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Summer 6-25-2022

Leading on Open Educational Practices at a Regional Comprehensive University Library

Kelly Smith

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LEADING ON OPEN EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

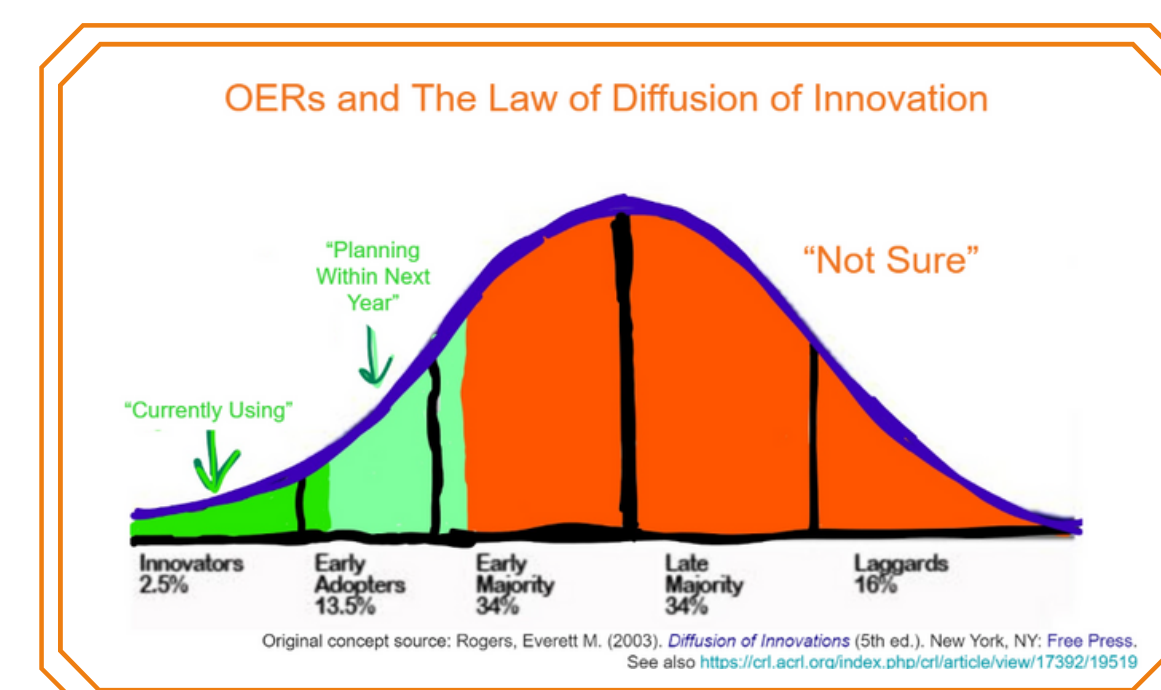
AT A REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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Partner with faculty innovators

2016

- At Libraries' Annual Breakfast for faculty, the **Library Liaison** to African and African American Studies (AFA) explains to their faculty how **we can host OER** after they comment about the cost of textbooks.



<https://bit.ly/3aYSNhp>

BY THE NUMBERS

- 2 Original OER projects published by EKU (<https://encompass.eku.edu/ekuopen/>)
- 18k Downloads of OER projects in past 2 years
- 12 Original OER projects being written (1)
- 75k Incentive grant dollars awarded by the EKU Board of Regents
- 70k Dispersed as of June 2020
- 22 Projects funded (most with multiple course sections)
- 22 Faculty participants in Library led PLCs
- 15 Fields Represented

Accounting	Justice Studies
African and African American Studies	Management
Appalachian Studies	Marketing
Applied Engineering & Technology	Music
Computer Science	Safety and Security / Homeland Security
English/1st Year Writing	Social Work
History	Sociology
- 6500 Student enrolled in these classes, annually

STUDENT FEEDBACK

"I'm so thankful for you designing a course that makes everything we need at our fingertips and not out of our pockets. I'm sure you had to do some looking around to figure it out and your effort really ... shows some empathy!"
 -Undergraduate student - Psychology

So, wait, I may be jumping the gun, but do we not have to purchase books for this course? If not, that will be EXCELLENT news. I am a non-traditional student and I have to budget for my school costs as well as an 8-year-old son.
 -Undergraduate student - Psychology

"I am a book lover and usually enjoy having a book in my hand that I can flip through. However, if it had to be online, I liked the layout and it was easy to navigate. I also enjoy the fact that it is an open-source that I can continue to use as needed."
 -Undergraduate student - Social Work

Partner with Faculty Senate

2017-18

- AFA begins work on textbook
- After library lobbies, **Faculty Senate Chair appoints an Ad Hoc Committee** to investigate Open Educational Resources (OERs).

