Textbook Affordability Subcommittee Report
for ASGC Meeting of 12 March 2026

Subcommittee Updates

- We are in need of an OER Liaison for Spring 2026. If you're interested, please let Sarah Harmon and Diana Tedone-Goldstone know!
- CCCCO/OERI: OERI webinars are ongoing; check out the great discussions and recordings! (More soon about upcoming
- February meeting focus: ZTC Program updates and final planning for Open Educational Week. The minutes are attached at the end of this report.

Spring Workshops on OER, ZTC and more!

We have a plethora of workshops planned for Spring 2026. The recording of the previous workshops are available on the TAS website. Come join us!

- Thinking About Open Pedagogy: Including Your Students in Your Course Materials (Wednesday, 25 March, 2-3pm, via Zoom)
  - Description: We often think about course materials as the textbooks, homework questions, quizzes, and other things that either we create or that we adopt from someone else. Have you ever thought about creating these elements with your students? This session will include key ways that you can include your students in creating or modifying course materials, impacting their learning in significant ways. (Note: This session will be recorded.)
- ZTC Next Steps: Open Forum 1 (Wednesday, 22 April, 2-3pm, via Zoom)
  - Description: Hopefully you have joined us for our spring workshops and/or our Flex Day sessions on ADAPT, the LibreTexts homework platform. Let's take a moment to come together and think about some next steps. How can we help you convert your course to ZTC? Come with your questions and ideas! (Note: We won't record this session.)
- ZTC Summer Projects: What Do You Need Help With? (Open Forum 2) (Wednesday, 13 May, 2-3pm, via Zoom)
  - Description: Hopefully you have joined us for our spring workshops and/or our Flex Day sessions on ADAPT, the LibreTexts homework platform. Let's take a moment to come together and think about some next steps. How can we help you convert your course to ZTC? Come with your questions and ideas! (Note: We won't record this session.)

Open Education Week 2026: 2-6 March

The Textbook Affordability Solutions Workgroup (TASW) organized a number of events to celebrate all things open. We celebrated all things open education with a number of events, including a powerful keynote conversation with Prof. Tiffany Lanoix of West Los Angeles College, who is the OERI's IDEA Framework Lead. Check out TASW's Open Ed Week website for recordings, our virtual petting zoo of OER, and so much more! The events held were the following, with links to the recordings:

- Cañada Library's OE Week Interactive Exhibit (all week)
- A student voice Padlet and a faculty voice Padlet to collect thoughts on the impact of ZTC and LTC courses
- Cañada's ZTC Team showcased to students, faculty, staff and the community the power of OER and other ZTC methods in the Grove!
- State of ZTC (2 March, 12-1pm): As is tradition, we caught everyone up on what's been happening at Skyline College, College of San Mateo and Cañada College with respect to ZTC/LTC courses. We discussed how we have been managing our funding from the state to create new pathways and the new professional development trainings happening on our campuses.

- Opening Doors: Skyline College Faculty Talk about Using Affordable Course Materials (2 March, 2-3pm): Skyline College faculty who teach with OER and ZTC materials shared their motivations for choosing affordable course materials, the challenges and surprises they encounter, and the impact on learning experiences in their courses.
- NotebookLM and AI: Expanding your OERs (4 March, 11am-12pm): NotebookLM, the powerful study tool through Google that is powered by Gemini, is the perfect tool to create more ways for students to interact with OER and Open Access materials. This interactive session was run by July Díaz (one of CSM's Instructional Designers) and Tamara Perkins (Film Studies faculty at CSM).
- Doing Dangerous Work: The ASCCC IDEA Framework (4 March, 12-1pm): The keynote conversation for SMCCCD's OpenEd Week events focused on the [IDEA Framework](#) with Prof. Tiffany Lanoix of the ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiative (OERI). Prof. Lanoix unpacked what IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-racism) means in the context of educational resources and why OER are especially powerful for this work, since open licenses allow faculty to revise materials to better reflect their community contexts.
- Student Voice: Fall 2025 District-wide Affordable Instructional Materials Student Survey (6 March, 12-1pm): With 600+ responses, the district-wide survey that was run in Fall 2025 gave us important information about how our students feel about the affordability of instructional materials, whether they are in ZTC/LTC courses or not. Join us for a robust discussion of what the students are telling us and ways that we can address their needs.

Reminder about Textbook Adoptions and SB 893

- ***Make sure to get your Summer and Fall Textbook Adoptions into Jai (and Sarah for ZTC/LTC) on time!***
  - Summer adoptions are due on 10 March 2026.
  - Fall adoptions are due on 10 April 2026.
- SB 893, the legislation that allows the District to fund the Free College Initiative, has specific restrictions with respect to how students in the program can purchase their course materials.
  - SB 893 textbook funds are ***only*** available for materials that can be purchased through the college bookstore.
  - SB 893 covers textbook costs for students who show financial need and/or who are eligible for the non-resident tuition waiver.
- The more courses and sections that are converted to ZTC or LTC, the further these dollars can go!
  - If you're using ZTC materials—especially those that are open-source—you can make a print option copy available. That way, your students can use their financial aid funds to purchase that print copy. Ask Jai for more info!

