Examining Community College Faculty Attitudes Toward OER: A Mixed Methods Study.

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Sequential Explanatory Mixed Methods Design

\( n=354 \)

**Quan**
- Replicated Allen & Seaman's 2014 Survey.
- Compared responses to Allen & Seaman’s sample.
- Non-parametric statistical tests.

**Qual**
- Analyzed Survey Text Responses.
- Innovator Interviews \( n=2 \).
- Analyzed Interviews.
- Mixing Case Study Analysis.

Research Questions

**Quantitative**
- RQ 1: How do the faculty at the research site compare to Allen and Seaman’s (2014) national sample on their knowledge, attitudes, and use of open educational resources? RQ2
- Does an association exist between the respondents’ stated awareness of OER and their stated awareness of common features and components of open educational resources?

**Qualitative**
- RQ1
  - How do the respondents’ explain their knowledge of, attitudes about, and use of OER?
- RQ2
  - What type of institutional supports do experienced faculty recommend to support other educators considering OER?

Theoretical Lens

Diffusion of Innovations (Rogers, 2003)

Adopter Categories

Key Findings

Respondents are as aware of OER as their national peers.

- I am not aware of OER: 19.3%
- I have heard of OER: 28.1%
- I am aware of OER: 20.0%
- I am somewhat aware of OER but I am not sure how they can be used: 33.3%
- I am very aware of OER: 7.9%

Main Barriers to OER Adoption

- Lack of time
- Appropriate institutional supports
- Finding appropriate OER materials
- Concerns about quality
- Faculty do not know how to evaluate OER. (But they also do not know how to evaluate traditional textbooks.)
- Using electronic materials with students
- Availability of ancillary materials with OER

Benefits of OER

- Student costs
- Flexibility of OER materials
- Student preparedness

Suggested Institutional Supports

- OER Steering Committee
- Training for faculty & administrators
- Incentives & support for adoption

There is a statistically significant association between awareness of OER and knowledge of the Creative Commons.

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