# Textbook Affordability Subcommittee Report for ASGC Meeting of 12 November 2026

## Subcommittee Updates

- Our last meeting was on 26 October 2026 (see meeting minutes at the end of this report). Lots of upcoming discussions on updating the LTC threshold and on incorporating AI in the updating and/or remediation of OER and other open-source instructional materials. The minutes are at the end of the report
- Next meeting: Monday, 23 November 2026, 2:30-3:30pm, via Zoom. Topics include next steps in the OER/ZTC Implementation Plan and expanding goals.

## ZTC Training and Course Conversion Program and CCCCO ZTC Projects

A reminder that ZTC Training is open year-round; there is a variety of options that you can consider. You can still submit for the fall, but all training must be completed by 1 December 2026. Consider applying!

The next cohort of the ZTC Course Conversion Program will be Summer 2027. There's more information on the ZTC Course Conversion Program website. If you want some help before then, please reach out to Sarah Harmon.

### *CCCCO ZTC Grant Showcase*

Please join us for the CCCCO ZTC Grant Showcase, which will be held during January Flex. Faculty who completed our three Acceleration grant projects (Early Childhood Education with Digital Learning; Mathematics with Competency-Based and Equity-Based Grading Practices; Digital Art and Animation authoring) will share their experiences, including lessons learned and what they are taking away from their projects. There will be plenty of time for Q&A, so bring your questions!

## OER Learn and Play Series: ADAPT, Discuss-It and the Forge

Did you miss the OER Learn and Play series on ADAPT? Not to worry! The recordings are now available on the TAS website. Check out the walk-throughs on ADAPT and its game-changing question types, Discuss-It for discussion forums and the Forge for long-form assessments. Check out the recording links below for the demonstrations and discussions, and the slide decks are provided with more details on how to set up these questions in ADAPT and link them to Canvas.

If you would like one-on-one help, connect with Lindsey Irizarry and/or Sarah Harmon. We're happy to help!

OER Learn and Play Series

- Session 1: ADAPT Assessment Platform and slide deck (1 October 2026)
- Session 2: ADAPT's Discuss-It Question Type and slide deck (15 October 2026)
- Session 3: ADAPT's The Forge Long-Form Assessment Tool and slide deck (29 October 2026)

## LibreTexts Webinar: Reimagining OER: What Does an AI-First Platform Look Like?

A panel of three experts—David Wiley (Marshall University), Joel Gladd (College of Western Idaho), and Dan McCreery (Kelly-McCreary & Associates)—moderated by Delmar Larsen (LibreTexts), will explore the intersection of Open Educational Resources (OER) and artificial intelligence in building interactive educational resources. Targeted toward intermediate and advanced OER practitioners, the discussion will examine how the next evolution of OER must move beyond repositories of freely accessible textbooks toward AI-powered integrated, centralized, community-driven educational platforms. The panel will explore their visions in how state-of-the-art AI can transform the construction, adaptation, curation, accessibility, and licensing compliance

of educational resources while enabling personalized learning through intelligent tutoring, adaptive instruction, automated assessment, and individualized feedback. By integrating content, courseware, and learning technologies within an OER ecosystem, their visions seek to empower educators to collaborate and innovate while providing students with more personalized and engaging learning experiences. Ultimately, the discussion will consider how to build a sustainable, community-governed infrastructure where AI amplifies the collective expertise of educators while advancing the broader mission of open education.

- David Wiley, Chief Academic AI Officer and Professor at Marshall University (LinkedIn)
- Joel Gladd, Chair of Integrated Studies at College of Western Idaho (LinkedIn)
- Dan McCreary, Head of AI at Kelly-McCreary & Associates (LinkedIn)
- Delmar Larsen, Webinar Moderator, Professor at University of California at Davis and CEO at LibreTexts (LinkedIn)

Please register to access the webinar and the assets associated with it.

## Reminder about Textbook Adoptions and SB 893

- ***Make sure to get your Spring Textbook Adoptions into Jai (and Sarah for ZTC/LTC) on time!***
  - Spring adoptions are due on 19 October 2026.
  - Use the Bookstore's Textbooks Adoptions page to submit your orders, please!
- 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!

