



ASCCC OERI March 2024 OER Liaison Newsletter

As the sports fans among you recover from the joy or agony of the Super Bowl and prepare for March Madness, the OERI is working diligently to begin convening the Collaboration Cohorts. Several of our upcoming events are directly related to our cohort-data findings.

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](#).
 - [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 this term with an OERI representative to share local needs and issues.

• ZTC Acceleration Grant Collaboration Cohort Updates •

The OERI has reviewed the submitted cohort data and is following up with the colleges that either did not provide data or supplied incomplete information. Part of this process will include ensuring college awareness of the available ZTC or OER resources. This month – and in the months ahead – we will be scheduling webinars designed to address the needs identified from the cohort data.

We're presently in the process of sharing the data we have compiled with the OERI Discipline Leads for their analysis. Curious as to how many colleges are in the cohorts? Access [ZTC Acceleration Grant Collaboration Cohorts Data](#) to see how many colleges provided data to the OERI and how many colleges are potentially participating.

Any updates that we share regarding the ZTC Acceleration Grant Collaboration Cohorts will be archived on our [Collaboration Cohort FAQs and Updates](#) page. Formal requests for information will always be sent to the designated college contacts. The OERI's Canvas course may be used from time to time to share information in an informal manner, particularly when the OERI is hearing specific concerns from the field. Please find information regarding the course at tinyurl.com/ASCCC-OpenEd.

• Anticipated ZTC Future Funding •

At the February California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) ZTC Office Hour it was shared that a new opportunity to apply for ZTC funds is anticipated to be made available in late April. Two types of "Impact Grants" were announced, one for pathways that are unlikely to be duplicative and another for those that were previously subjected to the Collaboration Cohort process. The first type will require colleges to demonstrate impact and the second type will require colleges to delineate how their work differs from what was accomplished by the colleges that participate in the cohort process. This non-competitive funding opportunity is scheduled to be available through December 16 and, like the Acceleration Grants, the established ZTC pathways would need to be available by Fall 2026.

Additional communications about ZTC funding from the CCCCCO are anticipated and will be archived by the OERI at [CCCCO ZTC Listserv Communications](#).

• LibreTexts and LibreNet Membership •

Since its inception, the OERI has worked closely with [LibreTexts](#), as have many faculty across the state. The OERI has benefitted from many of the services provided by LibreTexts and anticipates continuing to do so. Several years ago, OERI became a full LibreNet member and negotiated an arrangement to make affiliate memberships available to all of our colleges. One of the most useful benefits of LibreNet memberships is the removal of the 5-book limit for individual college bookshelves. As few colleges had exceeded the LibreTexts 5-book limit that is provided to all colleges for free at the time the OERI joined the LibreNet, we were not as proactive in sharing the established arrangement as we could have been. Even though the California Community Colleges system as a whole has not joined LibreNet, individual colleges are able to join as affiliate members at the rate of \$500 per year through July 1, 2024 when the cost will increase to \$750 per year, and can pre-pay for up to 3 years; full membership is also available for each campus for \$1000 per year through July 1, 2024 when the cost will increase to \$1500 per year, and can also be prepay for up to 3 years. Affiliate campuses do not receive dedicated training or a branded Campus Commons ([OERI Commons](#)), and are not eligible for the fee waivers offered to full LibreNet members for LibreTexts

annual LibreFest and OctoberFest workshops.

An overview of what LibreTexts provides for free and is available on [the LibreTexts website](#). As colleges are engaging in ZTC efforts and, hopefully, taking their OER work to the next level, it's a great time to begin institutional conversations about what the college needs to maintain their ZTC efforts. If the OERI can help you with these local conversations, please let us know.

• March 2024 OER Liaison Events •

While the OERL events are intended for OERLs, please invite colleagues to attend any OERL event that would be of broader interest.

Thursday, March 7, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Emotional Intelligence for Open Educational Resources (OER) Advocacy

Emotional intelligence can be defined as being able to perceive, understand, and manage one's emotions, as well as have an awareness of and empathy for the emotions of others. The OERI has invited Dr. Selena Kohel, a professor of psychology at Cottey College, to present a conceptual model of emotional intelligence and related tools that OER advocates may find helpful in building relationships and leading your local OER efforts.

[Register for Emotional Intelligence for OER Advocacy](#)

Tuesday, March 19, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

OERL Conversation: Tracking Open Educational Resources (OER) and Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Projects

How is your college tracking OER and ZTC projects? Are you using a tracking tool, spreadsheet, or other way of documenting the work? In this conversation, please bring your questions or suggestions about how to organize and track ZTC and OER projects. Crowdsource ideas and offer up suggestions with colleagues!

