

## State and Legislative OER Panel

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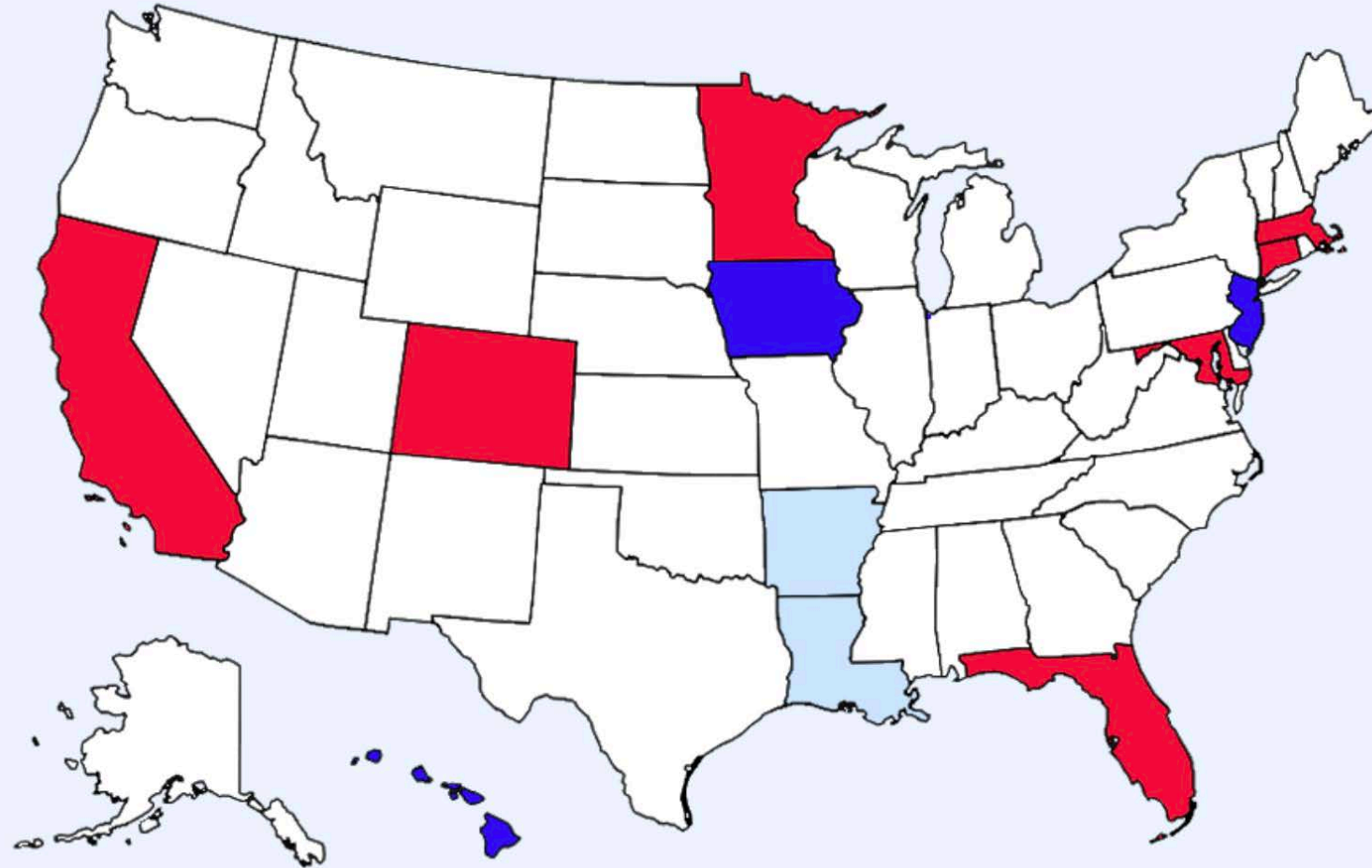
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# “State and Legislative OER Panel”

Meg Brown-Sica, Karen Danielson Ph.D., Brittany Dudek,  
Bruce Herbert Ph.D., Lily Todorinova

# OER Legislation Map



-  Existing state policies.
-  No OER related legislation passed.
-  Existing OER policies and pending legislation/ activity in 2018.
-  No current policies and pending legislation/activity in 2018.

\* Based in Sparc State Policy Tracker

# Common Themes

- Grant programs.
- Identification of courses.
- Support for the development of content for large enrollment courses.
- Creation of state OER cooperative structure.

## POPULAR RESOURCES

## OER State Policy Tracker

Open Education

**Stay up to date on OER policy in your state**

SHARE



Open educational resources (OER) has increasingly become a go-to strategy for legislators seeking to make college education more affordable and effective. Nearly half of all U.S. states have considered OER legislation in past years, and the trend is likely to continue. Given the increasing activity at the state level, SPARC is expanding the support we provide to our members in this arena.

