

AUSTRALASIAN OEP SIG DIGEST

2021 MARCH EDITION

Curated by Ash Barber, Jennifer Hurley, Nikki Andersen, Alice Luetchford, members of the Australasian OEP-SIG, and selected content from SPARC's OEP Digest. This digest is sponsored by ASCILITE.

Australasian news

- **Universities Australia's Learning and Teaching Repository** is a relatively new cross-institutional collection of Australian learning and teaching research. The Repository holds over 1,000 reports and related resources, including templates and links to project websites developed through Australian university partnerships, much of it funded under the auspices of the Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) and its predecessor bodies.
- **CSIRO** moves towards Open Access for national benefit, thanks to a new transformative agreement between CSIRO Publishing and CAUL member institutions. Read more in CSIRO's latest [news statement](#).
- **The University of Southern Queensland** has adapted OpenStax's Anatomy and Physiology text to suit the Australian tertiary curriculum. The Australian edition is titled Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology and includes interactive quizzes, career connections and a comprehensive glossary.
- **Australian Catholic University** has released an exemplary Open Access Policy for research, including meeting F.A.I.R. goals, supporting global infrastructure of OA research and supporting 'effective and appropriate review processes and reproducibility.'
- **Melanie Fillios from the University of New England and Natalie Blake from the University of Sydney** have produced an open text titled Animal Bones in Australian Archaeology, which is an introductory bone identification manual written for archaeologists working in Australia. Thanks to Melanie Fillios for the submission!
- **RMIT** has a new open textbook adoption for Semester 1 2021: Biology 2e for the course Life On Earth, and a new journal article by Frank Ponte, Anne Lennox and Jennifer Hurley: The Evolution of the Open Textbook Initiative.
- **The University of Sydney Library** has produced Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Protocols and has licensed them under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0.

Call for collaboration

The aim of the SIG is to be a space of sharing and collaboration. As such, we are now featuring a call for collaborators section in the digest in hope of fostering institutional collaboration. This month's call for collaboration is from nursing academics at JCU who are interested in collaborating on OERs for first year nursing resources. Please contact Alice.Luetchford@jcu.edu.au for more information.

To put a call out for collaborative opportunities in the next digest, contact us via the details below.

Contact us

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International news

- **Textbook Task Force** takes on the [high costs of learning materials at Temple University](#).
- **The Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA)** Announces Support For the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) with [3-Year Collective Action Agreement](#).
- **Black History Month:** Open education can be used as a tool for combating anti-Black racism. Pressbooks has curated [excellent OER to celebrate Black History Month](#).
- **Happy #OEWeek:** from the OEP Digest team! It's been great to see the many events happening across the globe to promote open education this month!
- **New Survey:** U.S. PIRG released the findings of their latest student survey, [Fixing the Broken Textbook Market](#), Third Edition, on February 23rd. In September, more than 120 student volunteers asked more than 5,000 of their peers at 82 colleges and universities about their textbook buying experiences during the pandemic. Their analysis confirmed that 65% of students reported that they skipped buying textbooks due to their high cost, and 21% skipped access codes - a slight increase from last year. More concerning, however, students who had trouble meeting their basic needs also were struggling to fully participate in class: 38% of food-insecure students had skipped buying an access code.

Professional development opportunities

Conferences and webinars

- **Recording:** [Wellbeing, Disrupted](#): Open education to support a flexible understanding of inclusive wellbeing and Building an online learning community: reframing open educational practice grants as supported professional learning (Day two of Championing the CAUL Digital Dexterity Framework virtual festival program).
- **Recording:** [Using collaboration to understand engagement with OERs](#) (Day four of Championing the CAUL Digital Dexterity Framework virtual festival program).
- **Recording:** In case you missed the 2020 Open Education Conference, you can catch up on [100+ hours of recordings](#) from 250+ sessions.
- **Upcoming:** [Registration](#) is now open for the Cascadia Open Education Summit!
- **Upcoming:** The Michigan OER Network announced the dates for their upcoming summer MI OER Summit, which will take place on August 11th and 12th. Be on the lookout for announcements around proposals and registration, and learn more on their [website](#).
- **Open for submissions:** The upcoming [Florida OER Summit](#), to be held May 13th and 14th, is accepting proposals ranging from lightning talks to longer workshops. Learn more and submit proposals [here](#) by March 21st.
- **Open for submissions:** The Northeast OER Summit is now open for registrations and proposals. This free summit will be held May 24th-26th and is accepting registrations [here](#) until March 21st.

