# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

OPTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSORTIAL SOLUTIONS

KATYA PEREYASLAVSKA & ANN LUDBROOK

# 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 Ontario Council of University Libraries

50th 1967•2017

# 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

OCUL Ontario Council of University Libraries

50th 1967•2017

# 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 initatives

# 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

# 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.)

OCUL Ontario Council of University Libraries

50th 1967•2017

# 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?