

Organizing for OER Action

Recommendations for Statewide OER Initiative Governance Structures

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CNI Spring 2020 Meeting

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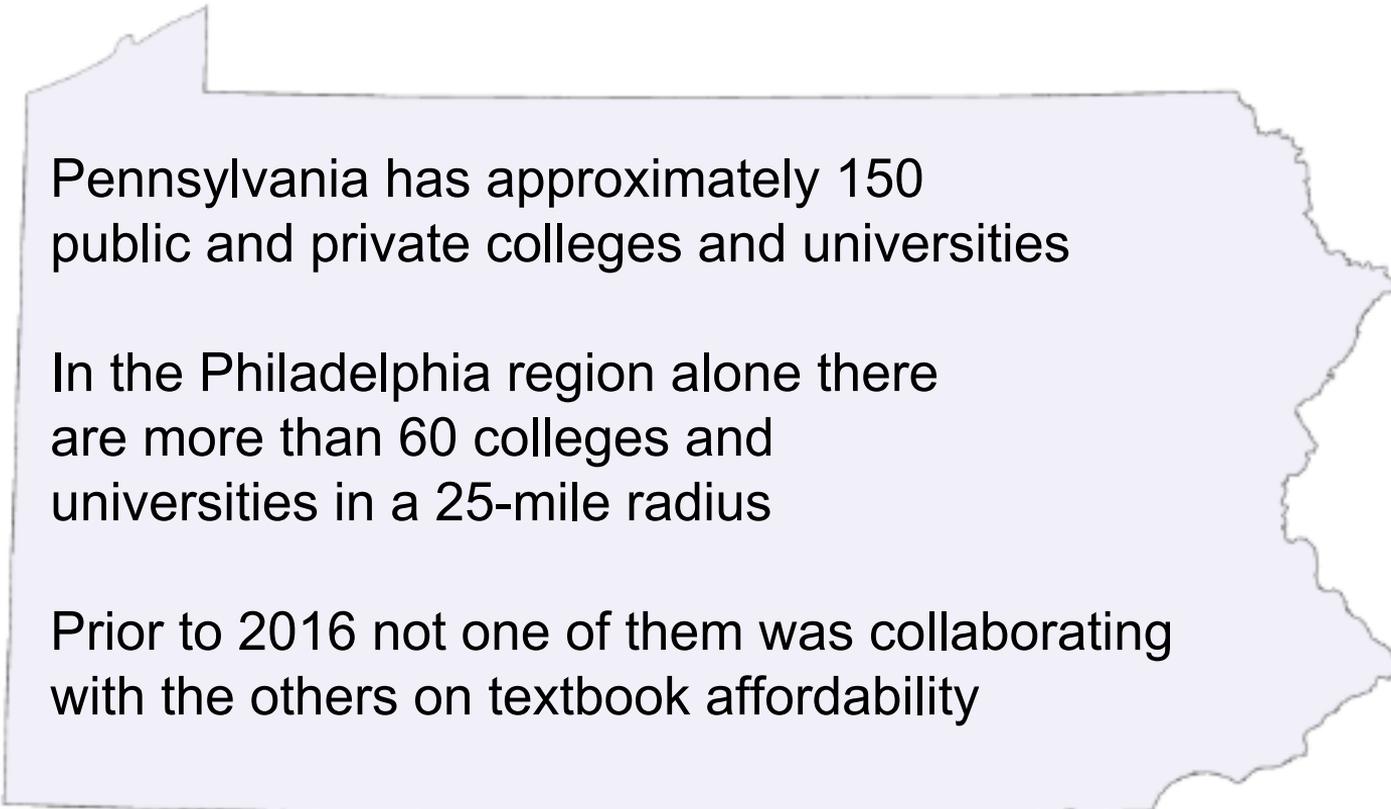
TODAY – Three Things

- Emergence of statewide OER initiatives
- Findings from surveys of leaders and participants in existing statewide initiatives
- Recommendations for governance models for statewide OER initiatives



Statewide OER Action Story





Pennsylvania has approximately 150
public and private colleges and universities

In the Philadelphia region alone there
are more than 60 colleges and
universities in a 25-mile radius

Prior to 2016 not one of them was collaborating
with the others on textbook affordability

Began in 2016 with a small organizing group.

