

ASCCC OERI February 2025 Newsletter

As a new year and a new term start, the OERI is looking forward to sharing OER-related news, resources, and professional development opportunities with you. Do you teach in a discipline for which we presently do not have an [OERI Discipline Lead](#)? If so, please consider submitting an application to take on this role – please find details below.

• **Facilitator-Supported Open Educational Resources (OER) Basics Course** •

The ASCCC OERI is pleased to offer a facilitator-supported version of our OER Basics course. Participants in the ASCCC OERI's facilitator-supported OER Basics course will learn about Creative Commons licensing, evaluating OER, curating and creating OER, and designing accessible materials aligned with Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and Open Educational Practices (OEP). Weekly office hours on Thursdays and Fridays will support participants as they progress through the course and earn their completion badge. It is estimated that course completion will take approximately 20 hours.

Facilitator support will be provided from February 10, 2025 until March 14, 2025. During the course, participants are encouraged to attend the weekly office hours, held twice weekly beginning Thursday, February 13, and ending on Friday, March 14. Office hours for each week will correspond to the modules in the course:

1. OER: Definition and equity implications
2. Creative Commons licenses and copyright: How content can be used and attributed
3. Finding OER: Search strategies and repositories
4. Curating, adapting, and creating OER: Combining resources with different licenses and platforms for creating customized resources

5. UDL and OEP: Creating accessible resources that engage students and promote learning

[Join Thursday, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Office Hour](#)

[Join Friday, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Office Hour](#)

[Register for ASCCC OERI: OER Basics](#)

• Seeking Discipline Leads •

The ASCCC OERI is recruiting faculty to support our OER advocacy efforts by serving as Discipline Leads for the upcoming term. The specific tasks of each Discipline Lead will be determined by the status of the discipline. All Discipline Leads will serve as a resource for their discipline colleagues and will typically host at least one virtual event each term. Discipline Leads receive a stipend of \$500 at the end of each term upon completion of their specified tasks. Please direct any questions about this opportunity to our general OERI e-mail. (oeri@asccc.org) While we are actively recruiting for the listed disciplines, the OERI encourages faculty in other disciplines to submit an application. The ASCCC OERI is currently seeking a Discipline Lead for each of the following:

- ADAPT and Accounting
- ADAPT and Chemistry
- ADAPT and Math
- ADAPT and Physics
- Addiction Studies
- Agriculture
- Counseling
- Data Science
- Education
- English
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Geography
- Health
- History
- Humanities
- Music
- Nutrition
- Nursing
- Public Health
- Social Justice Studies

[View more information about the role and the application procedure on the ASCCC OERI website.](#)

• **Academic Academy, February 20-22, 2025 in San Diego** •

The ASCCC will be hosting the 2025 Academic Academy at the [Town and Country Resort](#) in San Diego February 20-22, 2025.

In 2020, the ASCCC Academic Academy focused on the impact of a global pandemic on distance education. In 2025, half a decade later, our focus turns to the impact of technological advances that have long been foreshadowed in popular culture. Big Brother is watching us – tempting us with advertisements tailored to our interests, presenting us with the news we favor, and guiding us to nearby restaurants. At the same time that various forms of artificial intelligence (AI) are striving to influence our actions and our choices, other forms of AI are improving our writing, assisting us in making travel plans, and helping us to be better teachers. The impact of AI on our lives is undeniable. How do we harness the power of AI to improve teaching and learning while being cognizant of its limitations? Join us to explore the limits and the potential of AI to transform education.

[Register for the 2025 Academic Academy](#)

• **OERI Events – February OERI Friday Forum** •

All Friday Forum webinars are 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. During the Spring 2025 term, the OERI Friday Forums will be one the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month from 10:30 am – 11:30 am.

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

Friday, February 7, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

The Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) and the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Program

In light of the recent changes in the approach to the expenditure of the ZTC Degree Program funds, how will the work of the OERI change? Join us to discuss the OERI's goals and plans – and to share your ideas and questions.

[Register for The OERI and ZTC Degree Program](#)

Friday, February 21, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

Findings from the 2024 Open Educational Resources (OER) Liaison Survey

Since its inception, the OERI has gathered data from local OER Liaisons on a yearly basis. While the focus of the survey has shifted over time, many of the questions have been repeated in order to track changes. Join us to explore what has and hasn't changed – and to learn about the various ways OER and cost-transparency efforts are being implemented across the state.

[Register for Findings from the 2024 OER Liaison Survey](#)

• 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 for those who have an interest in the discipline as supporters or advocates. Webinars will be recorded and archived. A “conversation” or an office hour are informal discussions and recordings may be shared upon approval of the presenter. 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.

Love at First Byte: AI and OER's Digital Romance, a Communication Studies Love Story

Thursday, February 13, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Discussing Open Educational Resources (OER) in the communication studies discipline needs to include conversations around how Artificial Intelligence is helping instructors and students, as well as creating barriers for success. This conversation will include some helpful strategies around open pedagogical techniques that instructors can utilize in their OER classrooms.

[Register for Love at First Byte](#)

Open Educational Resources (OER) for Introduction to Business

Friday, February 28, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Introduction to Business ([C-ID BUS 110](#)) is a course commonly taught at California community colleges and well-served by adoptable OER. This webinar will showcase the features, benefits, and usability of a commonly used OER for this course. In addition to discussing the key topics covered in this OER and demonstrating its interactive tools and content structure, tips will be shared for integrating it into teaching.

[Register for Open Educational Resources \(OER\) for Introduction to Business](#)

Biotechnology: Needs and Un-Needs

Friday, March 7, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Join us in this conversation to review the available Open Educational Resources (OER) for biotechnology and identify what is presently missing. We will try to coalesce around

a small set of needed material.

[Register for Biotechnology: Needs and Un-Needs](#)

Physics Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of Physics Open Educational Resources (OER) office hours throughout the term. These office hours will be held on Fridays from 9:00 am – 10:00 am for the Spring 2025 semester. The space serves as a Q&A session where attendees bring in their Physics OER needs, requests, and questions. Attendees can also use this space to receive guidance and ask questions pertaining to MyOpenMath for STEM disciplines. Please see the registration links below.

[Register for Physics OER Office Hours in February](#)

[Register for Physics OER Office Hours in March](#)

[Register for Physics OER Office Hours in April](#)

[Register for Physics OER Office Hours in May](#)

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 a questions and answers session 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, February 5, 9:00 am – 10:00 am](#)

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Friday, February 21, 10:00 am – 11:00 am](#)