This page is updated weekly, and tracks the latest state-by-state policy activity relevant to the SPARC community, along with policies enacted in past years. SPARC's state policy tracking is done in conjunction with [Foresight Law + Policy](#), and a full dataset of legislation tracked since 2015 is [published in GitHub](#). Note that page is for tracking purposes only and being listed does not imply endorsement. For information about SPARC's policy positions, visit our [Policy & Advocacy](#) page. Check

# Textbook and OER Legislation in New Jersey

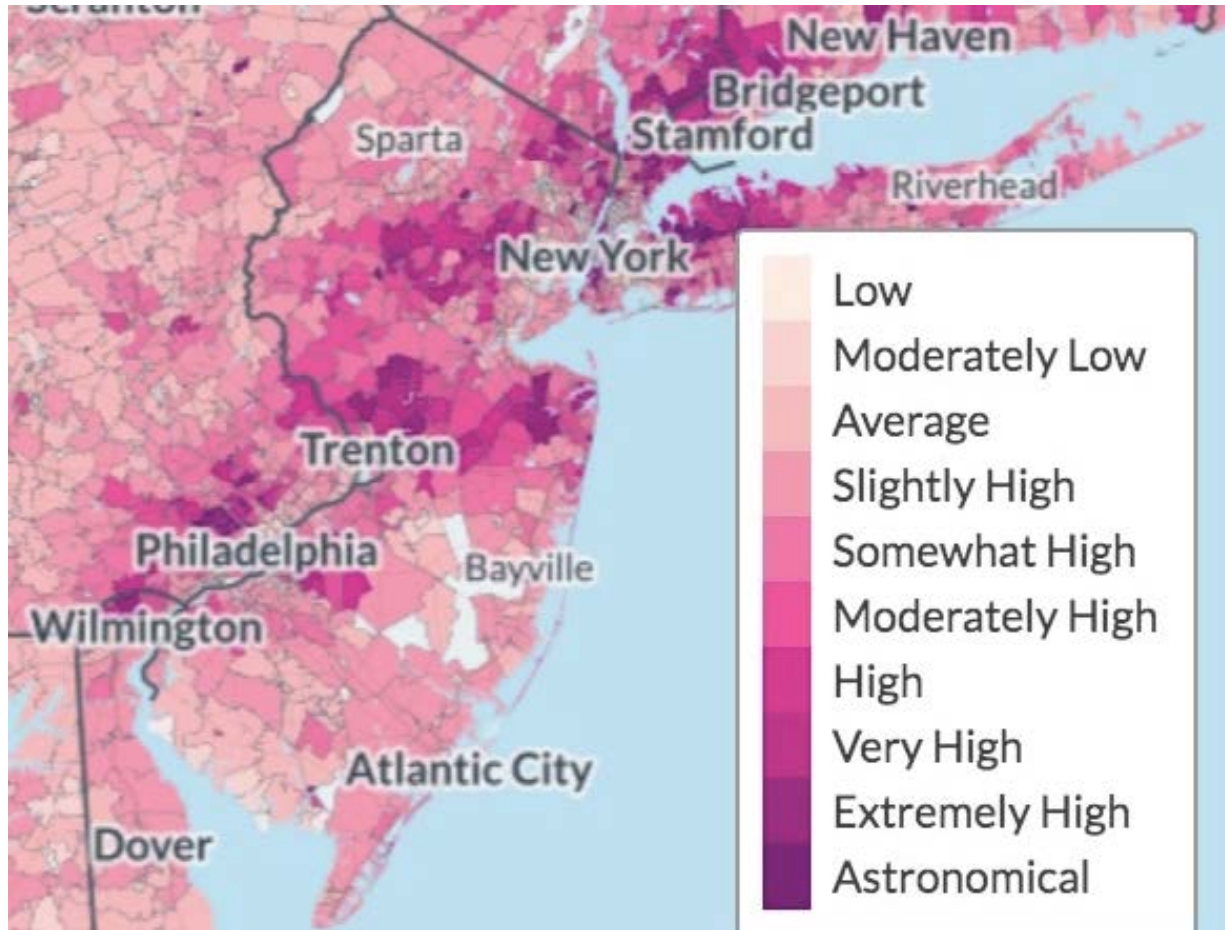
Lily Todorinova, Open and Affordable Textbook  
Program

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

## Overview

- NJ ranks 9th in the nation in student loan debt
- Student homelessness on the rise
- Food pantry initiatives
- 10 bills aimed at reducing higher education costs are currently being considered; 4 of them address open educational resources





Map of student loan burden in NJ. Source: [Mapping Student Debt](#)



