

ASCCC OERI May 2026 OER Liaison Newsletter

It's hard to believe that it is almost May and the 2025 – 2026 academic year will soon come to an end. Although we are close to the summer break, there is still quite a lot happening at the OERI. We're pleased to share that ASCCC OERI: LibreTexts Basics and Beyond is now available in Canvas Commons and we anticipate piloting a new LibreTexts ADAPT course by the end of May. As new OER are added to COOL4Ed, we will be sharing them with the appropriate Discipline Leads for inclusion in our collections and, subsequently, sharing them with you. An important reminder: adoptions, minor adaptations, and ZTC resources that are not OER should not be added to COOL4Ed. Also, as adoption data will be a primary consideration as the OERI identifies resources to update, we need your adoption data and will accept it in whatever format it is in. Please see the section of the newsletter devoted to this topic for more explanation. We hope to see many of you over the summer - at the [Online Teaching Conference](#), [ASCCC Curriculum Institute](#), or virtually at [Cal OER](#).

• Spring 2026 OER Liaison (OERL) Expectations •

All OER Liaisons need to document their Spring 2026 OER Liaison “attendance” activities using the [Spring 2026 Liaison Tracking Spreadsheet](https://tinyurl.com/OERL-2026S) (tinyurl.com/OERL-2026S). OERLs are expected to complete – and document – their Spring 2026 OERL activities by Wednesday, May 6. Access the [Spring 2026 OERL Expectations document](#) for more information. Contact your Regional Lead for any questions or concerns. Presentation slides and a recording of the Kick-Off is archived on the [OERI website in the OER Liaisons tab](#) under “OER Liaison Expectations”.

• Low Textbook Cost (LTC) = \$30.00 •

In support of the ASCCC position defining LTC as \$30 or below and the Burden-Free Instructional Materials Implementation Taskforce's recommendation of the same, the XB12 definition of low cost is being modified. Effective Summer 2027, the amount to be used when reporting course materials as low cost via XB12 will be \$30. Colleges can continue to use other amounts locally, but for XB12 reporting purposes they must use \$30 as the low-cost threshold.

• Sharing ZTC Resources •

Please note that our final Friday Forum of the year has been rescheduled to May 8 and will focus on COOL4Ed. As stated in “Adding Zero-Textbook-Cost Grant Program Open Educational Resources (OER) to COOL4Ed” on [the COOL4Ed website](#):

[California Education Code Section 78050-78052](#) (Zero-Textbook-Cost Degree Grant Program) specifies that a community college district that receives Zero-Textbook-Cost (ZTC) funds shall “Ensure all open educational resources developed pursuant to this subdivision is added to the California Digital Open Source Library established in Section 66408.” The California Open Online Library for Education (COOL4Ed) is the library referenced in the legislation and a portal for the addition of ZTC resources has been developed for use by the California Community Colleges.

As COOL4Ed is intended to be a place to submit OER **developed** with ZTC funds, non-OER ZTC resources, OER adoptions, and minor adaptations should not be added to COOL4Ed. A process and location for sharing non-OER ZTC resources has yet to be established. As noted earlier, the OERI will accept your adoption data in whatever format it is in and we have tried to make it simple to report adoptions on our website but [we are more than open to your suggestions](#). If a resource is a minor modification, as determined locally following the guidance provided by Cool4Ed excerpted below, please use the [OER Project Update Submission Form](#) to share it.

In order to ensure the usefulness of COOL4Ed, minor modifications of existing OER (adaptations and remixes) should generally not be added to COOL4Ed. If more than 30–50% of the content (by volume or pedagogical impact) is new, restructured, or substantially changed, it is reasonable to consider it a new resource rather than a minor adaptation. OER that are adapted or remixed with minor changes should be reported to the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges OER Initiative (OERI) with an overview of the changes made. Such resources will be made available by the OERI and the OERI will report this information to the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office. [Access the OER Project Update Submission Form](#) to report your ZTC-funded adapted and remixed OER. If a bulk upload process is desired and/or you are uncertain as to whether to include your OER in COOL4Ed or via the process referenced here, [please contact the OERI for assistance](#) (oeri@asccc.org). The information fields specified for submission to COOL4Ed will suffice for submission to OERI. **Sharing a modified OER with the OERI will fulfill the reporting requirement for such resources** [emphasis added].

