Happy New Year and welcome back from the winter break, OER Liaisons! As always, we will begin with a webinar to prepare you for your OER Liaison role and we look forward to seeing you at one of our Spring 2024 OERL Kickoff webinars. “Kickoffs” provide an opportunity for the OERI to orient and update OER Liaisons and for the OERI to hear from Liaisons.

• OER Liaison Expectations – Spring 2024 •

Your Spring 2024 OER Liaisons (OERL) activities will need to be completed and documented by Friday, May 10, 2024. Activities should be logged throughout the term on the Spring 2024 Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet. (tinyurl.com/OERL-2024S).

The expectations of OERLs for the current term are:

1. Attend an OER Liaison Spring 2024 Kick-Off, live or archived, by March 15. All Kickoffs will be delivered via Zoom. Attendance at a live session is encouraged. New, or newer, OERLs are also invited to view the Spring 2024 New OERL Kick-Off which will be available by the end of January.
   - Register for Wednesday, February 7, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Kickoff
   - Register for Friday, February 9, 10:30 am - 11:30 am Kickoff
   - Register for Tuesday, February 20, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Kickoff
   - Register for Thursday, February 22, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Kickoff
   - Register for Monday, February 26, 10:00 am - 11:00 am Kickoff
   - Register for Friday, March 1, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Kickoff

2. In addition to the Kickoff, either attend two additional OERI or OERL events (Webinars or Conversations) during the term or host one event. OERLs who are interested in hosting an event should discuss this with their Regional Lead as soon as possible.
3. Communicate with your local senate and faculty regarding the work of the OERI.
4. Forward the OERI Newsletter broadly to interested parties at your college and reach out to specific faculty and departments as warranted.
5. Check-in at least twice with an OERI representative to share local needs and issues.

• ZTC Acceleration Grant Collaboration Cohort Updates •
The OERI is presently following up with contacts at colleges that have opted into a Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Collaboration Cohort but did not submit the requested data before the end of December. Without information from the colleges that explains their ZTC/OER plans, there is no way to ensure that colleges are not proposing duplicative work. At a minimum, participating colleges should be delineating the courses that they need to get to zero to complete their identified ZTC pathway. Ideally, they are also able to indicate how they intend to achieve zero – whether by developing, adopting, or adapting OER or some other mechanism.

The "cohorted" disciplines are listed below, with anticipated sub-areas within each discipline noted.

- Administration of Justice
- Anthropology
- Art History
- Art (Studio Art)
- Biology
  - Majors
  - Pre-Health
- Business Administration
- Chemistry
- Child Development/Early Childhood Education
  - Early Childhood Education (ECE) Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)
  - Child and Adolescent Development ADT
  - ECE Career Technical Education Certificates
- Communication Studies
- Data Science
- Economics
- Elementary Teacher Education
- English
- Film, Television, and Electronic Media // Multimedia
  - FTVE ADT
  - Multimedia
- Geography
- Geology
- History
- Humanities
- Journalism
- Library Science and Library Technology
  - Library Science
  - Library Technology
- Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
• Psychology
• Social Work and Human Services
  o Social Work and Human Services ADT
  o Human Services
• Sociology
• Spanish

• 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

• OER Liaison Events •

Tuesday, January 30, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
OERL Webinar - Budget Basics for OER Liaisons
If you've struggled to understand object codes and budget transfers, or wondered what "allowable expenses" means, this is the webinar for you. Merritt College OER Liaison, Ngheim Thai, who has held administrative, classified, and faculty roles, will go over the basics of developing, understanding, and working with college budgets.
Register for the OERL Webinar – Budget Basics for OER Liaisons

• End of OERL-Specific Newsletter •
The rest of this newsletter contains content for a general audience, and you are expected to share it with your colleagues, as appropriate. We’ve provided a sample message that you can use, but feel free to adapt it to your college culture. Please note that if you have not signed up for our general newsletter, you may wish to do so as it can easily be forwarded on with your personalized message added as an introduction. Sign up for the ASCCC OERI List Serv.

• Sample Cover Message to Send to Your College •
Greetings! As the Open Educational Resources Liaison for our college, it is my responsibility to share communications from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI). Please read on to learn about upcoming events and opportunities that are open to all.

If I can assist you as you consider OER for your classes or answer any OER related questions, please let me know.

• 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