

Open Educational Resources

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- **Representatives Beadle, Heilman, N. Johnson, Looyesen, Sanford, Mock, Oversen, Flakoll**
- A concurrent resolution urging the State Board of Higher Education and faculty members of North Dakota University System institutions to increase the use of open textbooks for academic courses in order to reduce the financial burden to higher education students.
 - WHEREAS, a North Dakota University System pays an estimated average of **\$1,100 per year for academic course textbooks**; and
 - WHEREAS, open textbooks are published under a license that enables students to obtain free or low-cost versions of electronic or printed academic textbooks, and
 - WHEREAS, the use of open textbooks can significantly **reduce higher education costs for students which increases student access to higher education; and**
 - WHEREAS, the use of open textbooks among all North Dakota University System institutions and other states' higher education systems for common core courses may result in efficiencies **reducing state costs related to higher education;**
 - NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:
 - **That the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly urges the State Board of Higher Education and the faculty members of North Dakota University System institutions to increase the use of open textbooks for academic courses in order to reduce the financial burden to higher education students; and**
 - BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to each member of the State Board of Higher Education, to the Chancellor of the North Dakota University System, and to each North Dakota University System institution president.
- **Filed March 22, 2013**

NDUS Response: Open Textbooks Report

Open Textbooks Workgroup

March, 2013

- Pattie Carr, Dickinson State University
- Lloyd Halvorson, Lake Region State College
- Dr. Philip Parnell, North Dakota State College of Science
- Thomas Smette, North Dakota Student Association
- Dr. Tanya Spilovoy, North Dakota University System
- Dr. Keith Stenehjem, Mayville State University
- Jennifer Vetter, North Dakota Student Association

Affordable College Textbook Act

113th Congress (2013-2014)

Introduced in Senate (11/14/2013)

Affordable College Textbook Act - Directs the Secretary of Education to make competitive grants to institutions of higher education (IHEs) to support pilot programs that expand the use of open textbooks in order to achieve savings for students.

Requires the grants to be used for:

- Required to be made available **free of charge** to the public: (1) on an easily accessible and interoperable website; and (2) in a machine readable, digital format that anyone can directly download, edit, and redistribute.
- achieve the highest level of **savings for students**;
- expand the use of open textbooks at other IHEs; and
- produce open textbooks that are of the **highest quality**,
- that can be **most easily utilized and adapted by faculty members**, that correspond to the highest enrollment courses, and that are created or adopted in partnership with entities that will assist in their marketing and distribution.
- <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1704>

OER and Open Source Content Defined

- **Defined:** Free, accessible, openly licensed (public domain) documents, media, lab activities, pedagogical materials, games, simulations, etc. which are used for education learning, assessment or research (Kauppinen, 2013).
- **Supports:** Shared expertise and peer-based learning to disseminate curricula and support a learner-centric approach to education.



- **Goal:** Improve student and teacher access to quality learning materials.

Trends in Higher Education

- Cost of a college degree has increased 1000% in the past 30 years (Jarisko & Kolet, 2012).
- Student loan debt is currently over \$1 trillion (Kavoussi, 2012).
- Continued focus on tighter regulations, accountability, and scrutiny.



Trends in Higher Education Cont.

- Colleges and universities are searching for new ways to increase accessibility to their programs while also decreasing their costs.
- Proponents of using open source content suggest that some open source tools promote collaboration and critical thinking and enhance student engagement (Leder, 2012).

Types and Examples of OER's

TYPE OF OER	EXAMPLES
Learning Management Systems	Moodle, Open Class
Textbooks	Flat World Knowledge, Bookboon, Open Education Database, Open Learning Initiative
Courses	Open Tapestry, Open Educational Database, Open Learning Initiative
Videos	Khan Academy, Academic Earth, Watch Know Learn, You Tube EDU, Public Library of Science
Productivity Tools	Open Offices, LibreOffice, Abiword
Supplemental Materials	MIT Open Courseware, Coursera, EdX, Connexion, MERLOT

Let's explore some OER 😊

- <http://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>
 - <http://http://www.oercommons.org/>
 - <http://opencourselibrary.org/>
 - <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>
 - <http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/>
- https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=sarah+sletten

Advantages of OER

- Access: Easy access to learning materials (anytime, any place)
- Distribution: Easy to distribute and disseminate with little or no cost.
- Enhancement: Supplement passive learning from lectures and textbooks
- Free or low cost
- Continuous improvement: Change materials quickly vs. static textbooks
- Exposed to new/innovative ideas from experts all over the globe vs. single instructor

