Open Educational Resources (OER’s)

Devin Henson | Midlands Technical College – Columbia, SC
3/17/15
Current Textbook Concerns

❖ Cost

Figure 1: Estimated Increases in New College Textbook Prices, College Tuition and Fees, and Overall Consumer Price Inflation, 2002 to 2012

Source: Government Accountability Office, June 2013, College Textbooks Report
Current Textbook Concerns

❖ Cost

*Percent Change Since 1978 for Educational Books, Medical Services, New Home Prices, and CPI*

*Carpe Diem Blog*

*Sources: BLS, Census Bureau*
Current Textbook Concerns

❖ **Student Impact**
  - 48% take fewer classes or different classes
  - 65% have skipped buying textbooks due to cost

❖ **Retention**

❖ **Enrollment**

Source: [Fixing the Broken Textbook Market](#), 2014
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>$1008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coker</td>
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</table>
Current Textbook Concerns

❖ Web Accessibility – Current texts are unable to be edited due to proprietary software, copyrighted text, etc.
Current Textbook Concerns

❖ Copyright concerns – Infringement, litigation, publicity; Georgia State University
Possible Solution: Open Educational Resources
What are OER’s?

“Open educational resources (OER) means teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others.”
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“Open educational resources (OER) means teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others.”
Open Educational Resources

Most OER are Creative Commons licensed, which provides a simple, standardized way to grant copyright permissions
Creative Commons Licenses

- Attribution
- Non-Commercial
- No Derivative Works
- Share Alike
Who Makes OER’s?

❖ Grant recipients
❖ Foundations – Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Hewlett Foundation
❖ Colleges and Universities – Rice University, Cal State, etc. … even MTC!
❖ Governments – BC Campus, Dept of Ed, etc.
❖ Dedicated faculty and other content experts

"Free the textbook" by opensource.com is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0
OER Benefits
OER Benefits

❖ Free (or low cost print)
OER Benefits

- Free (or low cost print)
  - Maricopa Millions – Save $5M in five years
  - OER at NOVA – Goal: Save $1M per year
  - OpenStax – Already saved $30M in under 3 years
  - Dept of Labor – TAAACCCT Grants: $2B over four years for open resources licensed with CC
OER Benefits

- Free (or low cost print)
- Adaptable/customizable
- Many are peer reviewed, very high quality
OER Benefits

❖ Free (or low cost print)
❖ Adaptable/customizable
❖ Many are peer reviewed, very high quality
❖ Focused on high enrollment courses
OER Benefits

❖ Free (or low cost print)
❖ Adaptable/customizable/creatable
❖ Many are peer reviewed, very high quality
❖ Focused on high enrollment courses
❖ Very little copyright concern
❖ Allowed to make web accessible
❖ Makes our required course materials available to everyone
❖ Students have access first day of class
Example – OpenStax Biology

http://openstaxcollege.org/
OER Concerns
OER Concerns

- Faculty acceptance
- Quality
OER Concerns

❖ Faculty acceptance
❖ Quality
❖ Web accessibility

Accessibility

Harvard and MIT Face Lawsuit for Lack of Online Captioning

By Dian Schaffhauser | 02/12/15

On the same day that MIT issued an extensive strategic plan for fostering greater campus inclusiveness, the Massachusetts school has been sued for the non-inclusive nature of its massive open online courses and other publicly available online content. Along with Harvard University, MIT now faces a lawsuit from the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) as well as four deaf and hard of hearing individuals accusing the institutions of failing to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. The complaint: that
OER Concerns

- Faculty acceptance
- Quality
- Web accessibility
- Bookstore partnership
Next Steps:

❖ If your department is interested in pursuing (or piloting) OER for a course and you would like assistance, please let me know.
Next Steps:

❖ Search for appropriate OER
❖ Assess quality – CRAAP Test
  o Currency, Relevance, Authority, Accuracy, Purpose
❖ Review for web accessibility
❖ Review for copyright/terms of use
❖ Help with OER integration
  o Course design
  o Attribution requirements
Additional Thoughts:

❖ Analysis: Student success, student satisfaction; Brandon?
❖ ~ $5/course student OER fee – furthers OER initiative; perhaps use to pay faculty to help adapt OER to courses?
❖ OER Steering Committee?
Questions?

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https://mymtc1.midlandstech.edu/FacStaffResources/FacultyTeachingResources/Online-Teaching-and-Learning/OER/Pages/default.aspx