



2024 MIDWESTERN OPEN EDUCATION SUMMIT

JANUARY 23-25, 2024 | ROSEMONT, IL

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

All times are listed in Central Time.

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Aloft Lobby

WELCOME RECEPTION

Join us for light food and drinks to welcome everyone to Chicagoland!

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Grab-n-go at Aloft's Re:Fuel

BREAKFAST (On Your Own)

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Hallway, 2nd Floor, Big Ten

REGISTRATION & POSTER SESSION /SHOWCASE

Visit the posters for each of the Midwest OER State Action Teams to learn about their work over the last year and what they are planning next.

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. (Recorded)

Room 202/203/205, Big Ten

OPENING PLENARY AND WELCOME

How Far We've Come

- Jenny Parks, Vice President Policy and Research, MHEC

During this session, Jenny will welcome everyone to the Summit and provide an overview of the successes in open education across the Midwest over the past five years.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Room 202/203/205, Big Ten

TEAM TIME

Strategic Planning – Session One

- Jenny Parks, Vice President Policy and Research, MHEC

Teams will work together to complete the 2024 OER State Capacity Assessment for their state.

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

BREAK AND TRANSITION

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS: BLOCK 1

Pick a session, you'll have an opportunity to attend each session. See callout.

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

11:15 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

TRANSITION

11:25 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS: BLOCK 2

Pick a session, you'll have an opportunity to attend each session. See callout.

11:55 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

TRANSITION

BREAKOUT SESSION TOPICS

Room 206

Promising Practices in OER Publishing

- Apurva Ashok, Executive Director, The Rebus Foundation

In this breakout session focused on OER creation, you will be able to reflect on open publishing practices, standards, and resources required to produce high-quality OER that advance student success. You will be encouraged to identify publishing goals for your institution and align these outcomes with state priorities.

Room 246

Engaging Faculty in Open Education

- Tanya Grosz, Director of Educational Programs, Open Education Network

In this session we will explore engaging faculty in open education work that is centered in DEIA (diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility). The session will explore the significance of collaboration and community in transformative open education work and touch upon the challenges and opportunities this work presents.

Room 245

Building Infrastructure for OER

- Andrew McKinney, Open Education Coordinator, City University of New York

In this session we'll talk about what a system-wide coordinated OER effort looks like, some things to do and things to avoid, and discuss what kinds of barriers exist to state or systemwide collaboration.

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

12:05 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.
BREAKOUT SESSIONS: BLOCK 3

Pick a session, you'll have an opportunity to attend each session. See callout on page one.

12:35 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Dining Room, 2nd Floor, Big Ten
LUNCH

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
TEAM TIME
Strategic Planning – Session Two

Teams will work together to assess the results of the OER State Capacity Assessment, and begin to set short and long-term goals for their state.

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
BREAK AND TRANSITION

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten - Librarians
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten - OER Coordinators/Directors
Room 206, Big Ten - Instructional Design/IT
Room 245, Big Ten - Administrators
Room 246, Big Ten - Faculty
ROLE ALIKE CHALLENGE DISCUSSIONS

Attendees team up by role for in-depth sharing and discussion about challenges faced in their work.

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
BREAK

3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. (Recorded)
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
PLENARY SESSION
State Capacity Building

- Elle Davis, Postsecondary Education Program Coordinator, SREB
- Liliana Diaz Solodukhin, Policy Analyst, WICHE
- Laura Robert-Rivera, Senior Project Manager, NEBHE

Representatives from the National Consortia of Open Educational Resources (NCOER) will share strategies and successes for state capacity building for OER from our sister regions in the West, South, and New England.

4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
TEAM TIME
Day One Wrap-Up

Teams will spend some time discussing their learning for the day and planning their next steps.

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
BREAK

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
5500 Park Place, Rosemont, Dough Room, Crust Brewing
TEAM DINNER

Join us for a fun dinner with your colleagues!

Thursday, January 25, 2024

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Grab-n-go at Aloft's Re:Fuel
BREAKFAST (On Your Own)

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
TEAM TIME
Strategic Planning – Session Two

Teams will meet to continue their strategic planning and to plan next steps for when they return home.

8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Recorded)
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
PLENARY SESSION
OER Advocacy with SPARC

- Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education, SPARC

In this session attendees will learn foundational steps for advocating for OER with institutional and state leaders. Teams will work together to start an advocacy plan on an issue of importance to their state capacity building efforts.

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
BREAK AND TRANSITION

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
ROUNDTABLES – NETWORKING AND ADVICE SESSION

Attendees will have an opportunity to seek and give advice on topics of interest from their colleagues and peers.

