

Open Educational Resources Award for Faculty

Justin Kani, Assistant Professor, Business and Economics Librarian, Weber State University

Rachel Hinrichs, OER Liaison, IUPUI, rhinrich@iupui.edu

NUTRITION INFORMATION

This dish is designed to be the main course for Open Education Week in the spring. It is not difficult to prepare and is ideal for libraries new to OER initiatives. Novice OER chefs may not be aware of OER activities on their campus already. This OER award recipe is an ideal first step for novice chefs seeking to do an environmental scan of their campus and to identify faculty who are actively using and advocating for OER.

Other goals of this recipe include formally recognizing faculty members' successful OER work, increasing awareness of OER, and highlighting the library's OER services. By featuring faculty members' OER efforts, this award raises the profile of OER on campus. Faculty performance evaluations are often tied to research as the key component for promotion and tenure. This award, in a small way, allows teaching faculty working with OER to be recognized in the areas of teaching and pedagogy, student affordability, and student retention. An added bonus is that the award is peer-reviewed. The library's active involvement with creating and promoting the award demonstrates that the library is an OER leader and partner. The library can use this award to begin to foster a stronger culture around OER on their campus.

LEARNING OUTCOMES/PROJECT OUTCOMES

This recipe has several outcomes:

- Identify faculty champions and OER use cases.
- Incentivize and celebrate innovative uses of OERs on campus.
- Connect like-minded individuals and groups.
- Increase awareness of OERs on campus.
- Position the library as a leader in OER.

NUMBER SERVED

We have served this dish several years in a row. In our first year, we had 8 faculty nominations, and in the second year, we had 9 nominations. The first ceremony was attended by 20 people, while 25 attended the second year. The OER award, however, ultimately serves many more than the event itself if the results of the event are effectively marketed afterward. This is discussed in the clean-up section below.

COOKING TIME

We estimate that the cooking time is 4 months for the first implementation and 2 months for the subsequent implementations.

The key cooking metric is making sure there is enough time for soliciting and receiving nominations for the award. Time is also

needed to identify potential collaborators and stakeholders on campus that should be invited to the actual celebration.

DIETARY GUIDELINES

We used this recipe to enhance our understanding of who was using OER on campus. This recipe is a great way to elevate the conversation about OER because it highlights the efforts of those using, adopting, or creating OER. This is particularly powerful for instructors whose research focuses on pedagogy.

We also think of this recipe as an appetizer. The award celebration brings together all of the nominees and encourages networking among advocates and creators of OER. This allows a community to develop around OER on campus.

INGREDIENTS & EQUIPMENT

For the preparation:

- A team of librarians, faculty, and staff interested in OER and scholarly communication. We recommend at least five people.
- Trello (<https://trello.com/>) a web-based productivity tool for project management. This tool allowed the group to track tasks and ensure that everything was implemented on time. Tasks can be delegated and updated for everyone to see.

- Electronic survey to gather nominations

For the award ceremony:

- Funding for the below items. We estimate about \$1,600–\$1,700.
- A plaque for the award winner
- \$500 cash prize for the award winner
- Posters highlighting each nominees' OER work (example posters, <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/18672>)

PREPARATION

The goal is to have the award and ceremony ready for Open Education Week, which is typically the first week of March.

Three to four months before the award ceremony (November-December):

- Form an OER Award Committee. This committee should consist of at least 5 individuals interested in planning this award. We recommend a combination of librarians, faculty, and staff, if possible. If you have already implemented this award before, we suggest encouraging the previous year's award winner to be on the committee.
- Create project management files. If this is your first time cooking this recipe, we highly recommend creating project management documents outlining the goals, budget, and tasks. Our documents can be found in our Open Education Award Toolkit (<http://hdl.handle.net/1805/21219>). Having these files will allow for a seamless transition from one year to the next.

- Set-up a Trello Board to track tasks and progress. See the Open Education Award Toolkit for objectives and tasks to include.
- Select a date for the award ceremony.
- Create a budget including items listed in the ingredients section and send it to the library dean or director for approval.
- Begin drafting criteria for eligible nominations. This may vary depending on your goals. Our criteria for an eligible nomination states that the OER used must
 - have an open license, such as Creative Commons, GNU, Public Domain, etc.,
 - be used in a classroom in the last two years, and
 - be publicly accessible.
- Begin drafting a rubric to judge nominations. Again, this may vary depending on your goals. We judged our nominations based on these criteria:
 - Successful implementation of OER material into instruction
 - Demonstrated committed interest to OER
 - Advocacy for OER on campus and beyond

Two months before the award ceremony (January):

- Finalize your criteria for judging the nominations.
- Create an online nomination form. Be sure to include open-ended questions that address the criteria on which you are judging the nominations.
- Book a room for the award ceremony. We held our event in the library.
- Open the nomination form for a month

and promote the award widely.

- Encourage liaison librarians to promote the award to their faculty and to nominate individuals they know are involved with OER.
- Encourage other relevant groups on campus, such as a Center for Teaching and Learning or Educational Technology group, to distribute the nomination form through their communication channels.

