Welcome to the Rebus Community

Unlocking the Future of Open Textbooks

Chelle Batchelor, Director of Access Services
University of Washington Libraries
Welcome & Overview

• Open Educational Resources
• Open Textbooks
• Rebus Community
• My Rebus Story
• What Can You Do?
Introducing Open Educational Resources (OER)
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Introducing Open Educational Resources (OER)
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5 R₂s of Open Educational Resources

• **Retain**: Users have the right to make, archive, and "own" copies of the content;

• **Reuse**: Content can be reused in its unaltered form;

• **Revise**: Content can be adapted, adjusted, modified or altered;

• **Remix**: The original or revised content can be combined with other content to create something new;

• **Redistribute**: Copies of the content can be shared with others in its original, revised or remixed form.

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Open Textbooks

Open Textbook Library

Make a difference in your students' lives with free, openly-licensed textbooks.

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Open textbooks are textbooks that have been funded, published, and licensed to be freely used, adapted, and distributed. These books have been reviewed by faculty from a variety of colleges and universities to assess their quality. These books can be downloaded for no cost, or printed at low cost. All textbooks are either used at multiple higher education institutions; or affiliated with an institution, scholarly society, or professional organization.

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Example Open Textbook

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Traditional Textbooks: Copyright Protected, Rising Costs

Fair use of an image captured from Amazon.com
https://www.amazon.com/Microbiology-Evolving-John-W-Foster/
• Illustrates the expense of commercial textbooks
Impact of Textbook Costs on Students

"2016 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey" by Florida Virtual Campus is licensed under CC BY 4.0
Figure 1. A veterinarian gets ready to clean a sea turtle covered in oil following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. After the spill, the population of a naturally occurring oil-eating marine bacterium called Alcanivorax borkumensis skyrocketed, helping to get rid of the oil. Scientists are working on ways to genetically engineer this bacterium to be more efficient in cleaning up future spills. (credit: modification of work by NOAA's National Ocean Service)
Student Savings

- $58.57 \times 150 = $8785.50
- $140.00 \times 150 = $22500.00
- $210.87 \times 150 = $31630.50
Challenges to Adoption

• Lack of awareness
• Lack of comprehensiveness
• Concerns about quality
• Ancillary materials
• Time
Rebus Community

The Rebus Community
We are building a new collaborative model for open textbook publishing.

Would you like to help?

Join the Community

https://about.rebus.community/
Why Rebus?

• Collaboration
• Partnership
• Pressbooks platform
• Project management support
• Peer review
• Sustainability

Contribute to an open textbook project

**Introduction to Philosophy**
Led by Christina Hendricks, UBC
Last activity about 5 days ago — 411 posts

**The Open Anthology of Earlier American Literature**
Led by Tim Robbins, Graceland University
Last activity about 2 months ago — 75 posts

**Media Innovation & Entrepreneurship**
Led by Dr. Michelle Ferrier, Ohio University
Last activity about 1 month ago — 130 posts

**Introduction to North American Archaeology**
Led by Katie Kirakosian, UMass Amherst
Last activity about 1 week ago — 62 posts

https://forum.rebus.community/category/5/projects-active-open-textbook-projects
UW Open Textbook Pilot

- Friends of the Libraries grant - $5000
  - Stipends for faculty = $1500 per project
  - Student employee hours = $500
- Call for participation
- Two projects began in August 2016
- Web meetings with UW authors and Rebus staff

"Dubs Checks out the CFRs at the Gallagher Law Library" by Fernando Gonzalez is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0
UW Open Textbook Pilot

• Project management provided by Rebus staff
• Potential peer reviewers identified by authors
• Peer review coordinated by Rebus staff
• Print publication (print on demand) coordinated by Rebus staff

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Success!

https://press.rebus.community/financialstrategy/

Print version: $24.99

Electronic access: Free
Unlocking the Future

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Lessons Learned

- Rebus projects must be CC-BY
- Get departmental support
- Create a project timeline with benchmarks
- Have an authorship plan at the outset
- Prioritize authors with ready content
- Platform ease of use is important
- An established network of peers is helpful
- Small incentive grants go a long way
What We Can Do

- Learn more
  - Creative Commons
  - Open Education
  - SPARC OER
- Spread the word
  - Reserves staff
  - Liaison Librarians
  - Faculty
  - Administrators
- Initiate a project
  - Small (or large) grant proposal
  - Faculty partnerships

"We Can Do It!" by J. Howard Miller is in the Public Domain
What Your Institution Can Do

• Join the Open Textbook Network (OTN)
• Create an Open Education Steering Committee
• Start a textbook affordability initiative
  • Workshops
  • Grants
  • Release time for faculty
  • Pressbooks / other platform
  • Staff support (Teaching & Learning, Learning Technologies, Libraries)

"Suzzallo Reading Room" by Alex is licensed under CC BY 2.0
Let the Transformation Begin!

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Discussion / Questions / Demo

• Your questions?

• Sites to explore
  • Open Stax
  • Open Textbook Library
  • Rebus Pressbooks
  • Rebus Community
  • Financial Strategy for Public Managers
Other Resources

- Open Education Intro video by Robin DeRosa
- Open Washington website
- Creative Commons
- Babson Group OER Surveys
- Open Attribution Builder
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