PALCI was invited to provide experience managing statewide projects (e.g. DPLA)

Initial goal was to obtain an LSTA grant to fund several initiatives.

Reached out to other OTN consortia members to identify organizing structures.

Getting Organized

- Contacted directors of several statewide textbook affordability
- Goal was to develop an organizational structure for ALPa
- Discovered something interesting

How ALPa Works: Governance Structure



Project Coordinator

Steering Committee:
Steven Bell, Rebecca Miller, Charlotte Droll,
Barb Zaborowski, Sarah Greene, & PALCI Staff

OER Specialist

OER Specialist

OER Specialist

OER Specialist

Data Gathering &
Assessment Working
Group

Communications &
Outreach
Working Group

Training &
Education
Working Group

OER Publishing
& Repository
Platforms

Campus Partners

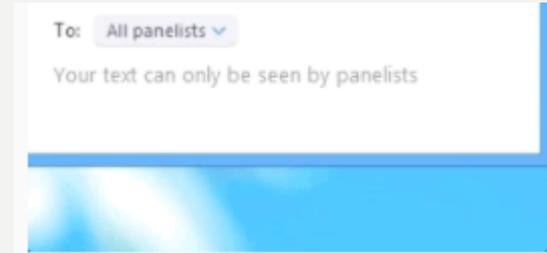
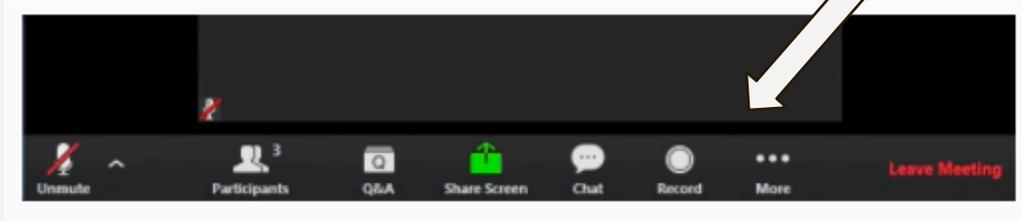
OER Community: Faculty Champions, Textbook Reviewers, Adopters, Students, Advocates

Open Textbook Network (OTN)

Questions?

- What do we know about the organizational structures of existing statewide OER initiatives?
- Are there any particular governance models that excel?
- What is the experience of librarians and others serving on these structures?
- What is a recommended structure for new initiatives?

Chat Activity



Q. 1: Are you aware of your state's OER initiative?
(Y/N/IDN)

Q. 2: Are you a participant in your state's OER
initiative?(Y/N)

Q. 3: Do you know your state OER leaders are? (Y/N)



Survey Findings



Survey Overview

- Created two surveys
- One for project directors; one for librarian participants
- Focused on consortial members of OTN
- More recently surveyed “state OER leaders”



State Wide Leaders in OER



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100%

View only

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State

	A	B	C	D	
1	State	First Name	Last Name	Email	Affiliation
2	Alabama	Richard	Murphy	rmurphy@alsde.edu	Alabama State Department of Educa
3	Alabama	Ron	Leonard	ron.leonard@ache.edu	Alabama Commision on Higher Educ
4	Alabama	Brad	Fricks	brad.fricks@accs.edu	Alabama Community College System
5	Alaska	Veronica	Howard	vjhoward@alaska.edu	University of Alaska Anchorage
6	Alaska	David	Dannenberg	ddannenberg@alaska.edu	
7	Alaska	D'Arcy	Hutchings	dlhutchings@alaska.edu	University of Alaska Anchorage
8	Alaska	Jonas	Lamb	j.lamb@alaska.edu	University of Alaska Southeast, Libra
9	Arizona	Matthew	Bloom	matthew.bloom@scottsdalecc.edu	Maricopa Community Colleges (Mari
10	Arizona	Lisa	Young	lisa.young@scottsdalecc.edu	Maricopa Community Colleges (Mari
11	Arizona	Cheryl	Cuillier	ccuillie@email.arizona.edu	University of Arizona
12	Arizona	Anali	Perry	anali.perry@asu.edu	Arizona State University
13	Arkansas	Relinda	Ruth	rruth@cccua.edu	UA Cossatot
14	Arkansas	Elaine	Thornton	met022@uark.edu	University of Arkansas
15	Arkansas	Stephanie	Pierce	sjpierc@uark.edu	University of Arkansas
16	Arkansas	Jessie	Walker	jessie.walker@adhe.edu	Arkansas Department of Higher Educ
17	California	James	Glapa-Grossklag	james.glapa-grossklag@canyons.edu	California Community Colleges Zero