One month before the ceremony (February):

- Close the nomination form.
- Select a winner.
- Create posters for all nominees, or a select few, and create a plaque for the award winner. Order the posters and plaque at least three weeks ahead of the award date.
- Invite all nominees to the event via email. We also suggest inviting the nominees' department chairs and deans, librarians, and representatives of stakeholder groups on campus, such as the Center for Teaching and Learning. We suggest inviting at least 30 people in order to get a larger pool of attendees.

COOKING METHOD

For the purposes of this recipe, the cooking method is the award ceremony itself.

Before award ceremony:

- Set-up the room for the award ceremony an hour or two before it starts. Arrange the nominees' posters around the room along with some tables and chairs. Put out food and drink, if serving.

During award ceremony:

- The award ceremony should last 1 hour. Announce the award winner 20–30 minutes into the ceremony, and allow the award winner to make a speech if they chose. Present them with the plaque.
- The rest of the time is spent conversing about OER and creating connections among instructors and stakeholders.

ALLERGY WARNING

- We incentivized the winner with a \$500 award. We have not tried the award without a financial incentive.

- This was entirely funded by the library. While not essential, we believe this enhances the award. The library's long-term goal is to have other means of funding the award through partnerships with other units on campus.

CLEAN-UP

After the celebrating is done, have a game-plan for marketing. Some ideas:

- Hang the posters of the nominees in a public area where people can read them.
- Deposit the posters in an institutional repository.

- Write a press release about the award winner.
- Announce the award winner on the library's homepage.
- Host a panel on OER with the faculty nominees.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Resources for cooking this recipe: Open Education Award Toolkit with the project management files. <http://hdl.handle.net/1805/21219>

Example nominee posters. <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/18672>

Poster presentation at the 2019 Open Education Conference in Phoenix, AZ. <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/21233>

Other OER award examples: Texas A&M University Libraries (2019). Open educational materials awards. Retrieved from http://library.tamu.edu/services/scholarly_communication/open_ed_awards.html

University of Tennessee – Knoxville University Libraries. (2018). SGA gives awards to faculty who use Open Resources. Retrieved from <https://www.lib.utk.edu/news/2018/04/sga-oer-awards/>

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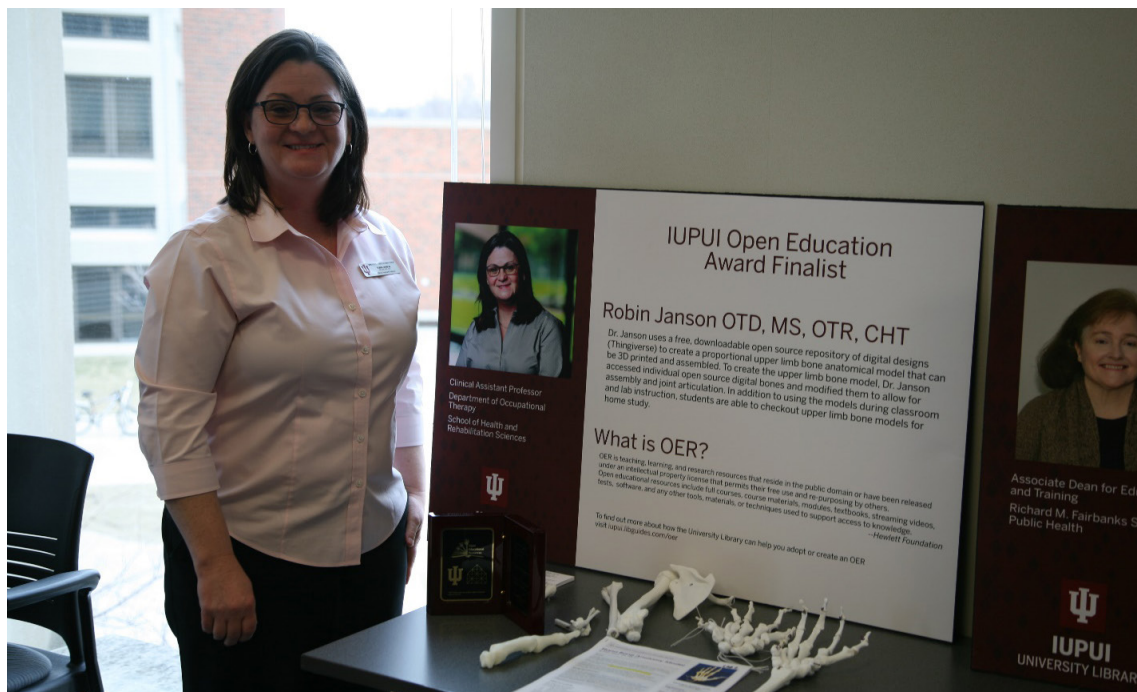


Photo 1. IUPUI Open Education Award Finalist

Photo of Dr. Robin Janson, winner of the 2019 annual award (Attribution 4.0 International Gary Maixner)