In Fall 2018 the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) adopted Resolution 17.02 that called on the ASCCC to “…urge local academic senates to identify a local OER point-person to act as a liaison to facilitate OER-related communication between the college and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.” The establishment of local OER Liaisons (OERLs) is an integral component of the OER Initiative (OERI). The OERI’s goal is to support local college OER efforts by creating a network of OERLs that connect local colleges to the OERI and centrally-hosted OER-related support systems, ensuring an effective means of communication between the OERI, available resources, and the system's colleges.

The OERI supports OERLs so that they may serve as advocates by taking an active role in increasing local OER awareness, adoption, and support. Each college’s OERL will be eligible for a yearly stipend of $1,000. OERLs who complete the specified activities for a given term (fall or spring) will receive $500 after the term’s end upon verification of their eligibility. Colleges may appoint more than OERL, with the duties and stipend divided in a manner deemed appropriate by the local senate. All appointments and exceptions must be verified by the local senate president. Your local senate president should direct any updates to oeri@asccc.org.

OER Liaison Expectations – Fall 2023

1. If you have not already done so, sign up for the ASCCC OER listserv by selecting “ASCCC OER Initiative” at https://www.asccc.org/signup-newsletters.
2. Complete the annual OER Liaison survey. The survey will be forwarded to you no later than Monday, October 2.
3. Complete – and document – your Fall 2023 OER Liaison “attendance” activities (items 4 and 5) by Wednesday, December 13. Activities should be tracked throughout the term via the Fall 2023 Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet (tinyurl.com/OERL-2023F)
4. Attend an OER Liaison Fall 2023 Kick-Off, live or archived, by the end of October. All will be delivered via Zoom. Attendance at a live session is encouraged.
5. Attend two additional OERI Webinars or OERL Conversations during the term, or host one.
6. Communicate with your local senate and faculty regarding the work of the OERI, forwarding the OERI Newsletter broadly and reaching out to specific faculty and departments as warranted.
7. Check-in at least twice with an OERI representative synchronously to share local needs and issues.
Establish Local Open Educational Resources Liaisons
Fall 2018; Resolution Number 17.02

Whereas, The ASCCC will be initiating a five-year open educational resources (OER) initiative in spring 2019 that will provide OER-related support and resources to the colleges and gather data from the colleges related to OER use and challenges;

Whereas, Research has shown that access to and use of textbooks and ancillary materials are correlated with successful course completion by students, and students postpone or fail to purchase textbooks due to escalating textbook prices and other educational costs, which could impact their success and course completion;

Whereas, Various college-level OER funding opportunities have required the establishment of a local point-person to coordinate such efforts, and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges has urged local senates to be involved in the process for appointing individuals to such positions (Resolution 19.10 S16); and

Whereas, The OER initiative plan developed by the ASCCC proposes to further OER use by providing centralized support for local OER efforts, and that support must be informed by local needs and effectively disseminated at the colleges;

Resolved, That the ASCCC urge local academic senates to identify a local OER point-person to act as a liaison to facilitate OER-related communication between the college and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

Support for Faculty Open Educational Resources Coordinators
Spring 2019; Resolution Number 13.02

Whereas, The ASCCC has urged local academic senates to identify a local open educational resources (OER) point-person to act as a liaison to facilitate OER-related communication between the college and the ASCCC (Resolution 17.02 F18);

Whereas, The ASCCC Open Educational Resources (OER) Initiative is supporting the growth of OER use across the colleges by developing resources and supporting local OER liaisons who may or may not receive support from their colleges;

Whereas, Various opportunities for obtaining funding for local OER efforts, including grants made available by the California Open Educational Resources Council, have required that a coordinator be identified to oversee the work; and

Whereas, Significant increases in OER usage have been reported when a local advocate has dedicated time to support OER adoption;

Resolved, That the ASCCC develop a collection of resources documenting the value of supporting local faculty open educational resources coordinators and associated resources (e.g., job descriptions, roles, and responsibilities); and

Resolved, That the ASCCC encourage local colleges to identify and support a faculty open educational resources coordinator.