Meetings

Our next meeting will be 17 March, 1-2pm via [Zoom](#). We'll focus on the updates to the ZTC Course Conversion Program. We'll also learn more about Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) and how faculty can potentially use this option to convert their courses to ZTC. Come join us!

ASCCC OERI News and Events

Discipline Lead Opportunities for Spring 2026

The ASCCC OERI is still recruiting new **Discipline Leads** for Spring 2026. Faculty from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. Discipline Leads receive a **$600 stipend per term**, with additional stipends available for completing OERI courses.

Disciplines currently sought include (but are not limited to): Computer Science, Counseling, Health, History, Nursing, Social Justice Studies and more.

OERI Brown Bag Series

The OERI is pleased to announce the introduction of its Brown Bag Series. Each brown bag is a 30-minute mini-webinar where participants can drop in to learn about a focused topic. After the session ends, presenters and participants are welcome to stay and engage in further dialogue or ask questions about the topic.

AI Bytes: Rubrics, Resilience, and Robots: Thursday, March 5, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
This session will explore rubric language that supports academic integrity, transparency, and discipline standards no matter the AI use policy (allowed or not) in the classroom. Participants will leave with concrete assessment tweaks and rubric phrases to help support their equitable grading practices.

[Website for AI Bytes: Rubrics, Resilience, and Robots](#) (recording and resources)

Accessibility Apps: Complex Images and Alt Text: Tuesday, March 10, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Writing alternative text (alt text) for simple images is one thing, but what about dense charts, layered maps, complex infographics, scientific diagrams, or multi-panel visuals? This webinar dives into practical strategies for describing highly detailed images in ways that are clear, accurate, and aligned with accessibility standards. Bring your image challenges to add some flavor to the discussion.

[Website for Complex Images and Alt Text](#) (recording and resources)

Accessibility Apps: So, You're Suddenly Expected to be an Accessibility Expert: Tuesday, March 17, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
New to accessibility review? This webinar introduces the [OERI Accessibility Checklist.](#) Focusing on practical strategies, the checklist can help you to confidently provide feedback to your OER authors.

[Register for So, You're Suddenly Expected to be an Accessibility Expert](#)

AI Bytes: Boosting Accessibility, Not Workload: Thursday, March 26, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
This session will explore opportunities for AI to support Universal Design for Learning in the online and in person classroom. When faculty are using open educational resources, AI can be employed to create ancillary resources and other educational materials. Participants will leave with tools, prompts, and examples to support generating accessible handouts, organize complex instructions, and create alternative formats for multiple learning preferences, while also being mindful of student privacy, accuracy, and accommodation versus modification.
[Register for AI Bytes: Boosting Accessibility, Not Workload](#)

AI Bytes: Practical Privacy Protections: Friday, April 10, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
This session will walk through the types of information that individuals should be aware of to keep their data secure when utilizing AI in courses that use open educational resources (OER), and in the OER creation, revision, remixing or assessment process. Participants will also investigate the different ways to opt-out of specific settings on common gen-AI platforms as well as understand the aspects to be mindful of when conducting prompt engineering.

[Register for AI Bytes: Practical Privacy Protections](#)

March Webinars and Office Hours

For those webinars that have passed, check the [OERI's Webinars and Events page](#) for the recording and assets.

Mathematics and Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of math and OER office hours throughout the term. These office hours will serve as a question-and-answer session where attendees bring in their math OER needs, requests, and questions. Attendees can also use this space to receive guidance and ask questions pertaining to MyOpenMath.

[Register for Math OER Office Hours on Tuesday, March 17, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm](#)

Physics and Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours

The OERI is pleased to offer a series of Physics Open Educational Resources (OER) office hours throughout the term. These office hours will serve as a conversational session where attendees bring in their Physics OER needs, requests, and questions. Attendees can also use this space to receive guidance and ask questions pertaining to MyOpenMath. All the following sessions will be from 9:00 am – 10:00 am.

[Register for Physics OER Office Hours on Thursday, March 19](#)
[Register for Physics OER Office Hours on Friday, March 27](#)
[Register for Physics OER Office Hours on Thursday, April 9](#)
[Register for Physics OER Office Hours on Thursday, April 17](#)
[Register for Physics OER Office Hours on Thursday, April 21](#)

Fresh and Easy? Authentic Assessment for the Communication Studies Open Educational Resources (OER) Classroom in the Age of Artificial Intelligence (AI): Wednesday, March 4, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
The current surge of generative and agentic AI can mean having to shift gears constantly as an instructor. No matter the course and no matter the AI policy, this session will help support you in your OER classroom to find low-lift ways to refresh content, revise assessments, and identify boundaries or policies that align with your educational philosophy without having to overhaul your entire course.