[Register for Tracking OER and ZTC Projects](#)

Thursday, March 21, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Student Participation in Local Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Efforts

It's important that we don't forget to include the student voice in our ZTC efforts. In this panel discussion, students who are involved in their college's ZTC efforts will share the work they do and provide suggestions for enhancing student involvement that you can incorporate into your local ZTC efforts.

[Register for Student Participation in Local ZTC Efforts](#)

• 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.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share ideas with colleagues from around the world. We encourage you and your colleagues to attend.

• **March Discipline Highlight – Spanish** •

Spanish was originally one of the disciplines that was hesitant about OER due to its need for a viable homework system. As open homework systems have improved, that barrier has been removed and the OER available for teaching Spanish continue to increase. Whether you want a ready-to-use text with a homework system or whether you want to remix and create your own, there are now robust options for many Spanish courses. Access the available resources at [Open Educational Resources and Spanish](#) or [OER and the Spanish TMC](#). Or [Watch the “Getting Spanish to Zero” recording](#) from October of 2023 to learn more.

• **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, March 1, 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Mythbusting: Addressing Misconceptions About Open Educational Resources (OER)

“But my course won’t articulate if I use OER.” “OER is just too complicated to use.” “OER is just not as good.” “There isn’t OER in my discipline.” “I just can’t give up the ancillary materials that come with my book.” Join us to learn the truth behind these and other common myths and misunderstandings about Open Educational Resources.

[Register for Mythbusting: Addressing Misconceptions About OER](#)

Friday, March 15, 10:30 am - 11:30 am

True Access: Ensuring Student Access to Course Resources on Day 1

There are some students who can’t access course resources because of delays in financial aid or other funding sources. What if you could provide students with the time they need to purchase your commercial text? While adopting open educational resources (OER) may not be an option for all courses or may simply not be something you’re ready to do, the value of removing cost-barriers to first-day access to course resources is obvious. Join us for a discussion of sustainable approaches to ensuring equitable access to course materials on the first day.

[Register for True Access: Ensuring Student Access to Course Resources on Day 1](#)

• IDEA Framework Basics Training Series•

Friday, March 22, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Anti-Racism in Action: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Framework Basics Training

Using Open Educational Resources (OER) is an important element of student equity efforts at all of our colleges. Join us for a hands-on training to learn how you can use the OERI IDEA Framework to ensure your course materials reflect anti-racist and culturally-relevant pedagogy. In this training, we will review the IDEA Framework and explore how it can be used as an assessment tool for OER. Remember, equity is a journey and not a destination. Let’s keep going!

[Register for Anti Racism in Action: IDEA Framework Basics Training](#)

Thursday, April 18, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Incorporating Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) in the Creation of Open Educational Resources (OER)

Planning on developing new OER? If so, come learn how you can incorporate inclusion, diversity, equity, and anti-racism from the start by using the IDEA Framework to guide the creation of your OER materials.

[Register for Incorporating IDEA in the Creation of OER](#)

Thursday, May 9, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Framework Assessment Process

Join us in exploring the complete IDEA Framework assessment process including the IDEA principles, assessment categories, and other important considerations when reviewing OER.

[Register for IDEA Framework Assessment Process](#)

• OERI Discipline Lead Events •

The [OERI Discipline Leads](#) regularly host conversations and webinars to share resources, identify needs, and build community. These events are intended for discipline faculty and those who have an interest in the discipline as supporters or advocates. A “conversation” or office hours are informal discussions and will not be recorded. Webinars will be recorded and 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.

Monday, March 11, 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Communication Studies Open Educational Resources (OER) Projects and Cohort Work

Join communication studies faculty to review available OER, find out about in-progress or recently completed OER projects, and identify gaps in the available OER. Let’s also explore common needs that may be best addressed through cross-district collaboration. This will be a casual and collaborative discussion of how to move our discipline ahead in our efforts to create affordable pathways for our students.

[Register for Communication Studies Projects and Cohort Work](#)

Tuesday, March 12, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Open Educational Resources (OER) for Psychology: Strong and Getting Stronger

While some colleges are working on establishing zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) psychology pathways by using OER, other colleges have already done so. What OER are available to make your psychology associate degree for transfer (ADT) ZTC? Join us to discuss available OER and what you need to achieve ZTC for the courses you teach.

