Affordable Educational Resources
Academic Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
May 7th, 2018
1:30 pm in LRC 120

Attendance: Farhad Alemi, Angela Block, Charell Carr, Katie Carbary, Tara DuVernay, Kevin Flash, Rebecca Goodchild, Antonio López, Elizabeth Shutak

Charge of the Committee:

The Affordable Educational Resources Committee works with Academic Senate, students, faculty, and staff in programs across campus to:

1. identify alternative strategies to reduce textbook and course material costs for students;
2. make recommendations that address textbook and course material affordability and accessibility, while respecting academic freedom;
3. educate students, faculty, and staff about alternative strategies to reduce textbook and course material costs;
4. develop objectives and timelines to accomplish actionable goals.

Agenda items:

1. SOC 300 OER Curation Project
   This project is complete. Two Anthropology courses were also curated with remaining AB798 funds. These will be uploaded to LibreText.

2. Addressing misleading emails from publishing companies - Update.
   An email addressing this was sent out to the all faculty mailing list.

3. Visit from Delmar Larsen (LibreText/UC Davis).
   Delmar Larsen presented an overview the LibreText system, which was formerly know as ChemWiki, but is now a curated repository of content which can be edited and includes information from other disciplines.

Key points/questions/comments:

- Accessibility and OEI requirements? This is something we can work on with Delmar, by sending him information about the OEI rubric.
- Some interactive labs and data analytics are available, and student tracking information for learning science research can be done using this (with IRB approval). Are students required to be tracked? No, students
and faculty can adopt and use existing books without an making an account on LibreText.

- What does a faculty member who wants to use LibreText or create a new “textbook” need to do, in concrete terms?
  o Identify what they want that already exists in the library, if so this can be used. New resources can be integrated into LibreText by their team.
  o Faculty need to get an account from Delmar to be able to edit.


  Brief discussion of current status of this at other campuses – most common Low Cost definition will be between $30 and $50.

5. Relevant announcements related to the work of the committee.

  Next regular meeting date will be 9/17/2018, but the AERC might have a planning meeting prior to that.

Next meeting: September 17th at 1:30 pm – location TBA.

Future agenda items:

- Discuss developing a guide for adoption of an OER textbook through the bookstore.
- Discuss a better way to keep our committee in the loop when it comes to district level issues that are related to textbook affordability.