OER Resources for Students and Advocates

Student Advocacy for Textbook Affordability

Textbook costs are at an all-time high. One of the most powerful voices towards OER becoming mainstream is YOURS. Students have the ability to reach professors and administrators on a level that others can't, and this can be very effective in the fight to make textbooks more affordable.

The following are groups, websites, and resources that can help you start your own advocacy campaign, or just understand the message better.

**Student Public Research Interest Groups (PRIG) - Make Textbooks Affordable Campaign**
- This group advocates for students on a number of issues, including textbook affordability.
- They can help you start your own local group or you can join them nationally.
- They have made a significant amount of progress towards the proliferation of OER.
- Visit the campaign and see all the resources: [https://studentpirgs.org/campaigns/sp/make-textbooks-affordable](https://studentpirgs.org/campaigns/sp/make-textbooks-affordable)

**OER Student Toolkit - BC Open Ed**
- This toolkit provides information on how interested student societies/associations, as well as individual students, can successfully advocate for greater OER adoption on campus.
- Focused primarily on students in Canada, but can be adapted for any university.
- Read the book: [https://opentextbc.ca/studenttoolkit/](https://opentextbc.ca/studenttoolkit/)

**Websites with Student Materials:**
This is a non-comprehensive list of websites where you can search for OER texts and supplemental materials. Some sites provide excellent student resources.

- **OER Commons** - dynamic digital library and network, K-12 and higher education resources, curated collections
  - Particularly valuable because it will let you search for already created OER and provides you with resources to create your own.
  - [https://www.oercommons.org/](https://www.oercommons.org/)

- **OpenStax** - a nonprofit organization through Rice University, publishes high quality, peer-reviewed openly licensed textbooks that are free digitally and low cost to print.
  - Lots of instructor materials in addition to student materials.
  - Specializes in math, science, social science, humanities, and AP courses.
  - Continually expanding their offerings
  - [https://openstax.org/](https://openstax.org/)

- **BC Open Ed** - a nonprofit organization in British Columbia, Canada
  - Math, science, social science, humanities, and AP courses
  - Student and instructor resources
  - [https://open.bccampus.ca/](https://open.bccampus.ca/)

Not totally sure how to start advocating? Your librarians are here to help you find the resources you need to build an OER campaign. If you don't know where to start, start at the library.