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# In the Highways and the Hedges

Library Support for OER Adoption Efforts  
at Higher Education Institutions  
Across Virginia

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# Presenters

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# What are Open Educational Resources?



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# Open Educational Resources are:

## Teaching, learning, and research resources...

<http://www.hewlett.org/programs/education/open-educational-resources>

## Open Educational Resources include:

**Full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.**

<http://www.hewlett.org/programs/education/open-educational-resources>

# Open Educational Resources

... reside in the **public domain** or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others.



# Most popular licensing scheme: Creative Commons

Copying / distributing materials with CC licenses

- always requires attribution and
- allows anyone to remix and redistribute a work



CC Attribution



CC Attribution  
Share-Alike



CC Attribution  
Non-Commercial



CC Attribution  
Non-Commercial  
Share Alike

<http://www.creativecommons.org/licenses>

[https://wiki.creativecommons.org/wiki/Best\\_practices\\_for\\_attribution](https://wiki.creativecommons.org/wiki/Best_practices_for_attribution)

Like Open Access publications, OER are:

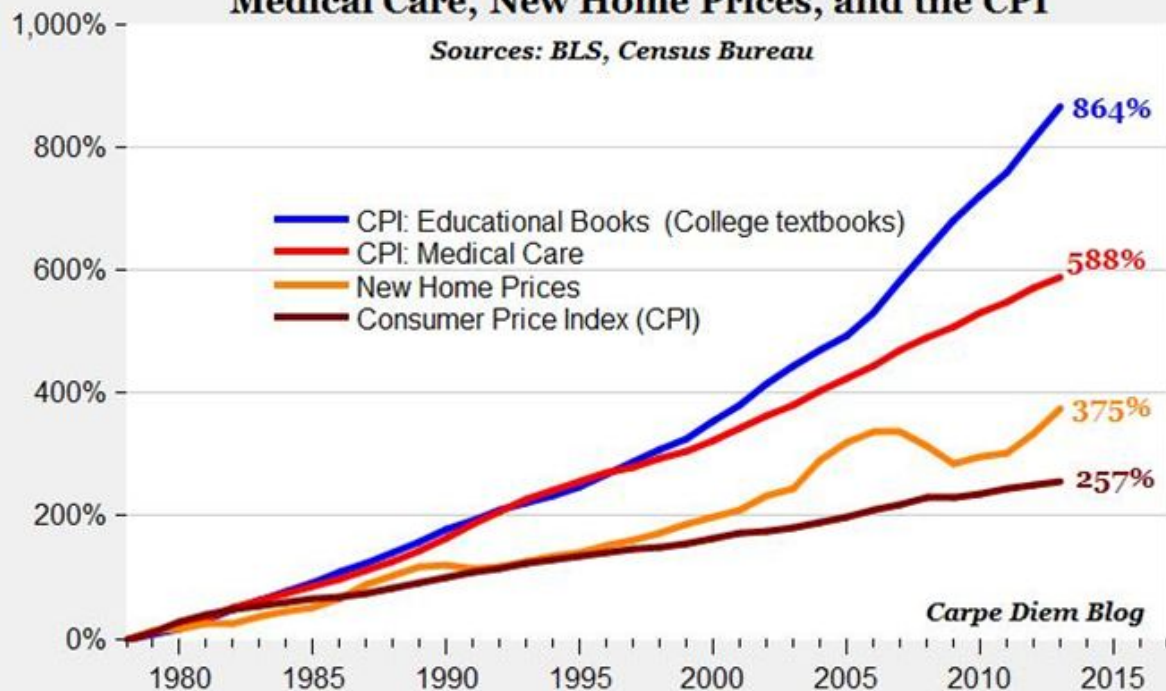
**Gratis** (nominal cost for print)

