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# The Benefits of Open Educational Resources (OERs) for Faculty and Students

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#### The Benefits of Open Educational Resources (OERs) for Faculty and Students

Presented By: Larry Sheret, MA Lindsey M. Harper, MA, MSLS

## Overview

The High Cost of Education: Problem

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How Students Acquire Textbooks & An Alternative Solution to reduce costs(OERs)

OER Benefits for Students

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**OER** Benefits for Faculty

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Finding and Adopting OERs (textbook review time)

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Differences in Databases

## The Direct Cost of an Education at Marshall

Marshall University 2019-2020 Tuition and Fees (assuming FT-status fall & spring semester)

	Undergraduate	Graduate
WV Residents	\$8,400	\$8,700
Non-Residents of WV	\$19,250	\$21,050
Metro	\$14,500	\$15,500

- 42% of all undergraduate students at Marshall University receive the Federal Pell Grant
- 58% of all undergraduate students receive federal student loans averaging ~\$8,000 per year

(National Center for Education Statistics, 2018)

## The "Hidden" Costs of Education

During the 2017-2018 academic year, students spent:

- \$1,276 on books and supplies (NCES, 2018)
- \$484 (n=~34,000) for required course materials (National Association of College Stores, 2018)

## How Students Acquire Materials

#### Purchasing older editions

#### Borrowing materials from others

Getting an illegal copy

Using the library's Textbook Loan Program

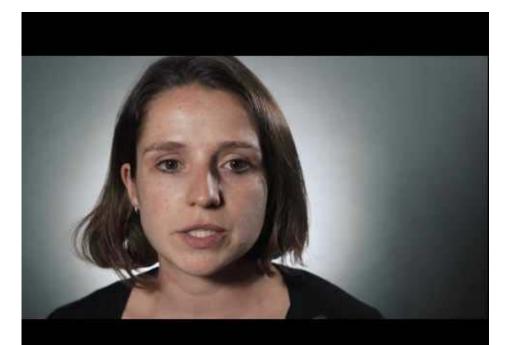
Not purchasing the book at all

(Senack, 2014; Ferguson, 2016; Florida Virtual Campus, 2016; Thompson, Cross, Rigling, & Vickery, 2017; Clinton, 2018)



•Open Educational Resources (OER) are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others. OERs can include things like full courses, course materials, modules, **textbooks**, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge. - William & Flora Hewlett Foundation

### **Open Educational Resources**





#### OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

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#### The 5Rs

Open Educational Resources

Retain	<ul> <li>Make and own a copy</li> </ul>
Reuse	<ul> <li>Use in a wide range of ways</li> </ul>
Revise	<ul> <li>Adapt, modify, and improve</li> </ul>
Remix	Combine two or more
Redistribute	<ul> <li>Share with others</li> </ul>

## OER Benefits for Faculty

Provides more freedom to select different *types* of materials to suit your course such as using different chapters from various OER textbooks

Inclusion of more interactive practice problems

Availability of searchable content

Texts are continuously edited so they're current

(Crozier, 2018; Salem, 2017)

# OER Benefits for Students







Reduces overall costs associated with a course

Immediate access to the course materials

Material presented in multiple ways



Easy to use and the ability to take items anywhere



(Cannon & Brickman, 2015; Hatzipanagos & Gregson, 2015)

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### OERs and Learning Outcomes

Hilton & Laman (2012) performed a case study at Houston CC with three psychology courses where two used a traditional textbook and one employed an OER.

Students in the OER section performed statistically better on exams, had higher retention, and had overall higher final grades.

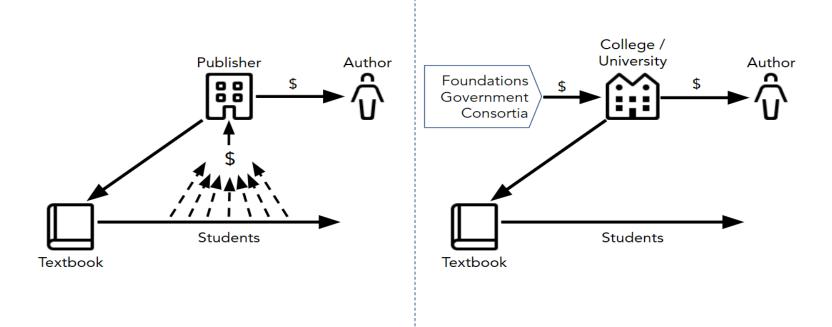
Clinton (2018) compared LOs of students living in the United States (N=520) in courses using commercial texts *or* OERs

Choi & Carpenter's (2017) compared student performance in a Human Factors and Ergonomics course over the span of five semesters. Students performed slightly better in the OER section and GPA was also slightly higher

Results indicated no significant difference between texts, meaning students did no better or worse as a result of implementing an OER for a course.

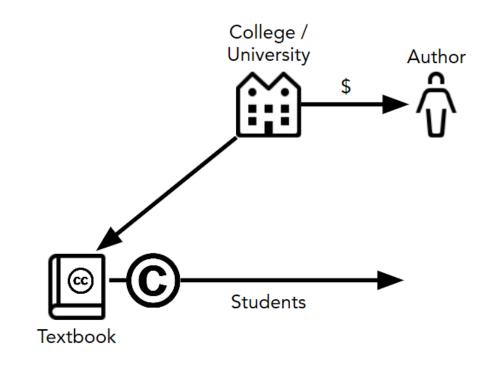
#### Commercial





Information from the Open Textbook Network Summit & Institute, 2019

#### OER Copyright & License



Information from the Open Textbook Network Summit & Institute, 2019

OER Library Research Guide

https://libguides.marshall .edu/OpenEducationalR esources

## OER Database Types

Free vs. Low Cost

Yideo vs Text vs All Formats

In Publishers vs Aggregators vs Referatories

Learning Objects vs Complete Courses

Very Small to Very Large

Easy to Use vs Difficult to Use



Associations vs Universities vs Consortia

# Find a Textbook to Review



#### **Open Textbook Library**

Libretexts.org

#### Mason OER MetaFinder

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