[Website for Fresh and Easy? Authentic Assessment for the Communication Studies OER Classroom in the Age of AI](#) (recording and resources)

Digital Media: Building a New Open Educational Resources (OER) Discipline Collection Together: Monday, March 9, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Digital media is a new discipline for the OERI, offering an opportunity to shape its direction and create support for faculty from the ground up. This session will focus on what materials digital media faculty need, what resources we already have, and how we can leverage existing tools, OER, and partnerships to identify gaps and plan next steps together.

[Website for Digital Media: Building a New OER Discipline Collection Together](#) (recording and resources)

Adapting Open Educational Resources (OER) for Education Courses: How Do I Add or Change Content? Or Can I?: Wednesday, March 11, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Want to include, or update education OER content in your course but don't understand what you are allowed to do legally, or how to begin? Bring your questions about specific content in an education OER and the licenses associated with it and let us help you clarify the multi-dimensional aspects of creative commons licensing. You will walk away with a list of do's and don'ts for the content that matters most to you.

[Website for Adapting OER for Education Courses](#) (recording and resources)

Owning the Curriculum: How a Spanish Program Replaced Commercial Textbooks with Open Educational Resources (OER): Friday, March 13, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Commercial language textbooks are costly and often rely on generic, outdated content disconnected from today's students. In this webinar, the author of *Salón de Clase*, an intermediate Spanish textbook for educational professionals, will outline the collaborative process, key stakeholders, and guiding pedagogical principles that lead to the development of this OER. Additionally, participants will learn how curriculum ownership enabled the integration of custom tools like My Language Level (an app based on can-do statements) into instruction.

[Register for Owning the Curriculum: How a Spanish Program Replaced Commercial Textbooks with OER](#)

Toolkit for Inclusive Workforce Education: Embedding Essential Professional Skills into Your Courses: Monday, March 16, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Join us to explore the Toolkit for Inclusive Workforce Education, a new openly licensed resource designed to help faculty integrate essential professional skills into existing course content without changing course objectives, discipline, or modality. Explore five adaptable module templates that support communication, technology use, self-advocacy, goal setting, and problem-solving, along with student reflection tools and a faculty implementation checklist. Come preview the resources and share feedback to help shape how they can best support CTE instruction. Ample time for questions and feedback will be provided. As this resource could be used by many disciplines, your perspective on the toolkit and its elements, as well as where you would expect to find such a resource are aspects of the feedback we are hoping to collect.

[Register for Toolkit for Inclusive Workforce Education: Embedding Essential Professional Skills into Your Courses](#)

Accessibility Apps: So, You're Suddenly Expected to be an Accessibility Expert: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
New to accessibility review? This webinar introduces the OERI Accessibility Checklist. Focusing on practical strategies, the checklist can help you to confidently provide feedback to your OER authors.
Register for So, You're Suddenly Expected to be an Accessibility Expert

Adapting Open Educational Resources (OER) for Education Courses: How Do I Add or Change Content? Or Can I?: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Want to include, or update education OER content in your course but don't understand what you are allowed to do legally, or how to begin? Bring your questions about specific content in an education OER and the licenses associated with it and let us help you clarify the multi-dimensional aspects of creative commons licensing. You will walk away with a list of do's and don'ts for the content that matters most to you.
Register for Adapting OER for Education Courses

Exploring Open Educational Resources (OER) for ENGL C1001: A Conversation for English Faculty: Tuesday, March 24, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Wondering how OER can align with the new ENGL C1001 framework? This conversation offers English faculty space to exchange perspectives, review available OER materials, and identify where additional resources may be needed. Come with questions, insights, or curiosities; your input will help shape next steps toward a sustainable zero-textbook-cost ENGL C1001.

Register for Exploring OER for ENGL C1001: A Conversation for English Faculty

Using Open Educational Resources (OER) to Design Unique Engineering Course Materials: Thursday, March 26, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
The cost and accessibility of textbooks can serve as a barrier to student success. Yet in many lower-division engineering courses, instructors use textbooks not only as a reference and a guide for students, but also as a source of homework and exam problems. In this webinar, participants will explore several OER designed to support lower-division engineering coursework and discuss strategies to incorporate open materials into assignments and exams.