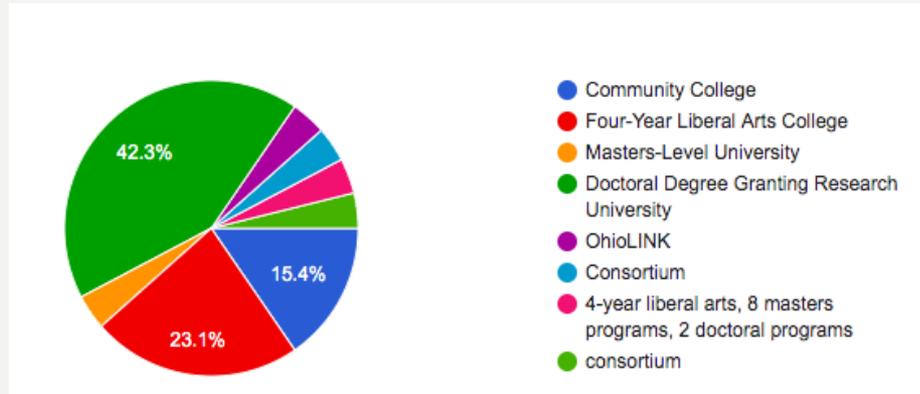
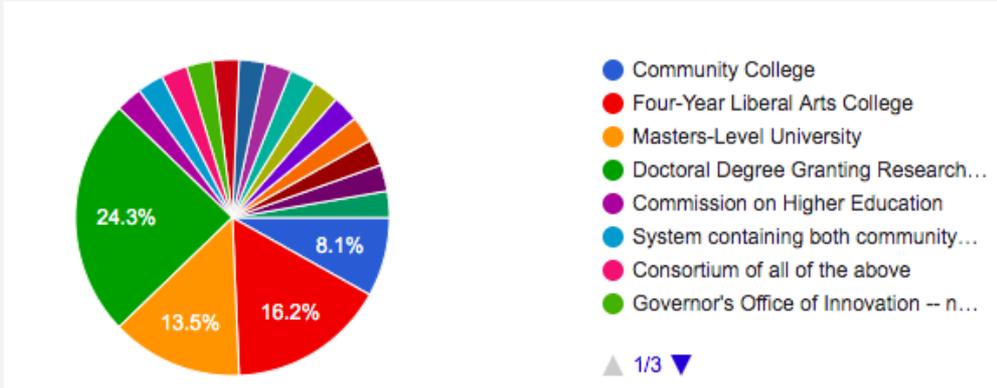
State OER Leaders Top Issues

1. Obtain adequate funding
2. Obtain support from top academic administrators
3. Create awareness among and educate teaching faculty about OER

Who Participated

- OER librarians
- Consortia administrators
- Scholarly communications librarians
- Academic administrators (deans or provosts)
- Other librarians (reference, electronic resources, etc)
- Other academics (teaching/learning, general faculty)
- Government officials

Institutional Type



How Did You Join

- Part of my job responsibilities – 26%
- Appointed by my Dean – 23%
- Replied to a call for members – 23%
- Was asked to join by a colleague – 16%
- Consortia staff member – 12%

Why Did You Join

- Advance OER projects Statewide – 23%
- Support Student Affordability – 23%
- Encouraged by my supervisor – 16%
- Represent my library – 16%
- Active in this consortia – 12%
- My commitment to “open” – 12%

OER Experience Level

- **Advanced/Expert – 8%**
- **Experienced But Not Expert – 10%**
- **Basic Knowledge – 47%**
- **Beginner/Novice – 35%**

- *** 88% of participants report their OER expertise increased after joining governing body**

Top Participant Tasks

1 – Training (deliver OER workshops)

**# 2 - Outreach / Promotion of OER Resources
and Services**

3 - Organize Programs and Events

4 – Develop Policies

5 – Planning and Grant Proposals

*** Sample Projects: E-book Acquisition Program; Teach an OTN workshop; Created a faculty OER survey; Analyze data on pilot project; Present at statewide OER summit; Create outreach material; Develop OER resource list**

