Incentive Programs
Opportunity: Peer Reviews
Alberta faculty may be awarded $500.00 to review an OER that replaces an existing student paid resource.

Processed monthly until September 30, 2016

This opportunity has been re-opened with an expanded scope. Applications are no longer limited to the top 50 enrolled courses.
About EOEI

Moving into the second cohort, the Emory Open Education Initiative (EOEI) encourages faculty and instructors to create and use open educational resources (OERs) and library materials to support student learning in their courses by offering mini-grants of $1,000 each. The grants may be used to create or compile open educational resources (OERs), library materials, or faculty-generated content to be used in courses taught in lieu of a textbook. Grant recipients are required to participate in an OER Immersion training. The goal is to find better and less costly ways for faculty to deliver the instructional content their students need to learn and to support assessment of whether learning objectives were met with the use of this content.

The mini-grants are open to all full-time faculty (both tenure and lecture track) and are available for both individual faculty members and faculty working as teams. Only one application per faculty member or team will be considered for each application period.

The mini-grants include support from multiple areas of UTS, including the Scholarly Communications Office, Emory Center for Digital Scholarship, and the Libraries. Support includes assistance from librarians, educational technologists and digital learning specialists to identify, remix and create open educational resources, utilize library materials, and to generate an OER evaluation rubric. In addition, assessment methods are the cornerstone of the initiative including the ability for students to be producers of OER content or other applications to support learning.

Six mini-grants have been awarded for fall 2014 classes and five for the 2015-2016 academic years. Please visit the above pages to review the see 2014 Immersion Training and 2015 Immersion training agendas as well as the faculty who are participating.
Textbook Transformation Grants
http://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/textbook_transformation_grants

Overview
The State of Georgia’s FY 2015 and FY 2016 budgets include funding to support a new USG initiative, Affordable Learning Georgia (ALG), which focuses on reducing the costs of textbooks and the enhancement of GALILEO, Georgia’s Virtual Library and ALG’s parent initiative. A key strategy is to provide grant-supported opportunities for USG faculty, libraries, and institutions to transform their use of textbooks and other learning materials into lower cost options. The Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grants are intended to:

1. Pilot different approaches in USG courses for textbook transformation including adoption, adaptation, and creation of Open Educational Resources (OER) and/or identification and adoption of materials already available in GALILEO and USG libraries.
2. Provide support to faculty, libraries, and their institutions to implement these approaches.
3. Lower the cost of college for students and contribute to their retention, progression, and graduation.
Round One: Spring 2015
- Round One Projects Gallery
- Round One Final Report Summary (PDF)
- Round One Proposals, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Round One Grantees

Round Two: Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016
- Round Two Projects Gallery
- Round Two Proposals, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Round Two Grantees

Round Three: Summer 2015 - Spring 2017
- Round Three Proposals, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Round Three Grantees

Round Four: Fall 2015 - Spring 2017
- Round Four Proposals, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Round Four Grantees

Round Five: Spring 2016 - Spring 2017
- Round Five Proposals, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Round Five Grantees

Open Mathematics in Action: Summer 2016-Summer 2017
- Proposal, Materials, and Final Reports
- Information for Participants

Additional Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will be posted when available.
Open Education Initiative

The high cost of commercial print textbooks is a major concern for both students and their parents. To address these concerns, the Provost’s Office and the University Libraries launched the Open Education Initiative in the Spring of 2011. The Open Education Initiative is a faculty incentive program that encourages the use of existing low-cost or free information resources to support our students’ learning. Information Literacy will also be emphasized, creating opportunities for students to develop and practice the skills of critical thinking, reasoning, communication, and integration of knowledge and perspectives.

Now in its seventh cycle, the Open Education Initiative has generated a total savings of over $13 million for students in classes that utilize open educational resources and library material. The Library partners with the Institute for Teaching Excellence and Faculty Development (ITEFD), Information Technology, and Provost’s Office to support our efforts. For more information please contact Jeremy Smith at jsmith@library.umass.edu.

Read the ARL Report on our program.

