



## ASCCC OERI September 2025 OER Liaison Newsletter

Welcome to the Fall 2025 term and the 2025-2026 academic year. While there were no true surprises over the summer, there was one important development – the new title 5 regulation 5, [§ 54221 Burden-Free Access to Instructional Materials](#), was chaptered on July 1, 2025, and became effective July 30, 2025. Your district has 180 days from the effective date to modify its policies and procedures to fulfill the regulatory requirements, with a deadline of Jan. 26, 2026. This new regulation requires local governing boards to “adopt policies that ensure student access to textbooks and supplemental materials that are needed on the first day of class” and emphasizes the use of OER. The OERI is anticipating that resolutions related to the requirements may be needed and will host a webinar in early September to explore ideas. The OERI will also hold a webinar in October on the new regulation. If you have any questions and/or your college has already initiated changes in response to the regulation, [please let the OERI know](#).

The summer was a busy one and the year ahead looks to be as well. We’re looking forward to catching up with you to learn about your OER-related accomplishments and needs as well as helping you to identify your OER-related goals. We hope that this new approach will support you in taking your OER advocacy to the next level – whether you are just getting started or you have been in the OERL role for several years. Please note that we are anticipating that the Chancellor’s Office will be scheduling a webinar on adding ZTC-supported OER to COOL4Ed later this month. In addition, the OERI will host a COOL4Ed webinar in early October. Don’t forget, [ZTC Monthly Office Hours](#) are held on the last Friday of the month from 9:00 am-10:00 am.

During the Fall 2025 term, OERI’s twice monthly Friday Forum webinars will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, from 10:30 am – 11:30 am, with the final Forum of the term – and the year – held on December 5. As always, you can find registration information on our website and in our monthly newsletters.

### • OER and Curriculum •

At the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Curriculum Institute this summer, the OERI repeatedly was asked questions about OER and publication dates. Consequently, we wanted to remind OERLs of the ASCCC resolution

that proposes a solution. Please share this with colleagues at your college, as appropriate.

Open Educational Resources and Publication Date (Fall 2024, Resolution Number 111.04)

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges supports removing the requirement of an international standard book number (ISBN) and a copyright date from all curriculum and articulation processes when open educational resources (OER) are specified;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges was directed by Resolution 22F 09.01 to work with all appropriate statewide entities that establish textbook-related policies and requirements that impact the California community colleges to remove any requirements that act as barriers to the use of OER; and

Whereas, ASSIST requires that a year be provided on textbooks when courses are submitted for articulation, and the University of California Transfer Course Agreement guidelines state that “textbooks must be dated within seven years of the course submission date or clearly identified as a ‘Classic text’ in the course outline of record,” yet editable OER can be modified at any time; and

Whereas, Both the APA and MLA style guides recommend the date an electronic resource was accessed or retrieved be used when no publication date is available;

Resolved, That the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges encourage colleges to establish policies or practices that recognize the date of last access as the date of publication for an editable OER that does not provide a publication or last updated date.

## **• Fall 2025 OER Liaison Kick-Offs and Goal Setting •**

The OERI supports OERLs so that they may serve as advocates by taking an active role in increasing local OER awareness, adoption, and support. OERLs are faculty who are appointed by their local academic senate. Each college’s OERL will be eligible for a yearly stipend of \$1,200. OERLs who complete the specified activities for a given term (fall or spring) will receive \$600 after the term’s end upon verification of their completed work. Local senates may appoint more than one OERL, with the duties and stipend divided in a manner deemed appropriate by the senate. All appointments and exceptions must be verified by the local senate president. Your local senate president should direct any OERL updates to the OERI’s general email ([oeri@asccc.org](mailto:oeri@asccc.org)).