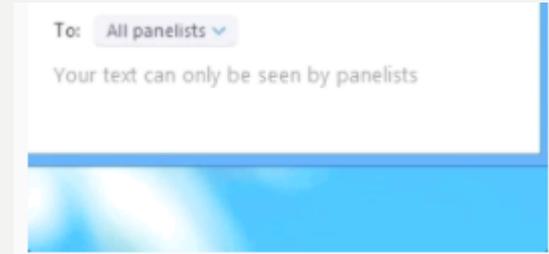
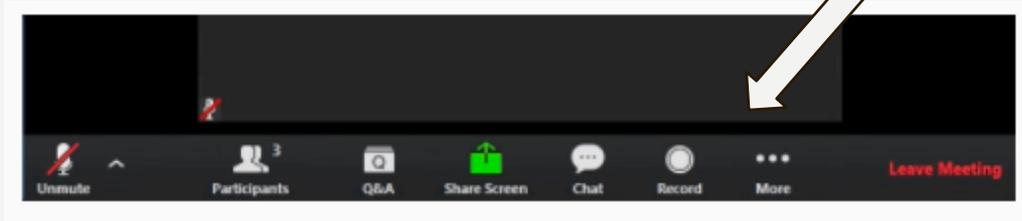
Sample Governance Models

- Co-led by consortia staff member and a librarian serving as “system leader” (selected by board)
- Administrative team that reports to consortia Scholarly Communications Advisory Group
- Steering committee/team of 8 “affordable learning ambassadors” working with staff
- Government agency - usually Dept of Ed - leads initiative for state

More Models

- **Advisory committee that reports to our Librarians Council**
- **Affordable Learning administrative group made up of representatives from each library member**
- **Member-based steering committee, OER specialists and campus partners take on different responsibilities (set policy; training; outreach)**
 - * **Average number of governing body participants from member libraries is 6 - 10**

Chat Activity



Q. 1: What model would you advocate for? (C or G/InD)

Q. 2: What model are you aware of in your state or..
what model do you prefer? (open text response)



Recommendations



Recommendations Pt. 1

- **If there are too few consortia staff to lead the OER initiative at the state level then enlist librarians to lead it and form groups to accomplish tasks.**
- **Steering committees composed of OER advocates that offer institutional and geographic diversity are a good choice for a statewide OER initiatives.**
- **Level of OER expertise is less critical than the need for enthusiasm and commitment to OER and textbook affordability; skills can be learned.**

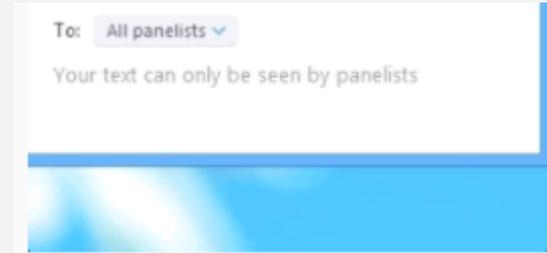
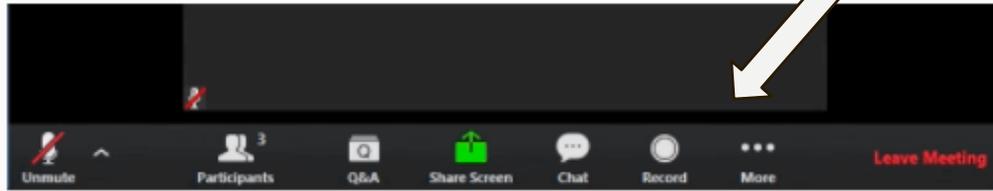
Recommendations Pt. 2

- **Governing body participation at any level, from steering committee to campus ambassador, is an excellent vehicle to expand the number and expertise of OER advocates across the state.**
- **Few governing bodies organize participants into working groups but these could focus on training, outreach, data collection and other functions.**
- **Work towards a governance structure that makes the OER initiative independent from its fiscal agent – so it achieves sustainability**

Next Steps for Research

- Does a particular model create more results/impact
- Who leads – librarians; consortia staff; neither
- What do statewide initiative groups accomplish
- How to involve faculty and others
- What comes after statewide initiatives

Chat Activity



Q. 1: Will you get involved in your state's OER initiative?
(Y/N/IDN)

Q. 2: Which do you think will be more critical in advancing
OER and textbook affordability? (State/Library)



DISCUSSION