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
BREAK AND TRANSITION

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Recorded)
Room 202/203/205, Big Ten
CLOSING PLENARY
Keeping the Momentum

- Amanda Hurford, Scholarly Communications Director, Private Academic Library Network of Indiana
- Vincent Mussehl, Project Director, Affordable Learning, Chippewa Valley Technical College
- Claire Nickerson, Learning Technologies & OER Librarian, Fort Hays State University
- Jenny Parks, Vice President Policy and Research, MHEC (Moderator)

In this session, panelists will share how they are planning to continue building on their work to date, and strategies for how they keep current advocates engaged, and build their team for the future.



Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education, SPARC

As the director of open education for SPARC, Nicole leads the organization's efforts to advance openness and equity in education. Inspired as a student to make knowledge more accessible to the world, she has dedicated her fifteen-year career to advocating for open education and college affordability. Her impact includes passing legislative reforms, mobilizing grassroots campaigns, and building up the open movement nationally and internationally. At SPARC, Nicole leads a broad portfolio of initiatives to advance open education, spanning state and federal policy work, community organizing, and leadership development.



Liliana Diaz Solodukhin, Policy Analyst, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

Liliana works on a diverse range of activities including conducting and communicating policy research on a wide array of higher education-related topics, developing and sustaining relationships with external stakeholders, and conceptualizing and executing short- and long-term collaborative projects with states. Diaz received her B.S. in journalism and mass communication, B.A. in film studies, a certificate in Technology, Arts, and Media from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Denver.



Apurva Ashok, Executive Director, The Rebus Foundation

The Rebus Foundation is a global non-profit with the mandate to reimagine the publishing ecosystem by making knowledge freely available in the pursuit of equity, understanding, and the common good. Apurva has been working in the open education field for seven years, driving systemic change in education through collaborative partnerships. She brings wide-ranging experience across publishing, program development, community building, impact-driven strategic planning, and media to help educational institutions build responsive teaching and learning spaces. Apurva has created professional development offerings for educators (Textbook Success Program), published several OER guides, and supported the creation and adaptation of over 50 OER. In 2020, Apurva received an Open Education Award for Excellence in recognition of her contributions to the field. At the core, Apurva champions collaboration, human-centric approaches, and open practices in service of a more equitable future for higher education and global communities.



Tanya Grosz, Director of Educational Programs, Open Education Network

Tanya began her career as a high school English teacher before transitioning to college-level teaching and administration and completing her Ph.D. in Education and Online Teaching and Learning. In her previous role as dean at the University of Northwestern - St. Paul, she spearheaded an open education initiative which led to creation of the first Z-degree in the state of Minnesota. Most recently, she served as program manager and co-creator for the Certificate in Open Educational Practices, a program founded on the principles of social justice that highlights faculty-librarian collaborations to harness the power of open pedagogy for transformative learning.



Shanitrice "Elle" Davis, Postsecondary Education Program Coordinator, Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)

Elle supports the regional and national work of open educational resources and coordinates the work of the Education Technology Cooperative at SREB. She joined the Southern Regional Education Board's postsecondary team in 2023, bringing more than eight years of experience in the public education and youth development sector. She was a City Year AmeriCorps manager before, leading efforts to increase literacy and technology learning for students in after-school programs such as the Boys and Girls Club in Boston and At-Promise Center in Atlanta. Elle holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Public Policy from Georgia State University and a master's in educational leadership and policy from American University. She currently lives in Atlanta.



Amanda Hurford, Scholarly Communications Director, Private Academic Library Network of Indiana (PALNI)

PALNI is a library consortium supporting 24 small private institutions. At PALNI, Amanda develops and supports scholarly communications initiatives, raising awareness of open-access publishing, repositories, and open educational resources. Under Amanda's direction, the PALSaves Affordable Learning Initiative was formed in 2018. She was instrumental in securing a half-million dollar Lilly Endowment, Inc. grant to fund the PALSaves program, which includes faculty stipends for OER reviews, adoption, and creation. Amanda has served on the Indiana OER Action Team since 2018.



Andrew McKinney, PhD, OER Coordinator for the Office of Library Services, City University of New York

As the OER coordinator for the Office of Library Services at the City University of New York, Andrew helps oversee the CUNY OER Program, a \$4 million a year initiative that supports, promotes, and incentivizes the use of open educational resources and

zero textbook cost materials at all the undergraduate serving institutions of the CUNY. As the former chair of the Driving OER for Sustainable Success Capacity (DOERS3) Building Working Group, he spearheaded several projects including the DOERS3 OER Contributions Matrix and is currently working on a book length project to collect case studies of the inclusion of open education work in the tenure, promotion, and reappointment process. Andrew holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the CUNY Graduate Center and has worked or studied at CUNY in some capacity for the last 18 years.