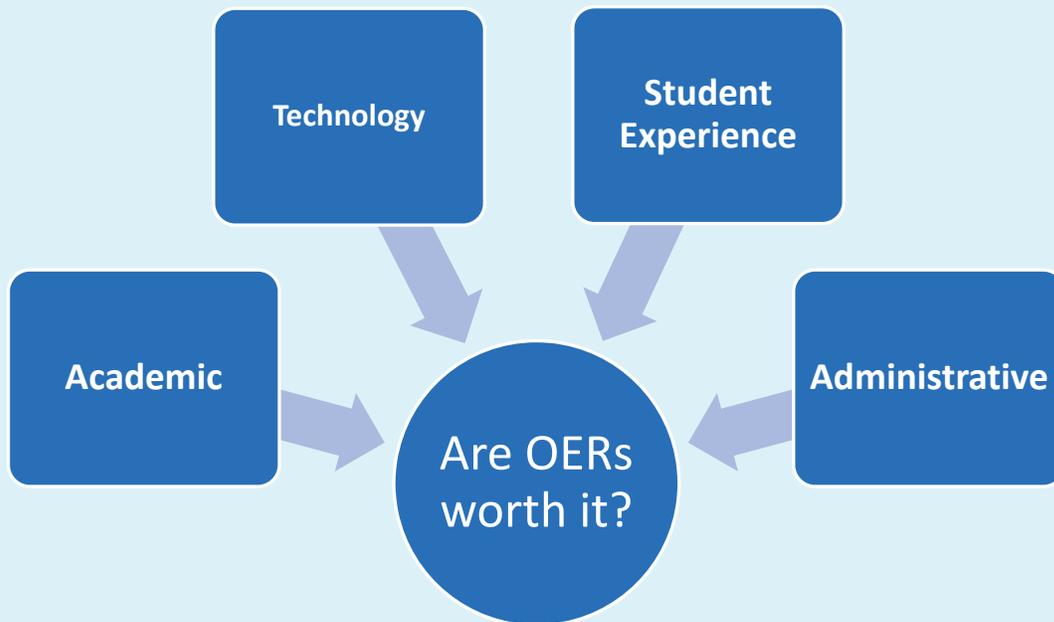
Disadvantages of OER

- Quality Control: Many OER repositories (such as Wiki sites) allow any user to post information, material may not be accurate.
- Currency: Contributors to OER sites are not usually compensated; little incentive to keep the information updates, current or even active.
- Here today, gone tomorrow: No standard for development of these resources. Students may not be able to access, no technical support.
- Time: Funding and curating OER's can consume a tremendous amount of a university's resources as they try to align these resources with their curriculum.

Disadvantages of OER

- Lack of personalization and branding of the institution: "as is"
- Compliance issues: some OER resources might not be in compliance with ADA or meet curriculum standards/requirements set by departments and accreditation bodies.
- Language and cultural barriers: Many are now only available in English
- Copyright concerns: Fair use exemption from U.S. copyright does not apply; resources must be checked to ensure using them does not violate copyright laws.

Cost/Benefit Analysis



Example – Open Textbook

FLATWORLD KNOWLEDGE TEXT
Business Communications for Success, v. 1.0

Cost: \$34.95 for an All Access Pass
\$149.95 for color print textbook

By: Scott McLean
Version: 1.0
Shared Versions: 3
Pub Date: March, 2010
eISBN: 978-1-4533-2742-5
Pages: 419



Analysis of FWK Book -Technology

CRITERIA	EVALUATION
Integrates with Current Technology Systems (LMS, SIS, etc.)	Textbooks can be integrated into the Learning Platform with a significant investment of time from the technology team
Stable Platform Supporting the Resource	Textbook can be integrated into the college's LMS, so the student doesn't have to access via the FWK platform
Technical Support Available	Technical support available from FWK
Set Up Costs	Significant faculty investment for textbook alignment
Works with Mobile Technologies	Mixed reviews
Branding-College Logo	Textbooks can be integrated into the course so students see the college logo and branding

Analysis of FWK Book – Student Experience

Criteria	Evaluation
Look and feel of resource (readability, graphics, polished versus flat, etc.)	Text is very readable and engaging with graphics and video. However, there are issues with broken links.
Ease of Access and Use	Students need to page through the book or section of the book, so it may feel clunky.
Single sign-on	Yes
Access with a Mobile device	Yes, via ePub file using iTunes (iPhone, iPad) or Aldiko reader (Android)
Student Cost	No additional cost to access ebook via the course, but additional costs to print

Analysis of FWK Book - Academic

Criteria	Evaluation
Alignment with Learning Outcomes	**Faculty-Determined
Content Currency and Accuracy	Content is current and information accurate
Content at appropriate level	Undergraduate level
Flexibility to adopt entire resource or specific sections	Flexibility to adopt only the sections of the text needed
Instructor resources available	Instructor resources – quiz and test item bank available
Reputation of supporting institutions and organizations	Flatworld Knowledge has a reputation of being an innovative provider of free textbooks.