Presentations

Open Education Initiative Information Session, Spring 2016 [pdf]
Open Education Initiative Information Session, Spring 2016 [ppt]

Presentation for the Information session for the OEI grant applicants in the Spring of 2016. Includes an overview of OER, copyright and Creative Commons, and the OEI grant parameters. Useful for those running a workshop or for people teaching with open education resources.

Presentation to UMass Faculty Senate, Spring 2014

This is a presentation made to the Faculty Senate Meeting at the University of Massachusetts Amherst regarding the Open Education Initiative. It includes an overview of the why and how of the OEI grant, some examples, and its successes/challenges. Useful for those talking to administrators about the open education movement.

Spring 2016 Open Education Initiative

Winners of the Spring 2016 grants are below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>Department/Class</th>
<th>Proposed Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yasser Atef</td>
<td>Education/Human Development</td>
<td>Find readings/videos on the web that cover materials in current textbooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Brigham</td>
<td>Political Science/sto Constitutional law</td>
<td>Replace textbook with free government materials from Supreme Court website, Wikipedia, Oyez, Library of Congress and National Constitution Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas St. Laurent</td>
<td>Kinesiology/Introduction to Kinesiology</td>
<td>Utilize chapters, articles, and studies that give overviews of basic content in lieu of textbook.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shubhika Tewari</td>
<td>Physics: Electricity and Magnetism, Optics, Modern Physics</td>
<td>Edit and organize existing video content, film and edit new video content, and organize test questions for video content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooks Tiggelman</td>
<td>Physics: Intro, Physics I</td>
<td>Organize existing free resources in a central location to improve navigation for students and use Panopto, a new read enhancement tool.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PARTNERSHIP FOR AFFORDABLE CONTENT

Textbook and course materials costs are increasingly problematic for students. Nationally, the average undergraduate student spends over $1,200 a year on textbooks and other course materials. The University Libraries can help faculty and instructors find and use alternative, high-quality, low-cost materials in their courses, and ultimately help save students money.

The University of Minnesota Libraries invites faculty and instructors to apply for a competitive grant to work with library staff to implement affordable high-quality content options into their courses as an alternative to high cost commercial textbooks and other expensive course materials.

How to Apply

All current faculty and instructors teaching courses at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities are eligible to apply for a Partnership for Affordable Content grant. Please see the Call for Proposals for application instructions. Applications for the 2016 call for proposals are due by February 26, 2016.

Information Sessions

Interested faculty and instructors are highly encouraged to attend an upcoming information session to learn more about the Partnership for Affordable Content:

- February 10, 2016, 10:00 – 11:00 AM, Walter Library Room 310, Register
- February 11, 2016, 1:30-2:30 PM, Walter Library Room 310, Register
- February 11, 2016, 3:30-4:30 PM, Magath Library Room 2, Register

What are more affordable options?

Working with librarians, participating faculty and instructors will select and implement new high quality and cost effective content for their courses. These new materials can include:

- Free and open textbooks
- Library licensed resources such as ejournals and ebooks
- Lawful determinations of fair use
- Open education resources
- Faculty created, openly licensed materials

Librarians will also help participating faculty and instructors deliver these new materials to students through various online tools such as library developed services and Moodle.

Application Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed within the Libraries by eLearning Support Initiative Librarians, subject liaison Librarians, and Libraries Administration. Grants will be awarded based on criteria such as potential student savings, innovativeness of course materials, the use of open textbooks or open education resources, and sustainability of the new course materials in subsequent semesters.

For more information, including application instructions and a complete list of selection criteria, please see the Call for Proposals.
These faculty and instructors were awarded a 2015 Partnership for Affordable Content grant to move away from traditional textbooks to using low-cost and no-cost resources in their courses. Read on to find out more about their projects and learn how they successfully lowered the cost of education for their students during the Fall 2015 or Spring 2016 semester.

Irene Duranczyk

**Department:** CEHD: PSTL

**Course:** PSTL 1004 Statistics: Understanding and Applying Data

**Project:** Modified and enhanced an already existing open textbook, *Collaborative Statistics Using Spreadsheets*.

**Total Savings:** $6,120 (36 students x $170 textbook)

Joe Gaugler

**Department:** School of Nursing: Adult and Gerontological Health

**Course:** NURS 1910W: Illness in the U.S. - From Cell to Society

**Project:** Created a Digital Course Pack using library licensed materials, freely available course readings, and fair use claims at $0 cost to students.

