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What do OER Librarians Need to Know? Lessons Learned from the Certificate in OER Librarianship

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What do OER Librarians Need to Know?

Lessons Learned from the Certificate in OER Librarianship

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By Mandi Goodsett and the [Open Textbook Network](#). This work is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#) except where otherwise noted.

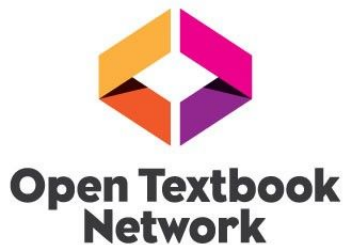
OER Librarianship Certificate



**Open Textbook
Network**

Open Textbook Network OER Librarianship Certificate

Goal: a professional development program to create effective open education program leaders who want to be stewards and advocates for open educational resources



Open Textbook Network OER Librarianship Certificate

Outcomes:

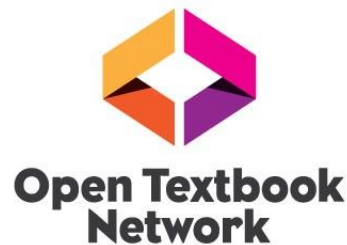
- **Gain fluency** in defining open education, including its core benefits, challenges, and potential.
- **Identify local collaborations and alliances** that support faculty needs around OER adoption, use, and creation.
- Design and build sustainable **open education programming** based on local considerations, culture, strategic alignment, and goals.
- Develop **strategies for measuring and articulating the impact** of open education on multiple constituents to various audiences.
- **Connect and collaborate with a cohort of librarians** dedicated to developing OER initiatives across the country.



**Open Textbook
Network**

Open Textbook Network OER Librarianship Certificate

- Funded by Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services
- Taught by 5 instructors
- Coordinated by the Open Textbook Network
- Preceded 2019 ACRL Conference in Cleveland

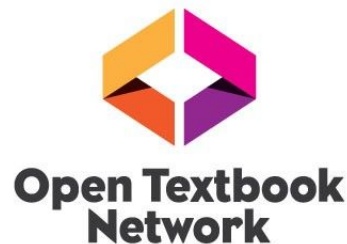


Open Textbook Network: OER Librarianship Certificate

Components:

- Online modules
- Immersive three-day in-person workshop
- Post-workshop program development support and assessment in mentor cohort

Final product: Action Plan



Lessons Learned



What do OER librarians need to know?

- Creative Commons and basics of copyright
- Difference between OER, free, affordable, and commercial
- Producers and collectors of open material
- Curation of open content
- Collaboration on campus
- Evaluation and measurement strategies
- Strengths and weaknesses of own campus



What challenges do OER librarians face?

- Moving beyond initial interest
- Changing institutional culture
 - I.e., promotion & tenure
- Time
- “OER adjacent” products
- Practical issues
 - I.e., printing textbooks at the bookstore



Example Activities



Resources

<https://bit.ly/2ybMGQJ>

Online Activity: Resources Round-Up



FACULTY HORROR STORY

Source: Adapted from "American Horror Story Logo" which is in the public domain

Your Turn

- Create a group of 3-4 people
- Each person shares their horror story — could be faculty, admin, or any other OER partner
- As each person talks, the others should use stickies to write down what you hear (not solutions!)

We expect that you may have talked about ...

- Time
- Quality
- Incentives
- Initiative fatigue
- ... what else?



**Group the challenges (your stickies)
by how you might address them.**

Data



Open Educational Resources Initiative

[About](#) | [Explore OERs](#) | [OERs & Open Licenses](#) | [Open Access Publishing Fund](#) | [Get Involved](#)

OPEN AMERICAN ENGAGES FACULTY IN INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES AND SAVES STUDENTS MONEY.

 **\$511,321** in textbook savings

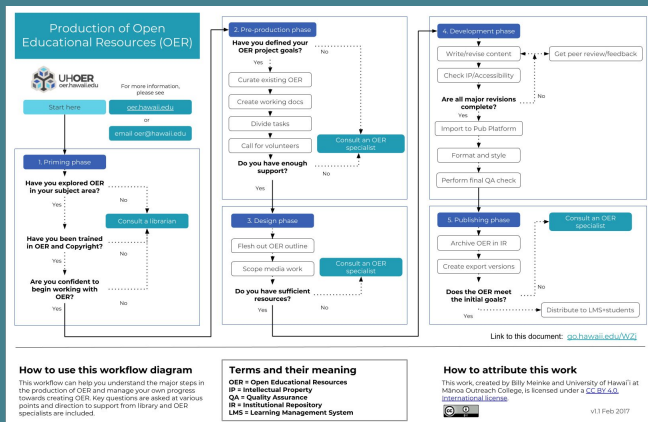
 **19** courses  **25** professors  **3,151** students

Stories



WHY OER?

