

# **Choosing the Right Publishing Platform for your Context**

**January 28, 2026 11:45-12:30 p.m. CT**

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# What we'll cover today

This session identifies key **questions** you need to ask when choosing OER publishing platforms—such as Pressbooks, Manifold, LibreTexts, OER Commons, and institutional repositories—and examines how their features align with different institutional and statewide goals.

# Open Platforms @ CUNY



**OER**  
Open Educational  
Resources



# CUNY Context

- **Campuses:** 26 colleges (senior, community, honors, post-graduate, and professional colleges) located across all five boroughs of New York City.
- **Students:** 237,671 total enrollment (2024); 46,075 degrees granted (2023-24)
- **Faculty & Staff:** 40,040 total (13,727 full-time faculty, 14,682 part-time)
- **Libraries:** 31 locations across the city; different organizational positions!

# ? To Ask: Use Cases

**? To ask: Contract Parameters**

**? To ask: Implementation**

# Which platform does what?

# Publishing Platforms

- Do your users need authoring tools?
- Do you have to control outputs (for compliance)?
- Do you have dedicated tech/editorial/metadata help?
  - Educational Technologists
  - Teaching and Learning Centers
  - OER Librarians
  - Systems Administrators
  - Open Source Maintainers

# Pressbooks

- Comfortable for people used to Wordpress
- H5P interactives
- Cloning function makes remixing simpler
- LTI (Pressbooks Results)
- boost discoverability through the Pressbooks Directory

A yellow cloud-shaped callout box with a black outline and a soft shadow, containing the text "SAAS or self-hosted Open Source Options".

SAAS or self-hosted Open Source Options

# Manifold

- Built in/searchable annotations
- Inline resources
- Mobile-friendly
- Users can create their own projects
- Discoverability through OAI-PMH feed



Managed  
hosting or  
open source  
self-hosting  
options

# OER Commons Microsite

- Custom referatory, collections and hubs
- Indexing from multiple sources
- Native authoring tool
- LTI option
- Discoverability through OER exchange



# LibreTexts

- 17 subject-specific libraries, housing over 2,000 textbooks spanning diverse disciplines
- Remix/customize existing content
- embed Jupyter Notebooks, ADAPT homework questions, 3D visualizations, and videos



# Repository Platforms

- Do your outputs need indexing and/or cataloging?
- Do you have to control outputs (for compliance)?
- Do you have dedicated tech support?
  - Systems Administrators
  - Open Source Maintainers

# CUNY Academic Works

## Digital Commons Institutional Repository

- Open access institutional repository for scholarly, creative, and pedagogical work
- CUNY Academic Works is freely available to all
- Anyone in the CUNY community can submit
- Anyone around the world can access and download

Laboratory Exercises  
in Microbiology:  
366,931 downloads



# Students

- What platforms are they required to use?
  - LMS
  - Registrar
  - Library catalog
- Where are they accessing the OER?
- What sort of interactivity are they asked for?



Can I read  
on my  
phone?

# Faculty

I have two days before classes start...

- What platforms are they required to use?
  - LMS/Registrar/Library catalog
- What sort of ed tech support do they have?
- Are they expecting student contributions?
- Do they know the licenses of the things they're using?
- Are there checkpoints built into their funding?

# Administrators

- What platforms are they required to use?
- How many people need admin access to the tool?
- Who is managing metadata?
- How are they supporting distribution?

Will a new MFA  
login disrupt  
everyone's class  
the first day of  
term?

