Affordable Educational Resources
Academic Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
Nov. 6th, 2017
1:30 - 2:30pm in LRC 120

Attendance: Katie Carbary, Charell Carr, Tara DuVernay, Kevin Flash, Rebecca Goodchild, Bruce Zenner

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. Update on SB 1359 implementation.
   Albert Garcia from district communicated with AERC about district implementation plan for the no cost course materials logo for the course schedule. Implementation is planned for January, with several steps requiring deans and departments to send information to the district about which classes should display the logo.

2. OER film for convocation.
   Discussion of possible OER promotional film to be shown to faculty at convocation. We are too late for the next convocation, but can communicate with Kandace Knudsen about this for the future – possibly for fall 2018 or spring 2019. We also need to check to make sure that we submitted a Flex Proposal for spring 2018; the deadline is November 10th.

3. Spring 2018 meeting time.
   Considering keeping the meeting at Monday at 1:30 – 2:30 pm; will do a Doodle poll sent to interested faculty and those who have attended AERC this semester.

4. Update on dissemination of OpenStax textbooks.
All the OpenStax books have arrived except one. Can we also send a link to the e-book textbooks to department chairs? Now that the change to Canvas will be mandatory, these canvas course cartridges may be of more interest.

Discussion of OpenStax adoption and publication date/edition update standards. OpenStax currently will only update edition/publication date when 15% of the material has been changed for pedagogically necessary reasons. Changes are made yearly, but do not necessarily result in a new edition or new publication date.

How to handle this type of thing when adding OpenStax books to course outlines? What can be put into the date field in Socrates? Is it possible to include the original publication date of the most recent edit?

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

Discussion of possibly conducting a new survey or poll for faculty to see who is using Open Educational and Low Cost materials.

It was suggested that it might be best to wait until after the free textbook logo has been implemented before discussing the possible implementation of a low-cost logo. Definition of “low cost” will need to be determined – this might depend on discipline and material type – the AERC might want to develop more specific guidelines about this in the future.

In the library, one new program on the horizon is laptop checkout for in-library use so that students can use the computers on the third-floor quiet area. It is going to begin with 10 computers, but may expand in the future, possibly to outside-library use. Is the AERC interested in computers as a type of affordable educational resource?