• OER Liaison Events – May 2026 •

While these events are intended for OERs, **please invite your colleagues to attend if you think they would be interested.**

Tuesday, May 5, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Part-Time Faculty and an Open Educational Resources Liaison? This One's for You.

Are you an OERL who is also a part time faculty member? Join this conversation to share time management strategies, effective ways to advocate for OER within your role, and some of the advantages and possible pitfalls of being an OERL as a part-time faculty member.

[Register for Part-Time OERs: This One's for You](#)

• 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 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.

• ASCCC OERI Regional Meetings - Introduction to Remixing and Open Homework Systems •

The OERI, in collaboration with [Saddleback College](#) and [Allan Hancock College](#), is pleased to announce regional professional development opportunities for those who intend to remix open educational resources in the [LibreTexts](#) platform and create openly-licensed assessments. Those who support this work are also invited to attend.

Attendees of these in-person events will be introduced to - and actively engage with - LibreTexts, the LibreTexts Remixer, and the [ADAPT Open Homework System](#).

Registration will be closed one week prior to the event. A light breakfast will be served, and lunch will be provided. To defray costs, a registration fee of \$25 will be charged. Space is limited.

[Register for Saturday, May 2, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm OERI Regional at Saddleback College](#)
[Register for Friday, August 14, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm OERI Regional at Allan Hancock](#)

• **Advancing Open Education Together: An Intersegmental OER Summit** •

Join regional colleagues from across California's higher education systems for a day-long event focused on advancing open educational resources (OER) through collaboration, shared learning, and strategic dialogue. Participants from the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges will come together to hear system-level updates, highlight local successes and ongoing challenges, and explore emerging issues shaping the future of open education. The event will also examine the evolving intersection of OER and artificial intelligence and provide space for discussion around regional partnerships and cross-system collaboration. Through conversation and knowledge-sharing, the goal of this gathering is to strengthen the statewide open education community and identify opportunities to expand equitable access to learning materials for students.

Do you have local OER work you would like to share or promote? [Please share what you would like to contribute.](#)

Agenda (subject to change)

8:30 am - 9:00 am - Arrival and check-in (light breakfast to be served)
9:00 am - 9:30 am - Welcome and Introductions
9:30 am - 10:00 am - Community Building Activity
10:00 am - 12:00 pm - State/System-Level and Local Updates and Presentations
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - OER and AI - Intersections and Solutions
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Opportunities for Collaborations // Hot Topics

Registration

A light breakfast will be served and lunch will be provided. To defray costs, a registration fee of \$25 will be charged. Space is limited and registration will be closed one week prior to the event.

Friday, May 15 from 8:30 am to 3 pm
UC Irvine, Irvine, CA
[Register for May 15th Intersegmental OER Summit](#)

Saturday, May 16 from 8:30 am to 3 pm
Norco College, 2001 Third St, Norco, CA 92860
[Register for May 16th Intersegmental OER Summit](#)

• **OERI and LibreTexts at the Online Teaching Conference (OTC) June 23 – 25 in Anaheim** •

For the past few years, OTC has been a great opportunity for OERI representatives to interact with the community of OER users, advocates, and supporters – as well as the

OER curious. This year OERI and LibreTexts are well represented with a sponsor table, numerous presentations, and an interactive pre-conference workshop designed for individuals who want to learn more about LibreTexts and ADAPT.

PC6 – Introduction to LibreTexts and ADAPT

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Presenter/s: ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiative and LibreTexts

Description:

In this hands-on workshop, attendees will learn how to find, edit, and remix the open educational resources (OER) available in the LibreTexts OER publishing platform. Importing LibreTexts into Canvas or any course management system will also be addressed, as will finding, adapting, and developing assessments in the LibreTexts ADAPT homework system. Join us to learn about all that LibreTexts has to offer.

