An Open Textbook Approach to OER: VIVA & the Open Textbook Network

Virginia Library Association Annual Conference
Friday, October 28, 2016
Hot Springs, Virginia
Presenters

Olivia Reinauer

Anita Walz

Genya O’Gara

Anne Osterman

Claudia Holland
Roadmap

➢ What is the Open Textbook Network?
➢ Why did VIVA join?
➢ What have we done (and learned) so far?
➢ How can you be involved?
➢ And where do we go from here?
The network has been invaluable; by pooling knowledge and resources, we benefit from the expertise of the growing network and don't have to go it alone or reinvent the wheel.

— Karen Williams, Dean, University of Arizona Libraries
Former President, Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)

Open Textbook Network
http://research.cehd.umn.edu/otn
Created in 2014

Open Textbook Library
https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks
Created in April 2012

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DIPPING OUR TOES IN OPEN INITIATIVES
2015 OER Task Force

- Surveyed VIVA members
- Identified ongoing OER initiatives in VA
- Made recommendations for next steps
Survey Results

- 39 institutions participated
- 78% were exploring or using OER
Library levels of involvement varied

However, 84% of respondents thought the libraries should be playing an active role.
Findings & Recommendations

• **2015 Survey Findings:**
  – OER textbooks and shareable course projects
  – OER in instruction sessions and online resources
  – Grant funding supporting faculty incorporating OER

• **2015 Key recommendations:**
  – Educate on statewide efforts & coordinate with SCHEV
    Open VA
  – Centralize information on OER resources
Open Initiatives Expansion

• Library Advisory Committee
  – Presentation by Anita Walz, Tara Cassidy, and Kathleen DeLaurenti

• Exploration of Open Initiatives as a consortium
  – Interests of the Library Advisory Committee and VIVA Steering Committee
  – Current institutional efforts
  – Implementable recommendations
Benefits/Goals

• VIVA’s goal to deliver equitable and cost-effective access to academic resources for Virginia students fits with SCHEV’s focus on higher education affordability.

• The OTN program is devoted to access, affordability, and student success, and therefore meets both these priorities.

• Joining as a consortium allows VIVA to bring this opportunity, and these student savings, to academic libraries across the Commonwealth.
Points Learned

OTNSI WISDOM
Open Textbook Network Summer Institute

- VIVA’s membership announced April 2016
- August 8-12, 2016 University of Minnesota
- 4 VIVA System Leaders attended

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Objectives

OTNSI (for new members)

- OTN workshop
- Strategies for overcoming barriers and engaging campus partners
- Creating actionable steps to use on your campus

OTN Summit

- Enhancing open textbook program development across OTN members
- Envisioning the future of OTN
- Sharing research on open textbook efficacy
- Network-wide discussion of common themes and hurdles
Why Educators Care

- Social justice
- Student learning, retention, degree completion
- Increased pedagogical control
Building Faculty Awareness, Education and (ultimately) Engagement

• Why focus only on textbooks?
• Where are open textbooks found? Open Textbook Library!
• How to recognize quality content?
• What is the point of textbook reviews?
Some Tips

• Do not judge or demonize
• Acknowledge skepticism, concerns & uncertainty
• No selling; Respect academic freedom
• Stay focused on the open textbook option
• Invite partnerships
Adapting & Creating

• OTN Advisory Board – Editing Working Group

• Member presentations on authoring and publishing open textbooks

• Publishing partnerships underway with U. Washington, U. Arizona, U. Mass-Amherst, Cleveland State

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Hearing From the Experts

• **Open Education Research fellow** – Rajiv Jhangiani, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
  – COUP Framework

• **OER Research Toolkit** - OTN & the Open Education Group

• Creative Commons workshop - Nancy Simms, UMN Copyright Program Librarian
Engaging with the OTN Community

Experts in our Midst

• OTN Advisory Board
• Creating Open Textbooks
• Recruitment

Roundtables

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A Consortial Approach

IMPLEMENTATION IN VIRGINIA
Campus Level Implementation

- Tidewater Community College
- Virginia Tech
- George Mason University
- Virginia Commonwealth University
Campus Leader Training

October 6, 2016 - 35 Campus & System Leaders @JMU

- Open Textbook Library: Past & Present
- Affordability, student academic success, and open
- Identifying obstacles to open textbook adoptions
- Strategies for addressing common challenges and building local programming

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The VIVA Program

VIVA System Leaders

– Anita Walz, Virginia Tech
– Claudia Holland, George Mason University
– Jimmy Ghaphery, Virginia Commonwealth University
– Olivia Reinauer, Tidewater Community College
# The VIVA Program

## VIVA Campus Leaders

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<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Leader Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bridgewater College</td>
<td>Vickie Einselen</td>
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<td>College of William &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Kathleen Delaurenti</td>
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<td>Dabney S. Lancaster Community College</td>
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<td>Brian Burns</td>
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<td>J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College</td>
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<td>Hannah Lowder</td>
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<td>Andrew Kulp</td>
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<td>Katie Glaeser</td>
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<td>Joslyn Allison</td>
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<td>Robin Takacs</td>
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<td>Virginia Western Community College</td>
<td>Dale Dulaney</td>
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The Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) is a System Member of the Open Textbook Network. More information is available.

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The VIVA Program

• The VIVAOER-L Listserv is the key communication tool (http://www.vivalib.org/aboutviva/listservs.html)
  – Discussion about OTN topics and statewide approach
  – Announcement of workshops
The VIVA Program

• $20,000 of VIVA Central Funds are available to support faculty reviews of OTN materials following Campus and System Leader workshops.

• These funds will be distributed on a first come/first served basis.
The VIVA Program

• If you are a school without a Campus or System Leader:
  – You or your faculty may be able to attend a workshop at a neighboring institution.
  – A Campus or System Leader may be able to provide a workshop for your faculty.
  – VIVA may host another Train the Trainer workshop next year.
Next Steps: Consortium Level

Building bridges
Community
Planning
Leading
Mentoring
Connecting
Sharing

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Discussion (and Thank You!)

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