## Looking to adopt OER or other ZTC course materials?

Are you looking to convert your course materials by adopting open educational resources (OER) or library-based eBooks? Many faculty use the summer to revamp the materials that they use. If you are looking for more information, check out the Cañada ZTC for Faculty page, which has resources to help find materials. You can also connect with Sarah via email or set up an appointment with her if you have any questions this summer.

For all ZTC and LTC faculty: Make sure to put a blurb in your syllabus that explains how your course is either ZTC or LTC. Use this Playlab AI app to craft that blurb easily.

When you've got your syllabus blurb ready, make sure to include the correct icon for your course. The icons are listed below:

**ZTC logo**



**LTC logo**



# ASCCC OERI News and Webinars

## *Discipline Surveys and Listservs*

The OERI is in the process of deploying discipline surveys to gather OER adoption data and identify remaining OER needs. This information will be used to inform the selection of existing OER to be updated and to prioritize new OER to be developed. If you teach in one of our Group 1 or Group 2 disciplines, please complete the survey as soon as possible. To ensure you don't miss developments in your discipline, please sign up for your discipline listserv. These one-way listservs are used by the OERI to inform and recruit faculty and by the ASCCC to inform faculty of C-ID and Common Course Numbering (CCN) developments. Please note that if you are not receiving this message directly from the OERI, you can also use the link above to sign up for the ASCCC OER Initiative newsletter.

### Group 1 – Anthropology, Child Development, Early Childhood Education (ECE), Political Science, Psychology, Sociology

Please complete the survey no later than Tuesday, November 3, 2026. If you have any questions about the survey, or need any assistance, please let us know. On behalf of the ASCCC OERI, we thank you for your time.

Access the Fall 2026 ASCCC OERI Discipline Survey for Group 1

### Group 2 – Art/Art History, Communication Studies, English, Kinesiology, Music, Philosophy

Please complete the survey no later than Monday, November 16, 2026. If you have any questions about the survey, or need any assistance, please let us know. On behalf of the ASCCC OERI, we thank you for your time.

Access the Fall 2026 ASCCC OERI Discipline Survey for Group 2

## *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. Read more about the Discipline Lead role and the process for applying. Access the Power Point and archive of the September 15th webinar: Why Be an OERI Discipline Lead? (AKA OERI Discipline Lead Information Session) for more information. While we are actively recruiting Leads for the following disciplines, we are always happy to consider other disciplines as well.

- Biology
- Counseling
- Geography/Physical Sciences

## *Interactive Office Hours: Artificial Intelligence (AI)*

Join the OERI's AI Lead, Liz Encarnacion, for a series of interactive office hours centered around using AI to create and adapt OER.

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) Office Hour: AI Resilient Assessments for Courses Using Open Educational Resources (OER): Thursday, November 13, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Join this interactive office hour that will focus on designing AI-resilient assessments for OER and OER-based courses. Bring your assessments and OER material that need the most support to workshop practical solutions that emphasize authentic learning, student process, reflection, application, and meaningful demonstration of course outcomes. We will discuss how the flexibility of OER can be used to create accessible, equitable, and AI-aware assessments that support learning, rather than just simply detecting AI use.

Register for AI Office Hour: AI Resilient Assessments for OER Courses

## *Teaching Online with Open Educational Resources*

Online courses and OER are a natural fit. OER can be adapted, remixed, and built directly into a course shell, and that flexibility creates possibilities that commercial materials can't match. The ASCCC OERI Distance Education (DE) Webinars explore that intersection, helping California community college faculty, instructional designers, and DE coordinators use OER to design stronger online courses. Sessions cover topics such as integrating OER into Canvas, aligning open content with course outcomes and regular and substantive interaction requirements, ensuring that adapted materials meet accessibility standards, and using zero-cost

resources to remove barriers for online students from the first day of class. Whether you're building your first fully online course or transitioning an existing one to OER, these sessions offer practical strategies you can use right away. All webinars are recorded and archived on the OERI's website under Webinars and Events.