Learning Outcomes:

This session will provide attendees with a foundation to begin their OER journey as they engage with the LibreTexts platform and experiment with its features.

Maximum attendees: 50

Please bring your own laptop (required)

Cost: \$25

[Register for OTC and Pre-Event Workshops](#)

Please use this link if you are interested in registering solely for a Pre-Event Workshop or the DECO Retreat on Tuesday, June 23rd. If you have any issues registering, please let the OERI know.

• ASCCC OERI Seeking New Leads: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism (IDEA) and Distance Education (DE) •

The OERI is recruiting faculty for two important lead roles. Each requires the ability to work independently to identify ways to achieve the goal of establishing connections between the role's focus, OER, and the OERI. As a member of the OERI leadership team, both leads will meet weekly with the rest of the team to participate in planning, information sharing, and problem solving. While OER experience is desired, it is one of many factors to be considered as applicants are reviewed. Below are additional details for each lead.

ASCCC OERI IDEA Lead (20 – 40% reassigned time)

The ASCCC OERI IDEA Framework Lead is involved in implementing the [IDEA Framework](#) by informing discipline-based application of the framework through work with OERI Discipline Leads, providing guidance regarding the implementation of the Framework at the local level, and assisting faculty developing OER in incorporating

IDEA principles into their projects. The successful applicant will continue the work of the outgoing IDEA Lead that includes activities such as increasing the availability of trained IDEA Reviewers and developing (and implementing) a process for selecting and refining OER through application of the framework.

IDEA Lead Minimum Qualifications

- California community college faculty (full-time or part-time)
- Expertise or training in IDEA principles

IDEA Lead Desired Qualifications

- Knowledge and /or experience applying IDEA concepts
- Scholarly expertise in anti-racism
- Lived experience in marginalized communities
- OER author or adopter

ASCCC OERI DE Lead (20 – 40% reassigned time)

The ASCCC OERI DE Lead is involved in establishing connections between OERI and the DE community, identifying opportunities to showcase OER in distance education spaces, and finding ways to collaborate with the California Virtual Campus, Distance Education Coordinators' Organization, and individual online instructors. The OERI DE Lead is an OER advocate who looks for opportunities to leverage OER in DE. As this is a relatively new position, the successful applicant will have the freedom to develop the role in consultation with OERI leadership.

DE Lead Minimum Qualifications

- California community college faculty (full-time or part-time)
- Extensive experience with online instruction

DE Lead Desired Qualifications

- Knowledge and /or experience with POER
- Instructional design experience
- OER author or adopter
- LibreTexts experience

Application Procedure

Interested parties for either position should apply no later than May 8, 2026. Please submit a letter describing your interests and qualifications to the [ASCCC OERI \(oeri@asccc.org\)](mailto:oeri@asccc.org). Both the [ASCCC OERI Application](#) and the [ASCCC Faculty Application for Statewide Service](#) also need to be completed.

• Upcoming LibreTexts Events •

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am – 10:00 am

LibreTexts Office Hours

Twice weekly LibreTexts hosts an office hour where you can have your LibreTexts or ADAPT questions answered by a member of the LibreTexts team.

[Access LibreTexts Office Hours \(Tuesdays and Thursday, 9:00 am – 10:00 am\)](#)

Tuesday, May 5, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Getting Started with LibreTexts ADAPT Open Homework and Assessment Platform

Free, flexible, and built for use with OER, ADAPT is an alternative to expensive commercial homework and assessment platforms. This webinar will show you everything you need to get started. You'll get a tour of the question types available (multiple choice, true/false, numeric, and more), plus specialty tools like the organic chemistry molecule sketcher and Discuss-It, which enables threaded audio and visual discussions right inside your course. We'll also introduce ADAPT's extensive question database, giving faculty a head start when building assignments. If you're looking for a homework platform that doesn't cost your students a dime, this is the session for you.