Vince Mussehl, MLIS, WisTech Open Project Director, Chippewa Valley Technical College

Vince is a project director for WisTech Open, headquartered at Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. WisTech Open is charged with the creation of 10 open educational resource textbooks to promote student success and affordability for Wisconsin technical college students,

funded by the State of Wisconsin from 2023-2025. He previously served as library director at CVTC with concentrations in customer service, the student experience, and student resource affordability - including open educational resources. As a champion of open education, Vince has led the Affordable Learning Committee at CVTC and saw a student savings of over \$3 million during the 2022-2023 academic year. He facilitates faculty professional development surrounding open education and has consulted with several institutions on student affordability. Vince also serves as adjunct faculty in the business programs at CVTC, using open and affordable resources whenever possible.



Claire Nickerson, Learning Initiatives and OER Librarian, Fort Hays State University

Claire currently serves as the co-chair of the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) OER Committee. The KBOR OER Committee, which represents 33 public Kansas institutions, was formed in 2019 and oversees subcommittees focused on OER training, collection of institutional OER data, grant and legislative advocacy, statewide communications on

OER, and systemwide transfer courses. At FHSU, Claire chairs the institutional OER Committee, which administers a z-course program that includes a course-marking initiative and internal authoring grants. The committee also provides regular professional development opportunities including an annual mini-conference and boot camp.

Jenny Parks, Vice President, Policy and Research, Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)



Jenny is vice president of policy and research at the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). She leads the exploration, development, and implementation of projects that help Midwestern postsecondary institutions improve the way they serve students. Jenny has worked at all levels of education and in multiple sectors of higher education having worked with state and federal compliance, institutional research, and policy advocacy. She earned her master's

degree in Educational Policy and Research from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Currently she is pursuing her doctorate in Higher Education from Northeastern University in Boston. Jenny joined the Compact in September 2013.



Laura Robert-Rivera, Senior Project Manager, New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)

Laura is the senior project manager of policy and research for the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). In this role, she is working to grow NEBHE's open education initiative and support the regional and open community at large. She has over half a decade of experience working with nonprofits,

foundations, and philanthropic initiatives. The governor, state legislature, the Department of Education of Puerto Rico, and several news outlets have recognized Laura for her national child abuse awareness campaign, Stand Up Say No to Child Abuse. She is a Vital Voices Initiative Visionary Leader, HERlead Fellow, Ambassador, and Grantee, and a 2014 Girl Scouts National Women of Distinction. Laura continues to be an active member of Girl Scouts and represented the organization internationally in Curacao and at the United Nations. In 2021, Laura graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics and human rights from Barnard College, Columbia University.

Meeting Attendees

ILLINOIS

Michele Leigh, Senior Coordinator, Open Illinois
Daniel Matthews, Digital Services Librarian, Moraine Valley
Community College
Jeff Newell, Deputy Director of Strategic Initiatives, Illinois
Community College Board
Dee Anna Phares, Assistant Professor/ Humanities & Social
Sciences Librarian, Northern Illinois University
Christopher Sweet, Scholarly Communications Librarian, Illinois
Wesleyan University

INDIANA

Andrea Bearman, Director of Instructional Design and
Development, Trine University
Beth Daniel Lindsay, Research and Instruction Librarian, Wabash
College
Amanda Hurford, Scholarly Communications Director, Private
Academic Library Network of Indiana
Marc Nash, Director of OER Initiatives, Ivy Tech Community College
Haley Norris, Scholarly Communication Librarian and Diversity
Resident, Indiana University Bloomington

IOWA

Jenni Breems, Director of Library Services, Dordt University
Shannon Brenner, Instructional Designer, Northeast Iowa
Community College
Mahrya Burnett, Scholarly Communications Librarian, University of
Iowa
Abbey Elder, Statewide Open Education Coordinator, Iowa State
University
Debra Lowman, Associate Dean of Library and Learning Resources,
Eastern Iowa Community Colleges

KANSAS

Veronica Goosey, Assistant Professor of English, Garden City
Community College
Mistie Knox, Associate Director, Academic Affairs, Kansas Board
of Regents
Heather Mac Bean, Open Education Librarian, University of
Kansas
Leanne Miller, Director of Innovation & Compliance, Barton
Community College
Claire Nickerson, Learning Initiatives and OER Librarian, Fort
Hays State University

MICHIGAN

Stacy Anderson, Assessment Librarian, Ferris State University
Kelly Clark, Director of Instructional Design, Baker College
Kendra Lake, Librarian, North Central Michigan College
Julia Rodriguez, Scholarly Communications Librarian, Oakland
University
Raya Samet, Librarian for Education, Health & Human Services,
University of Michigan-Dearborn
Lauren Woolsey, Assistant Professor, Grand Rapids Community
College

