OER OPEN EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES INITIATIVE

ACADEMIC SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

ASCCC OERI January 2026 Newsletter

Happy New Year! While we know many of you are not yet back, the OERI has one webinar scheduled this month and a few announcements to share. In addition, you'll find information about our February Friday Forums and an upcoming opportunity to learn more about being an OERI Discipline Lead.

• OERI Discipline Leads Wanted •

The OERI is recruiting Discipline Leads for Spring 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 self-paced courses. Read more about the Discipline Lead role and the process for applying. If you're interested in the Discipline Lead role but want to know more about it, please consider joining our upcoming webinar that provides an overview of the role and a chance to ask your burning questions.

Monday, February 2, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Being an Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) Discipline Lead but Were Afraid to Ask (AKA OERI Discipline Lead Information Session)
Discipline Leads are a critical component of the OERI ecosystem in serving as a resource for their colleagues and curating the OERI's collection for their discipline. The OERI welcomes applicants from all disciplines and does not require prior experience with OER. Join this webinar to learn about the role and, hopefully, be persuaded to apply.
Register for OERI Discipline Lead Information Session

While we are presently actively recruiting Leads for the following disciplines, we are always happy to consider other disciplines as well.

- Addiction Studies
- Agriculture
- Alternative Fuels and Advanced Transportation Technology
- Asian American Studies
- Automotive Technology
- Chicanx/Latinx Studies
- Commercial Music

- Computer Science
- Counseling
- Data Science
- Dental Assistant
- Electronics
- Emergency Medical Services
- Ethnic Studies
- Fire Technology
- Health
- Health Information Technology
- History
- Hospitality
- Nursing
- Office Technology/Business Information Worker
- Public Health
- Social Justice Studies
- Welding Technology

• Call for Proposals for Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Academia 2026: Navigating the Future •

The call for proposals for Artificial Intelligence and Academia 2026: Navigating the Future is now open. This in-person event (March 19-21) will be held at the Westin South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa. The proposal deadline is January 30 at 5:00pm.

Following the 2025 Academic Academy focused on AI, faculty feedback highlighted a clear and ongoing need for discipline-specific, balanced, and practical approaches to coexist in an environment increasingly altered by AI. While the 2025 event sought to support faculty across the full spectrum of AI experiences and attitudes, responses showed that participants wanted more tailored strategies for their subject areas—including both AI-enabled opportunities and overcoming AI-related challenges involving academic integrity, assessment, and workload concerns.

In partnership with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges is pleased to announce AI and Academia 2026: Navigating the Future. This institute will center discipline-grounded practices, nuanced conversations, and actionable solutions for teaching and learning in a landscape where AI use—and potential misuse—is growing rapidly. The program will include invited presentations and sessions selected through this Call for Proposals.

We invite faculty, researchers, administrators, and practitioners to submit proposals that share innovative approaches, critical perspectives, and real-world applications of AI in community college education. While open educational resources are not explicitly referenced in the guidelines for proposals, OER tools and AI uses that are only possible when working with OER are encouraged.

For more information regarding this event, please visit the [ASCCC Academic Academy 2026 event page](#).

• New! Open Educational Resources (OER) and Astronomy Discipline Collection •

The OER by Discipline collections on the OERI website are continuing to grow as the OERI recruits more Discipline Leads. We are happy to share that our Astronomy Discipline Lead, Rachel Mastrapa, has compiled the [Open Educational Resources and Astronomy collection](#). This curated list of resource is intended to assist faculty in selecting an OER text in lieu of a commercial text. If you are aware of additional resources that should be included, please contact us at the OERI ([oeri@asccc.org](#)) [Click here to view the discipline collections page.](#)

• OERI Events – February OERI Friday Forum •

During the Spring 2026 academic term, the OERI Friday Forums will be held from 10:30 am – 11:30 am on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month through May 1. 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.

Friday, February 6, 10:30 am – 11:30 am
Fall 2025 Open Educational Resources Liaison (OERL) Survey Results
Since its inception, the Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI) has gathered data from local OERLs on a yearly basis. While the focus of the survey has shifted over time, many of the questions have been repeated to track changes in the field. 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 Fall 2025 OERL Survey Results](#)

Friday, February 20, 10:30 am – 11:30 am
Measuring Effort and Analytics with The Forge
In the Artificial Intelligence (AI) era, educators are increasingly challenged by writing assignments and the need to distinguish between student-generated work and AI-leveraged content. The Forge offers a solution by shifting the focus from the final product to the writing process itself. This webinar will explore how instructors across various disciplines - from composition, world languages, and linguistics to chemistry and statistics - can use analytic maps to gain deeper insights into how students construct their work and visualize the writing process. With The Forge's new integration with the LibreTexts ADAPT homework system, students can access The Forge with a single click while providing instructors with analytical tracking and rubric abilities, aligning with equitable grading practices such as mastery grading, contract-based grading, and ungrading by empowering students to show their critical thinking and revision history.
[Register for Measuring Effort and Analytics with The Forge](#)

• 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, January 22, 9:30 am – 10:30 am
Creating Engaging Video Supplements for Open Educational Resource (OER) Textbooks: A Practical Workflow Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools
Join Kim Martin (Copper Mountain College), ECE faculty and former distance education coordinator, as she shares her practical workflow for creating video supplements for OER textbooks. In this hands-on session, you'll learn how to use AI tools like Notebook LM to efficiently produce engaging 5-7 minute educational videos that support student learning.
Register for Creating Engaging Video Supplements for OER Textbooks