[Register for Getting Started with LibreTexts ADAPT Open Homework and Assessment Platform](#)

• OERI Events – Friday Forums •

Due to a conflicting event, May's Friday Forum will be held on May 8. 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, May 8, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

COOL4ED: The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly

As of April 15, 2026, over 110 submissions have been made to the [COOL4Ed portal](#), the legislatively required place to share new open educational resources (OER) funded by the Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Grant Program. An analysis of the initial submissions revealed the need for guidance related to how and what to submit to COOL4Ed, as well as the necessity of a place for the sharing of non-OER ZTC resources. The analysis also uncovered new OER that fill previously unmet needs, new ancillaries for commonly adopted OER, and effective practices that need to be incorporated into future COOL4Ed guidance. Join us to explore the good, the bad, and the ugly, discuss proposed guidance to address many of the issues, and to ask your COOL4Ed questions.

[Register for COOL4ED](#)

• OERI Discipline 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.

Monday, May 4, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Three A’s: Ancillaries, Accessibility and ADAPT - Practical Tools for Inclusive Kinesiology and Health Teaching

Come join fellow kinesiology and health faculty for a relaxed, informal conversation around the “three A’s.” We’ll swap ideas, share what’s working (and what’s not), identify gaps in existing open educational resources, and explore how the LibreTexts ADAPT platform can support accessible teaching. This is a space to ask questions, pick up ideas, and learn from each other.

[Register for The Three A’s: Ancillaries, Accessibility and ADAPT](#)

Monday, May 4, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

"Problems" in Philosophical Logic

Join colleagues for a conversation on how to create, locate, share, and implement practice and test problems in logic courses in philosophy. We'll discuss practice problems contained within existing OER textbooks and open databases like LibreTexts' ADAPT and Canvas Commons.

[Register for “Problems” in Logic](#)

Monday, May 4, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Enhancing Biology Instruction with Open Educational Resources (OER) Images, Illustrations, and Infographics

Images, illustrations, and infographics are essential for helping students grasp complex biological processes and structures, especially when encountering them for the first time. Yet many instructors who adopt OER find that available images, illustrations, and figures are often fewer in number and less detailed than those found in commercial publications. In this conversation, participants will explore strategies for enhancing their course materials with high-quality, openly licensed figures. We will examine platforms that provide openly licensed biology images, illustrations, and infographics, and walk through effective search techniques for locating and evaluating these resources. Bring your questions and examples from your own courses and leave with practical tools and resources to improve the visual quality of your instructional materials.

[Register for Enhancing Biology Instruction with OER Images, Illustrations, and Infographics](#)

Monday, May 4, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Exploring New Open Educational Resources (OER) for Geography

The availability of free learning resources is always growing! Let's explore some of what's new! Join this session to learn about new climate and climate change OER and bring your latest discoveries share

[Register for Exploring New OER for Geography](#)

Thursday, May 7, 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Exploring Open Educational Resources (OER) for Addiction Studies

What OER are available for ADS? Faculty who teach ADS courses (such as [Introduction to Addiction Studies](#), [Basic Counseling Skills](#), [Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery](#), and other courses that are required in programs that prepare students to work in the addiction field) are invited to join this webinar to discuss what resources are available and what resources are needed. What do ADS faculty need – and are there ADS faculty interested in using OER?

[Register for Exploring OER for Addiction Studies](#)

Thursday, May 7, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Art History: Values, Strategies, and Possibilities

Join Meg Phelps, Ventura College art history faculty member and instructional designer, as she shares insights and questions from ongoing conversations about AI at her college and beyond. She'll focus on an AI approach that foregrounds defining and acting on values and will share considerations and strategies for content creation in academic spaces.

[Register for AI and Art History: Values, Strategies, and Possibilities](#)

Thursday, May 7, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Empowering Arabic Learning: A Guided Tour of Our Open Educational Resources (OER) Collection

This webinar will showcase a curated collection of OER for Arabic language learning. Attendees will be guided through the resources, learn how to integrate them into courses, and gain practical insights into adapting them for their own teaching. The session will also provide an opportunity to ask questions.

[Register for Empowering Arabic Learning: A Guided Tour of Our OER Collection](#)

Mathematics and Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of math and OER office hours throughout the term. These office hours will serve as a conversational 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 Friday, May 15, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm](#)