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

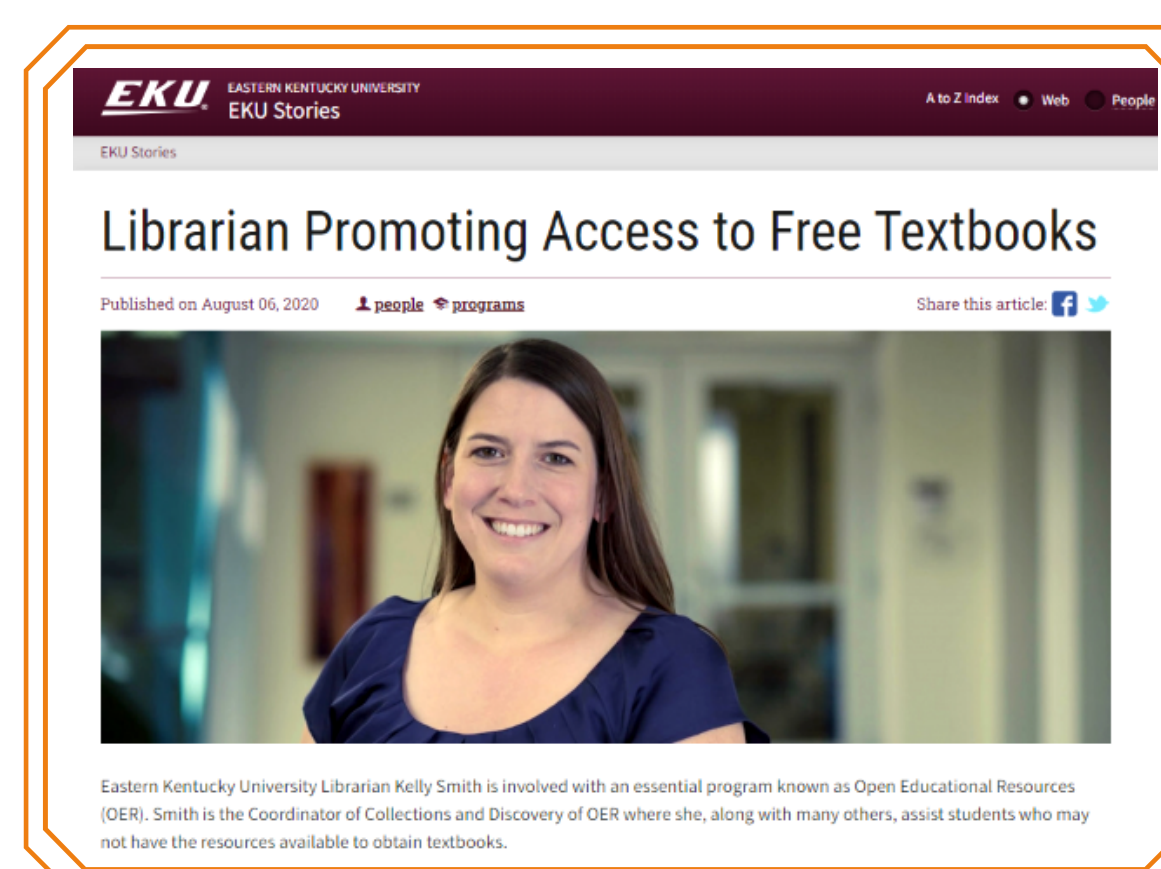
"Textbook costs have increased 3 times the rate of inflation and the increased costs place an extra financial burden on students.

As a reminder, the library provides a plethora of resources both as subscribed and open access for faculty to use in their courses instead of requiring a textbook."

