



ASCCC OERI February 2024 Newsletter

Greetings! The ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) provides statewide professional development and funding opportunities to support the expansion of the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER) in the California Community Colleges. “OER” refers to teaching and learning materials that are freely available online for everyone to use and includes course modules, lectures, homework assignments, lab and classroom activities, pedagogical materials, games, simulations, and many more resources contained in digital media collections from around the world (as defined by [OER Commons](#)). OER most often refers to openly-licensed textbooks and ancillary materials that are available at little or no cost to students. The OERI facilitates and coordinates the curation and development of OER texts, ancillaries, and support systems. In addition, the OERI supports local OER implementation efforts by offering professional development, technical support, and technical resources.

The monthly OERI Newsletter provides recipients with an update on the work of the OERI and a calendar of upcoming OERI sponsored events.

• Open Education Nationwide Conversation •

Please consider attending one of these events hosted by [WICHE](#).

Do We Need a National Open Education Strategy? An “Open” Conversation

Open education has made remarkable progress, yet the evolving landscape continues to present challenges. As open education work continues to grow at institutions, in states, and across regions, questions increasingly surface about how we might coordinate and advocate more effectively as a field. This includes how to advance open education policies at the national and state level, how to reach institutional leaders, and how to expand sustainable funding.

NCOER (a collaboration among the four regional education compacts), working together with DOERS3 and SPARC, invite members of the open education field to join us for an open conversation about the potential need for U.S. national open education strategy and discuss how we might better collaborate to advance shared priorities. This will build on a discussion started at the 2023 Open Education Conference.

To include as many voices as possible, there are three options for when to join. All who are interested in open education are encouraged to participate.

[Register for conversation on Wednesday, February 7, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm](#)
[Register for conversation on Tuesday, February 13, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm](#)
[Register for conversation on Thursday, February 15, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm](#)

[Register for Results from our Community “Open” Conversations
Thursday, March 7, 11:00 am - 12:00pm](#)

• Open Education Week 2024 - March 4-8 •

As explained by [Open Education Global](#):

An annual celebration, Open Education Week (OE Week) is an opportunity for actively sharing and learning about the latest achievements in Open Education worldwide.

Open Education Week was launched in 2012 by [Open Education Global](#) as a collaborative, community-built open forum. Every year OE Week raises awareness and highlights innovative open education successes worldwide. OE Week provides practitioners, educators, and students with an opportunity to build a greater understanding of open educational practices and be inspired by the wonderful work being developed by the community around the world.

[Submit your contribution by February 28](#). Please share your OE Week plans with the OERI and [we will get the word out about your participation](#).

• OERI Friday Forums •

The OERI Friday Forums will be held from 10:30 am – 11:30 am on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, provided there are no scheduling conflicts (e.g., a holiday). All Friday Forum webinars are archived. 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 Friday Forums are intended for a diverse audience. Please share with your colleagues. We hope you all will join us!

Friday, February 2, 10:30 am - 11:30 am **Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Collaboration Cohorts**

In anticipation of the November 15 deadline for submission of ZTC Acceleration Grant applications, the Chancellor’s Office began discussing the need to establish a process to bring college representatives together to avoid duplication of effort. What is a Collaboration Cohort, which disciplines will be collaborating within cohorts, and what is expected of participating colleges? Join us for an overview of all that we know about this process – and to ask your questions.

[Register for the ZTC Collaboration Cohorts Webinar](#)

Friday, February 23, 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism (IDEA), Open Educational Resources (OER), and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Faculty may find AI a powerful tool when developing OER. However, AI is not always a bias-free resource and faculty must recognize these biases when using AI to create – or adapt – OER. Join us as we explore AI biases and how we might use the IDEA principles to guard against them in our OER work.

[Register for IDEA, OER and AI](#)

• OER Basics Series •

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of webinars addressing the foundations of using, adapting, and developing OER to support your local ZTC work.

Thursday, February 1, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Understanding Open Educational Resources (OER), Copyright, and Fair Use

Are you new to OER and interested in learning more? This webinar is an introduction to what OER is and the difference between “open” and “free” resources, copyright basics, and the concept of fair use.

[Register for Understanding OER, Copyright, and Fair Use](#)

Thursday, February 8, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Introduction to Creative Commons Licensing

Understanding Creative Commons licensing is critical when working with open educational resources (OER). In this interactive webinar we’ll explore the nuances of the various Creative Commons licenses for when a resource is used, adapted, or created.

[Register for Introduction to Creative Commons Licensing](#)

Thursday, February 15, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Searching for Open Educational Resources (OER)

Looking for OER? This interactive session will cover search strategies for finding OER. Participants will search for resources and leave the webinar with some “go to” sites for locating OER.

[Register for Searching for OER](#)

Thursday, February 22, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Evaluating Open Educational Resources (OER) for Accessibility

Accessibility is not only a legal and ethical requirement, it is central to creating resources that are inclusive and support the education of all learners. In this webinar, we will provide considerations for accessibility and tools for evaluating content.

[Register for Evaluating OER for Accessibility](#)

Thursday, February 29, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Open Educational Resources (OER) Curation and Advanced Licensing

How do you remix and attribute content with different licenses? How are collections and remixes different and why does it matter? This interactive session is intended for those who are familiar with the Creative Commons licenses and would like to expand their understanding. Bring your questions and licensing challenges.

[Register for OER Curation and Advanced Licensing](#)