# TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

All that you need to know about OER, ZTC, Inclusive Access, and other ways to provide excellent resources for our courses--that don't cost an arm and a leg!

## IN THIS EDITION...

## NEWS FROM ASCCC

- ASCCC OERI Canvas Site--a great resource for all things OER (https://ccconlineed.instructure.com/courses/4543)
- ASCCC-OERI has a new website, which includes links to their webinars: https://asccc-oeri.org/. The webinars link: https://asccc-oeri.org/webinars-and-events/
  - Webinars every Friday, 3-4pm
  - November webinars will be announced the last week of October
  - All webinars are archived. Some recent sessions include:
    - Copyright, Fair Use, and Piracy: Where does OER Fit In?
    - OER--A Simple Solution in Complex Times
    - UDL (Universal Design Layout) 101

## NEXT MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE:
## 24 November, 11am-12noon, via Zoom

(email harmons@smccd.edu for the address)

# Focus Topic: OER and Remote Learning

Now that we all are moving to fully remote learning for the next few months, and social justice and equity being a high priority at most community colleges, more educators are thinking about being using open educational resources for their courses. As we know, OER offer some great perks: they are free to use and are open access; they are digital, which means they can be integrated into a learning management system (like Canvas) easily, and there has been a surge of high-quality (and even peer-reviewed!) textbooks and course materials in the last 5 years. And now that we're all fully online, many of us are looking for more resources--elements that normally our students would access via the library or learning center, or perhaps from class colleagues and professors who pass along information.

With that in mind, check out what has come across the OER list-servs. There are some real gems with respect to connecting resources, using OER for remote learning--and more importantly, include activities and assessments that are Ideas:

- ISKME, the non-profit foundation behind OER Commons is expanding their reach, sending newsletters and creating conversation spaces to discuss the intersection of education, outreach, and equity. Their homepage (https://iskme.org/) has more information, and their YT video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IlHT9Zkhmho) gives a brief glimpse on their mission.
- Compilation of 'Amazing Educational Resources' that are open/free to use (https://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/)--and this has expanded greatly over the summer and fall.
- Resources for everyone--students, faculty--with respect to digital well-being and online learning: https://library.mccnh.edu/well-being--Because we all have to be mindful of the stressors in our lives, as well as those in the lives of our students.

# Other OER News

- Our English colleagues at the College of the Sequoias have a new podcast! The Writability Podcast (https://libguides.cos.edu/writabilitypodcast) is mostly directed at students to improve their engagement in class, improve using the tools that they have at their disposal, and so much more.
- OpenStax has officially surpassed $1 billion in student savings--that is unreal! This speaks to the power of OER, and why these resources are crucial if we are to expand our equity-mindedness practices throughout our campus.
- What our colleagues at Citrus College are using for OER: https://libguides.citruscollege.edu/oer/no-cost-titles--there are some outstanding titles here, including CTE and Transfer courses.
- Texas' OERTex (https://oertx.highered.texas.gov/)--another new repository, full of options that are being used at all of the colleges throughout Texas--including the community colleges. (Austin Community College has been a big supporter of OER.)
- Reedley College's ESL's YouTube channel--student-focused tutorial videos on a variety of language and mechanics lessons.

# From Taskforce to Subcommittee

## All in the name of equity

You may be asking yourself: Why the change? What's the difference between a 'task force' and a 'subcommittee'? Glad you asked!

