Becoming Librarian OER Advocates & Leaders: Spotlight on the SPARC Open Education Leadership Fellows

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Abstract
Presentation given at the 15th Annual Open Education Conference in Niagara Falls, New York.

Keywords
SPARC, OER, Open Educational Resources

Disciplines
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Spotlight on the SPARC Open Education Leadership Fellows

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Hello!

Christopher Barnes - @BookBarnes
Amanda Larson - @maeverawr
Hope Power - @hopepower
Stephanie Quail - @stephaniequail
What did the SPARC OER Leadership program look like?
First Semester: The Building Blocks

- 8 foundational modules plus in-person meeting at 2017 Open Ed conference
- Modules included:
  - Weekly readings & videos
  - Discussion questions & responses
  - Creation of blog/vlog posts
  - Additional exercises to prepare for capstone project

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Second Semester: Pulling it all Together

- Built on content from first semester to design & execute a capstone project
  - Paired with mentor
  - Participated in discussions
  - Attended 2 online meetings

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How did we make it all work?

Tools
The Components

Slack
- Weekly discussions
- General Chat
- Link Drops for Assignments
- Private Messaging

Google
- Google Docs
- Google Groups
- Google Drive

OER Textbook
- Weekly readings
- Co-Editing
- Videos
- Worksheets
3 Outcomes
Overall Experience and Capstones
Chris

- Hired to expand library support for open education
- Began SPARC program 2-months after starting at Gettysburg College in July 2018
- Only librarian from a liberal arts college in pilot cohort

OER & the liberal arts college context
Key Questions

○ What is different about supporting OER in the context of a liberal arts college?

○ What is the level of awareness and support for OER among faculty and administrators at Gettysburg?

○ How many Gettysburg faculty were interested in or already using OER?
Open @ Gettysburg

- Active OA/OER advocacy and outreach by library since 2012

- The Cupola: Scholarship at Gettysburg College

- ~10 faculty used/using OER or zero-cost resources

- 50 Open VIPs among faculty
Beyond Intro OER

- Faculty already adopting OpenStax and OpenIntro textbooks
- No obvious OER available for many non-intro courses
- No formal support for faculty adapting or creating OER
Capstone Project

- Design a pilot OER grant program suitable to Gettysburg College
- Provide support mainly for courses beyond intro level
- Focus on adaptation and creation
- Mentor: Sarah Hare, Indiana University (Davidson College)
Community Resource

_Piloting Faculty OER Grant Programs:_
_A Practical Guide for Librarians_

- Questions to consider
- Open pedagogy resources
- Proposal for pilot OER grant program w/ rationale

_Kind of courses matter more than kind of school_
Amanda

- Failure is an option
  - You can’t control everything
  - Agility is integral
  - Strategies for Pivoting
- Pressbooks
  - Coming Soon!
- [https://tinyurl.com/OEROutreach](https://tinyurl.com/OEROutreach)
Hope

- Teaching & Learning Librarian at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Burnaby, BC
- Coordinate Library support for open education initiatives on campus – including the SFU OER Grants program
Hope

Capstone Project (Part 1):
Worked with colleagues from the Library, Teaching & Learning Centre (TLC) and Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) to establish a new OER working group on campus

Establishing an OER Working Group on campus
Hope

Capstone Project (Part 2):
Collaborated with working group members to develop programming to highlight, celebrate and build on OER successes achieved at our institution to date

Organizing a community event to highlight OER initiatives on campus
What’s Next?

Long-term goals for this working group are to raise awareness, develop support and build capacity for OER adoptions at our institution by sharing information and coordinating efforts among key campus stakeholders.
Stephanie

**Current state:** Business Librarian at York University in Toronto, Canada

**Future state:** York University Libraries is going through organizational redesign

- In 2019, my work will be in OER and eLearning
Stephanie’s Capstone

**Overarching Goal:** Develop greater knowledge of open education issues among librarians, archivists, & library staff at York University
How did I get there?

**Original plan:**
(1) Survey; (2) Interviews; (3) Tailored workshops

**Actual plan:**
(1) Tailored department presentations;
(2) Report to Library’s senior leadership

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Presentation Snapshot

- SPARC Open Ed Leadership program
- Higher Ed & Student Debt
- OER 101
- Open Licensing
- OER Support Models
- Open Pedagogy

Photo by Marco Bianchetti on Unsplash
Link to all capstone projects


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Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

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