NYS SUNY OER Funding Initiative

Course Redesign Incentive

About the Initiative:
As higher education and textbook costs rise, New York State and SUNY have made increasing the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OERs) a priority. Both last year and again this year, Governor Cuomo gave SUNY $4 million to encourage the System-wide adoption and use of OERs to reduce the financial cost of college for students. SUNY subsequently distributed this funding to the campuses in order to incentivize and compensate faculty for redesigning their courses to include the use of OERs. In addition, SUNY purchased access to high-quality, peer-reviewed open source resources (Lumen Learning) to help with this effort.

About the Incentive:
SUNY Canton is pleased to participate in this state-wide initiative. For a course to be considered OER at least 51% of the materials (SUNY’s definition) used should reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits re-purposing by others. Course redesign incentives are being made available to recognize faculty who have already designed OER courses, or who plan to redesign a course using OER materials.

Details of the NYS SUNY OER Funding Initiative – OER Course Redesign Incentive:
- Any course is eligible: face-to-face, hybrid, or online
- The funding is to incentivize the re-designing (re-developing) of courses to use OERs, not for shared rights to the course.
- The amount of the incentive is $1,000
- Faculty must apply for the program using the NYS SUNY OER Funding Initiative – SUNY Canton OER Course Redesign Incentive: Individual Faculty Memorandum of Agreement

Questions? Please reach out to your area rep on our OER Task Force:

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Resources for this effort:
- SUNY Open NYS website: http://open-nys.org/
  - A collaboration between SUNY and CUNY University systems to showcase and support the use of Open Educational Resources, including how to adopt, adapt, and build OER for your courses.
- Lumen Learning - https://lumenlearning.com/
  - Lumen provides customizable courses and access to high-quality, peer-reviewed OER materials, including assessments, homework, and other learning tools. It allows faculty to integrate OER seamlessly with Blackboard courses.
- OpenStax - https://openstax.org/
  - OpenStax is a nonprofit based at Rice University, providing numerous full-length, peer-reviewed, open source textbooks and other OER.

Note: This is a NYS SUNY initiative that is separate from our shared rights stipend practice (see back)
NYS SUNY OER Funding Initiative
Open Education Resources (OER) Course Redesign Incentive:
Individual Faculty Memorandum of Agreement

This agreement pertains to the voluntary participation of faculty members in the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER). OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits repurposing by others and follow the 5Rs: the ability to Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, and Redistribute the content for educational purposes. The goal of this initiative is to reduce financial barriers for students, specifically textbook costs.

By signing below, the faculty member below agrees to use OER for at least 51% of the materials in their course and to continue this structure for a period of three (3) years. In addition, in selecting course materials, the faculty member will select materials that will be at least 50% less than the cost of the previously used course materials (including textbooks, access codes, and any other required materials).

SUNY Canton will provide the following compensation for the acceptance of the above conditions:
- A one-time payment of $1000, upon adoption and initial implementation of OER materials in the course outlined below, will be paid at the end of the semester.

Instructor: ____________________________  Department: _________________________________
Course Name: ____________________________  Course Number: ______________________________
Terms: ____________________________  Frequency of Offering: ____________________________
Projected Section Enrollment: ____________  Previous Textbook/Course Materials Cost: $__________

Signatures

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Faculty Member  Date

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Department Chair  Date

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Dean of School  Date

_________________________________________  ____________________________
Provost  Date

_________________________________________  ____________________________
OER Campus Lead  Date
This form is confirming the transition of your course from utilizing a paid textbook/course materials to utilizing free OER materials. By signing and accepting, you are agreeing that a majority (at least 51%) of course materials for the course mentioned in this agreement will be OER and will remain such for three (3) years, and that required student costs for the course will be reduced by at least 50%. Your signature confirms you are committing to using OER materials each time you teach the course for the next three years.

Instructor: ____________________________  Department: _________________________________

Course Name: _________________________  Course Number: ______________________________

Current Textbook/Course Materials Cost: _________________________________

Previous Textbook/Course Materials Cost: _________________________________

Signature

_______________________________________________________  _______________________
Faculty Member  Date

_______________________________________________________  _______________________
Department Chair  Date