Frameworks / Workflows / Processes



What else?

Start grouping stickies!

OER Crush



["Heart"](#) by [Karolina Grabowska](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Your OER Crush ...

- Inspires you
- Offers a model
- May be able to share ideas and materials



Mandi's OER Crush(es)



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myMiami

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[Application Guidelines](#)

[OER: Explore Program](#)

[OER: Adopt Program](#)

[Course Pack Consultation Service](#)

[Alternative Textbook \(Alt-Text\) Program](#)

[ASG Affordable Education Leader Award](#)

[Unizin Engage EText Program](#)

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The Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative

[Initiative Home](#)

For Faculty
[Open/Alternative Resource Information](#)
[Open Textbook Resources](#)
[Past Grant Recipients](#)

For Students
[Open/Alternative Resource Information](#)
[Textbook Affordability Program](#)

Initiative Grant Application Requirements



Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative

YouTube

**Share your OER crush with your
small group.**



Measuring the Impact of OER



Indicators of Impact

C - Cost

O - Outcomes

U - Usage

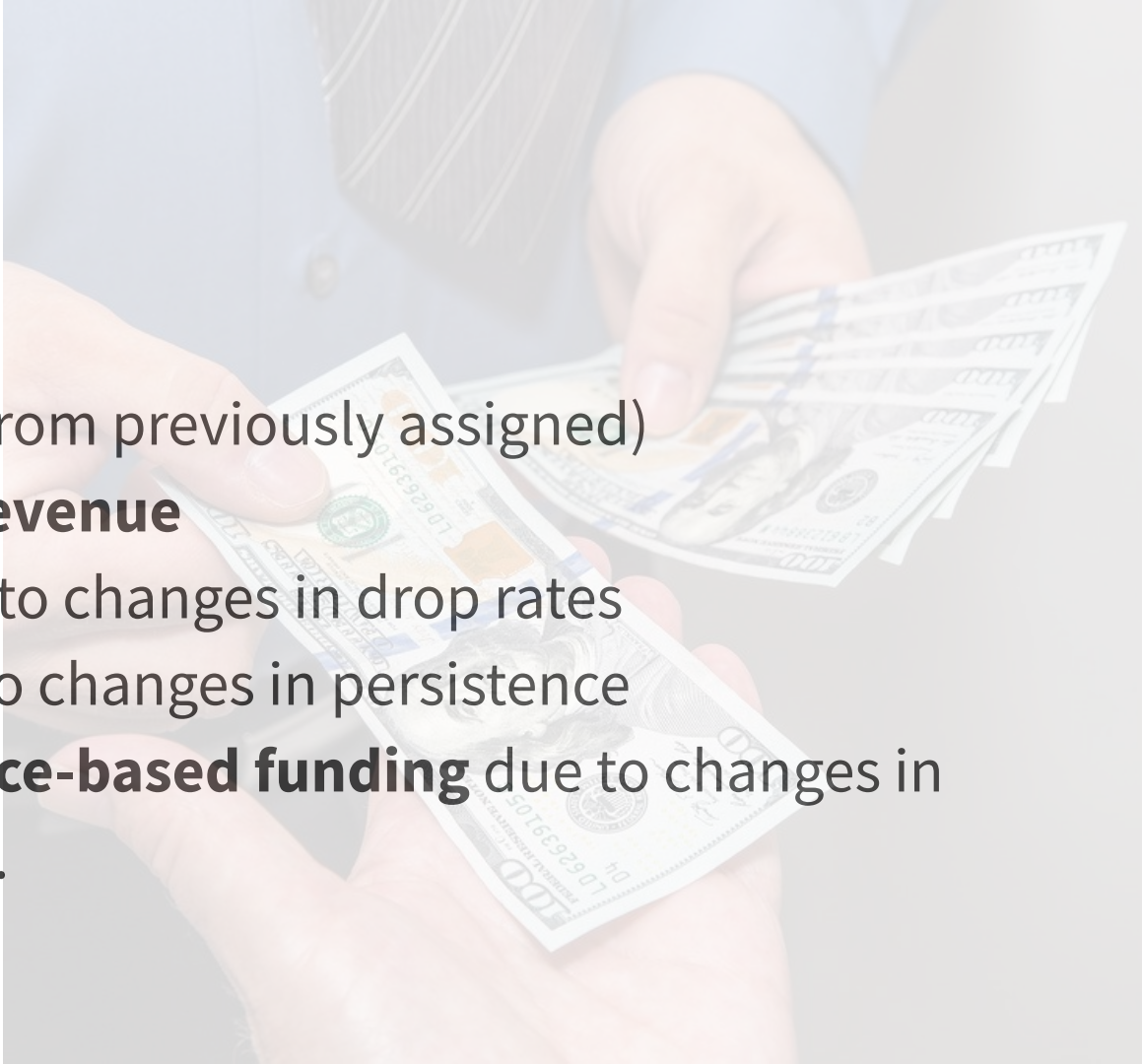
P - Perceptions

OER Metrics Toolkit

Cost

Changes in:

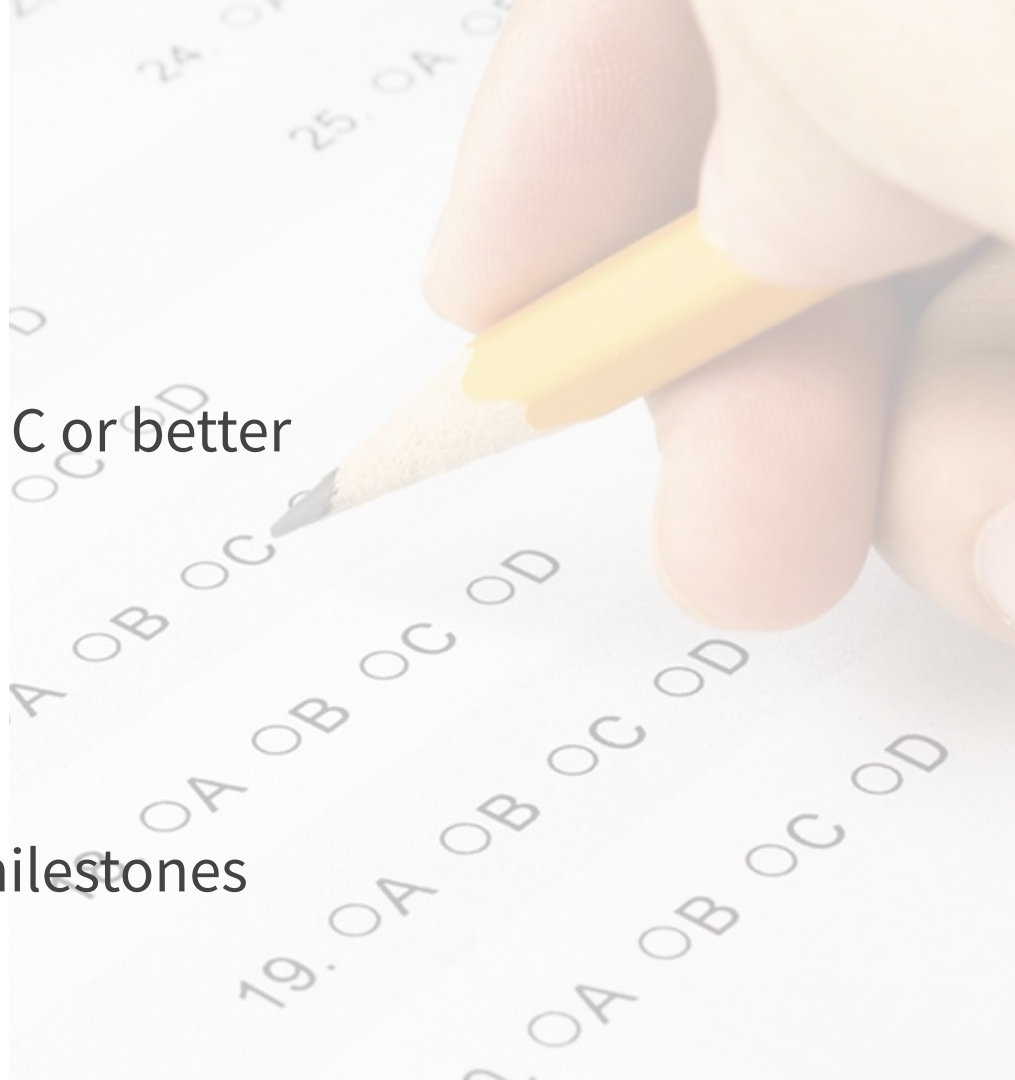
- **Costs of textbooks** (from previously assigned)
- Campus **bookstore revenue**
- **Tuition revenue** due to changes in drop rates
- Tuition revenue due to changes in persistence
- **Access to performance-based funding** due to changes in drop, persistence, etc.



