Open Educational Resources REPORT

Open Educational Resource (OER)



The MSSU 2018 – 2019 Strategic Strategy sub goal (2.c) initiative seeks to facilitate training that will enable faculty and staff to create courses that adopt high quality and affordable academic learning materials by replacing proprietary textbooks with Open Educational Resources (OER) task force. Over the next five years the Open Educational Resource (OER) committee will lay the groundwork to achieve the institution wide strategic sub goal of implementing these resources with at least a 30% adoption rate across campus. The baseline for achievement will be based on courses using Open Educational Resources and the cost savings initiative below will be measured beginning in the spring semester 2019. The following definitions were developed by the committee:

BASELINE - Fall 2018

The inaugural meeting of the Open Education Resources (OER) was held on December 7, 2018. At this meeting our vision and mission was to address and implement MSSU's Strategic Plan Sub-Goal 2.c.

The Committee's baseline data was gathered for the 2018 fall semester. This baseline data is the measurement of the behavior taken before interventions were started. This baseline data has allowed the committee to compare the ongoing efforts to implement the Strategic Plan's sub-goal

Sections with No Cost textbook material for students





No Cost Educational Resources

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 re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge (Open Educational Resources. The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation).





Low Cost Educational Resources



The growing cost of higher education is a major issue for students, families, and colleges. Tuition has more than doubled over the past 30 years, and three-quarters of all graduates struggle with loan debt. MSSU has a current contract with VitalSource that uses a digital platform to distribute e-textbooks. The use of VitalSouce allows our institution easy access and ensures that students have the content they need for learning the first day of class at affordable prices. In most cases e-textbooks are offered at a fraction of the cost of a printed textbook. An example: the cost of the LE 225 textbook at a list price of \$174.95 and is offered on VitalSource for \$23.16. This service includes firstday access to the student without an access code. The bookstore is involved in providing this option for the students.



Substantial Saving Educational Resources

E-textbooks with the benefits of rich, engaging digital content deployed within the BlackBoard Learning Management System. This option provides substantial savings for the student (VitalSource and publishers).





Student Impact

Since the beginning of the committee's inception we have promoted and implemented avenues by which MSSU's faculty have been introduced and adopted Open Education Resources (OER) in their courses. The impact on students has been substantial. NOTE: a student constitutes an enrollment in a course that uses OER.



Observations



The Spring 2020 Semester (COVID) has created a huge jump in the use of e-textbooks and publisher content to engage students. This results in a cost-saving for students.



The student impact number of 966% increase seems phenomenal. In actuality it is an indication that we have been facilitating a paradigm shift in digital delivery of course material.

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Created by Diana Fordha. Greg Needham shared the bookstore data that is used in this report.