All OERLs are required to either attend a Fall 2025 Kick-Off or view the Fall 2025 Kick-Off recording prior to attending an OERL Fall 2025 Goal-Setting meeting. New OERLs are expected and encouraged to attend the live Kick-Off since it has been designed to introduce them to the OERL role as well as provide a general update on recent OER developments. All OERLs will need to attend an OERL Fall 2025 Goal-Setting meeting

by October 10 and identify their goals for the term by October 17. Your Regional Lead will contact you with more information about the format of your area's meetings. For a complete list of the OER Liaison expectations, please see the [Fall 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 [Fall 2025 Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet](#) ([tinyurl.com/OERL-2024F](https://tinyurl.com/OERL-2024F)).

**Tuesday, September 2, 9:00 am - 10:00 am**

**Open Educational Resources Liaison (OERL) Kick-Off for New Liaisons**

OERL Kick-Offs are designed to prepare OERLs for their roles, especially those who are new or newer to the role, as well as to provide important updates. New OERLs are strongly encouraged to attend an in-person Kick-Off.

[Register for the OERL Kick-off for New Liaisons – Sept 2](#)

**Monday, September 29, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

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[Register for the OERL Kick-off for New Liaisons – Sept 29](#)

**• OER Liaison Events – September 2025 •**

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

**Thursday, September 4, 2025, 10:00 am – 11:00 am**

**Open Educational Resources Liaison (OERL) Conversation: Goal Setting for Fall 2025**

Interested in discussing the new OERL goal-setting expectation? This OERL conversation will be a space to chat about what makes a productive goal and how to set goals that are both measurable and achievable—or how to set a worthy goal but maybe not achieve it (and that's ok!). Bring your ideas for possible goals and we'll workshop them together.

[Register for OER Liaison Conversation: Goal Setting for Fall 2025](#)

**Monday, September 8, 2025, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm**

**Open Educational Resources (OER) and Academic Senate California Community Colleges (ASCCC) Resolutions for Fall 2025 Plenary**

What OER positions (or OER-related positions) would you like to see the statewide Academic Senate take? Should the ASCCC provide a recommended approach to calculating the savings associated with OER adoption? Are there measures that the ASCCC might recommend to local senates as they consider course cost transparency and faculty awareness of textbook costs? In light of the new title 5 regulation focused on ensuring first-day burden-free access to instructional materials, what policies might the ASCCC recommend that local boards of trustees could adopt? Join us to learn about the ASCCC and the resolutions the OERI is developing – and to share your ideas with

us.

[Register for OER and ASCCC Resolutions for Fall 2025 Plenary](#)

**Monday, September 15, 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm**

**Approaches to Open Educational Resources (OER) Sustainability**

The OERI's vision for sustaining OER in the California Community Colleges has always been focused on growing the OER movement and supporting OER advocates who are integrating OER into their local culture, policies, and practices. How do we make OER the norm, as opposed to the exception? Our local academic senates have input into planning and budgetary processes, providing faculty with the ability to influence the integration of OER into college structures and demonstrating the impact of OER, thereby making dedicated funding more likely. Join us to discuss strategies to increase institutional sustainability when implementing OER at your college or district.

[Register for Approaches to OER Sustainability](#)

**• 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.

**• Sample Cover Message to Send to Your College •**

Hello! As the Open Educational Resources Liaison for our college, it is my pleasure 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 free and 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.

**• Cal OER 2025 – Thank you! •**

Thank you to all who attended Cal OER 2025 in August. The opening keynote and the system updates are now available on the [Cal OER YouTube channel](#). Based on attendee feedback, the Cal OER Planning Committee will be identifying new dates for 2026. Stay tuned!

**• OERI Summer Projects •**

The OERI is piloting a process to review and update commonly adopted resources. The following projects are in progress and are expected to be completed by the end of Fall 2025.

- Updates and revisions to [OpenStax Introduction to Business](#) in LibreTexts.
- Updates and revisions to [OpenStax Psychology 2e](#) in LibreTexts.