Fund Incentive Grants - \$25K

2019

- AFA final editing of textbook
- OER Committee wins an **EKU Board of Regents Innovation grant** to incentivize faculty to adopt, adapt, or create OER.
- Library leads OER workshops and faculty Professional Learning Community



<https://bit.ly/3xyvm6O>

FACULTY FEEDBACK

"It was really helpful to read and hear about strategies for designing these materials, and about involving students in the process."
 -Dr. Dominic Ashby - English, First Year Writing

"The open access textbook* we used for the PLC has great, useful information."
 -Dr. Jill Parrott - English, First Year Writing

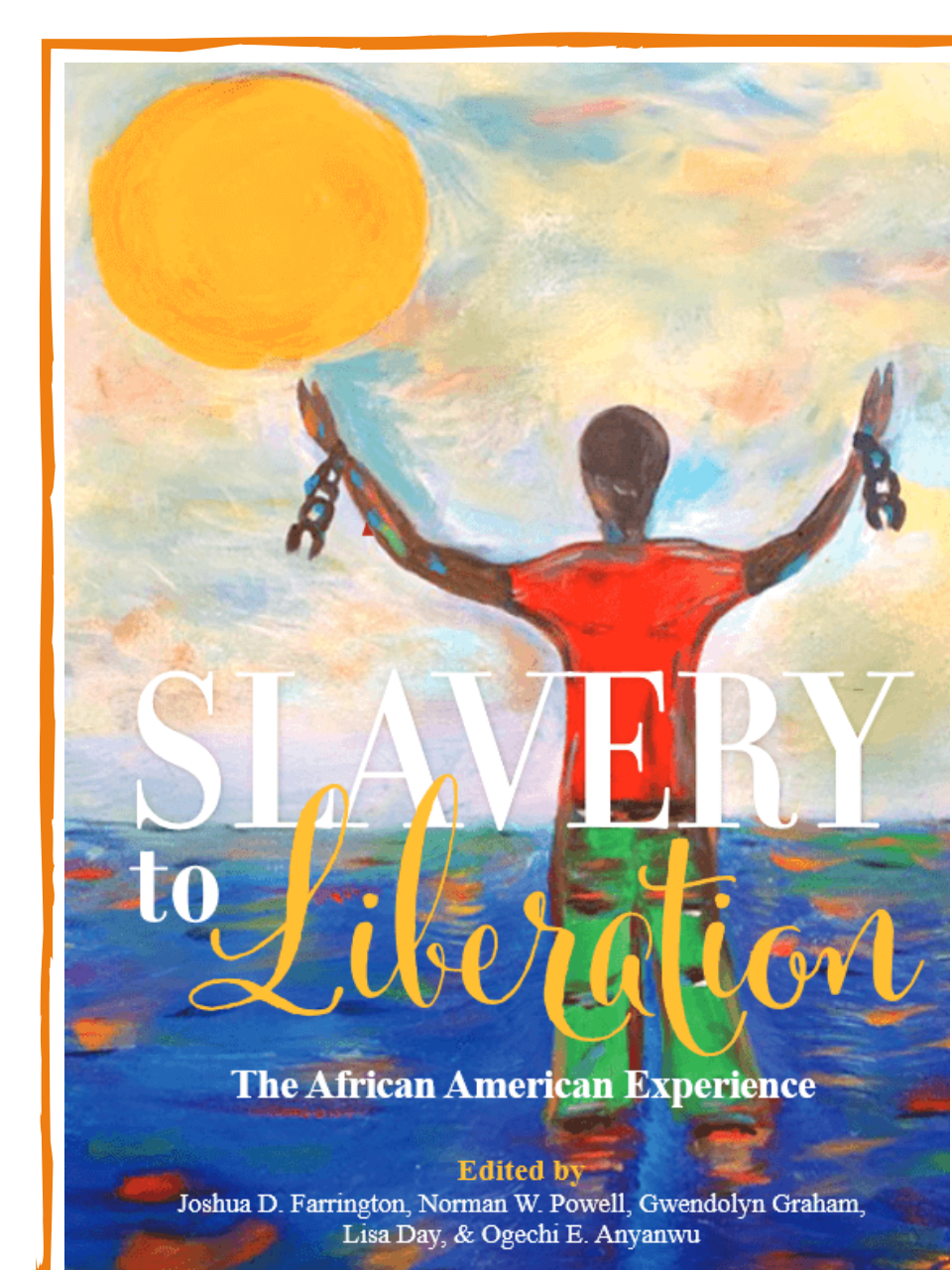
"I found that students were more engaged with the text...and are showing better learning outcomes on all assignments. I plan on doing this for the duration of my career. I believe that the term 'open' now leads us in the direction of making texts available to all students... Moreover, this grant project will quickly help EKU save funds and should be encouraged among other faculty."
 -Dr. James Maples - Sociology

<https://iastate.pressbooks.pub/oerstarterkit/>

Publish Intro to AFA Textbook!

