

# Open Educational Resources (OER) Update

Spring 2021  
Academic Senate Meeting

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Presented by Mark C. Healy  
Chair - Psychology Department  
Faculty OER Coordinator  
De Anza Alum 1986-88

# Overall Trends

- Nationwide Trend: Textbook prices reduced over last four years.
  - Joint result of OER implementation and publishers dropping prices - digital options + cheaper print copies
  - Student spending on course materials down ~**20%** from 2017-18 to 2020-21.
- ASCCC committing millions of dollars and hundreds of people to promote OER. Also UC and CSU initiatives, individual schools, and organizations in every state.
- Movement to REQUIRE low cost or free materials in some high schools and colleges - May be legislative action or local rules.

# OER Trends at De Anza College

- Increase in awareness by faculty, mostly due to increase in available titles/sources.
- New RedShelf option for pricey textbooks.
- According to Mark's PSYC-001 survey, over 60% of students say they must "carefully budget expenses" and appreciate free materials/textbooks.
  - Number One use of money saved: **Buying Food.**
- **Survey of COMM students by Shagun Kaur and Donna Stasio (end of 2020):**
  - 39% of students have skipped buying a book due to cost.
  - 25% have shared a book due to cost.
  - 15% believe they earned a lower grade due to not buying a required book.
- De Anza community is considered to be a mature, longtime OER advocate with strong administrative support.
- Will be participating in nationwide study of "open pedagogy" with Achieving the Dream (non-prof), conducted by SRI.

# Trends at De Anza (cont.)

## Student Usage - Spring Quarter:

2018 - 4,577

2019 - 5,983

2021 - 11,649

\*\*\*Number of student (overall count) required to access free or low-cost text and/or course materials. Zero-cost represents 55% of total for Spring 2021.

- Heavy OER Users at De Anza:
  - Astronomy -Over last several years, **Number One** most impactful department in reducing student material costs!
  - Computer Information Sciences (CIS)
  - Geology
  - Humanities
  - Environmental Studies/Science (ES/ESCI)
  - Psychology

## Benefits realized by DA faculty OER users

- Ownership of discipline knowledge - Imagine content that truly fits your content knowledge and pedagogy!
- No more “I can’t get the book yet.”
- Students appreciate the difference.
- Freedom to focus student learning - Better alignment with SLOs
- Increased richness and variety in auxiliary content
- Social justice and equity - Lowers cost of education for all of your students, with greater impact at lower income levels.

# For your consideration...

- Do you know how much your text/materials cost?

<b>Print</b>
\$194.85 New
\$146.15 Used
<b>Digital</b>
\$44.99 RedShelf (180 Days ) Digital Rights

<b>Print</b>
\$178.25 New
\$133.70 Used
<b>Digital</b>
\$39.99 RedShelf (180 Days ) Digital Rights

- May require a bit more work to implement, *but isn't it worth it?*
- Support one's progressive credentials.
- Should institutions intervene with faculty requiring the most expensive texts/materials?

# Get Started!

- Staff Development Training: Friday, 6/11, 10-11am
- Affordable Texts section of DA Website
- [healymark@fhda.edu](mailto:healymark@fhda.edu)