Power of Partnership and the Affordable Learning Exchange

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On behalf of the ALX Team

The Ohio State University
CNI Spring Meeting 2017
Discover the possibilities of open and affordable content
Access, affordability and excellence
Ohio State gives students a clear path to the American Dream.

“Affordable excellence is fundamental to who we are as a land-grant university.”

— President Michael V. Drake, MD

2020 VISION
IN ACTION
In an era of rising costs and competition, Ohio State is taking steps to provide education

Reduce student financial burden: Ohio State has frozen in-state tuition and mandatory fees for undergraduates since 2012-2013, meaning two classes will graduate with no increases. Beyond tuition, Ohio State instituted a comprehensive freeze, including room and board, for 2015-2016 – the first of its kind in at least four
### Textbook Affordability Grant

Managed by: University Libraries

University Libraries, the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (ODEE) and Undergraduate Student Government (USG) have partnered to sponsor this opportunity for faculty to explore the adoption of low- or no-cost course materials for classes at Ohio State.

- Robyn Warhol | English
- Elizabeth Weiser | English, Newark Campus
- Christin E. Burd and Craig J. Burd | Molecular Genetics
- Elena Foulis | Spanish and Portuguese
- Halil Sezen | Civil, Environmental and Geodetic Engineering
- Leah Wahlin | Engineering Education Innovation Center
- Bart Snapp | Mathematics
- David Adams | English, Lima Campus
- Karl Ola Ahlqvist | Geography

### Open Impact/Exploration Grants

Managed by: ODEE

With the Affordable Learning Open Impact and Exploration grants, the Office of Distance Education and eLearning will partner with faculty to implement open, free and low-cost alternatives to conventional textbooks, lab manuals and other learning materials in classes of all sizes at Ohio State.

#### Open Impact Grants

- Bart Snapp and Jim Fowler | Mathematics
- Darcy Hartman | Economics

#### Exploration Grant

- Melissa Beers | Psychology
- Jasmine Roberts | Communication
- Dennis Shaffer | Psychology, Mansfield Campus

### Book Launch

Managed by: ODEE

Book Launch participants create interactive digital textbook resources for use in classes at Ohio State and beyond. Cohorts begin in January and June, and publish for use the following semester.

- Tami Augustine | College of Education and Human Ecology
- Clayton Funk | Department of Arts Administration, Education and Policy
- Nicole Kwik | College of Pharmacy
- Bridget Smith | Department of Linguistics
Faculty Projects

- Creative problem-solving
- Instructor-student engagement
- Collaboration and evolution
- Transformed classrooms
Faculty Projects: MOLGEN 5300

MOLECULAR GENETICS MEETS AFFORDABILITY

Monique Bowman | September 7, 2016

The Affordable Learning Exchange (ALX) works to lower costs for Ohio State students by helping instructors replace conventional textbooks with open and affordable materials.

Dr. Craig Burd and Dr. Christin Burd, assistant professors in the Department of Molecular Genetics, received the ALX Textbook Affordability Grant for their project to replace the MolGen 5300 textbook with publicly available scientific articles and online video tutorials. Read more about their project in this Q&A with Craig.

Q: Why did you decide to pursue this project?

We had seen the previous RFP, and had just started this course the year before. We had originally tried not to use a book and had recommended an optional textbook. Apparently there was a pirated version online that is easily accessible and a lot of the students were using that. At some point, we were kind of encouraging piracy! We decided that this grant was a good opportunity to get completely away from even recommending a textbook.

Q: How did you find your materials and what was the quality of the materials you found?

The internet! For our project, we have tried to replace any textbook reading with a combination of multimedia support, such as online videos, journal articles and review papers that are published in journals that are open access. To find materials, we do a search, limited it to review articles, and then we have a list of whatever subject we’re looking at. At that point, it’s just a matter of going through each one and asking whether it’s too technically advanced for the students to follow or not. That’s where the time really needs to be put in. It’s a similar

- Journal articles
- Impact to lecture
- Student feedback and new research requires agility and flexibility
Faculty Projects: ENGR 2367

- Collaborative authoring
- Pressbooks
- Workflow
- Challenges: peer review, coordinating ongoing changes if project leaders leave OSU
Faculty Projects: ECON 2002

• Huge impact

• Open textbook use complicated by test bank

• Massive savings, even though we didn’t make it to $0
Development

Changes over time

Impact on community

UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING
A Part of President Drake's 2020 Vision
How do you currently choose and find content material?
ALX Rockstars — See the Projects from the Newest Cohort
Q2.14 - Imagine a future course you are required to take. If two different sections of that course were offered by the same instructor during equally desirable time slots, but you were aware that one section used traditional printed texts and the other used reduced-cost digital materials similar to those used in this course, which section would you prefer to enroll in?