



## • OER Liaison Newsletter - September 2021 •

Greetings OER Liaisons!

It's hard to believe the 2021-2022 academic year has begun. While there's a lot of uncertainty in the world today, this is certainly an exciting time for OER and ZTC in the California community colleges. We'll begin this newsletter with some reminders for our Liaisons and then transition into updates on the OERI's summer work and our plans for the term.

If you are receiving this and you are no longer the OER Liaison for your college, [please let the OERI know](#). In order to ensure the college is aware of the OERI's work, the local senate president will receive these newsletters until a new OER Liaison is identified.

### • OER Liaison Activity Tracking •

Please review the [Fall 2021 OER Liaison Expectations](#) to familiarize yourself with the anticipated activities and remember to use the [Fall 2021 OER Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet](#) ([tinyurl.com/OERL-2021F](https://tinyurl.com/OERL-2021F)) to record your liaison activities throughout the term. Your entries in the tracking spreadsheet are used by your Regional Lead to confirm your participation and verify your eligibility for the OERL stipend at the end of the term. If you're a new OERL, tracking and expectations will be covered in the OER Liaison Kickoffs (details below).

### • OER-Related Resolutions •

The ASCCC and the ASCCC OERI encourages local senates to adopt resolutions supporting the use of OER. The ASCCC has adopted numerous [resolutions about OER specifically and others related to reducing costs](#) for students more generally. [Local senates have also adopted resolutions](#) that you can consider as you prepare to do the same at your college. [Please let us know if you have a resolution](#) that should be included in our collection. Most notably, at the Spring 2021 ASCCC Plenary, resolutions were adopted regarding [the local institutionalization of OER](#) and [the establishment of a section-level data element](#) to elevate the importance of marking ZTC sections and facilitate the tracking of local efforts to reduce textbook costs.

## • Annual OERL Survey •

If you are a seasoned OER Liaison, you are aware of our annual survey that is intended to track the implementation of the legislatively required marking of no-cost (ZTC) course sections. Pre-pandemic, consistent progress seemed to be the norm, but unfortunately Covid has caused significant disruption at our colleges. As a result, we have made some changes to the survey. This year's survey will gather some of the usual information, but it will not request your total count of ZTC sections. Instead, we will request data regarding specific courses and additional general information regarding your local efforts to reduce textbook costs and ensure cost transparency. We hope that this information will give us a better sense of OER course-level implementation, and its impact on students.

## • OERI Student Impact Video and Survey Pilot Project •

The OERI is in the process of recruiting up to ten OER Liaisons to participate in the OERI Student Impact Video and Survey Pilot Project. The OERI's goal is to identify interested OER Liaisons from colleges that represent the diversity of our system. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt. Final selections will be made by September 24. [Read more about the OERI Student Impact Video and Survey Pilot Project.](#)

## • ASCCC OERI Discipline Leads •

We are in the process of recruiting additional Discipline Leads – as well as leads for the openly-licensed tools, [My Open Math](#) and [H5P](#). Please share this information with your colleagues (included in the second half of this message). As always, feel free to [contact the ASCCC OERI Discipline Leads](#) with discipline-oriented OER questions or refer your discipline colleagues to them.

## • Fall 2021 OERL Kick-Off Schedule •

### September

[Register for the Wednesday, September 1, 12-1 pm OERL Kick-Off](#)

[Register for the Thursday, September 16, 3-4 pm OERL Kick-Off](#)

[Register for the Monday, September 27, 3-4pm OERL Kick-Off](#)

### October

[Register for the Friday, October 15, 12-1 pm OERL Kick-Off](#)

## • September 2021 OERL Conversations and Webinars •

**Friday, September 10, 1:00 – 2:00 pm**

## **OERL Conversation – OER Liaisons and Senate Office Hour**

Join two former ASCCC presidents (Michelle Pilati and Julie Bruno) to discuss any political challenges that you may experience in advancing the OER efforts on your campus. The office hour is open to both OER Liaisons and senate presidents, together or separate.

[Register for OERL Conversation - OER Liaisons and Senate Office Hour](#)

### **• Sample Cover Message to Send to Your College •**

Greetings! As the Open Educational Resources Liaison for our college, it is my role to share communications from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) with you. Please read on to learn about upcoming events that are open to all as well as an opportunity for faculty to play a role in increasing OER consideration and adoption by others in their discipline.

If I can assist you in your considering OER or answer any OER related questions, please let me know.

### **• \$115 Million •**

Over the summer the legislature included 115 million dollars to expand zero textbook cost (ZTC) degrees in the California community colleges. The first disbursement of these funds must be made in January 2022. As OERI learns more about how the funds will be distributed, we will keep you informed. At present, we are actively advocating for an approach that is sustainable and ensures that all colleges establish systems to further local OER and ZTC efforts to maximize the impact on our students. Learn more at our 1<sup>st</sup> weekly webinar on Friday, September 10 (details below).

### **• OERI Opportunities •**

OERI is seeking new and additional Discipline Leads for the current term, as well as leads for the openly-licensed tools, [My Open Math](#) and [H5P](#). [Access the application and additional information about the Discipline Lead role](#). Also, we will soon need reviewers for our RFP 3 projects so please consider serving in this important role.

If you previously submitted an application, we have your information, and you will be considered for any available roles in which you indicated an interest. If you are uncertain as to what roles you indicated in your application, you may either resubmit the application or submit a letter describing your interests and qualifications to the [ASCCC OERI](#).

Both the [ASCCC OERI Application](#) and the [ASCCC Faculty Application for Statewide Service](#) need to be completed. We accept applications on an on-going

basis, but encourage those who are interested to submit as soon as possible to ensure consideration.

## • OERI Weekly Webinars – September 2021 •

Starting September 10, 2021, OERI Weekly Webinars are scheduled for Fridays from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. The ASCCC OERI will provide automated captioning for all webinars. If you would like to request live human closed-captioning for any of our offerings, [please contact us by e-mail](#) at least 10 business days in advance.

OERI Webinars are intended for a diverse audience. Please share with your colleagues. We hope you will all join us!

### **Friday, September 10, 10:30 - 11:30am**

#### **OER and ZTC in the California Community Colleges - An Update**

Join us for a comprehensive update of all things related to OER and ZTC as we begin the Fall '21 term. What do we know - and what do we not know - about the \$115 million the system has received to further our ZTC efforts? What's the OERI's vision for those funds? How do you think the funds should be spent? Who decides? Join us to learn - and share.

[Register for OER and ZTC in the California Community Colleges - An Update](#)

### **Friday, September 17, 10:30 - 11:30am**

#### **Licensing and OER - How and Why**

This interactive session is intended for those who are familiar with licensing OER but want to check and expand their understanding. After a review of licensing basics and license compatibility, some of the more complex licensing considerations will be discussed. For example, how are collections and remixes different and why does it matter? Bring your questions and licensing challenges.

[Register for Licensing and OER - How and Why](#)

### **Friday, September 24, 10:30 - 11:30am**

#### **OER and the Hesitant - Testing the Waters**

While some faculty may choose to dive into the deep end when adopting OER, others prefer to approach the shallow end first. Every OER adoption is a unique journey and may be attempted in a variety of ways. Of course, floaties are available. How do you dip your feet in the OER world by just adopting a chapter or an assignment? Where do you find quality resources to buoy your plunge into OER? Join us for this invigorating swim into the waters of OER.

[Register for OER and the Hesitant - Testing the Waters](#)