A community of OER practice: The Intermountain Open Pedagogy Education Network (iOPEN)

Abstract
Open Education Resource (OER) work requires an engaged community to be successful. This community can be leveraged to share expertise and experiences that can make local OER efforts more effective and successful. iOPEN started as a series of informal virtual conversations that has evolved into a regional practitioner community that plans OER strategy, advocates for statewide change, shares funding opportunities, and co-presents their research. This poster will share how iOPEN became a community of practice and suggest strategies to create your own OER community of practice.

What is iOPEN?
An informal (mostly online) gathering to discuss ideas, share strategies, pose problems, network with OER colleagues, and build community around Open Educational Resources.

Where?
Online via Zoom

When?
½ hour once a week (currently Fridays at 2pm Pacific)

Who?
A gathering of OER advocates from across the Pacific Northwest region drawn from academic libraries, academic technologies/instructional design departments, and teaching faculty. Includes members from Idaho, Washington, Montana, and Oregon.

How to get involved with iOPEN
For more information about how to get involved with iOPEN contact: Jonathan Lashley at Boise State jonathanlashley@boisestate.edu

Projects
- State Board of Education presentations
- OER presentations to K-12 practitioners
- Creation of an Idaho common core courses OER website
- Co-authoring of OER scholarship and articles
- Presentations and meet-ups at OER conferences

Community Conversation Topics
- Starting faculty OER grant projects
- Advocacy strategies for OER
- Promotion of OER on campus
- Shared challenges with OER efforts
- OER and technology
- News and updates from the OER field
- Faculty textbook adoption
- Partnering with campus bookstores

iOPEN Community Strategies
- Short Meetings
- Low stakes participation
- Informal
- Collaborative
- Supportive