



2023-24 AERC Annual Report

The Affordable Educational Resources Committee is a subcommittee of the Academic Senate. It is desirable to have representation from each Career and Academic Community as well as student membership.

Membership

Andi Adkins-Pogue (Library, chair), Dave Andrews (ANFR), Heather Hutcheson (ELS), Kelsey Ford (ELS), Sandra Carter (ELS), Roy Simpson (SME), Vacant: AME, ACDT, BCS, HHS, SBS, Michael Lawlor (administrator)

Meeting Dates

AERC meets on the second Tuesday of the month during the fall and spring semesters from 2-3 pm. Dates were sometimes adjusted to the first Tuesday when the meeting conflicted with a holiday or finals week.

- 2023 Dates: Sept. 9, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 5
- 2024 Dates: Feb. 13, Mar. 5, Apr. 9, May 7.

Committee Goals

The committee took the following action on goals that were articulated at its September 19, 2023 meeting.

Goal One: Continue to grow ZTC sections so that we reach 80% by Spring 2024 - Ongoing

This was an ambitious goal given that funding for the new incentive program did not arrive as early as the college had hoped. CRC did maintain its high rate of 72% of ZTC sections in both fall 2023 and spring 2024.

Goal Two: Support Math faculty in embedding remediation videos into CRC created OER textbooks - Ongoing

Roy Simpson has continued work in the math department to enhance remixed Open Educational Resource (OER) textbooks for several courses and to create remediation videos and open homework in MyOpenMath. Several members of the math department are actively working to improve and adopt OER. Math is a funded ZTC degree program, which will allow for more work in the coming two years.

Goal Three: Promote and support faculty who want to create and/or adopt ADAPT open homework - Ongoing

AERC did host [a Spring 2024 webinar](#) with the founder of the LibreVerse, Delmar Larson, who provided updates about changes within LibreTexts, Conductor, Studio, and ADAPT. The ASCCC OERI also hosted several webinars that are available in [archived events](#) on their website. Creating open homework will be an opportunity in the new incentive program that will launch in fall 2024. AERC plans to host further webinars and PD events to help faculty understand how to use ADAPT.

Goal Four: Promoting OER Conversion Grants - Pushed to next year

CRC has been awarded several State Chancellor's Office Acceleration ZTC Degree grants, but monies were not received until late in the semester. Details for a new incentive program are being developed and the OER Conversion Grant program will launch in fall 2024.

Goal Five: Recruiting Teams for Open Homework - Incomplete

CRC and Los Rios applied as a sub-awardee under UC Davis for a federal Open Textbook Pilot grant, which would have incentivized faculty to create open homework. Unfortunately, this grant was not awarded. However, plans are in the works to include creation of open homework as a category for the OER Conversion Grant.

Goal Six: Ensure Deans/Administrators/Department Chairs Consider ZTC/OER in Interview Questions (Potentially tied to equity) - Complete

The committee created an internal document that provides prompts related to the ZTC goal and the connection between high textbook costs and student achievement, This was shared with department chairs at their Flex Week meeting and with Deans at a regular leadership meeting.

Goal Seven: ZTC Related Workshops - Complete and Ongoing

The committee hosted several workshops throughout the year, which were recorded and are now available on the [PD page of the ZTC at CRC website](#). There are plans to continue events next academic year. This year's events include:

- [ZTC eForm Information Session](#)
- [Students as Teachers: Using Open Pedagogy for Active Learning](#)
- [LibreTexts Updates for Los Rios](#)
- [MyOpenMath Exploration](#)

Additional Items

In addition to the goals the committee took the following actions:

Sustainability and Institutionalization of Zero Textbook Cost Pathway Efforts through Full-Time Faculty Coordination Resolution

[The Sustainability and Institutionalization of Zero Textbook Cost Pathway Efforts through Full-Time Faculty Coordination Resolution](#) was adopted by the senate at its March 22, 2024 meeting.

Regular Updates to Academic Senate

Announcements related to ZTC and OER and a handful of formal written reports were shared at the academic senate meetings.