Harper College—OER Community of Practice

Research shows:

A typical college student spends $600 - $1,200 per year on books and supplies.

At these rates, reducing or eliminating textbook costs could be the equivalent of giving Harper students their *fourth semester free*!

Purpose:
The purpose of the Open Educational Resources (OER) Community of Practice (CoP) is to support faculty and staff efforts to reduce the costs associated with textbooks and course materials while maintaining high quality course design and instruction for students. This Community of Practice is focused on finding and creating Open Education Resources (OER). Priority will be given to equity considerations for our students. Tools to overcome the barrier of using OER materials will be facilitated by means of adopting, adapting, and authoring.

Purpose for CoP → **CoP Goals** → **Successful Completion of Goals**

Open Educational Resources

Reasons to Form OER COP?

Concerns:
- Students who cannot afford textbooks and course materials. Identify OER printed or printable alternatives.
- Maintain support for academic freedom so instructors are able to choose the resources they believe are best for their courses and students.

Searching for Alternative to Enhance Teaching:
- Greater flexibility in course materials
- Learner-centered content and approach
- More thorough evaluation and selection of materials requirements
- Enhanced collaboration within disciplines
- Knowledge of / experience with creating free and open content
- Enhanced understanding of content licensing

Goals of the Community of Practice

Goal 1 -
Increase faculty and staff awareness of OER resources to reduce student costs associated with textbooks through sharing OER best practices on campus and supporting the OER strategic plan.

Goal 2 -
Develop an informational webpage of OER resources for faculty on what we have learned in our CoP on how to find OER sources. These shared OER resources can be included as our CoP artifact on the http://harper-academy.net/open-educational-resources/ website.

Goal 3 -
Pursue the development of an OER GEC course.

Goal 4 -
Analyze library journal subscriptions (cost-per-use), which will inform future spending, cancellations and promote Open Access and assist faculty and staff.

Measures of Goal Achievement:
- Assess faculty participation and reduction of textbook costs
- Develop a webpage of OER resources for faculty, that lists strategies in finding OER sources
- Analyze library journal subscriptions (cost-per-use), which will inform future spending, cancellations and promote Open Access
- Propose a graduate-level OER faculty development course
- Attend the Illinois OER Summit, synthesize learning, and share findings and resources with Harper faculty

COP Members: Paula Akialis, Health Information Technology; **Dave Braunschweig,** Career and Technical Programs; **Kimberly Fournier,** Resources for Learning; **Mary Hood,** Health Careers; **Judy Kaplow,** Liberal Arts; **Jennifer Lau-Bond,** Resources for Learning; **Cindy Miller,** Career and Technical Programs; **Elizabeth Pagenkopf,** Health Careers; **Kimberley Polly,** Math & Science; **Kathleen Sachs,** Liberal Arts.