2020

- AFA's Slavery to Liberation published, launch party, and publicity
- A 2nd **EKU Board of Regents Innovation grant**, this time for \$50k
- Library leads summer **Faculty Institute session on OER** and another **Fall PLC**.



<https://encompass.eku.edu/ekuopen/1/>



<https://bit.ly/3xyyAag>

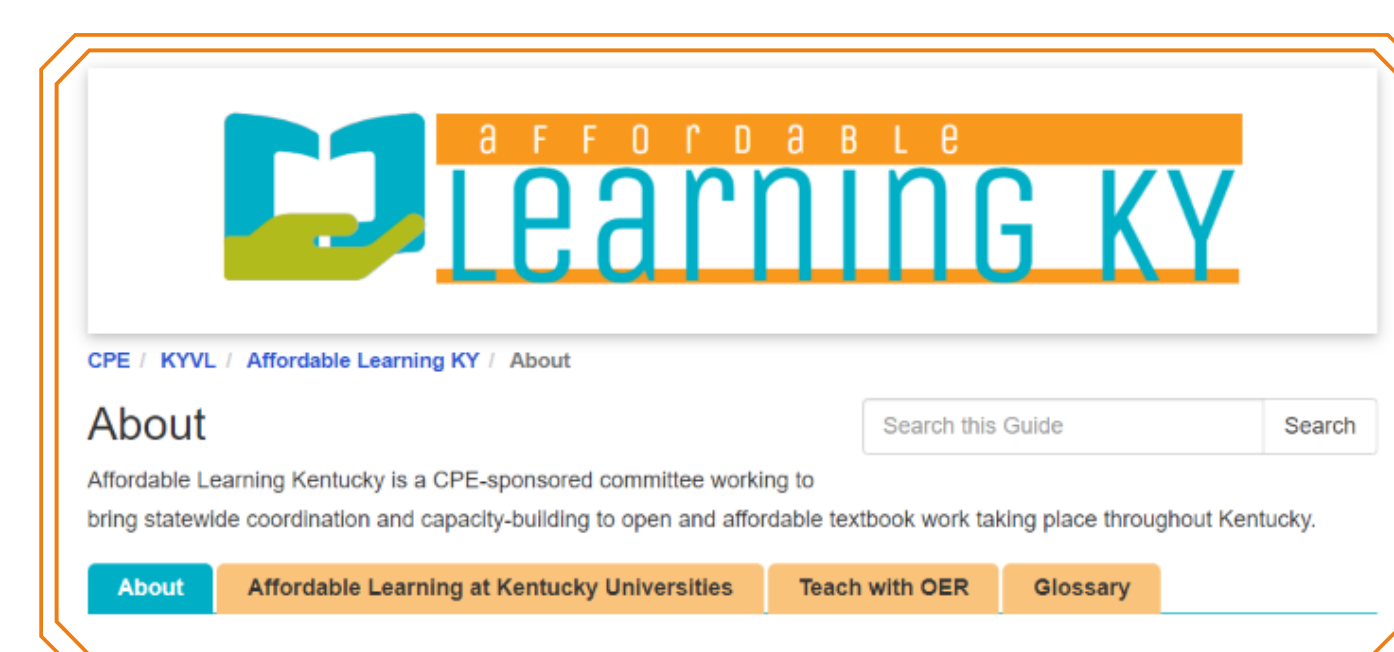


<https://encompass.eku.edu/betweenthecolumns/18/>
<https://bit.ly/3tGMCWq>
<https://bit.ly/3HEjAMH>

Partner w/Kentucky Consortia

2021

- Co-chaired the **Kentucky Virtual Library's Affordable Learning Committee**, sponsored the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
- Presentations** at conferences, **website** launch.
- Gained training and other benefits of **Open Education Network membership**.

