

Textbook Affordability Subcommittee Meeting Minutes for 26 October 2026, 2:30-3:30pm, via [Zoom](#)

Attendance

- Present: Amira Alkeswani, Sarah Harmon, Tania Isidra, Jenni McGuire, Marina Noel, Tessa Noriega, John Perez, Bianca Ramírez
- Absent: Chialin Hsieh, Jai Kumar, Anniqua Rana, Diana Tedone-Goldstone

Agenda

- I. Introductions and Welcome (5 minutes; Information)
- II. Updates (10 minutes; Harmon and Isidra; Information and Discussion)
 - a. CCCCCO ZTC Grant Updates
 - i. All projects are being finalized this semester--we're on schedule!
 - ii. Final reporting due in January; we'll share details in November
 - b. Updates from the OERI
 - i. [OERI Discipline Leads Wanted](#): The OERI is recruiting Discipline Leads for the 2026-2027 academic year. Discipline Leads receive a stipend of \$600 per term for completing their assigned tasks and are also eligible to receive a stipend for taking the OERI's self-paced OER Basics and OER Accessibility Basics courses
 1. Biology
 2. Counseling
 3. Geography/Physical Sciences
 - ii. Gaining Traction: Expanding Your Open Educational Resources (OER) Efforts
 1. [Gaining Traction Slides](#), [Faculty Incentives](#), [Help for creators](#), [Full toolkit](#)
 - iii. [ASCCC OERI Seeking New Lead: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-Racism \(IDEA\)](#)
 - iv. Apply for a Sabbatical: Open Educational Resource (OER) Projects (Oct 22nd)
- III. LTC Threshold Moving to \$30 (15 minutes; Harmon, Isidra and Tedone-Goldstone; Discussion)
 - a. [Memorandum ESS 26-65](#): LTC Threshold at \$30 (reporting) starting Summer 2027
 - b. Draft: [Cañada College Low Textbook Cost Resolution](#) (comment/review access)
 - i. Report from the sunshining of the resolution at Cañada's Academic Senate: Strong student support, no other comments.
 - ii. Should the resolution be adopted across the district, the switch to the LTC threshold will happen seamlessly; there will only be minor updates to websites.
 - iii. Should the resolution not be adopted across the district, Cañada will have to have two sets of information: one that gets reported to the state that only includes those courses that are LTC with a \$30 threshold (and includes the courses marked on WebSchedule), and those courses that are \$31-\$40 who are locally-defined as LTC—but can't be marked in WebSchedule as such. Essentially, it's at least twice the work and not efficient.
 - iv. There will be a reduction of LTC-qualifying courses with the \$30 threshold, but the number was shrinking as a result of publishers raising their prices.
 - v. The review-only link will remain open for comments. If you would rather submit comments to Sarah direct, please email them to her at harmon@smccd.edu.
 - vi. The plan is to bring this back to Cañada's Academic Senate in November or December; the other campuses will be doing the same. It will go to District Academic Senate in early Spring 2027.
- IV. Reserve Textbook Request Form (10 minutes, Noriega; Information)
 - a. Updated request form for instructors to indicate format of reserve item
 - b. Renewed focus on building up the reserves to serve students
 - c. When faculty submit reserve requests, the idea is to get a print copy—either through the site's printing services (especially OpenStax or LibreTexts) or download a PDF and use Staples.
- V. Updating TAS Goals: Ways that LLM-based tools can help to remediate and/or update the OER we're using (15 minutes; All; Discussion)
 - a. Mentimeter activity results (see attached)
 - b. Additional comments that came from slide 1:

- i. Amira Alkeswani: AI tools still need supervision and it takes time and effort to build the prompts right and get the result that you want. But it is helping with learning new skills, particularly coding. Currently running experiments with its possibilities and limitations. Just be careful of the settings that you're using with the tool; make sure it's not saving things to memory.
 - ii. John Perez: Helpful with remediation re: accessibility, and the use of AI-based voice overs has been received well with students. But students don't often use the tools that are created; may be time wasted?
 - iii. Tessa Noriega: Still new to these tools, but prefers printed copies to digital ones.
 - iv. Jenni McGuire: Just be mindful of using copyrighted materials, because we're training the tools. Be aware of the sustainability and economic issues that arise from their use.
 - v. Sarah Harmon: September 2026 presentation on [How Not to Be an Accidental Pirate: Fair Use, Copyright and AI for Faculty](#) is available for public viewing, and DTLC will be announcing more information on their various AI Communities of Practice. There's also the OERI's list of [Apps, Bots and OER](#) of various usages.
 - c. Additional comments that came from slide 4: Maybe add showcasing uses and practices, along with advising.
- VI. TAS Workshops and Events (2 minutes; Harmon; Information)
- a. OER Learn and Play Series on ADAPT and authentic assessment types
 - i. Level 3: ADAPT's The Forge Long-Form Assessment Tool: 29 October, 1-2pm, 13-337 and Zoom ([registration link](#))
 - b. CCCCCO ZTC Project Showcases moved to January Flex
 - c. Sarah will hold OER/ZTC Office Hours