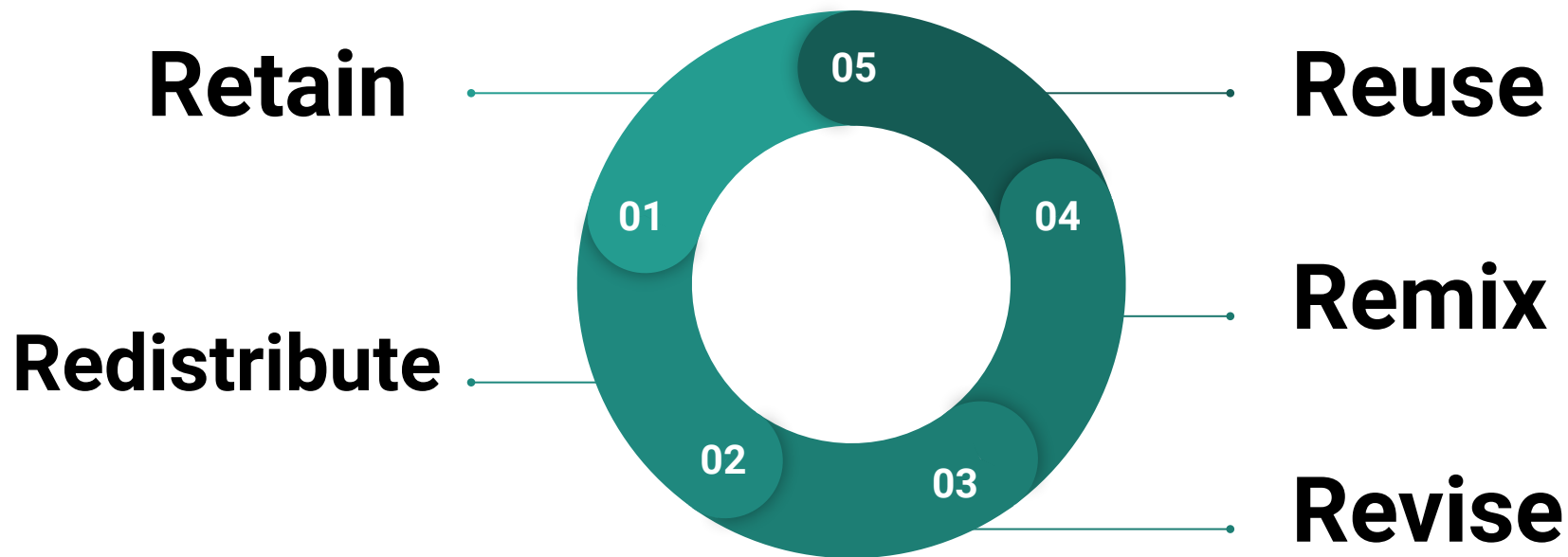
Outcomes

Changes in:

- % of students receiving a C or better
- Rates of completion
- Drop rates
- Enrollment intensity
- Persistence
- Attainment of progress milestones
- Graduation rates



Usage



Permissions

- What do faculty and students think about, and feel toward, OER?
- How do they judge OER effectiveness relative to traditional textbooks?
- What do other stakeholders, like parents or policy makers, think and feel toward OER?

Resources

- Institutional contacts with access to data
- Institutional contacts with data/assessment expertise
- Surveys
- Data analysis software (or just Excel)



**Start with a clear idea of what you
want to measure and why.**



Keep in mind ...

What metrics matter to which audiences?

What values are driving your program?

(Cost? Student outcomes? Innovation?)

Which metrics will be most impactful? (As opposed to easiest to collect?)

**Think back to your
OER crush ...**



Reverse Engineering your OER Crush's Value Priorities

1. Find the data visible on your crush's public-facing web pages.
2. What does that data tell you about the values of this program? Intended audience? Priorities?



Questions?

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Recommended Resources

- [Open Education: Librarian Tool Box](#) by Anita Walz at Virginia Tech.
- [Faculty-Librarian Curation Flowchart](#) adapted by College Libraries Ontario from: Are You Ready to Free the Textbook? by Michele Howard & Ryan Bernstein, licensed under CC BY 4.0.
- [Environmental Scan and Assessment of OERs, MOOCs, and Libraries](#) by Carmen Kazakoff-Lane.
- [Freeing the Textbook: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2018](#), by the Babson Survey Research Group.
- ["The Critical Role of Librarians in OER Adoption"](#) by CCCOER is licensed under [CC BY 4.0](#).
- [Crowd-sourced Commercial Platform Tool](#) by Abbey Elder
- [OER Toolkit](#) from College Libraries Ontario

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