What You Need to Know About Open Education Resources

In Fall of 2013, we reminded readers that Open Education Resources (OERS)--works licensed to allow others to retain, reuse, revise, remix and redistribute their content for educational purposes (the 5Rs)--were viable alternatives to proprietary textbooks. Since then support for and use of OERs has increased significantly. On the legislative front, the Every Student Succeeds Act (PL 114-95), passed in December of 2015, permits states and local education agencies to channel block-grant money focused on technology toward open materials. Earlier that year, in October, Senator Dick Durbin and others introduced in Congress the Affordable College Textbook Act (S.2176/H.R.3721). This bill aims to reduce college textbook costs by offering grant money to support OER pilot programs on campuses. On the NJ front, two bills dealing with open education resources (OERs) have been presented to the NJ legislature in the 2016-17 session (A2653; S2619). The effect of either passing would be to require Stockton to develop a plan to make OERs available to students. Additionally, eight other states either have passed or are considering legislation that concerns textbooks costs and OERs.

On NJ campuses, Rutgers announced an initiative called the Open and Affordable Textbooks project (OAT) in which “all full- and part-time Rutgers faculty can apply for a grant to design or redesign a course using open access or library subscription resources instead of an expensive textbook.” Rutgers also joined the Open Textbook Network (OTN), a group of U.S. and Canadian...
TWO NEW DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Stockton Performing Arts Center

To coincide with the Stockton Performing Arts Center’s 40th Anniversary, the Digital Preservation Team is happy to announce their newest digital collection: The Stockton Performing Arts Center Digital Collection. Featuring over 300 hundred digitized items, the collection is full of photographs, posters, programs, catalogs and other materials from 1976 to present day. Each item highlights performances on the Performing Arts Center (PAC) stage or sponsored by the PAC.

The Digital Preservation Team worked closely with Suze DiPetro, Susan Allen and Maryjane Briant to ensure that the digital collection would be up and running in time for the campus wide press release e-mail regarding the Stockton Performing Arts Center 40th Anniversary Fundraiser, which included a link to the PAC Digital Collection. We hope those who visit the PAC Digital Collection can recall all the joy and fond memories of their favorite performances and events just by browsing through the collection of fascinating items.

Stockton Now

Stockton Now, the official Stockton University E-Zine, is now available to view on the Stockton University Library Digital Collections website. The Preservation Team has gathered all the digital editions published since 2010, totaling 20 publications so far. New editions will be added as soon as they are released.

-Stephanie Sussmeier, MLIS, Technical Library Assistant
LIBRARIANS CREATED LIBGUIDE TO HELP PROMOTE ELO:

At the request of Carra Hood, Assistant Provost for Program and Planning, a team of librarians including Kerry Chang FitzGibbon, Patricia Fazio, Natalie Wadley and Jian Wang volunteered to create a LibGuide as a resource for the ELO website. The team discussed the contents and worked on the project. Natalie was most helpful in creating the landing page. Each librarian “adopted” categories, and worked on finding resources pertinent to the 10 ELOs.

The ELO LibGuide is now complete and it can be previewed at http://library.stockton.edu/ELO/Resources

The team will continue to monitor the LibGuide, and update the resources as needed. The ELO website will include the library’s LibGuide link.

ALTMETRICS: A NEW WAY FOR SCHOLARS TO SEE WHO’S SHARED THEIR WORK

As more people share and save content online, it was only a matter of time before organizations found a way to track the movement of scholarly content. The name for this kind of sharing is alternative metrics. Alternative because the traditional measures of research quality and impact are usually determined by high citation numbers (other scholars citing your articles) or publication in journals with a high impact number. While Altmetric numbers are not solid evidence of scholarly influence, it is an interesting feature to see where your article has been shared. Thank you to Professors Avery and Bonnan who graciously allowed me to show their articles. Click on the articles to see additional information.

The article above, “Does who votes matter?” by Professor James (Mac) Avery, has 49 shares. The following article, “A new basal sauropod from the pre-Toarcian Jurassic of South Africa” by Professor Matthew Bonnan and colleagues, has 73 shares.

Common sites that Altmetrics tracks are blogs, news outlets, Facebook, Twitter, Mendeley (personal database for articles), and Wikipedia. Altmetrics data also appears in our library databases.