Register for Using OER to Design Unique Engineering Course Materials

Elevate Your Open Educational Resources (OER): Inclusive, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-racism (IDEA) Framework Summer 2026 Assessment Information Session: Friday, March 27, 2026 from 10:00 am – 10:30 am
The OERI is expanding the IDEA Framework assessment process, a dedicated approach to reviewing new and revised OERI-supported materials to ensure they are inclusive, diverse, equity-minded, and anti-racist. Two exciting assessment sessions will be offered this summer. In the sessions, participants may either submit authored or adopted OER materials for expert review by specially trained IDEA Framework assessors or participate in a four-week guided IDEA Framework assessment alongside fellow OER adopters, learning collaboratively while evaluating authored or adopted OER materials. Join the upcoming information session to learn about the qualifications and expectations as well as obtain answers to any remaining questions.
Register for the IDEA Framework Summer 2026 Assessment Information Session

Textbook Affordability Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
for 17 February 2026, 1-2pm, via [Zoom](#)

Attendance

- Present: Sarah Harmon, Jai Kumar, Carlos Luna, Nada Nekrep, Marina Noel, Diana Tedone-Goldstone
- Absent: Amira Alkeswani, Anniqua Rana
- Guests: Paul Gaskins, Katie Harrar

Agenda

I. Introductions and Welcome (5 minutes; Information)
II. Updates (10 minutes; Information/Discussion)
   a. CCCCO ZTC Grant Updates
      i. Cañada's grant work has been moving along. More news in March.
   b. Updates from CCCCO
      i. None
   c. Updates from the OERI
      i. Since we don't have an OER Liaison, there isn't much to report. Sarah has been attending some of the webinars, but doesn't have OERL-specific information.
      ii. If any faculty would like to step in for Spring 2026 as OERL, please let Sarah and Diana know. There is a $600 per semester stipend.
III. Open Education Week 2026 (15 minutes; Information)
   a. SMCCCD TASW Plans
      i. [SMCCCD OpenEd Week website](#) is being updated, including information on our events plus other events from around the open educational world.
         1. Kick-off: "The State of ZTC in SMCCCD" on Monday, 2 March, 12-1pm, via [Zoom](#).
         2. "Opening Doors: Skyline College Faculty Talk about Using Affordable Course Materials" on Monday, 2 March, 2-3pm, via [Zoom](#).
         3. "Lighten Your Load: Using AI Tools to Enhance OER" on Tuesday, 3 March, 12-1pm, via Zoom (link forthcoming).
         4. "An Open Introduction to Film: Lessons from a NotebookLM Case Study" on Wednesday, 4 March, 11am-12pm, via [Zoom](#).
         5. Keynote: "IDEA Framework and OER: A Conversation with Prof. Tiffany Lanoix" on Wednesday, 4 March, 12-1pm. [Register](#) to attend and get notified of the recording.
         6. "Student Voice: Results from the Fall 2025 Affordable Instructional Materials Survey" on Friday, 6 March, 12-1pm, via [Zoom](#).
   b. Cañada events
      i. Library display with information on OER and other ZTC materials.
         1. Idea #1: Add something interactive to teach folks about these materials. (Sarah will work on this with Tania in the Library.)
      ii. Idea #2: Tabling at the Grove. Diana and Sarah will lead, with help from others as needed
      iii. Idea #3: Canvas Global Announcements to faculty and students about OER/ZTC (TASW was considering this; Sarah will forward to TASW.)
   c. [Faculty voice Padlet](#) and [student voice Padlet](#)—include these in the display, Grove tabling, Canvas global announcement.
IV. District-wide revamp of ZTC Program Awards (30 minutes; Information/Discussion)
   a. Updated [Cañada ZTC Course Conversion Professional Development Plan](#) (view-only link), based on the work of TASW in response to required changes. This work was started in Fall 2025 and finalized by TASW in terms of the types of activities and amount of compensation.
   b. Required updates:
      i. Each college's ZTC program is required to switch to an hourly-based compensation

model (paid by special rate) to comply with Payroll practices and reporting to CalPERS/CalSTRS.
   ii. TASW agreed upon maximum caps on hours for certain types of activities and training to help with budgeting.
   iii. TASW agreed on the training modules for micro-courses and courses, including college- and district-specific Canvas courses and external training courses.
   iv. TASW agreed on time ranges for remixing, adaptation and authoring projects, with the last one being funded through grant applications.
   c. Overall unveiling of the new district-wide agreements will come during Open Education Week's SMCCCD Kick-off event.
   d. TAS: Make comments in the edit-allowable link (Track Changes enabled) before March's meeting. (Sarah will also present it to Academic Senate, PDPC and IPC.)
   e. Resources: SKY ZTC Early Adopters Program, CSM OER/ZTC Training website,
V. Adjourn

Important links

- Textbook Affordability Subcommittee website
- Textbook Affordability Subcommittee SharePoint site
- OER/ZTC LibGuide
- SMCCCD OER/ZTC Website
- ASCCC OERI Website

Next meeting: 17 March 2026, 1-2pm, via Zoom

Focus: Controlled Digital Lending and supporting students and faculty