

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

OPTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSORTIAL
SOLUTIONS

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What is OCUL?

- The Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) leads and participates in a number of initiatives with the goal of enhancing research supports and creating rich learning environments for Ontario's diverse and growing student population

Collaborate
Innovate
Deliver

OCUL Areas of Interest

- Information Resources
- Digital Infrastructure
- Data
- Maps & Geospatial
- Scholars Portal
 - provides the technological infrastructure that preserves and provides access to information resources collected and shared by [Ontario's 21 university libraries](#)

Open Access Publishing: OER

- OCUL Institution Libraries are increasingly involved in the Scholarly Publishing cycle:
 - Institutional Repositories
 - Tri-Agency support
 - Hosted Open Access Journals
- Growing Interest in OER publishing at OCUL Institutions

OCUL White Paper

- Early 2017 Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) undertook research to provide its constituents with an environmental scan of current activities in the realm of open education publishing
- Response to strong membership interest in OER

OCUL White Paper

- Working Group consisted of staff at OCUL member libraries and OCUL and Scholars Portal team members.
- intended for distribution to OCUL Directors and may consider further distribution as a kit or information pack depending on the needs of our members.
- Includes highlighted OCUL institutions, projects, looks at world-wide initiatives

OCUL Survey on Open Educational Resources

- Sent out to member institutions May 2017
- Survey was sent to Libraries and contained two parts:
 - Questions for Libraries
 - Questions for OER Stakeholders
- Schools were encouraged to send the survey to any unit that was involved in some aspect of OER creation

OER Research and OCUL

- This research has resulted information about OCUL libraries and OER resulting in the following documents intended for Directors:
 - OER white paper: a review of OER landscape on national and international levels
 - A Primer: documenting basic knowledge and terminology around OER
 - OCUL in context: an analysis of survey findings

Identified Expertise for OERs

- OER is a highly collaborative multi-stakeholder area which requires the following areas of expertise, which could be supported at the consortia level:
 - Technical knowledge
 - Copyright expertise
 - Instructional design
 - Grant writing skills (ex. Funding from eCampusOntario)
 - Accessibility and universal design knowledge

Barriers to OER Adoption...

There are a number of known barriers to faculty adopting OER:

- awareness,
- discoverability
- technical capacity
- concerns about quality
- maintenance etc.

University focus groups and peer to peer mentorship might dispel some of these concerns.

OER Community Trends

- OER policies to date, but a few institutions are developing policies
- Libraries mostly involved in advocacy and promotions of OER
- OER toolkits, OER forums and librarian education are cited as top needs;
- Many of the libraries are active on campus-wide OER groups
- Most funding comes from eCampusOntario but some universities are starting funding programs

Spotlight on Ryerson

Open Publishing Infrastructure Project at Ryerson

About The Project

This summer, eCampusOntario and Ryerson University will be spearheading an open publishing infrastructure project designed to enhance and expand eCampusOntario's planned Open Textbook Library.

This library, developed and shared by BCcampus, will provide access to over 180 high-quality, academically reviewed textbooks and open education resources (OER) for Ontario post-secondary students



Wendy Freeman: Project Lead

"Ryerson University is proud of its continued and ongoing work and collaboration with eCampusOntario. Ryerson is deeply committed to and passionate about the ability to provide world-class open educational materials and resources to Ontario post-secondary learners to lower the barriers to access and empower localization by instructors."

Dr. Wendy Freeman, Director, Office of E-Learning, at Ryerson University.



Four Key Project Workstreams

A working Pressbook prototype with enhanced features

Integrate an open source repository that will support the open textbook platform and other content

Community building and knowledge mobilization

Learning module authoring and distribution prototyping

Book Oven Partnership



The creation of a technology platform based on Pressbooks, an industry-standard book writing solution.

Pressbooks is simple book production software which exports into all the file formats you need to publish your books:

- MOBI format (for Kindle ebooks)
- EPUB format (for all other ebookstores)
- designed PDF (the "interior book file" for print-on-demand)
- more exotic XML formats

Pressbooks is used by authors, publishers and educational institutions around the world.

Pressbooks working with Ryerson University on eCampusOntario grant "Open Publishing Infrastructure"

Pressbooks is a simple book production software which exports into all the file formats you need to publish your books:

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- designed PDF (the "interior book file" for print-on-demand)
- more exotic XML formats

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Ryerson Partnerships and Advisors

A cross-functional working group at Ryerson University will be driving a prototype infrastructure to support the Open Textbook Repository. The Ryerson team includes:

- E-Learning Office
- Ryerson University Library & Archives
- Chang School, Digital Education Strategies (DES)
- Computing and Communications Services (CCS)
- Learning and Teaching Office (LTO)

The Ryerson team is supported by several key advisory partners:

- Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL)
- Ontario College Library Service (OCLS)
- University of Waterloo
- Queen's University



Community Building

Ryerson University is engaging in ongoing promotion, information sharing and leadership activities across Ontario to support Open Education Resources (OER) community building, knowledge mobilization, skill-building and development.

This will also include the Sprint model, where project members and OER community members can gather together and work on open educational resource creation and training.

For more information about upcoming events visit: library.ryerson.ca/open/events/

Project Planning

Publications	Meeting & Events	Toolkit
Minutes and bi-weekly updates	Weekly Workgroup	Project Charters
Monthly Web newsletter	Chair Committee (Bi-weekly)	E-mail Distribution Lists
Product Schedule	Troubleshooting Sessions (as needed)	Meeting Support Templates
Google Drive	Team Building (Launch, midpoint, close)	Project Briefs & FAQs
Final Reporting		

Project Blog and Twitter: Regular Updates



<https://library.ryerson.ca/open/>



@RyersonOER



Poster created by: Ann Ludbrook aludbrook@ryerson.ca and Tanya Pobuda tpobuda@ryerson.ca



OCUL still needs more information...

- To fully understand our current landscape we need to know:
 - How many OER are being created at institutions? (Unless faculty work directly with campus units, it is difficult to track...)
 - How many OER are being adopted for class use across higher ed. in Ontario? (Instructors choose their course materials but in some cases might not even be aware that what they use is an OER.)

And More information...

- What group/unit at various institutions are supporting the creation of OER? (Libraries, Learning and Teaching Offices, E-Learning Departments, Distance Learning)
- Is there collaboration across groups?
- What is the role of academic libraries in the OER Creation cycle?
- What opportunities are there for library involvement?

A Question for you...

- Who do you think are the likely and "unlikely" partners of OER in academic institutions?