### Backward by Design: Building a Fully Online Canvas Shell with Open Educational Resources (OER): Wednesday, November 4, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Explore how backward design principles can guide the creation of a complete, ready-to-teach online course in Canvas. Participants will learn to start with clear learning outcomes with design aligned assessments, and then select and sequence OER to build engaging instructional content. We'll walk through practical strategies for structuring a fully online Canvas shell—from module organization to activity design—using freely available, high-quality OER materials.

Register for Backward by Design

## *OERI Events – Friday Forums*

During the Fall 2026 academic term, the OERI Friday Forums will be held from 10:30 am – 11:30 am on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month through December 4. All Friday Forum webinars are recorded and archived. The ASCCC OERI will provide automated captioning for all webinars. If you would like to request live human closed captioning for any of our offerings, please contact us by e-mail at least 10 business days in advance.

### Hot Off the Server: What's New in LibreTexts and ADAPT: Friday, November 20, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

Building your openly-licensed textbook just got faster, and your discussions just got a whole lot richer! In this live showcase, you'll see the brand-new Remixer v3 pull in an entire book in seconds and let you name chapters your way as well as the Glossary Manager, the License Restacker that untangles CC licenses for you, and an AI-powered Meta Editor that drafts summaries, tags, and alt text in one click. Then get a first look at ADAPT's fresh new interface, assignment time limits, and a supercharged Discuss-It with "daisy-chain" discussions that allow for different due dates and grading criteria within a topic, file attachments, a post-first option, and timestamped replies that sync right to audio and video. Bring your questions, grab a seat, and walk away with tools you'll want to use tomorrow. Save your spot today!

Register for Hot Off the Server

## *OERI Discipline Events*

The OERI Discipline Leads regularly host conversations and webinars to share resources, identify needs, and build community. These events are intended for discipline faculty and for those who have an interest in the discipline as supporters or advocates. Webinars will be recorded and archived. A "conversation" or an office hour is an informal discussion. The ASCCC OERI will provide automated captioning for all webinars. If you would like to request live human closed captioning for any of our offerings, please contact us by e-mail at least 10 business days in advance. Many of this year's Discipline Lead webinars will focus on new open educational resources (OER) that have been added to COOL4Ed as required by the Zero Textbook Cost legislation. In addition, discipline surveys are scheduled to be distributed this year that are intended to gather adoption data and identify unmet discipline needs. Consequently, some webinars may seek input from attendees regarding aspects of the discipline survey.

### Open Educational Resources (OER) for Physics – New Resources and the State of the Discipline: Tuesday, November 3, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

As of Fall 2026, most new pathways funded with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Program dollars are required to be implemented and many colleges have added new resources to COOL4Ed as required by the ZTC legislation. Join us for an overview of newly available physics OER, to share what OER you're working on, and/or to discuss your unmet OER needs.

Register for OER for Physics – New Resources and the State of the Discipline

**Engineering Statics: Open and Interactive – The Authors' Perspectives on Open Educational Resources (OER) for Mechanics Courses: Thursday, November 5, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**
Join us for an engaging conversation with Drs. Dan Baker and William Haynes, the authors of the widely used Engineering Statics: Open and Interactive OER text. The authors will share their motivations for creating the text and how the text has impacted them and their students in the years since its publication. In addition, the authors will discuss their vision for how the OER community can continue to support engineering students in today's educational landscape.

Register for Engineering Statics

**Defining our Disciplines to Facilitate the Discovery of Open Educational Resources (OER): Are we Kinesiology, Exercise Science, Health…or All of the Above?: Monday, November 9, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**
Join us for an informal conversation about the intersections among kinesiology, exercise science, health, fitness, and related fields. Where do these disciplines overlap, where are the meaningful differences, and what does that mean for faculty when creating and finding OER? We'll discuss ideas for how discipline resources are best organized in the OERI's collections, explore what resources are truly missing or what may be hiding under different disciplinary labels, and where we most need OER.