**Libre** (5 Rs: Retain, Reuse,  
**Revise, Remix, Redistribute**)



## Percent Change From 1978 to 2013 for Educational Books, Medical Care, New Home Prices, and the CPI

Sources: BLS, Census Bureau



Carpe Diem Blog

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[https://twitter.com/Mark\\_J\\_Perry/status/459395162032988160/photo/1](https://twitter.com/Mark_J_Perry/status/459395162032988160/photo/1)  
<http://www.aei-ideas.org/2012/12/the-college-textbook-bubble-and-how-the-open-educational-resources-movement-is-going-up-against-the-textbook-cartel>

Has the cost of required textbooks caused you to:

63.6% Not purchase the required textbook

49.2% Take fewer courses

45.1% Not register for a specific course

33.9% Earn a poor grade

26.7% Drop a course

17.0% Fail a course



## Impacts of costs & Opportunities

- Student learning & academic achievement
- Student retention
- Student debt

AND leveraging innovative licensing and enabling new approaches for teaching & learning

# Virginia Higher Education Open Ed initiatives



2010 - Nine courses (School of Business) Core curriculum



2011 - Chancellor's Retreat idea - Entire Assoc of Science in Business (22 courses)  
2013 - "Z-Degree" Implemented



2013 & fwd - Virginia's Summit on Open & Digital Learning

Kaleidoscope Open Course Initiative (KOI)

&

**NOVA**

**Northern Virginia  
Community College**

2014

**Zx23 VCCS** 2015 - Expanding the "Z-Degree" across 15+ VCCS Colleges (100+ courses)

# Institution-specific OER initiatives underway

Raising Awareness, plus:

# Institution-specific OER initiatives underway



2015 - Virginia Tech - offers workshops and stipends for open textbook review  
2015 - Virginia Tech - revision & update of openly licensed textbook underway



2015 - "Provost's Creative Adaptation Fund" - Swem Library & Dept. of Academic Tech  
18 projects \$1,000 each -- Teaching with OER & library-subscribed resources



2015 - Virginia Community College System launches Zx23 Project



THE WILLIAM AND FLORA  
HEWLETT  
FOUNDATION



**lumen**

= **Zx23 Project**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Blue Ridge Community College           | 9 Lord Fairfax Community College       | 17 Southside Virginia Community College |
| 2 Central Virginia Community College     | 10 Mountain Empire Community College   | 18 Southwest Virginia Community College |
| 3 Dabney S. Lancaster Community College  | 11 New River Community College         | 19 Thomas Nelson Community College      |
| 4 Danville Community College             | 12 Northern Virginia Community College | 20 Tidewater Community College          |
| 5 Eastern Shore Community College        | 13 Patrick Henry Community College     | 21 Virginia Highlands Community College |
| 6 Germanna Community College             | 14 Paul D. Camp Community College      | 22 Virginia Western Community College   |
| 7 J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College | 15 Piedmont Virginia Community College | 23 Wytheville Community College         |
| 8 John Tyler Community College           | 16 Rappahannock Community College      |   |

Image credit

Logos are the property of their respective institutions

# Building a supportive, flexible, cross-institutional librarians+ training community

## Encouraging librarians+ to:

Explore

Collaborate

Learn

Teach

Leverage workflows & skills

Lead



Public Domain image

Intro to OER Workshops

Networking

Listserves & awareness

Peer Groups (virtual & real)

Resource sharing (events)

