

ALPA NEWSLETTER

September 2020



ALPA News and Events

Bookstore Panel Discussion - Strange Bedfellows? OER and the Campus Bookstore

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 11am

Unsure about how to approach your campus bookstore? Join us for a panel discussion on engaging and working with your bookstore in conjunction with your OER efforts!

Our panel includes librarians and bookstore employees from a variety of PA schools and representing multiple bookstore models. We're going to talk about the relationship they have, how they built their relationship, strategies for working in tandem, and ideas on what you can do. We also want to answer your questions!

Register to join us at:

<https://palci.regfox.com/alpa-webinar-strange-bedfellows-oer-and-the-campus-bookstore>

Pennsylvania's grassroots network moves OER forward

SPARC recently posted an article highlighting the role ALPA plays in promoting and supporting affordable learning throughout Pennsylvania--read the full article at

<https://sparcopen.org/news/2020/pennsylvanias-grassroots-network-moves-oer-forward/>

ALPA Summit wraps up a successful online event

The 2020 ALPA Summit highlighted a range of presentations and panel discussions on affordable learning and open education initiatives throughout the state. If you weren't able to join us live, you can still register at <https://alpasummit.learningtimesevents.org/> to view recordings of all sessions, as well as to access the conference forums.

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OER Specialists updates

The OER Specialists have begun several projects for the upcoming year in support of the ALPA community, including: content creation for the ALPA website, development of OER Specialists draft of services for ALPA community, planning an upcoming ALPA campus partners virtual event (exact date in November to be determined, but lookout for more information in the weeks to come!), and developing methods of support for ALPA consortial members of OEN.

National highlights: OpenStax

During our closing keynote for the 2020 ALPA Summit, OpenStax Managing Director Daniel Williamson shared updates and new projects that will continue to reduce textbook costs and benefit all students. [OpenStax](#), which is a part of Rice University, has saved students more than \$1 billion on textbook costs since 2012. Now, in 2020, OpenStax will continue these efforts by expanding their open textbook collection, revising and updating titles, creating LMS course cartridges compatible with Canvas and Blackboard, and releasing titles as Google Docs this fall. OpenStax is also prioritizing diversity, equity, and inclusion by amplifying student experiences, inviting students to be a part of the process, and doubling its number of Spanish translations.

Williamson also shared about the Free the Textbook campaign from OpenStax, a nationwide initiative calling on college and university leaders, educators, and students to examine automatic billing programs to ensure they are inclusive of ALL students. You can learn more about and join the movement at <https://www2.openstax.org/freethetextbook>.

Do you have an event, program, or other information you'd like highlighted in an upcoming ALPA Newsletter? Send us your submissions via [our online form](#).