[Register for OER for Psychology: Strong and Getting Stronger](#)

Tuesday, March 12, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Open Educational Resources (OER): Walking Through Available OER for the ECE Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

Despite – or because of – the wealth of resources available for ECE (and child development), many colleges are using grant funds to establish zero-textbook-cost

(ZTC) ECE ADTs. Further, many of the ECE ADT foundational courses are also required in other degrees and certificates so getting these courses to ZTC will benefit more students than just those pursuing ECE ADTs. In this webinar we will explore the resources available for teaching the eight courses needed to establish ZTC ECE ADT. [Register for ECE and OER: Walking Through Available OER Resources for the ECE ADT](#)

Thursday, March 14, 9:30 am – 10:30 am
Early Childhood Education (ECE) and Open Educational Resources (OER): Videos and Other Hard-to-Find Content.

More ECE OER has become available over the last few years. Unfortunately, some content is still hard-to-find. Join us for a conversation about places to look and come share the treasures you have found in your own searching.

[Register for ECE and OER: Videos and Other Hard-to-Find Content](#)

Thursday, March 14, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Rock and Mineral Collections for Zero-Textbook-Cost (ZTC) Geology Lab Courses: Help Determine our Strategy

Physical geology lab courses generally include robust rock and mineral identification components, requiring an alignment between the content of the lab manual and the resources the college has available to teach the lab. How do we ensure that available ZTC lab manuals meet the needs of all the colleges? Please join us to help determine how to achieve this. We will investigate pertinent questions such as: Are images of rocks and minerals sufficient? Do we all already own the same resources, such as Ward's Washington School rock and mineral box? We will also introduce the Geology OER collection and discuss OERs currently in development.

[Register for Rock and Mineral Collections for ZTC Geology Lab Courses](#)

Wednesday, March 20, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Hospitality Management and Open Educational Resources (OER)

While hospitality management programs across the California Community Colleges vary widely, the existence of C-ID descriptors for hospitality management associate degrees for transfer (ADT) provides a mechanism for identifying comparable courses across the colleges – and assists in the development of resources that meet statewide needs. Join this conversation to learn about the available OER and share your own OER needs.

[Register for Hospitality Management and OER](#)

Thursday, March 21, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC), Open Educational Resources (OER), and Political Science Cohort: What Can I Expect?

The ZTC Acceleration Grant Collaboration Cohorts established by the ASCCC OERI will increase the use of OER by ensuring an awareness of openly-licensed texts and ancillaries as well as, hopefully, lead to the development new resources. This webinar will provide an opportunity to share the resources and needs identified through the gathering of ZTC data from the cohort members – and a place to discuss potential collaborations.

[Register for ZTC, OER, and Political Science](#)

Friday, March 22, 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Biotechnology and Open Educational Resources (OER): Collecting Material for Curation and Creation

Join us in this conversation to explore curated examples of expanded and developed material in biotechnology. Our goals for our time together are to share ideas and materials and set up collaborations with colleagues.

[Register for Biotechnology and OER: Collecting Material for Curation/Creation](#)

Thursday, March 28, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Open Educational Resources (OER) for Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology

An analysis of zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) data obtained from California Community Colleges (CCC) reveals that the biology courses that commonly are needed for allied health pathways are being taught with OER at some colleges and that others have found the available resources lacking. What resources are CCC faculty using - and how have they addressed common complaints about the available OER? Join us to consider the available resources and discuss potential approaches to increasing OER adoption across the CCCs.

[Register for OER for Anatomy, Physiology, and Microbiology](#)

Thursday, March 28, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Zero-Textbook-Cost (ZTC) Labs - Lab-Specific Challenges and Solutions

Labs are commonly reported to be one of the most challenging types of courses to get to ZTC. While openly-licensed lab manuals may be available, what do you do when printing is a must? Are the images in that open educational resource (OER) lab manual of sufficient quality? What is needed to make your homegrown lab manual OER? Join us for an interdisciplinary discussion of the unique barriers to establishing ZTC lab sections and approaches to overcoming them.

[Register for ZTC Labs – Lab-Specific Challenges and Solutions](#)

Math Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of Math OER office hours throughout the term. These office hours will serve as question and answer sessions where attendees bring in their math OER needs, requests, and questions. Attendees can also use this space to receive guidance and ask questions pertaining to MyOpenMath.

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Wednesday, March 6, 8:30 am – 9:30 am](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Tuesday, March 19, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Tuesday, April 2, 10:00 am – 11:00 am](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Monday, April 15, 10:00 am – 11:00 am](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Thursday, May 2, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Wednesday, May 15, 9:00 am – 10:00 am](#)