**Total Savings:** $1,556 (19 students x $82 textbook)

Kathleen Hansen and Nora Paul

**Department:** CLA: Journalism and Mass Communication

**Course:** JOUR 3004: Introduction to Mass Communication

**Project:** Created a freely available, open textbook called *Information Strategies for Communicators*.

**Total Savings:** $6,160 (112 students x $55 textbook)
Nathaniel Helwig
Department: CLA: Department of Psychology and School of Statistics
Course: STAT 5601: Nonparametric Methods
Project: The Libraries purchased the course textbook as a multi-user ebook and created a Digital Course Pack using library licensed materials, freely available course readings at $0 cost to students.
Total Savings: $14,732 (58 students x $254 for 2 textbooks)

Sungok Hong
Department: CLA: Asian Languages and Literature
Course: HNLR 1005: Conversational Hindi-Urdu
Project: Faculty created course content plus use of freely available video content. Google Sites was used to make all materials available to students.
Total Savings: $300 (10 students x $30 comparable language textbook - no text available)

Yuhei Inoue
Department: CEHD: School of Kinesiology
Course: SMGT 3601 - Ethics and Values in Sport
Project: Created a Digital Course Pack using library licensed materials, freely available course readings, and fair use claims at $0 cost to students.
Total Savings: $840 (24 students X $35 textbook)

Romas Kaslauskas
Department: CFANS: Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Biophysics
Course: BioC 4351/6351 Protein Engineering
Project: Created 30 openly licensed, interactive chemical figures using the CDF format from Wolfram.
Total Savings: Not available.
Alt-Textbook Initiative

A student cost-savings initiative from the University Libraries

Beginning fall semester 2015, University Libraries is launching a pilot program to encourage instructors to move away from costly textbooks.

The Libraries, investing up to $5,000 in incentives for instructors to redesign courses and reconstruct syllabi, will provide assistance from librarians, instructional designers, and academic technologists in identifying and integrating alternative content, which includes licensed library content and open educational resources. The financial incentives are meant to acknowledge the amount of time it will take instructors to identify new resources, adjust syllabi, and modify assignments. In an effort to maximize the Libraries’ investment and provide savings to the largest number of students, instructors working on courses affecting 100 or more students will receive $1,000, while instructors of classes of less than 100 students will receive $500.

Eligibility

Each applicant must be the instructor of record. Courses can be at the undergraduate or graduate level but must be for enrolled students.

Procedure

Applicants are asked to complete a one-page application form and attend a one-hour workshop at which Library staff members introduce search strategies and possible sources for open-access or low-cost instructional resources, and applicants can share ideas with one another and brainstorm.

The application process is currently closed. If you are interested in support for an alt-textbook project of your own, please contact Janet Hulm or Kelly Broughton.

Timeline

- October 22, 2015: Application process opens
- January 15, 2016: Application process closes
- February 2016: Alt-Textbook materials workshop
- March 18, 2016: Awards announced
- Fall Semester 2016: Projects implemented
Grants

ALX partners have developed several opportunities to fund faculty in exploring open and affordable classroom resources. Join us to reimagine teaching and learning materials like textbooks, lab manuals, assigned readings and more.

Funding opportunities are designed to fit the needs of varying course levels, class sizes and support needs. Proposals that include cross-departmental and cross-campus collaborations are especially encouraged to apply.

The next RFP opens in September. In the meantime, learn about our opportunities below, and get to know our current ALX cohort which includes projects from 9 departments, 3 colleges, and 3 campuses across the university.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY GRANT

Award amount: $1,000 available as research funds

University Libraries, the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (ODEE), and Undergraduate Student Government (USG) have partnered to sponsor this opportunity for faculty to explore the adoption of low- or no-cost course materials for classes at Ohio State. Winners of the Textbook Affordability Grant receive consultation support from ODEE and University Libraries to create, find, and distribute materials.
Ideally projects funded through the Textbook Affordability grant will need limited hands-on support and be close to implementation (work may have already begun). Individuals and teams are encouraged to apply. Successful proposals will include:

- Adoption and/or adaptation of existing OERs
- Authoring of new digital course materials to openly license and share with students at Ohio State and beyond
- Replacing a conventional textbook with library resources (textbooks on reserve, journals, other with help from subject librarian and other experts)
- A combination of these approaches

ODEE AFFORDABLE LEARNING GRANTS

**Award amount:** Varies (see details below)

The Open Impact and Exploration grants are managed by the Office of Distance Education and eLearning, and are designed to support transformational projects that result in high impact, sustainable cost savings to students. Proposals that include multiple faculty partners and teams are encouraged. Successful proposals will include:

- Adoption and/or adaptation of existing OERs
- Authoring of new digital course materials to openly license and share with students at Ohio State and beyond
- University Libraries resources, in consultation with a subject librarian
- A combination of these approaches

**Exploration Grant**

**Award amount:** $7,500 (total), comprised of a $5,000 award from ODEE matched 2:1 ($2,500) by the grant recipient’s department.

Exploration Grant winners teach courses of any size. Grant winners benefit from a dedicated project manager and technical support throughout.

**Open Impact Grant**

**Award amount:** $12,000 (per project lead, up to 2), comprised of an $8,000 award from ODEE matched 2:1 ($4,000) by the grant recipient’s department.

Open Impact Grant winners teach high enrollment, GE courses that impact 300+ students per semester. Grant winners benefit from a dedicated project manager and technical support throughout.

ODEE BOOK LAUNCH PROGRAM

**Award amount:** $1,000 available as research funds
Book Launch is a program led by ODEE, designed to create a community of digital book authors at Ohio State using a cohort model. This program is committed to creating digital textbook resources using the iBooks Author app that can be made available to students at Ohio State at no cost, and to educational institutions across the country.

Two cohorts take place each calendar year, with up to 5 projects accepted into each. Each 5-month cohort cycle is timed to publish finished projects immediately prior to the start of a semester. Summer cohort participants begin in July and produce texts for use in the following Spring semester. Winter participants begin in January and create books ready for use the following Autumn semester.

Individuals and teams are encouraged to apply (we highly recommend teams of 2+). Successful proposals will include:

- Creation of original content and development using iBooks Author
- Use of media or interactive elements
- An emphasis on visual design

Book Launch participants also receive iBooks Author training, a dedicated project manager and technical support throughout.

Affordable Learning Exchange grants are supported financially through the Wide Open West (WOW!) Affinity Program.
The cost of higher education for students increased 42% from 2000 to 2010, and the average cost of materials is now at $1,200 per year.

A reported 78% of students have indicated that they have not purchased a required textbook because of the cost.

The University of Oklahoma Libraries is now taking applications for the Alternative Textbook Initiative. All University of Oklahoma full-time faculty are eligible to apply for one of ten project awards of up to $2,500 in funding and support.

The purpose of this initiative is to support faculty in the adoption of affordable textbook solutions to reduce the cost of textbooks and materials for students. Alternative Textbooks give faculty members the power to customize content specifically for their courses as well as provide less expensive textbooks for their students.

If you are interested in adopting an alternative textbook, or are just in learning more about open textbooks and other open educational resources, contact Stacy Zemke in the University Libraries – szemke@ou.edu.
Faculty Engagement Awards

The TLT Faculty Engagement Awards program offers grants and staff support to enable exploration of innovative applications of technology to improve teaching and learning. Calls for 2016 have closed. In the winter of 2017 we will announce our thematic area for the next round of Engagement Awards.

Apply Now!

Faculty Engagement Awards

Each year, several grants will be awarded around a specific theme, and faculty are encouraged to apply for these grants, which can cover technology, professional development or other resources that support the engagement. Each grant includes a multi-semester engagement with an instructional designer and technology support staff who will work with you to identify the most appropriate and effective applications of a particular technology in your class(es). TLT researchers will assess the impact of this technology and share what we have learned with the Penn State community.