# Additional Information

# Impact tracking

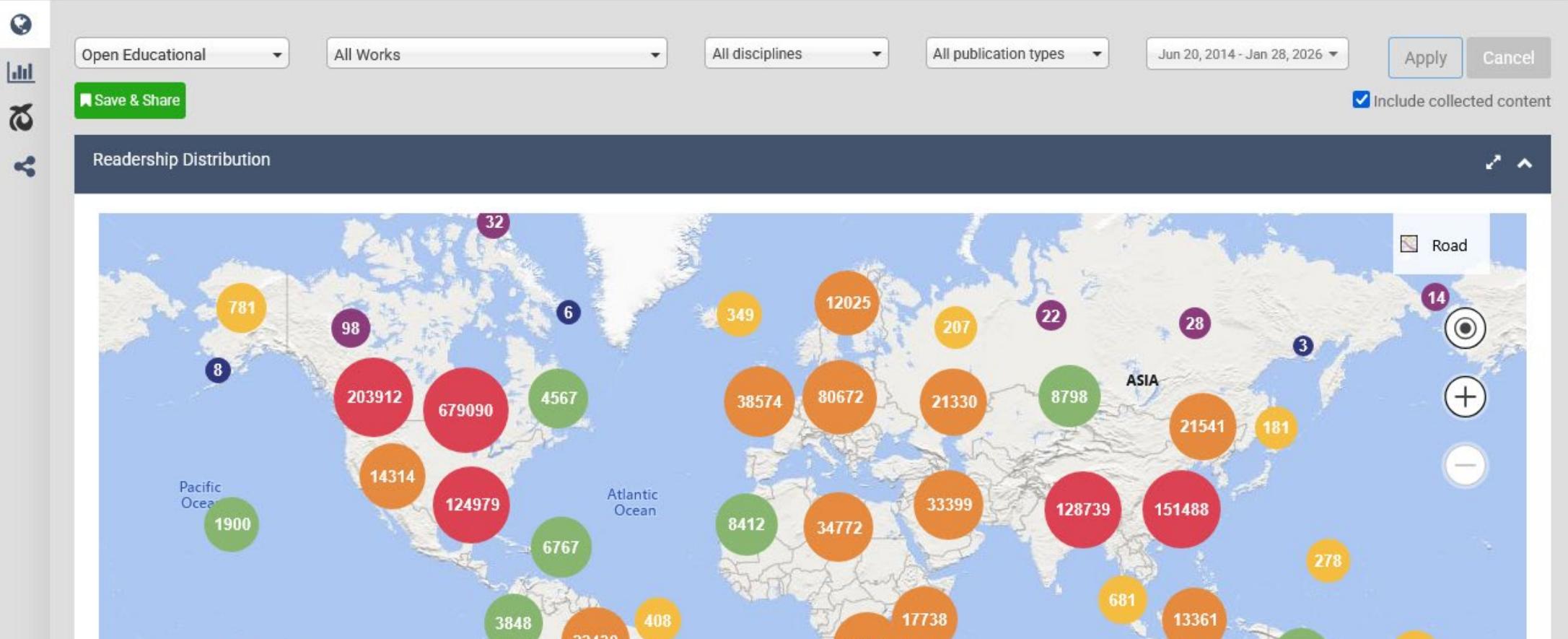
- How many times has your OER been downloaded?
- Where are your readers located?
- How are readers finding your OER?
- What are the organizational/institutional affiliations of your readers?