MINNESOTA

Jon Fila, Teacher/Curriculum Coordinator, Intermediate District
287
Micah Gjeltrema, Open Education & Affordable Content
Librarian, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
Johnna Horton, Executive Director of PALS, Minnesota State
Melissa Williams, Instructional Designer, Minnesota State

MISSOURI

Helena Marvin, Institutional Repository, Open Education and
Reference Librarian, University of Missouri – St. Louis
Jeannette Pierce, Associate University Librarian for Research,
Access, and Instructional Services, University of Missouri –
Columbia
Sarah Smith, District Dean of Libraries, St. Louis Community
College
Tracy Stout, Head of Research & Instructional Services, Missouri
State University
Christina Virden, E-Resources Coordinator, MOBIUS

NEBRASKA

Billie Cotterman, Head of Electronic Resources and Access
Services, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Catherine Fraser Riehle, Associate Professor, Teaching &
Learning Librarian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Melissa Gomis, Teaching and Learning Librarian, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln
Rochelle Reeves, Associate Professor/Librarian, University of
Nebraska at Kearney
Bradley Severa, Academic Technology Support Specialist,
University of Nebraska

NORTH DAKOTA

Claire Gunwall, Director of Academic Affairs, North Dakota
University System
Jackson Harper, OER Librarian, University of North Dakota
Lisa Johnson, Vice Chancellor of Academic & Student Affairs,
North Dakota University System

OHIO

Anna Bendo, Director of Affordable Learning, OhioLINK
Amy Pawlowski, Executive Director, OhioLINK
Amanda Postle, Project Manager, The Ohio State University
Tim Sandusky, Open Educational Resources Strategist, Bowling
Green State University

SOUTH DAKOTA

Rachelle McPhillips, Reference & Instruction Librarian, Dakota
State University
Abbott Steuhm, Research & Scholarship Librarian, Dakota State
University
Shari Theroux, Systems & Discovery Librarian, South Dakota
State University
Kelly Thompson, Digital Initiatives Librarian, Augustana
University

WISCONSIN

Rachel Becker, Copyright & Open Educational Resources Librarian, Madison Area Technical College
Vincent Mussehl, WisTech Open Project Director, Chippewa Valley Technical College
Kristin Woodward, Teaching and Learning Team Lead, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

NATIONAL & REGIONAL

Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education, SPARC
Apurva Ashok, Executive Director, Rebus Foundation
Shantrice “Elle” Davis, Postsecondary Education Program Coordinator, Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)
Liliana Diaz Solodukhin, Senior Policy Analyst, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)
Tanya Grosz, Educational Program Director, Open Education Network (OEN) *virtual attendee*
Amy Knott, OER Coordinator, New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)
Andrew McKinney, Open Education Coordinator, City University of New York (CUNY) *virtual attendee*
Laura Robert-Rivera, Senior Project Manager, New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)

MHEC STAFF

Jenny Parks, Vice President
Beth Ellie, Associate Director of Policy Initiatives

MHEC CONSULTANT

Annika Many, Principal, edBridge
Luisa Rodriguez, Account Manager, edBridge

ABOUT MHEC

MHEC brings together Midwestern states to develop and support best practices, collaborative efforts, and cost-sharing opportunities. Through these efforts it works to ensure strong, equitable postsecondary educational opportunities and outcomes for all.

MHEC is comprised of member states from the Midwestern United States. MHEC works with and for a variety of stakeholders within and across member states, including higher education system leaders, state policymakers, legislators, and institutional leaders, while always maintaining a focus on students and their success.

MHEC is a 501(c)3 entity statutorily-created in each of its member states which include: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. MHEC’s office is headquartered in Minneapolis.

<https://www.mhec.org>

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact would like to thank our Midwest OER Summit Planning Committee:

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Robert Butterfield
Assistant Library Director, University of Wisconsin-Stout

Abbey Elder
Statewide Open Education Coordinator, Iowa State University

Craig Finlay
OER Librarian, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Lisa Johnson
Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs, North Dakota University System

Michele Leigh
Senior Coordinator, Open Illinois, Consortium of Research and Academic Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)

Daniel Matthews
Digital Services Librarian, Moraine Valley Community College

Claire Nickerson
Learning Technologies & OER Librarian, Fort Hays State University

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Julia Rodriguez
Associate Professor and Health Sciences & Scholarly Communications Librarian, Oakland University

Shari Theroux
Systems and Discovery Librarian, South Dakota State University

Christina Virden
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