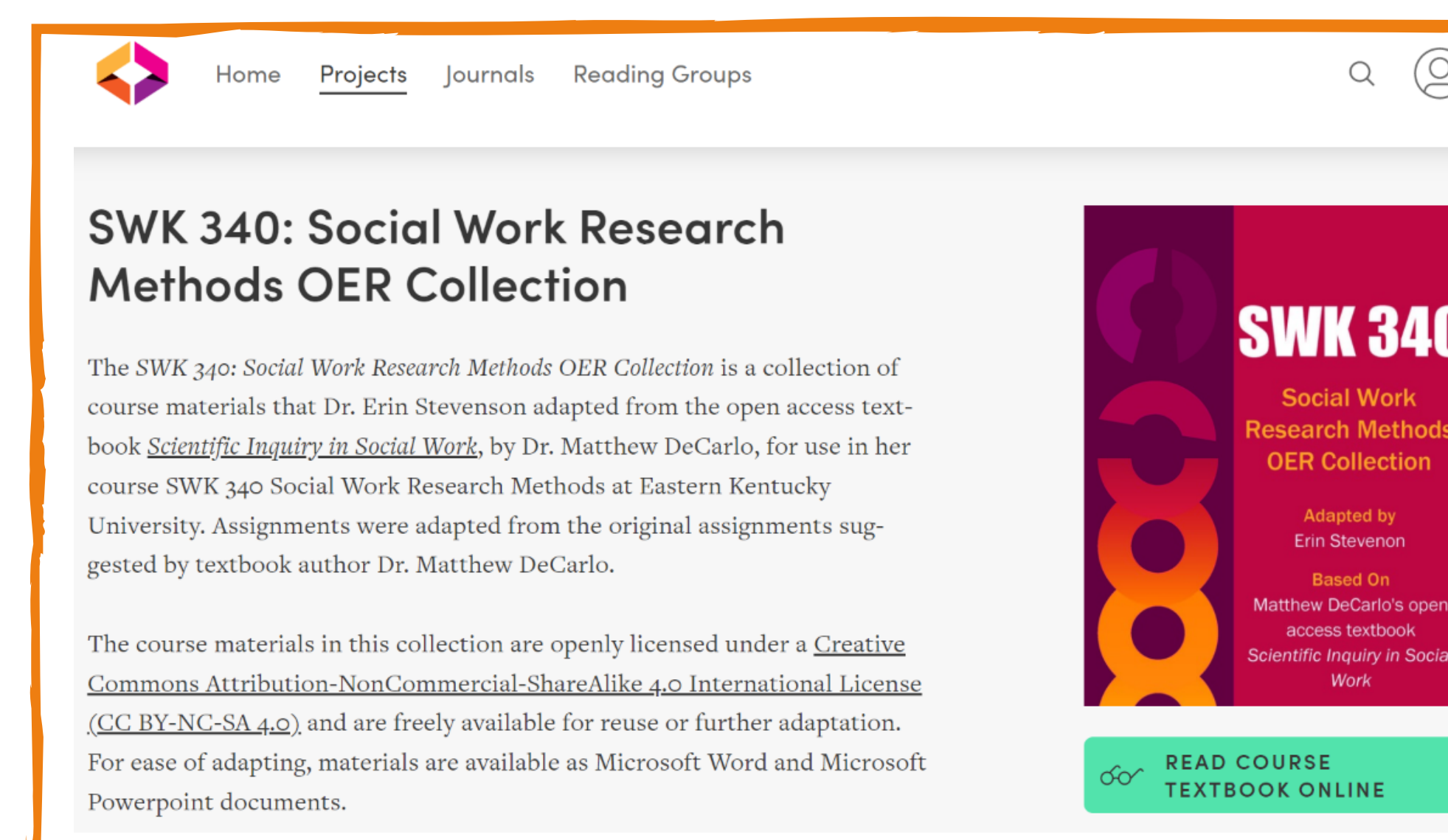


<https://kyvl.org/affordablelearningky/about>

Expand, Refine, and Operationalize

2022

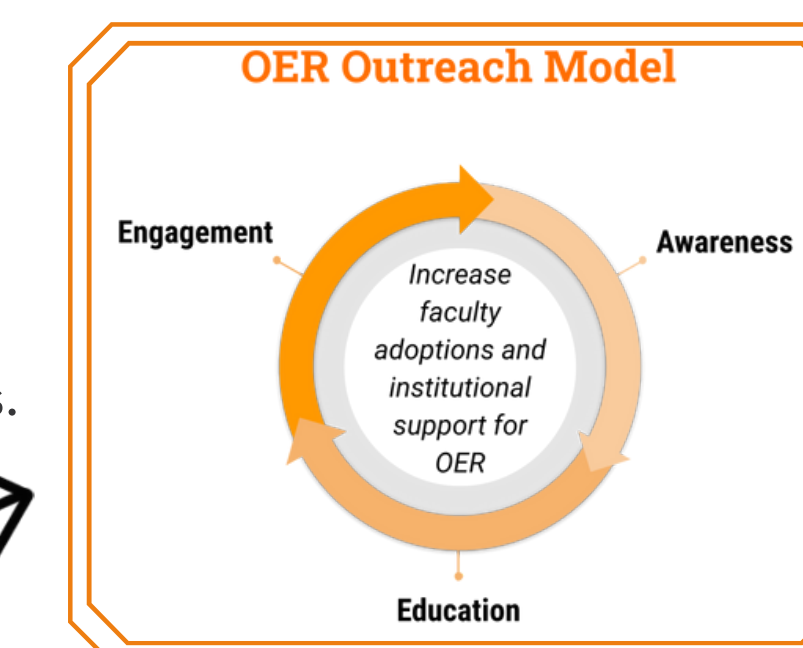
- New **focus on Open Pedagogy** and other aspects of Open Education.
- Learn about and implement better **accessibility practices**.
- Begin exploring **other platforms beyond static institutional repository** - Manifold Pilot



<https://bit.ly/3MZic3B>

RESOURCES NEEDED

- At least one librarian with the time and passion to lead efforts.
- The support of library and university administration



WHAT WORKED

- Focusing on "Awareness, Education, and Engagement," following the model of the Open Education Network. (See <https://bit.ly/3OoYwft>)
- Owning our expertise
- Building **deep relationships with faculty**
- Leaning into the value of Open Educational Practices for our students from an **equity** standpoint, especially first generation students, students with disabilities, and under-represented minorities.

WHAT WE SHOULD HAVE DONE FROM THE BEGINNING

- Teach faculty authors / editors the basics of **document accessibility** (headers, alt text, etc.) so we didn't have so much to clean up.
- Obtain funding to contract out **editing and accessibility checks**.
- Strongly encourage faculty editors to **make peer review anonymous**
- Communicate more clearly about **timelines** from manuscript to publication
- Join the **Open Education Network** and take advantage of their training materials

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Implement **catalog course marking** to track success
- Campus wide committee** to look at ALL ASPECTS of open education, not just OERs

CONCLUSIONS