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Professional development opportunities cont.

Readings

- **Frank Ponte** looks at whether [OERs can address teaching and learning challenges in higher education](#).
- **LIBER** has released a [publication](#) on best practices for Library Linked Open Data.
- **Remote teaching:** [Open educational resources for emergency remote teaching – a new paradigm?](#) By Maximiliano Marzetti.
- **OER in tenure and promotion:** Andrew McKinney, OER coordinator at the City University of New York (CUNY), and Amanda Coolidge, director of Open Education at BCcampus in British Columbia, Canada, share the [development of an adaptable matrix](#) to help faculty include OER in their tenure and promotion portfolios.
- **Tackling racism in textbook publishing:** [New guidelines](#) from textbook publisher Pearson aim to dismantle systemic racism in higher ed.
- **Accessibility:** [Accessibility in open educational resources is resilience](#) by Ksenia Cheinman
- **Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association (OASPA)** has released [a major OA Diamond Journals Study](#), emphasising diversity and sustainable pathways for diamond Open Access.
- **ICDE Quality Network report:** [Global Quality Perspectives on Open, Online and Flexible Learning 2020](#).

Podcasts

- Creative Commons has launched a podcast called **Open Minds**. Listen to the [debut episode](#) which feature Creative Commons CEO Catherine Stihler.
- **AOASG** Chair Martin Borchert, AOASG Executive Committee members and Director Ginny Barbour looked back at the extraordinary year that was 2020, presented open access initiatives from a variety of Australian Universities and outlined the group's plans and priorities for 2021 in AOASG's [first webinar](#) of the year.
- **Effie Kapsalis** talks about the history of [Smithsonian Open Access](#) to celebrate one year of Smithsonian Open Access.

Useful resources

- Ageing Better has released a new openly licensed, [age-positive image library](#) that aims to change the "unrealistically positive or negative depictions of people in later life."

Contact us

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New open texts by discipline

Arts and humanities

- [Introduction to Philosophy: Philosophy of Religion](#) by Beau Branson and Christina Hendricks
- [Modern World History](#) by Allosso et al.

Business and management

- [Introduction to Consumer Behaviour](#) by Andrea Niosi
- [Intermediate Microeconomics with Microsoft Excel \(2nd edition\)](#) by Humberto Barreto

Education

- [Self-directed multimodal learning in higher education](#) by Jako Olivier
- [Design for Learning: Principles, Processes, and Praxis](#) by McDonald et al.

Engineering

- [Introduction to Biosystems Engineering](#) by Holden et al.
- [Traffic Flow Theory: An introduction with exercises](#) by Victor Knoop

Health and Wellbeing

- [Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology](#) (Australian edition) by Chruścik et al.
- [Vital Sign Measurement Across the Lifespan](#) (2nd Canadian edition) by Lapum et al

Indigenous Studies

- [On Taungurung Land: Sharing History and Culture](#) by Roy Henry Patterson and Jennifer Jones

Information Technology, Statistics and Mathematics

- [Measure, Integration & Real Analysis](#) by Sheldon Axler
- [The Crystal Ball Instruction Manual Volume One: Introduction to Data Science](#) by Stephen Davies

Sciences

- [Coastal Dynamics](#) by Bosboom et al.
- [Rain or shine: an introduction to soil properties](#) by Tyson Ochsner

Law and politics

- [Traversing the Divide: Honouring Deborah Cass's Contributions to Public and International Law](#) by Kim Rubenstein (ed)
- [Towards Human Rights Compliance in Australian Prisons](#) by Anita Mackay

Have a story to share?

Email [Nikki Andersen](mailto:Nikki.Andersen@usq.edu.au) with the details and we'll ensure you're credited in the Digest.

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