# CUNY Academic Works OER Dashboard 2025

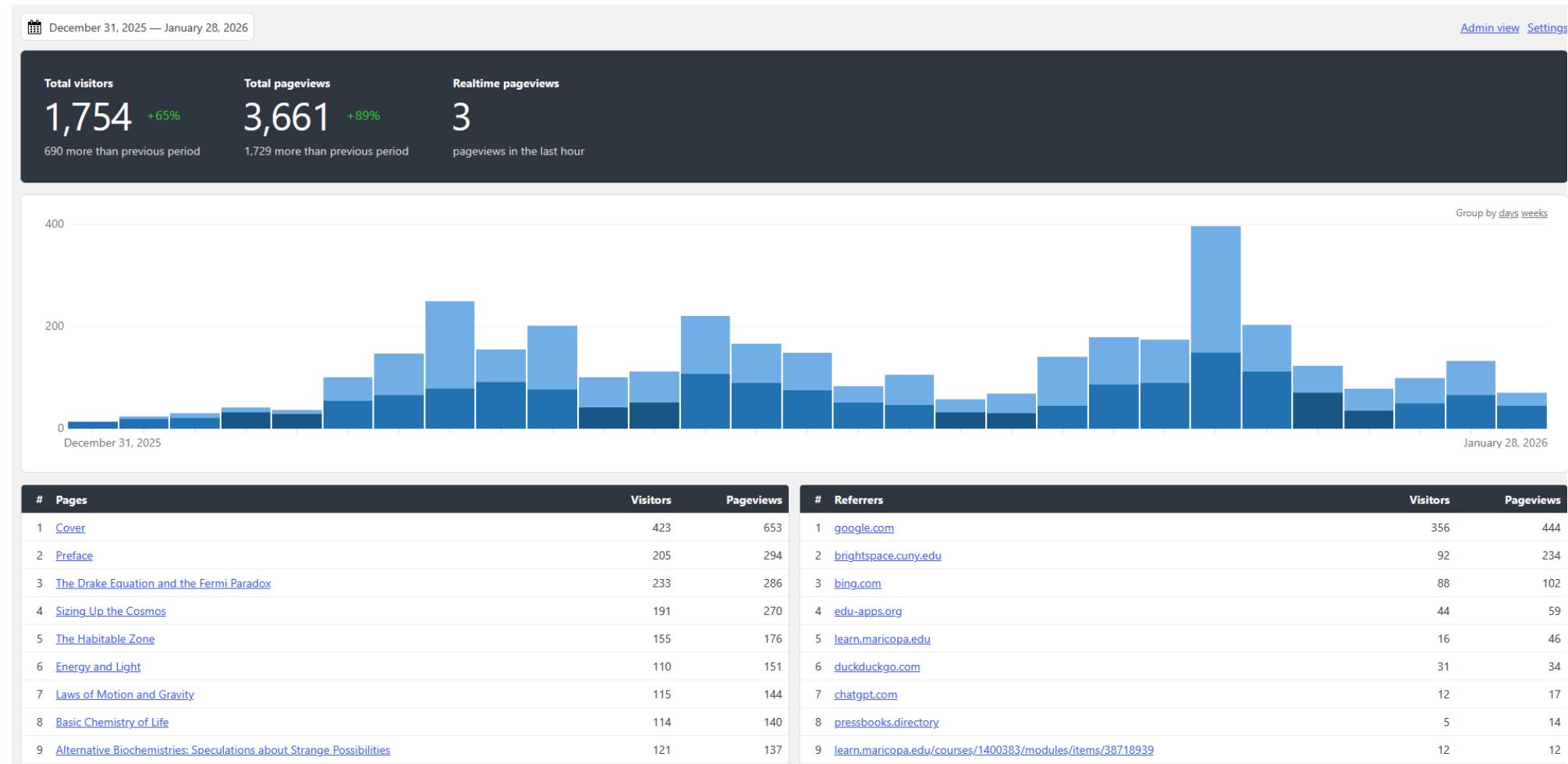


CUNY Academic Works

Johanna Karlin



# Pressbooks Analytics



# Manifold Analytics

Site Statistics	
Your Manifold installation's content and user activity.	
 Projects	1162
 Texts	4431
 Resources	4549
 Users	5712
 Annotations	118962
 Comments	10150
 Downloads	126
 Shares	234
 Most Viewed Projects	
PROJECT	VISITS
Ethnography Made Easy	1,681
South Texas Rabble Rousers	1,360
HUM 1: Modern Humanities	1,134
James A. Emanuel Project	953
Excellence in Education & Community Conference	859
 Top Searches	
SEARCH TERM	SEARCH COUNT
frankenstein	52
benito cereno	43
hum 1	40
June Jordan	39
humanities	29

The dashboard displays a line chart of 'Visitors' over time, with a significant dip in December. Below the chart, four key metrics are shown: 'Return Visits' (29%), 'Average Visit' (01:31), 'Engagement' (5%), and 'Starred' (2.13).

**Analytics**

START DATE: 01/01/2025 | END DATE: 12/31/2025 | CHOOSE A RANGE PRESET: Last week, Last month, Last 7 days, Last 30 days

**Visitors**

12/31/2025 | 12/30/2025 | 12/29/2025 | 12/28/2025 | 12/27/2025 | 12/26/2025 | 12/25/2025 | 12/24/2025 | 12/23/2025 | 12/22/2025 | 12/21/2025 | 12/20/2025 | 12/19/2025 | 12/18/2025 | 12/17/2025 | 12/16/2025 | 12/15/2025 | 12/14/2025 | 12/13/2025 | 12/12/2025 | 12/11/2025 | 12/10/2025 | 12/09/2025 | 12/08/2025 | 12/07/2025 | 12/06/2025 | 12/05/2025 | 12/04/2025 | 12/03/2025 | 12/02/2025 | 12/01/2025

**Return Visits**  
29%  
5693 of 19479 visitors were making a return visit.

**Average Visit**  
01:31  
HOUR MIN

**Engagement**  
5%  
935 visitors created annotations or comments.

**Starred**  
2.13  
Average number of projects your users have starred.

# Questions?

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