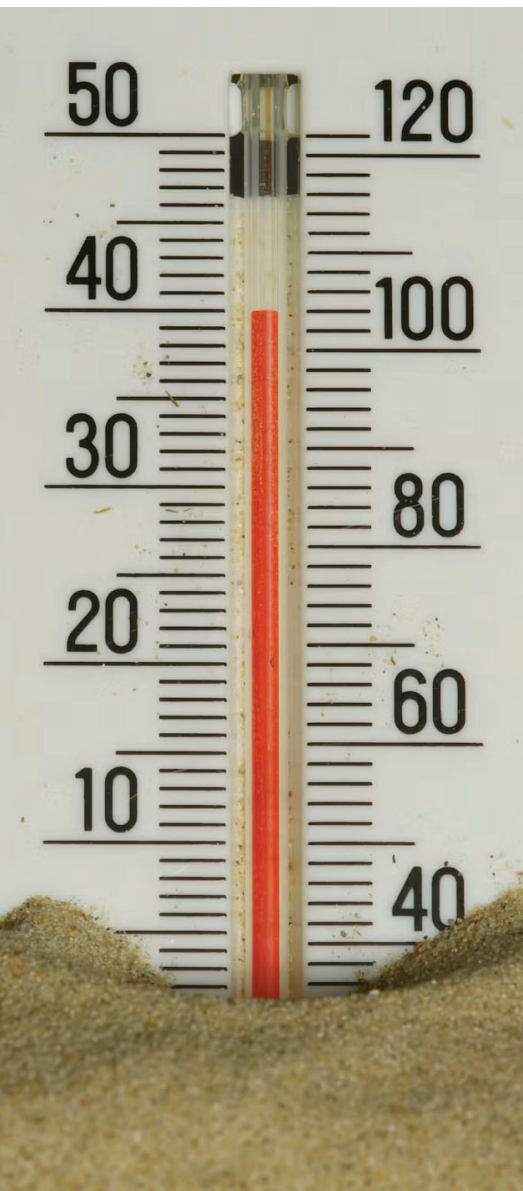
VII. Adjourn

Important links

- [Textbook Affordability Subcommittee website](#)
- [Textbook Affordability Subcommittee SharePoint site](#)
- [OER/ZTC LibGuide](#)
- [SMCCCD OER/ZTC Website](#)
- [ASCCC OERI Website](#)

Next meeting: 23 November 2026, 2:30-3:30pm, via [Zoom](#)

Focus: OER/ZTC Implementation Plan goals and next steps



Temperature check: Do you currently use LLM-based tools to remediate and/or update OER or other instructional content? (Choose only one answer.)



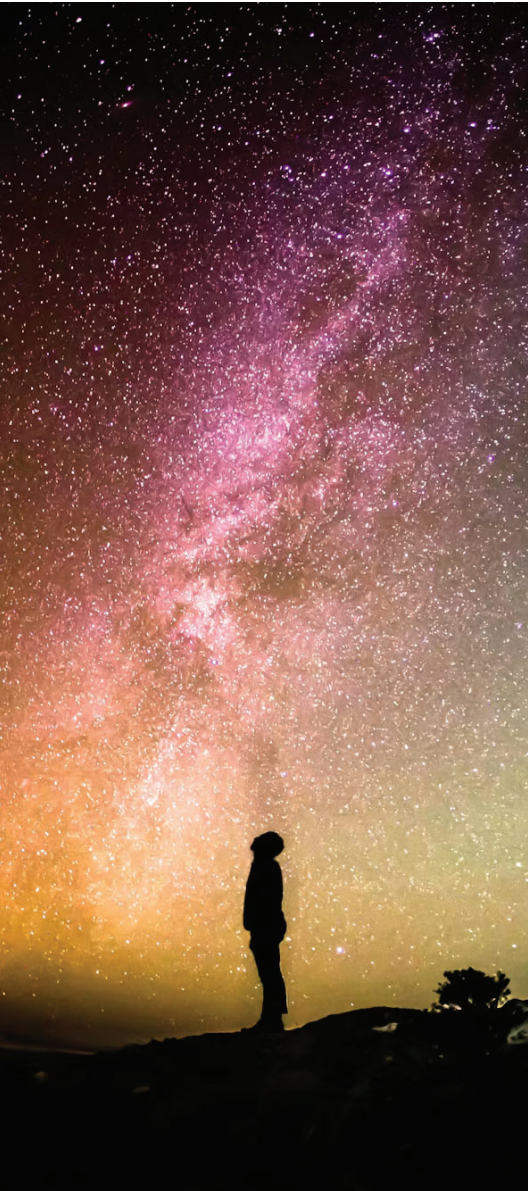
1 Ewwwww....no!! Gross!

0 No, but I'm curious about what's possible.



4 Yes, but I'm still dipping a toe in the water on this one.

0 Aw yeah! The bots and I are homeys!



Dream big: What would you love to have an LLM-based tool help you do with your open educational resources? (Feel free to upvote other ideas!)

Gather reliable content and organize for me to review.

2

Popular

Clone Dr. Harmon to be my ZTC champion assistant

2

Popular

Create customized images to match my content

2

Popular

Create check in quizzes.

2

Popular

Accessibility check for Canvas



Which LLM-based tools do you already know about? (Enter one tool's name at a time, but you can add more once you submit.)

google gemini
notebook gemini
chatgpt
playlab claude nectarai
ebSCO natural language



What is TAS's role in using LLM-based tools with OER? How do we fit this into our goals for the upcoming Implementation Plan? (Upvote, please!)

Advise faculty on ethical use in practical application while protecting copyright law