Analysis of FWK Book - Administrative

Criteria	Evaluation
Legal Concerns – ADA compliant and copyright	FWK does provide options to facilitate ADA compliance. Copyright may be included in the legal agreement.
Coordinator for Managing Resource	Academics, tech team, or both
Legal Relationship with Resource Provider	A legal contract spelling out the agreement needs to be developed
Ease of administering the resource	Administration routine once integrated into the platform
Overall Costs of Adoption and Implementation	Fees vary Significant investment of hours for implementing the process
Ongoing Administrative Costs	Updating Content Technical support for students

California Open Source Textbook Project

- COSTP-California Open Source Textbook Project
- In California, Governor Jerry Brown has signed two bills (SB 1052 and SB 1053) that will provide for the creation of free, openly licensed digital textbooks for the 50 most popular lower-division college courses offered by California colleges (2012).

More OER Projects, Cont.

Open Course Library

- <http://opencourselibrary.org/>
- Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Washington State Legislature

The Orange Grove

- Florida's Digital Repository K-College
- University Press of Florida

More OER--Ohio

- Ohio Board of Regents partner with Flat World Knowledge (Fall, 2012)
- Board of Regents purchased 1,000 seat licenses to encourage faculty and students to trial digital textbooks
- Spring, 2012—987 students participated
- Saved \$121,000 based on a savings of \$122.95/student/course
- Faculty free to choose their textbooks from FWK, change and add to the material to fit curriculum
- 78% of students said their open textbook was the same or more engaging than other textbooks they used
- Downloadable onto any computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet
- Print books available for purchase at the campus bookstore or download on the FWK website.

Oregon State University

- February 12, 2014
- Helping faculty members develop textbooks that will be freely accessible online to any student in the world.
- Open Textbook initiative collaboration between OSU Libraries, OSU Press, and OSU Extended Campus
- Campus provides financial, technical, and editorial support for faculty members to create “open texts that aim to reduce costs for students and further position Oregon State as a leader in research and teaching
- <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/oregon-state-university-open-textbook-request-proposal>
- <http://oregonstate.edu/ua/ncs/archives/2014/feb/osu-open-textbook-initiative-aims-reduce-student-costs-enhance-learning>

Conclusion

- In order to begin adopting OER initiatives into institutional policies, structures, and procedures, I recommend that all stakeholders commit to utilizing more OERs to reduce educational costs.
- Further exploration of the cost-saving potential and impact of OER is needed for individual NDUS institutions.
- I recommend that NDUS institute a model in which faculty are rewarded for innovation and adoption of new teaching models and Open Educational Resources much like examples at Oregon State University and the Ohio Board of Regents.

References

- Affordable College Textbook Act <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1704>
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- Jamrisko, M. & Kolet, I. (2012, Aug 15), Cost of college degrees in U.S. soars 12 fold: Chart of the day. Retrieved from <http://www.bloomberg.com>
- Kavoussi, B. (2012 Mar 22). Student loan debt hits \$1 trillion, deemed 'too big to fail' by one Federal agency. Retrieved from <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>
- Lederer, K. (2012, Jan 19). Pros and cons of social media in the classroom. Campus Technology
- Yeats, R. (2004). Living with earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest. Retrieved from <http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/oer/Earthquake.pdf>

Resources

- College Open Textbooks Community
<http://collegeopentextbooks.org/>
- Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources
<http://oerconsortium.org/>
- Open Textbook Publishing & Adoption Webinar (Feb. 5, 2014).
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KU0okJwlkH0>
- Introduction to Open Educational Resources (OER): The Big Picture (Oct. 22, 2013)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v102jkoYIIQ>

Ohio OER Contacts/Resources

- <https://www.ohiohighered.org/press/board-regents-and-flat-world-knowledge-announce-textbook-program-extension>
- **Ohio Board of Regents Contact:**
Jeff Robinson
Office: 614.752.9487
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- **Flat World Knowledge Contact:**
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Email: cwalters@flatworldknowledge.com