Collaboration beyond librarians

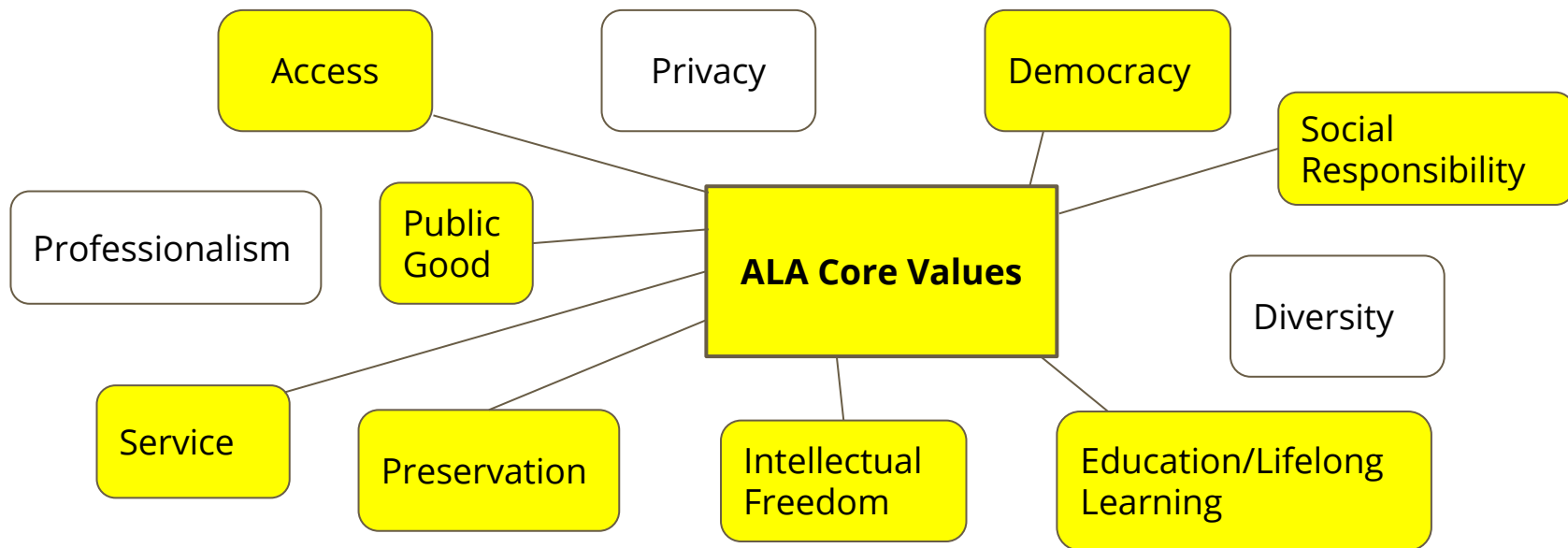


State Council of  
Higher Education for Virginia



# **Rationale, risks, and rewards for the librarian as OER consultant, trainer, and advocate**

# Complementary Values



# Skillset & Infrastructure



# Risks



"Storm on the horizon" by  
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# Opportunities



# Growing Pains



# Some assembly required

- Culture change
- Uneven infrastructure
- What does open mean?



# Silos, silos, everywhere

- Communication
- Workload & processes
- Quality OER





# Overcoming our training

- Copyright, right?
- Citing v. attribution
- Unlearning the tendency not to share



# Successes

- 2-yr 'Z' proliferation
- Tech integration
- Enthusiasm and buy-in



# Student benefits

Tidewater is beginning to see data on Z-Degree outcomes

- Savings
- Satisfaction
- Success



# New networks & collaborations

- Textbook affordability
- Cross-institutional conversations
- Interest from libraries of all types



# Librarian OER Leaders

- Building expertise
- Support & training
- Developing policy



# What seems to be working?



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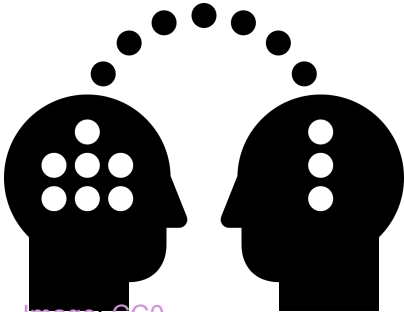


Image: CC0



Excitement

Alexandre Normand

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CC0 image



"Leadership" by Pedro Ribeiro Simoes is CC BY 2.0

# Questions & Discussion

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