# A-327, A-1149, A-3254, S-768

- Require colleges/universities in NJ to come up with an actionable, assessable plan to offer open textbooks and other digital resources that would both ensure a quality education and deliver savings to students
- S-768 has passed the house unanimously
- Actions can start as early as 2019 Spring Semester, or up to July 1, 2020
- Public and private colleges are affected (except Princeton)
- In addition to expanding the use of OER, bookstores will be required to buy back textbooks at 50% original cost
- Next steps: consolidate bills into one plan

Closer look: A-327 (to take effect in July 2020)

- Submit report to Senate Higher Education Committee regarding 1) extent of use of OER, 2) number and kind of OER created 3) savings 4) impact
- “produce the **highest quality** open textbooks that can be **most easily utilized and adapted** by faculty members at the institution, and correspond to the **highest enrollment courses** at the institution”

# State of Texas Open Educational Resources Initiatives

Dr. Bruce Herbert, Director  
([beherbert@tamu.edu](mailto:beherbert@tamu.edu))

Office of Scholarly Communications  
University Libraries

Except where otherwise  
noted...



**LIBRARIES**  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

# Texas OER Grant Program

- Up to \$5,000 for applications that propose to adopt, modify, redesign, or create one course that will use only open educational materials
- Up to \$10,000 for applications that propose to adopt, modify, redesign, or create multiple courses.
- The THECB anticipates awarding approximately **twenty grants** under this project for the biennium ending August 31, 2019.



# Texas OER Grant Program

- **Adopt, modify, redesign, or create** one or more courses at the institution using only OER
- Only lower-division courses offered within the Texas General Education Core Curriculum are eligible this round
- Extra points for a course with proven substantial enrollments offered on a recurring semester basis
- Eligible projects will include a description of where the resources will be housed, maintained, and electronically accessible to faculty and students across the state.



# Grant Program Performance Measures

- Number of students who have completed the course
- Estimated amount of money saved
- Number of other faculty who adopted the curriculum
- Comparative impact on student grades
- Comparative impact on drop/withdraw rates



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:5th\\_Floor\\_Lecture\\_Hall.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:5th_Floor_Lecture_Hall.jpg) (CC BY-SA)

# The Role of the Texas A&M Library

- Programs: Adopt, Adapt, and Create
- Repository
- Unresolved Issue: Response across the curriculum
- Campus Need: Other funding opportunities
  - Local
  - Federal
  - Nonmonetary



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@drbruceherbert

# **OER related legislation in Colorado**



# SB 258 (2017) Preamble

- General assembly finds instructional materials have risen to exorbitant levels.
- These costs may be a barrier to education, especially for low-income students.
- These barriers keep some students from taking as many courses as they could or graduating.
- Therefore it is appropriate for the state to take some action to address these issues

# Definition of OER in 2017 Legislation

- High-quality teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits free use or repurposing by others.
- May include resources that are legally available and available to students for free or very low cost.
- May include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, faculty-created content, streaming videos, tests, software, and other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

# Action

- Created council, mix of faculty, librarians, technology and instructional designers, administrators.
- Required to solicit input from various groups such K12, Higher Ed, students, publishers and bookstores.
- The group hired a consultant through WCET who had experience working on legislation in North Dakota.
- The council worked with the consultant to execute a survey and develop a report with recommendations.

# HB18-1331 (2018)

- Based on recommendations from the legislative council.
- \$660,000
- Created another oer council which will:
  - Create and maintain a website that will link to OER created and curated.
  - Facilitate professional development to support the creation and adoption of OER.
  - Report annually to the legislature.

# Grant Program

- Organization OER group.
- Provide information about how students can identify which courses use OER.
- Identify how the program will be staffed, evaluated and sustained.
- Adopted and created materials must be shared with the broadest possible license and made accessible to the public in a repository.

# CSU Activities

- Programs for faculty
- Affordability Task Force/Provost
- OER related presentation at fall leadership retreat.
- Adoptions Geology, Math, Economics, etc.
- Still struggling with resources and level of support.