By the definitions that the Planning and Budgeting Council came up with in May 2020, a 'task force' meets only for a year to work on a very specific problem or query. Anything that meets for longer and/or has a broader scope should be a committee (or subcommittee). For that reason the request was asked of the Academic Senate General Council (since this group was already under them) to turn this body from a 'task force' into a 'subcommittee'--and it was approved in September 2020.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, the body will work on settling group membership, by-laws, and other pieces that are required by an official subcommittee. Our focus always has, and will continue to be, making course materials accessible to all--meaning that equity will always be at the forefront of our mission. And this is not a one-time subject; this work that is on-going, and should be at the fabric of what we do as a college. So join us!
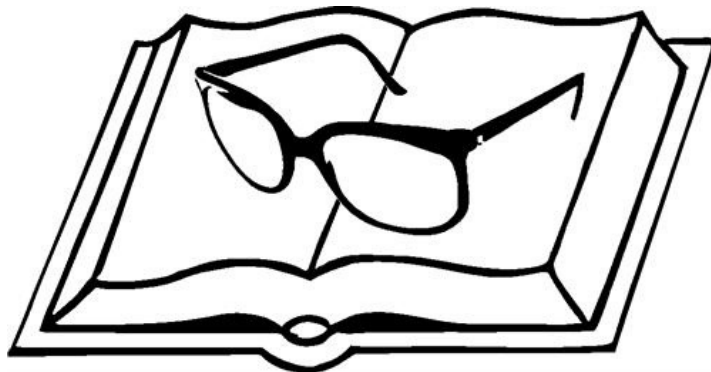
# Latest OER Publications

Check out our growing spreadsheet of OER titles that are available––updated weekly!

Some of the latest titles that have come out since last spring:
- Accounting (business accounting);
- Anthropology (Biological Anthropology and Archaeology);
- Biology (labs, nutrition);
- Business (business law);
- Career (college success);
- Communications (intercultural, interpersonal);
- Computer Science (programming);
- Drama (acting);
- Economics (Microecon);
- English (composition, mechanics, short stories);
- ESL (composition);
- History (women's history, African American history);
- Math (statistics, logic);
- MeteorologyPsychology (abnormal psych)

You can also check out the ASCCC OER Initiative's list of databases, which includes links to OpenStax, LibreText, MERLOT, and so many more. Their discipline-specific list (on the CCC Canvas page) has multiple resources for many disciplines, along with C-ID connected courses.

# IDEA OF THE MONTH

## Collaboration in Online Learning and OER

The Textbook Affordability Subcommittee would like to create a resource database that lists all the great software applications, free information resources, any useful web resources, as well as any interesting technology you are utilizing to help you with your teaching and student learning. Our goal is to collate all our inputs and make this resource available to everybody in the community.

On the spreadsheet are examples of free and open source software for your lecture preparation, demonstration activities, student writing assignments, etc. Here are some out of many possible categories of resources you could include.

- Office productivity: options like the Libreoffice suite
- Creating videos: apps like recordmydesktop and simplescreenreader
- Increasing student interactions: Discord and others
- Web resources for all disciplines
- Zoom productivity: tools that integrate with Zoom like Anydesk
    - Graphics help, like freeplane, freemind and Inkscape
    - Computations and Modeling: sites and apps like OCTAVE and LTSpice

So, what ideas do you have? What apps, software, and other materials do you use that are open source? What do you need help finding? Please check out our OER Apps and Software Spreadsheet, and add any helpful open-source apps/software that you have found. We'll keep updating the list with what we find, too.

# CONTACT US!

Textbook Affordability Taskforce LibGuide-- part of the overall OER/ZTC Resources LibGuide, which is great for students.

- OER/ZTC Resources LibGuide: http://guides.canadacollege.edu/OER
- TAT LibGuide: http://guides.canadacollege.edu/OER/info

Textbook Affordability Consultation form-- let Sarah Harmon, Diana Tedone, and Cynthia McCarthy help you find resources for your courses! Consultation Form: https://tinyurl.com/CAN-TATConsultation

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Frustrations?
Let Sarah know! (harmons@smccd.edu)



# Thanks for reading!



The Textbook Affordability Subcommitte are:

- Nick DeMello, Online Education Coordinator; Chemistry Faculty
- Valeria Estrada, Librarian
- Sarah Harmon, OER Coordinator/AS OER Liaison; Spanish and Linguistics Faculty
- Allison Hughes, Instructional Technologist
- Ramki Kalyanaraman, Engineering Faculty
- Jai Kumar, Bookstore Manager
- David Reed, Dean of Academic Services and Learning Technologies
- Diana Tedone-Goldstone, Librarian