In addition, a team of communication studies faculty is developing a standalone resource that can be integrated into any public speaking OER to ensure such texts address the content, objectives/outcomes, and standards required by both the [Common Course Numbering COMM C1000 template](#) and [Cal-GETC Area 1C \(Oral Communication\)](#). If you or your faculty have initiated work to meet this need, please let the OERI know. And many thanks to Citrus College for sharing a new remix titled [Essentials of Exemplary Public Speaking](#) which has been developed to address the aforementioned needs.

To support faculty who are needing additional content to teach a public speaking course during the present term, the OERI has developed an analysis of available OER to meet those needs and is sharing a wide array of OER via a Canvas shell. Please find links to these resources on the [Open Educational Resources and Communication Studies](#) page.

After the OERI communication studies team has completed its work compiling and developing content to meet the new requirements, it will be integrated into [Stand up, Speak out – The Practice and Ethics of Public Speaking in LibreTexts](#) (CC BY-NC-SA). An overview of where the content was integrated will be provided to support its inclusion into other OER.

OpenStax Introduction to Business, OpenStax Psychology 2e, and Stand up, Speak out – The Practice and Ethics of Public Speaking have all undergone an OERI Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Antiracism (IDEA) Framework Assessment. Feedback received from the assessment will be integrated into these texts as quickly as possible.

## • **Chancellor’s Office Update: Request for Proposals (RFP) on Open Educational Resources (OER) Platform** •

The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office issued a RFP soliciting qualified vendors to submit proposals for the development and provision of a comprehensive OER platform. This platform will serve as a centralized, statewide repository for OER materials to facilitate the adaptation and remixing of existing content while advancing the systemwide goal of minimizing student costs. The selected platform will support a dynamic and sustainable environment for the curation, maintenance, adoption, and preservation of OER materials, including those developed through the substantial \$115 million investment of the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Grant Program.

### **Scope and Objectives:**

- Provision of a robust OER repository with advanced functionalities for content adaptation and remixing
- Alignment with burden-free student cost initiatives
- Support for ongoing curation, adoption, and sustainability of OER content
- Preservation of OER materials funded by the ZTC Degree Grant Program

## **RFP Availability and Submission Deadline**

[Access the OER Platform RFP](#). Interested vendors are invited to submit their proposals no later than 5:00 PM (Pacific Time), Friday, September 12, 2025.

## **• OER Project Dashboard •**

Since receiving numerous requests to learn about the OER that colleges are creating locally with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) funds, the OERI is pleased to share our [OER Project Dashboard](#) that contains project information gathered from the [ZTC Acceleration Cohort process](#). While information is limited for some of the projects, we hope you will find the dashboard useful.

If you participated in the ZTC Collaboration Cohort process and have an update to share, please submit the information through our [OER Project Update Submission form](#). Are you working on a project that is not included on the dashboard? Please [provide your project information](#) so we can share it with the field!

## **• OERI Discipline Leads Wanted •**

The OERI is recruiting Discipline Leads for 2025 – 2026. Discipline Leads receive a stipend of \$600 per term for completing their assigned tasks and are also eligible to receive a stipend for taking the OERI's courses. [Read more about the Discipline Lead role](#) and the process for applying.

The OERI encourages faculty in all disciplines to apply. While we are presently recruiting Leads for the following disciplines, we are always happy to consider other disciplines as well.

- Addiction Studies
- Agriculture
- Asian American Studies
- Counseling
- Data Science
- Engineering
- Health
- Humanities
- Native American Studies
- Nutrition
- Nursing
- Public Health
- Social Justice Studies

## **• ASCCC OERI OER Development Support Options •**

Since its inception, the OERI has provided OER-related professional development opportunities across the state and developed resources to support OER exploration,



advocacy, development, and sustainability. In addition, through five OER-development funding cycles, the OERI has created a comprehensive process consisting of multiple components to facilitate OER development.

