October 21, 2024

Open Educational Resources: FY24 Overview

Dr. Robert Awkward, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Effectiveness

MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

OER Advisory Council

Millie Gonzalez, Framingham State University and **Sue Tashjian**, Northern Essex Community College serve as Co-Chairs

Representatives from the 29 public higher education institutions plus four student members, an external member, and several ex-officio members

Generally the OER Advisory Council met monthly from September to June.

The work of the Council was done through its four committees:

- Assessment Committee: Connie Strittmatter, Fitchburg State University, Chair

- Course Flagging Committee: Ceit DeVitto, Bunker Hill Community College and Donna Mellen, University of Mass. Lowell, Co-chairs

- Marketing & Education Committee: Rebecca Dowgiert, Framingham State University, Chair

- Professional Development Committee: Kim Colangelo, Mt. Wachusett Community College and Andrea Milligan, North Shore Community College, Co-chairs

Course Flagging Committee

Course Marking was adopted by the Board of Higher Education in June 2021. Current status:

- **Implemented**: 13 community colleges. one state university and UMass Lowell (15 up from 11 in FY22).

- **In progress**: One community college, three state universities, and three UMass campuses (seven down from eight in FY22).

- **Not yet begun**: One community colleges and five state universities (six down from nine in FY22).

- **Revised** the *OER Course Marking Implementation Guide (Vol. 2.0)*

Marketing & Education Committee

- Open Access Week: October 23 – 29, 2023

- Open Education Week: March 4 – 8, 2024

- Third Annual OER Faculty Awards given in May 2024
  - Gold Award – Prof. Kisha Tracy*, Fitchburg State University
  - Silver Award – Prof. Andrew Miller, Bridgewater State University
  - Bronze Award – Yvonne Anthony*, Framingham State University

    * **Both are faculty-authors of ROTEL textbooks (Kisha has published two textbooks!)**

Professional Development Committee

Faculty OER 101 Training conducted May 22 and May 23, 2024. Survey results to be conducted this fall 2024.

Faculty Survey Results from past training sessions:

- 58.4% adopted OER in fall 2020 (May 2020)

- 60.9% adopted OER in fall 2021 (May 2021)

- 63.7% adopted OER in spring 2023 (Oct./Nov. 2022)

- 71.1% said the training influenced their decision to adopt (May 2020)

- 65.7% said the training influenced their decision to adopt (May 2021)

- 68.2% said the training influenced their decision to adopt (Oct./Nov. 2022)

Professional Development Seminar: "Exploring the Intersections Between AI and OER" with Prof. Devan Walton, NECC; Peter Shea, MCC; and James Grenier, Mass. Bay on Feb. 2, 2024

Assessment Committee

- Initial effort was led by Jackie Kremer and Connie Strittmatter, then ex-officio member of Fitchburg State University. Now led by Connie Strittmatter

- After extensive review, an *OER Key Performance Indicators Implementation Guide* (Vol. 2.0) was revised reflecting current practices and aligned with the *Course Marking Implementation Guide (Vol. 2.0)*

- We continued our partnership with the DHE Research & Planning led by Suzanne Smith, ex-officio member, to collect and analyze the data

- For FY23, we added the two equity measures.

OER Key Performance Indicators

- **C**ost
  - Total costs savings (average national textbook cost x no. of students versus no/low-cost textbooks x no. of students

- **O**utcomes:
  - Total no. of OER courses/sections as a percentage of total courses/sections
  - No. of students enrolled in OER courses as a percentage of total enrollment
  - **Changes in DFW rates in OER vs. Non-OER courses**
  - **Demographics of students taking OER courses vs. students in non-OER courses**

- **U**sage:
  - No. of faculty, staff, students participating in OER activities on campus

- **P**erception:
  - A student perception survey to be added this fall 2024.

October 21, 2024

FY23 Key Performance Indicators
Completed in conjunction with Connie Strittmatter, the OER Assessment Committee and Suzanne Smith, DHE Research & Planning

MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

Open Massachusetts: A Public Higher Education Repository

- Rachel Oleaga at Northern Essex Community College as the Repository Coordinator (part-time)

- Rachel has worked to increase the visibility and utility of the Repository including adding four-year participants

- She has provided several online workshops over the past year on accessing the repository.

- Nearly twenty ROTEL textbooks in our repository are also in OER Common and the Open Textbook Library

External Advocacy

- Presentation of the FY23 OER Key Performance Indicators made to the State Universities and the Community College Chief Academic Officers on September 20, 2024

- Bob Awkward and Sue Tashjian continue to serve on NEBHE's Open Education Advisory Committee

- Bob Awkward represents Massachusetts on DOERS3, the DOERS3 Equity Work Group and serves on the Open Education Network Steering Committee

- Many of our members lead and presented at the Northeast OER Conference and the Open Education 2024 Conference