Open Education
Collaborations in Higher Education

OER Symposium
May 11, 2017
Today’s Outline

• Introduction

• Context for Open Education

• UMass Amherst’s Open Education Program

• Case Studies & Partnerships
  – Holyoke Community College
  – Library School internship
  – Community Colleges of Massachusetts
  – International impact

• Lessons Learned, Takeaways, Discussion
Context for Open Education
Why OER?

Annual Percent Changes From 1978 for Educational Books, Medical Care, New Home Prices, and the CPI through 2014

Sources: BLS, Census Bureau
What are OERs?

• O is for Open – openly accessible
• E is Educational – learning
• R is for Resources – content
• Think Five Rs
  • Reuse - use freely for own purpose
  • Redistribute - share with others
  • Revise - adapt, modify, change
  • Remix - combine / transform
  • Retain: Users have the right to make, archive, and "own" copies of the content
Types of Open Educational Resources
OER Barriers

- Lack of awareness
- Time
- Lack of central location
- Lack of ancillary content
- Perceived quality of OER
- Time commitment of support stage
- Getting beyond the “pilot” phase
UMass Amherst Profile

• Public Land-grant Research Intensive University
• Over 30,000 students; 1,300 full time faculty
• 112 bachelor’s; 76 masters; 48 doctorates in nine schools and colleges
UMA’s Open Education Initiative

The OEI is a faculty incentive program that encourages:

- Creation of new teaching materials and models
- Use of existing open (free) information resources to support student learning
- Use of library subscription materials
- Development of open technologies
Faculty Project Types

**Adopt**
- Replace commercial textbook with open textbook

**Adapt**
- Combine existing OER, library resources, and newly created material

**Create**
- Create entirely new open course materials
Library OER Website

UMass Amherst Libraries

Open Educational Resources

What are Open Educational Resources (OER)?

Open Educational Resources are educational materials and resources offered freely and openly for anyone to use and under some licenses to re-mix, improve and redistribute. They include:

- Learning content: full courses, course materials, content modules, learning objects, collections, and journals.
- Tools: software to support the creation, delivery, use and improvement of open learning content including searching and organization of content, content and learning management systems, content development tools, and online learning communities.
- Implementation resources: intellectual property licenses to promote open publishing of materials, design-principles, and localization of content.

Why OER?

OER is a relatively new movement in education, educators and learners as well as learning institutions are driving its development. OER provides an alternative to the rising costs of education. For example, in some countries like South Africa, many educators and learners are tapping into OER as the only source for textbooks. OER provides an opportunity to try new ways of teaching and learning, many of which are more collaborative and participatory.
Partners Providing OEI Support

Peer-Review by:
- TEFD
- IT Program faculty
- Librarians
- IT

Funding support by:
- Provost
- IT Program
- Friends of Library
- TEFD
Why OER?

Textbook Decisions

- 38.9%: not purchased a textbook
- 32.1%: not taken a class
- 15.5%: taken a different class
- 13.5%: made different decisions about my education

2016 survey of 458 students
Why OER?

2016 survey of 458 students

Alternatives to Buying Books

- 24.1% Downloaded a textbook for free
- 32.1% Shared a textbook with classmates
- 7.3% Library reserve
- 6% Library ILL
- 21.2% Used an earlier edition
- 6.4% Used a textbook other than the assigned one.
- Other (please specify)
Results Since 2011

★ $1.6 million student savings

★ $100,000 invested

★ 7,000 students, 60+ faculty, & over 100 classes impacted
## Total Savings Over Time By College

<table>
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<tr>
<th>College of Natural Sciences</th>
<th>5,203</th>
<th>$860,773</th>
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<td>College of Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
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<td>College of Humanities &amp; Fine Arts</td>
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<td>College of Engineering</td>
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<td>School of Public Health and Health Sciences</td>
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<td>$66,135</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,793</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,631,433.25</strong></td>
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Case studies

- Holyoke Community College
- Library School intern
- #GoOpen in Massachusetts
Holyoke Community College

• Joint presentations
  – UMass Online and NERCOMP

• HCC adoption
  – Pilot, June 2013

• Community College Administrators Program for Pakistan (CCAP)
  – Constant change in education, New skills needed
  – High population of people under 25
  – Looking to US Community College model
Library School Internship

• Scholarly Communication
  – Internship: “all things open”
  – Goal: To establish Open Education initiative at Greenfield Community College

• Greenfield Community College
  – Open Education Faculty Fellows, Established Spring 2016
  – Joined MA CC #GoOpen program
  – Total savings: $117,000
Community College and University

• Achieving the Dream Colleges
  – Bunker Hill, Northern Essex, Roxbury, Springfield Tech
    http://achievingthedream.org/

• #GoOpen Massachusetts
  https://tech.ed.gov/open/states/

• 2017 Northeast Regional OER Summit
  https://www.library.umass.edu/services/teaching-and-learning/oer/northeast-oer-summit
Lessons Learned, Takeaways
Best Practices for OEL

• Library leadership, strengths and services
• Leverage partnerships throughout campus
• Value of mini grants with peer review mechanism
• Meet faculty where they are
• Assessment tools
• Marketing and advocacy
Future Needs and Aspirations

- Sustainability
- Copyediting, proofing expertise
- Assessment of student learning, faculty use
- Advocacy, marketing, publicity
- Engagement by entire state, K-16
- World-wide partnerships
Thanks!

Questions?
more at 3 pm

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Scholarly Communication Department

Scholarly Communication

What is “Scholarly Communication”? Scholarly Communication is a term used to describe the ways that academics, researchers, scholars, and teachers share information, through publications and teaching. We offer numerous services relating to open access, including information programming and consultations.

Services

Some examples of the services we provide:

- **Copyright & Publishing Contracts** - We offer support for issues surrounding author’s rights, fair use of included materials, and licensing and assignment of your research and publications.
- **Open Access** - We can answer your questions about Open Access and the university’s Open Access Policy. We also maintain the Supporting Open Access and Research (SOAR) Fund to support Open Access scholarship on campus.
- **Open Educational Resources (OERs) & Teaching Materials** - We support the development of OERs, by providing grants for development of OERs, as well as coordinating the development of resources with subject/liaison librarians.
- **Publishing Services** - We publish a variety of conferences, journals, workshops, and monographs through ScholarWorks as well.
- **Theses and Dissertations** - The Libraries are embarking on an ambitious, multi-year project to digitize all of the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s dissertations and theses. Visit ScholarWorks to see current and past theses and dissertations. See the Digitization Notice Board for a list of works currently being digitized.
- **ScholarWorks** - ScholarWorks provides access to and preserves your research and scholarship. We host articles and papers, datasets, teaching materials, presentations, and other work created by members of the UMass Amherst community. Faculty and campus researchers and authors are invited to create individual ScholarWorks pages to highlight their own work. Campus departments and units can also create their own pages to highlight the work of their unit or affiliates.

Contact us for more information