- Administrators, instructional designers, and teaching faculty have other competing priorities that often prevent them from leading OER efforts.
- Librarians and libraries have the expertise and resources to lead the way on Open Educational Practices.** We've already led on Open Scholarship. Open Resources are a natural extension of that. And by partnering with faculty on Open Pedagogy, we can create vital, meaningful, impactful Open Education practices that benefit students AND faculty at our institutions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (AKA "It Takes a Village")

Many thanks to the following people, whose efforts have contributed to the success of this initiative.

- The **EKU Board of Regents** for providing seed funding to make this possible and to Dr. **Tom Martin** for encouraging me to apply for their BoR Innovation Grant.
- EKU administrators **President David McFaddin**, **Provost Sara Zeigler**, **Vice Provost Jennifer Wies**, **Library Dean Betina Gardner**, and **Library Dean Julie George**.
- To our innovators, early adopters, and faculty champions, without whom there would be no OER at EKU: **Matthew Winslow**, **Ogechi Anyanwu**, **Josh Farrington**, **Lisa Day**, **Erin Stevenson**, **Jill Parrott**, **Dominic Ashby**, **David Stumbo**, and **James Maples**. Special thanks to instructional designer **Steven Shisley** and **Board of Regents Faculty Representative Dr. Jason Marion**.
- Kentucky library consortial partners **Ilona Burdette**, **Crissy Ross**, and **Laura Delancey**
- And most importantly**, EKU Libraries colleagues **Victoria Koger**, **Laura Edwards**, and **Linda Sizemore**, **Christina Stallard**, and **Melissa Abney**, who have been instrumental in launching and sustaining this program.



REFERENCES AND FURTHER INFO