ASCCC OERI February 2025 OER Liaison Newsletter

While Spring 2025 may still be weeks away for some of you, the term has already begun for others. We look forward to working with you in the term ahead. A lot has happened over the past month and as the OERI plans for the future, we need to hear from OER Liaisons and ZTC leads about how the OERI can best deploy its resources to address your local ZTC pathway development needs. At the same time, we've started scheduling professional development opportunities that we hope will be useful.

• Spring 2025 OER Liaison Expectations and Activity Tracking •

For a complete list of the OER Liaison expectations, please see the Spring 2025 OERL Expectations Document on the OERI website. As the term progresses, all OER Liaisons will need to document their Fall 2025 OER Liaison "attendance" activities using the Spring 2025 Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet (tinyurl.com/OERL-2025S). Attend an OER Liaison Spring 2025 Kick-Off, live or archived, by March 21, 2025. All will be delivered via Zoom. Attendance at a live session is encouraged. New, or newer, OERLs will be invited to the Spring 2025 New OERL Kick-Off which has yet to be scheduled.

OER Liaison Kick-Offs

January

- Register for Thursday, January 30, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Kickoff

February

- Register for Wednesday, February 5, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Kickoff
- Register for Monday, February 10, 10:30 am - 11:30 am Kickoff
- Register for Tuesday, February 18, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Kickoff
- Register for Thursday, February 27, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Kickoff

March

- Register for Monday, March 3, 10:00 am - 11:00 am Kickoff
- Register for Friday, March 14, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Kickoff

• 2024 - 2025 Exemplary Program Award Winners •

Coalinga College and Diablo Valley College were the recipients of the 2024-2025 Exemplary Program Award, which honors community college programs demonstrating innovation and excellence. Lemoore College and MiraCosta College earned this year's honorable mentions.

This year's theme, 'Integrating, Advancing, and Sustaining Open Educational Resources for Access and Equity,' recognized programs that addressed the challenges, experiences, and perspectives of students, focusing on ethnic studies courses that enable them to explore their own narratives.

Congratulations to all the recipients. Read more about the 2024 – 2025 Exemplary Program Award Winners.

• ZTC 2025 Allocation •

On December 19, 2024 the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) distributed ZTC 2025 Allocation (ESLEI 24-71). This memo indicated that each of the system's degree-granting colleges would receive $320,000 via apportionment in early 2025 with the expectation that these funds would be used to establish two ZTC pathways. It also indicated that funds would be allocated to the OERI to support this work. A follow-up communication on January 13, 2025 shared that "The Chancellor's Office is also in the process of designing and releasing an RFP to provide a robust, statewide OER platform for system use – a necessary next step in supporting a statewide OER infrastructure as recommended by the Burden Free Instructional Materials Task Force." This communication also explicitly stated that the additional funds could be used to support the development of pathways that had not previously been fully funded. The OERI continues to archive the ZTC-related communications distributed on the ZTC listserv at CCCCO ZTC Listserv Communications. Additional information about the ZTC 2025 allocation will be shared at a webinar on January 29.

Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) 2025 Allocation Overview Webinar
Wednesday, January 29, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Attendees will receive information regarding the ZTC 2025 Allocation, the system-wide goals for the ZTC Degree Grant Program, options that colleges will have to use the ZTC 2025 funding, and the outcomes that will be required for future ZTC reports. OER/ZTC leads, administrators overseeing ZTC efforts, and CIOs are invited to attend and receive guidance regarding next steps for the ZTC Degree Grant Program.
Register for the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) 2025 Allocation Overview Webinar

• ZTC Program Support and Sustainability •

As the OERI prepares to actively support local ZTC efforts, we are scheduling professional development opportunities intended to assist the local launching of OER development efforts – from increasing the availability of support for faculty preparing to develop OER to identifying ways to address local project management needs. The input of OER Liaisons and ZTC leads will inform our efforts. We will be creating opportunities for you to share your thoughts, ideas, and questions in the scheduled OERL Kickoffs and other venues in the months ahead.

The OERI has long recognized the need to provide a means to ensure the sustainability of the OER it has supported the development of and is also committed to establishing a process to facilitate the update of commonly used OER more generally. What's the best way to track developments that need to be incorporated into course materials – and how do we facilitate the integration of necessary changes into existing OER? As approaches by discipline are likely to vary, determining how to proceed will require the engagement of discipline faculty. We anticipate piloting approaches with a few disciplines that can then be modified to meet the needs of others.

• OER Adoption Data Collection Efforts •

We need your help! The OERI has established a simple mechanism for any faculty member to report an OER adoption so that we may gather adoption and minor adaptation data as a component of the ZTC reporting. To report the adoption of a specific resource, please navigate to the relevant discipline collection or search for the resource in our OER by C-ID table. Each textbook equivalent will have a button that leads to a brief form.

Please share this information widely to help us in our data collection 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 as an OERL, you are automatically signed up for our general newsletter. The general newsletter can easily be forwarded on with your personalized message added as an introduction.

• 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.

Thursday, February 13, 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Love at First Byte: AI and OER's Digital Romance, a Communication Studies Love Story
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

Friday, February 28, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Open Educational Resources (OER) for Introduction to Business
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

Friday, March 7, 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Biotechnology: Needs and Un-Needs
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