Since colleges may need assistance in OER adaptation and development as they establish ZTC pathways, the OERI is prepared to tailor its support to meet those local needs. See more of what the OERI has to offer in the [ASCCC OERI OER Development Support Options](#). Learn how the OERI can support your college at [tinyurl.com/OERI-Support](https://tinyurl.com/OERI-Support).

## • ASCCC AI, Distance Education, and IDEA OERI Events •

In Fall 2023, the OERI expanded its leadership team to include Tiffany Lanoix as its Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Antiracism (IDEA) Lead. The impact of having a dedicated lead has prompted the OERI to introduce two additional leads to further the OERI's work in specific areas. Elizabeth (Liz) Encarnacion will be exploring the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Open Educational Resources (OER) and Jim Julius is committed to more effectively establishing connections with the distance education (DE) community. If you have specific interests with respect to OER and AI, DE, and/or IDEA that you'd like to see the OERI address, [please share them with us](#). This month you'll see that we are featuring AI in our second Friday Forum.

**Friday, September 5, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm**

### **Open Educational Resources (OER) and Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA): Leveraging OER to Support IDEA**

By using OER, faculty can customize course materials to reflect their distinctive approach to the curriculum. Additionally, the ASCCC OERI IDEA Framework can help faculty in adapting those materials to reflect the diversity of their unique students. The recently developed IDEA Framework Assessment Process is designed to assist faculty who wish to improve their resources with IDEA principles in mind. Join us to learn about the intersection of OER and IDEA – and OERI's IDEA plans for the future.

[Register for OER and IDEA: Leveraging OER to Support IDEA](#)

**Friday, September 12, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm**

### **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) Office Hour**

Drop in to chat about ASCCC's IDEA Framework. This space is for anyone using the framework to assess existing OER materials, to create new OER, or to discuss all things IDEA. Join your IDEA colleagues to ask questions, to get feedback, or to brainstorm.

[Register for the IDEA Office Hour](#)

## • OERI Events – September OERI Friday Forums •

During the Fall 2025 academic term, the OERI Friday Forums will be held from 10:30 am – 11:30 am on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month. 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.

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

**Friday, September 5, 10:30 am - 11:30 am**

**Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) by Design: The OERI Project Management Course Tour**

What does it take to effectively guide faculty through an Open Educational Resources (OER) project? Whether you are leading an OER project or participating in one, having the knowledge needed to be successful - and understanding the work involved – can prepare you for success. Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the OERI Project Management course - your new go-to playbook for leading ZTC pathways and OER initiatives. Packed with ready-to-use tools, smart templates, and strategic insights, this course is built to help you achieve real impact at your college.

[Register for ZTC by Design: The OERI Project Management Course Tour](#)

**The OERI Project Management Course**

The next OERI Project Management Course will begin on Monday, September 29 and end on Friday, October 31. Participants will engage with the online content and meet on Fridays from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm for the duration of the course. Interested in participating? Please check the [ASCCC OERI Fall 2025 OER Project Management Cohort – Interest Form](#).

**Friday, September 19, 10:30 am - 11:30 am**

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the Open Educational Resources (OER) Table: How Much is Too Much?**

AI has joined the conversation of developing and improving existing OER — but how much should we allow it to contribute? What are the ethical considerations and where are the technical red lines? In this session, we'll examine the benefits, boundaries, and potential pitfalls of integrating AI into OER creation. The conversation will balance useful tips with guidance on responsible practice.

[Register for AI at the OER Table: How Much is Too Much?](#)

**• 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, September 4, 2025, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Open Educational Resources (OER) for Public Speaking – Filling Potential Gaps**



During the summer of 2025, a group of communication studies faculty met to identify OER that could be used to address required elements in the public speaking course due to recent statewide curriculum changes. Join us to learn about the summer work, the currently available resources, and the work that is in progress.

[Register for OER for Public Speaking – Filling Potential Gaps](#)