Request for Proposals

Current Theme: Open Educational Resources (OER)

Access and affordability. Two themes from President Barron that directly deal with making a Penn State degree more attainable for many students. Some students are spending upwards of $1,200 a year on textbook! One avenue to help lower this number is through the creation and utilization of Open Educational Resources. We are eager to work with faculty on creating and/or utilizing OER materials as part of redesigning a class. Have an idea for open textbook that you want to write? Interested in replacing your current textbook with a series of open and free readings? We want to work with you to help make this happen!

Relevant Examples: OpenStax, Center for Open Education, BBookX, MERLOT

Proposal Deadline: Monday, April 11th

See also: TLT Faculty Fellows
Background:
A significant factor in college affordability is the price of textbooks and supplies. According to a national survey conducted by SPARC, 95% of students worry that forgoing a textbook will impact their grade, 65% of students report not buying a textbook due to costs, and 48% report that the costs of textbooks determines the amount of classes they will take.

Open Educational Resources present a unique solution to the problems surrounding high textbook costs. Open Educational Resources are teaching and learning materials that have been published online under an open license granting everyone permission to freely and legally access, download and redistribute files, produce hard copies of the material, tailor the material, mix multiple OERs to create new works and keep and use copies of the material forever. Students and faculty would have an affordable option to support their learning and research.

According to case studies and research conducted by both the University of Minnesota and Rice University, faculty who have reviewed open educational resources have a 90% adoption rate of the materials. Faculty choosing to adopt these materials can save the students they teach hundreds of dollars.

Program
The University Libraries will budget $2000 to fund four $500 grants for faculty to commit to using an OER or library-licensed resource in place of a traditional textbook. This grant would be given to professors based on the following criteria:
• The professor must attend a library workshop on OER
• The professor must submit a syllabus showing their usage of an OER or library-licensed resource for a future course
• The professor must complete two follow up surveys within the year after the award is granted

Long Term Goals
We hope this program increases faculty awareness of open educational resources and leads to the increase of adoptions of these resources at our university to save our student body money, promote student success, and increase faculty openness of research, learning, and teaching resources.
EI SMALL GRANT PROGRAM

The deadline to submit proposals for the 2015-16 academic year has passed. Thank you to all those who applied and congratulations to all of the award recipients.

The EI Small Grant Program supports faculty and instructional staff in their efforts to experiment with new technologies and new ways of learning. This year, the program offered grants of up to $10,000 each and focused on enhancing active learning strategies and developing Open Educational Resources (OERs). With the support of the International Division, the program also sought proposals that would enhance global learning and students’ global competencies.

Proposal Themes
(proposals must address at least one)

1. Active learning through blended course implementation
2. Internationalization at Home
3. Open Educational Resources (OERs)

General Proposal Requirements
All proposals should:

• Address how the project will transform student learning
• Align with departmental priorities and include a signature of endorsement from the department chair
• Clearly articulate how the project will be sustained once the funds have been expended
Educational Innovation
Inspire students. Enrich learning.

3. OER - Proposal Requirements & Form

Grants in this category will support faculty and instructional staff in their efforts to experiment, develop and/or incorporate Open Educational Resources (OERs) into their courses and degree programs.

OERs are "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 re-purposing by others." (William and Flora Hewlett Foundation). These resources can include anything from images, videos and infographics to video and audio lectures, interactive games and simulations and open texts (e-books).

OERs are developed and/or utilized to enhance student learning outcomes, and reduce the cost of course-related materials for students (e.g., via "open texts"). At UW-Madison, OERs also have significant potential to help campus further embody and enact the Wisconsin Idea through the sharing of our teaching resources across the state, the nation and the world.

Proposals in this category should specifically address at least one of the following:

- Developing OERs for courses and programs
- Designing "renewable assignments" (e.g., an online atlas; an integrated research project and related website; an open text on a key topic; a linked series of podcasts on a relevant theme) for and with students, such that the assignments generate OERs that can then be enhanced year after year by future students
- Identifying, vetting and storing pre-existing OERs for courses and programs

Questions should be directed to Mo Bischof, Associate Vice Provost, or Kris Olds, EI Senior Fellow and Professor, Department of Geography.

Join the Educational Innovation mailing list and you'll receive updates on upcoming events, EI Small Grants and more!

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