Register for Defining our Disciplines to Facilitate the Discovery of OER

**Open Educational Resources (OER) for Business – New Resources and the State of the Discipline: Tuesday, November 10, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**
As of Fall 2026, most new pathways funded with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Program dollars are required to be implemented and many colleges have added new resources to COOL4Ed as required by the ZTC legislation. Join us for an overview of newly available business OER, to share what OER you're working on, and/or to discuss your unmet OER needs.

Register for OER for Business – New Resources and the State of the Discipline

**Finding, Evaluating, and Adapting Open Educational Resources (OER) for Economics: Monday, November 16, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**
Looking for high-quality, no-cost instructional materials to enhance your economics courses? OER provide opportunities to reduce textbook costs, improve student access, and customize learning materials to meet diverse instructional needs. This webinar is designed for both faculty new to OER and experienced users, offering an overview of economics-specific textbooks, supplemental resources, and platforms such as OpenStax, LibreTexts, and OER Commons, along with practical strategies for finding, evaluating, adopting, and adapting materials for microeconomics and macroeconomics courses. Participants will explore useful resources through guided demonstrations and leave with practical tools and strategies they can immediately apply to their teaching, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Register for Finding, Evaluating, and Adapting OER for Economics

**Open Educational Resources (OER) for History – New Resources and the State of the Discipline: Tuesday, November 17, 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**
As of Fall 2026, most new pathways funded with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Program dollars are required to be implemented and many colleges have added new resources to COOL4Ed as required by the ZTC legislation. Join us for an overview of newly available history OER, to share what OER you're working on, and/or to discuss your unmet OER needs.

Register for OER for History – New Resources and the State of the Discipline

**Making your Own Custom Philosophy Textbook using the Philosophy Open Educational Resources (OER) Repository in LibreTexts: Friday, November 20, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**
For a sabbatical project this semester (Fall 2026), Professor Noah Levin is revising and entering all of the standalone chapters in eight OER textbooks into a single, organized database on LibreTexts to allow other faculty to easily find chapters and generate their own custom textbook with enough materials to cover most philosophy courses taught in the California Community College system. Come see the progress of this project and get a demonstration on how to use it to easily create your own textbook.

Register for Making your Own Custom Philosophy Textbook

**Spotlight on Open Educational Resources (OER) in Noncredit English as a Second Language (ESL): Sharing What Works!: Friday, November 20, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**
Noncredit ESL classes are unique in that they require materials flexible enough to meet a wide range of needs, from vocational ESL and basic conversation to beginning materials designed for adult learners. In this interactive conversation, faculty will share how they use OER in their noncredit ESL classes, the challenges they face, and the resources they still need. We invite participants to share and connect.

Register for Spotlight on OER in ESL: Sharing What Works!

**Accounting: Adopting Open Educational Resources (OER) – Practical Strategies for Implementation in Your Course: Monday, November 23, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm**
This session introduces faculty to the practical process of adopting OER for accounting courses. Participants will learn about the benefits of OER for equity, cost savings, student success, and course sustainability. The presentation includes a demonstration of how to adopt an OpenStax textbook, an overview of ready-to-import Canvas course materials and assignments, and strategies for aligning OER with course learning outcomes. The session concludes with a discussion of implementation and accessibility practices.

Register for Accounting: Adopting OER – Practical Strategies for Implementation in Your Course

**Open Educational Resources (OER) for Chemistry – New Resources and the State of the Discipline: Monday, November 30, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**
As of Fall 2026, most new pathways funded with Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degree Program dollars are required to be implemented and many colleges have added new resources to COOL4Ed as required by the ZTC legislation. Join us for an overview of newly available chemistry OER, to share what OER you're working on, and/or to discuss your unmet OER needs.

Register for OER for Chemistry – New Resources and the State of the Discipline

**Math and Open Educational Resources (OER) Office Hours**
The OERI is pleased to offer a series of math 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 and OER Office Hours on Thursday, November 5, 10:00 – 11:00 am
Register for Math and OER Office Hours on Friday, November 20, 9:30 am – 10:30 am

# 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. CCCCO 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. Ther 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 harmons@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. CCCCO 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