# OER Initiatives & Milestones

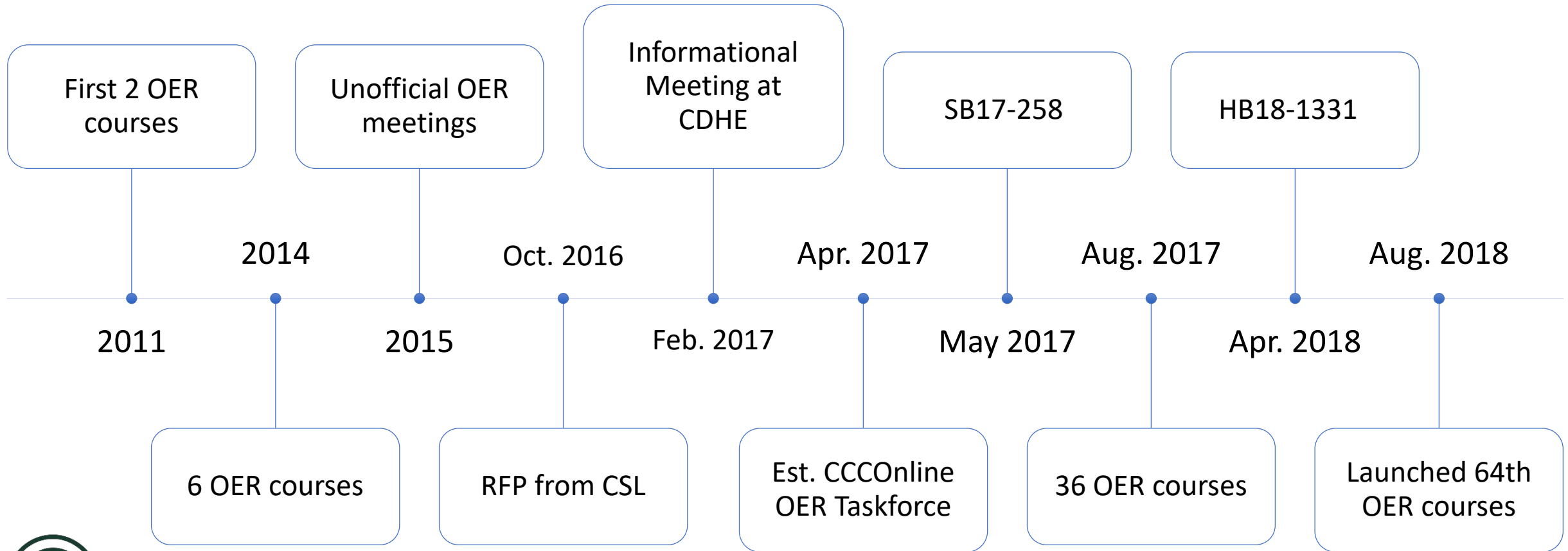
Brittany Dudek

Library Coordinator

Colorado Community Colleges Online

[brittany.dudek@cccs.edu](mailto:brittany.dudek@cccs.edu)

# 2011-2018 OER Milestones





# Future of OER @ CCCOnline

- Associates in Arts with Designation in Early Childhood Education
  - Ambitious goal: Fall 2019

# OER Initiatives at the Community College of Denver and Auraria Campus

Dr. Karen Danielson

[Karen.Danielson@ccd.edu](mailto:Karen.Danielson@ccd.edu)

Chair, Visual Arts and Associate Professor of Art History

# The Community College of Denver and OER

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- Pockets of grassroots initiative pre-2018
  - Math
    - Innovation Grant (\$95,000) from CCCS
    - HSI STEM Sirviendo Grant (\$36,000)
  - Art History
    - Early Faculty Learning Community for OER

# The Community College of Denver and OER

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- Expanding Faculty Learning Communities for OER
  - English
  - Biology
  - Business Law
    - High level of adjunct participation
- OER Steering Committee to commence FA18
  - 2 FT faculty, 2 adjunct faculty, an academic dean, an instructional designer, a student government representative, a librarian, and an Instructional Technology expert.



# The Community College of Denver and OER

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- OER Steering Committee to commence FA18
  - 2 FT faculty
  - 2 adjunct faculty
  - An academic dean
  - An instructional designer
  - A student government representative
  - A librarian
  - An Instructional Technology expert

# The Auraria Library and other OER on Campus

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- **Auraria Library:**

- Professional development efforts from CCD and MSU Denver have increased OER consultation requests
- Hosting (with other libraries) Colorado Open Scholars Series
  - Focusing on OA journals and the ramifications of their use for tenure
- New director Cinthya Ippoliti with deep knowledge and experience in OER!

# The Auraria Library and other OER on Campus

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- **Metro State University:**

- Center for Teaching Excellence has scheduled a series of OER conversations
- Created an OER steering committee

- **University of Colorado Denver:**

- Thingstudio will facilitate the use of OER and other Open Education initiatives
  - Quarterly Thingstudio/Library gatherings
- Part of the CU System OER steering committee

Thank You

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# Q & A

Possible questions:

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- What do you see as the most helpful initiatives or aspects of initiatives happening in your state?
- What do you see as the least helpful initiatives or aspects of initiatives happening in your state?
- If you were giving advice to a state or national government in regards to supporting OER, what would it be?
- Are there large initiatives or legislation that are not in your state that you think are particularly successful or effective?
- What sorts of resources would help support efforts at your institution?
- What kind of resources is your institution allocating to OER?
- Why do you think OER is important?
- How do you feel OER compares to other techniques to make course materials more affordable such as a class fee method?