, no additions made by faculty to course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Going Forward

• Provide more careful selection of resources

• More involvement with library liaisons

• Negotiate more time for workshops

• Library promotion of Open Access publishing in general
  • Potential Open Access Week lunch and learn
  • Topic for library liaison meeting

• Outreach to departments that indicated interest on survey
Final Thoughts

• What are some ways that you plan to use this information at your library?
• What are some resources that you already use that you would like to share?

"Brigham Young University faculty survey" (CC BY-SA 2.0) by opensourceway
Resources

About OER:

• SPARC OER: https://sparcopen.org/open-education/
• ARL SPEC Kit 351: Affordable Course Content and Open Educational Resources (July 2016): http://publications.arl.org/Affordable-Course-Content-Open-Educational-Resources-SPEC-Kit-351/
• Open Education Group: http://openedgroup.org/
• University of Regina LibGuide: http://uregina.libguides.com/oer

Finding OER:

• OER Commons: https://www.oercommons.org/
• Skills Commons: https://www.skillscommons.org/
Final Discussion Notes and Resources

• Resources:
  • Public domain ebooks
    • Hathi Trust
    • Project Gutenberg
    • iTunes
    • Amazon, etc

• Ideas:
  • Grant programs to encourage faculty adoption or creation of OER
  • Including OER into LibGuides as supplemental resources