- Patricia Fazio, Electronic Resources Coordinator
THE LIBRARY PRESENTS:

**Spotlight on Stockton University Librarians at the 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.**

Jian Wang, Head Cataloguer, and Kerry Chang FitzGibbon, Periodicals Librarian at Stockton Library presented their poster, “Under the Spotlight: Technical Services Professionals in Assessment”, at the 2016 American Library Association Annual Conference, in Orlando, Florida. The poster illustrated how the Technical Services librarians at Stockton Library spear-headed assessment activities in their library and blossomed. Their participation and contribution to the library-wide assessment projects have led to positive changes, including the creation of collaborative learning spaces, cost effective collection management, student-centered resources, all of which aligned with the institutional mission and goals.

The poster was very well received by ALA Conference goers. Many of them were very interested and asked a variety of questions. They wanted more details on various assessment projects presented, how they could adopt some of the assessment projects and some were even keen on the outcome or follow-up on a couple of projects.

Bjork Bulletin

**NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**NJLA College and University Section and ACRL New Jersey Chapter**

Their roundtables drew on the group’s experience and put together a bucket list of go to ideas to use for assessing information literacy in a variety of forms from in-face to online. They talked about the types of assessment member libraries are doing and what programs and tools libraries are using to do assessment. The kinds of feedback people are getting from faculty on their assessment efforts was discussed as was what they hope to learn from their assessment.

**2016 Summer IL Workshop: Catching the Information Literacy Wave**

Librarians Eric Jeitner and Christy Goodnight lead round table discussions entitled “What’s in Your Quiver?: Go to Ideas for Information Literacy Assessment” at the ACRL-NJ/NJLA CUS Summer Information Literacy Workshop held at Rutgers University on July 21, 2016.
SOUND & SILENCE EXPERIMENT IN THE LIBRARY:

Two librarians, **Christy Goodnight** and **Eric Jeitner**, are conducting a study of students and study environments. The study will investigate whether low-level, ambient sound (or “white noise”) has an effect on usage of library study spaces. Would white noise in a study area attract or repel students? Would some students deliberately seek out such an environment? Having previously written on the value of silence in academic library study spaces, the librarians expanded their examinations beyond the binary considerations of “silence vs. noise,” to include other degrees of ambient noise and its potential appeal to students.

The “ambient noise zone” is created using a digital noise generator, which is set up in one of the library’s quiet-study areas. Signage posted in this area explains that the sound is deliberate and part of an ongoing study. The ambient noise zone remains in effect for approximately 4 weeks, after which it relocates to another quiet-study portion of the library for another 4-week period. Ultimately, the ambient noise zone will cycle through a total of 4 locations in the library. Throughout the duration of the study, the librarians are tracking seating occupancy in all four areas, and counts of these areas are made at regular intervals during the day. The aim is to determine if usage of the study areas changes with the presence or absence of the noise generator.

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**What You Need to Know About Open Education Resources, continued:**

institutions that are encouraging their faculty members to use OERs. Passaic County Community College, in August, began a pilot project in which twenty-two professors re-developed eight honors courses to use only OERS; these courses were in eight different subjects. Members of the VALE library consortium will hear reports on both projects at its June Member’s Council meeting. We’ll keep you posted!

~Joe Toth, Library Director
EXHIBITS:

August 4th—Sept. 29th:
Your Voice, Your Choice:
Your Vote Matters 2016 by Bjork Library Exhibits team.

January/February:
TBD

For further information or scheduling an exhibit or display, contact Christy Goodnight, Outreach Librarian, Exhibits and Displays Team Leader at ext. 5502 or via email.

“Alabama’s got me so upset
Tennessee makes me lose my rest
and everybody knows about Mississippi, goddam”

-Alabama 350

The library is currently hosting the acclaimed exhibit “A Time for Change: Civil Rights in South Jersey.” John O’Hara, associate professor of Critical Thinking and First Year Studies at Stockton, headed the project as the exhibition director working Michelle McDonald, assistant provost, the co-curator and Dorrie Papademetriou, exhibit designer. Other collaborators include Ralph Hunter, director of AAHMSNJ; Robert Gregg, dean of General Studies; Kirsten DiPatri, on staff of GENS and a graduate research assistant; and over 20 graduate and undergraduate students over the past 2 years. The exhibit includes information on the first Miss Black America pageant in 1968, the origins of Martin Luther King Day that same year, and racial conflicts in both Camden and Newark as well as how they fit into the larger context of a national movement. The exhibit was funded by a grants from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and the Stockton University 2020 Initiatives with additional support provided by the School of Arts & Humanities and School for General Studies. The exhibit will run through Dec. 15th in the library and then move to it’s permanent home in the African-American Heritage Museum (AAHMSNJ) in Newtonville, NJ. More information can be found in Stockton Now and the Stockton Times.