South Dakota

MIDWEST OER SUMMIT – JANUARY 2024

OVERVIEW

- South Dakota Board of Regents is the largest public postsecondary education system in South Dakota. This system offers both undergraduate and graduate education. The South Dakota Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2022-2027, includes OER in Goal 2, Part 2: "Engage in a system-wide collaboration and grant opportunity for funding to incorporate open educational resources/content (OER)" (p. 9).
- The University of South Dakota's Open Textbook Fellowship is in its fifth cohort since it began in 2019. Since then, the OTF has trained 50+ instructors. OTF has been involved in over 65 courses and 180 sections, impacting 6,700 students. OTF conservatively estimates that it has saved over $452,000 in textbooks.
- Northern State University and Dakota State University are currently collecting data to set a benchmark for OER implementation.
- SDSU library works with the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning and Instructional Design to get the word out about OER. Every summer, the Center for Enhancement in Teaching and Learning offers a Course Enhancement Institute. For each cohort, at least one session is dedicated to OER, with a librarian coming to the class to speak about it. This year, Instructional Design also offered a session to faculty about OER.
- South Dakota School of Mines works with the campus bookstore and faculty members to identify textbook titles that tare available via various library databases and work with individual faculty members to identify supplemental materials and anticipate future needs.
- Augustana University is in year two of its OER initiative, Ole's Open Text. Expanding OER use on campus is included in the university's strategic plan, Viking Bold. Ole's Open Text offers on-demand one-on-one OER assistance to select, create, and integrate OER. OOT also routinely offers workshops in collaboration with the campus Center for Teaching and Learning. The initiative promotes the use of library materials as well as OER to reduce student costs.
- Western Dakota Technical College is a recipient of the Metallica Scholars Initiative, part of which supports textbook affordability. The Instructional Support and Professional Development office at WDTC hosts OER webinars and resources and directly supports OER and academic technology.
- South Dakota libraries can become censorial members of OEN via Minitex.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Two Dakota State University librarians were assigned to explore OER opportunities in the 2023-24 academic year
- MHEC provided funds to put on a well-attended OER workshop at the SD Library Association Conference
- MHEC provided funds for two CC certificates.
- Augustana librarians hosted an OER workshop

NEXT BIG THINGS

- A working group is investigating establishing a BOR-wide scale on increasing OER use. There is hope that this group will come up with funding for OER efforts
- Augustana will use OEN's data dashboard to continually track OER savings. We are excited about all the support included in the OEN membership
- Working with Minitex to have more OEN institutional memberships within the state

WAYS MHEC CAN HELP

- Development of a template that each institution could use to report OER initiatives and implementation
- Continue to increase state-wide OER communication
- Provide ideas for how to approach university administration on funding; How to get the attention of the administration? How to get faculty to buy in?
- Continued financial support for individuals interested in pursuing certificates