

COLORADO'S OER INITIATIVE



Meg Brown-Sica, Spencer Ellis, Tina Parscal, & Jonathan Poritz

January 30, 2019

INTRODUCTIONS

- *Meg Brown-Sica, Assistant Dean for Collections and Scholarly Communication, CSU-Fort Collins*
- *Spencer Ellis, Director of Educational Innovation, Colorado Department of Higher Education*
- *Dr. Tina Parscal, Executive Director, Colorado Community Colleges Online*
- *Dr. Jonathan Poritz, Associate Professor, Math and Director of Center for Teaching and Learning, CSU-Pueblo / OER Council Chair*

AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- What is OER and Why is it important?
- Colorado's OER initiative
- Getting started with OER
- OER in action (Institutional Examples)
- How to get involved?
- Questions & Answers

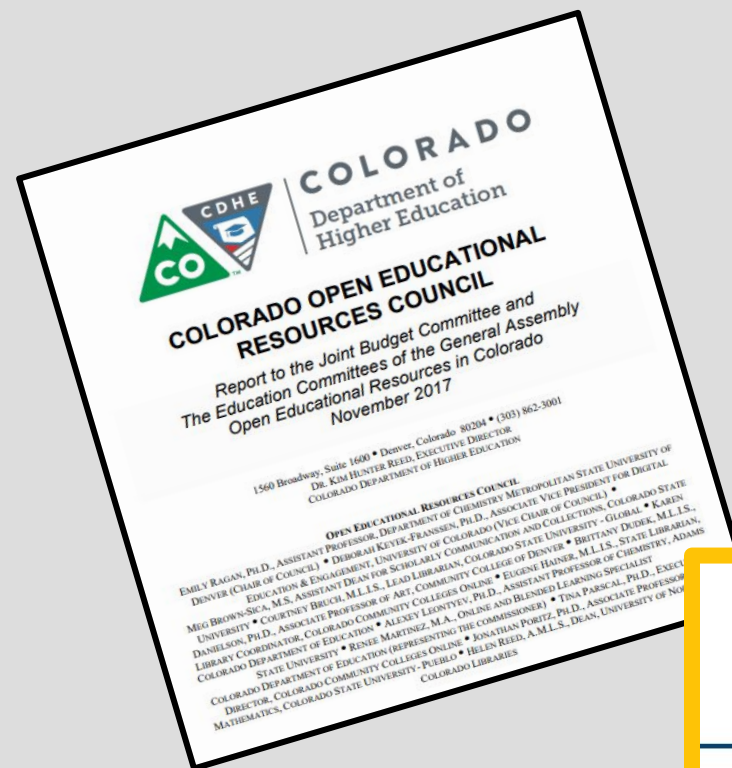
THE WHAT & WHY OF OER



OPEN EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES



COLORADO'S OER INITIATIVE



Second Regular Session | 71st General Assembly

Colorado General Assembly

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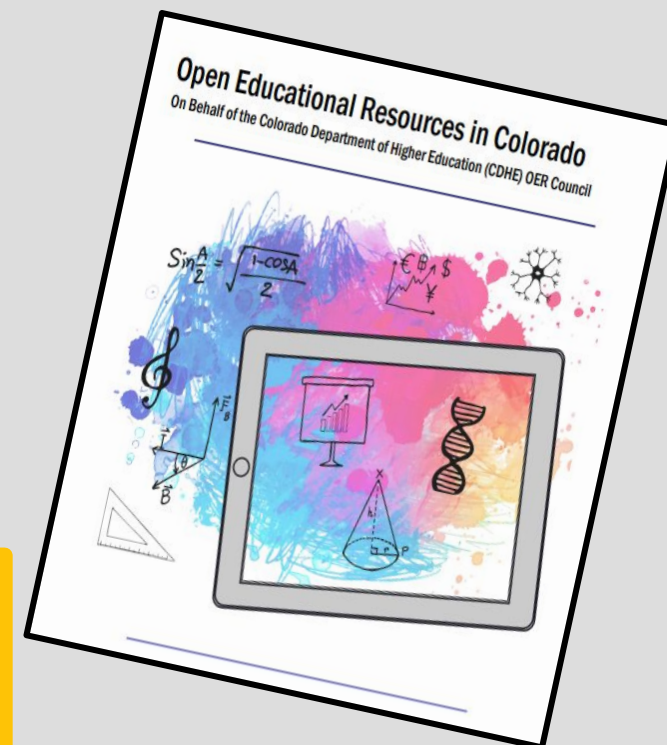
Higher Education Open Educational Resources

Concerning expanding the use of open educational resources at public institutions of higher education, and, in connection therewith, creating the Colorado open educational resources council, creating a grant program to support the creation and use of open educational resources, and making an appropriation.

PRIME SPONSORS

 Representative **Dave Young**

 Representative



Highlights from 2017 Statewide Survey

- *Nearly 90 percent of respondents who took the Solicitation of Individual Input Survey reported that they agreed with the statement “Textbook costs have become a serious affordability barrier to students attending Colorado’s colleges and universities.”*
- *Of the 27 public institutions that returned surveys, 26 indicated that reducing the cost students pay for higher education is a “major” or “moderate” concern to the institution’s board, president and senior administrators.*
- *Comments from participants agree that lowering the cost of education is beneficial to both individual students and Colorado society as a whole.*

90%

“...agree textbook costs have become a serious affordability barrier to students...”

2018 LEGISLATION: HB 18-1331

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SESSION: 2018 Regular Session

SUBJECT: Higher Education

BILL SUMMARY

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Bob Rankin

Senator
Kevin Lundberg

MEET THE 2018 OER COUNCIL

Working Groups

1. State Grant Administration & Sustainability
2. Policy & Reporting
3. Campus Outreach & Implementation
4. Communication & Website Curation



Not in photo: Dr. Ye Li (CSM), Dr. Mark Manzanares (ASU), Ragan Harper (CDE), Spencer Ellis (CDHE), Alana Mitchell (student rep)

COLORADO OER GRANT PROGRAM

Two types of proposals are solicited for an initial round of funding:

Those from public institutions of higher education to support and expand creation, adoption, adaptation and promotion of the use of OER across the institution and among multiple institutions

Institutional Grants ranging from \$10,000-\$99,999

Those from faculty and/or staff of public institutions of higher education, individually or in small groups, to support the creation, adoption, adaptation and promotion of OER for specific courses, disciplines or programs.

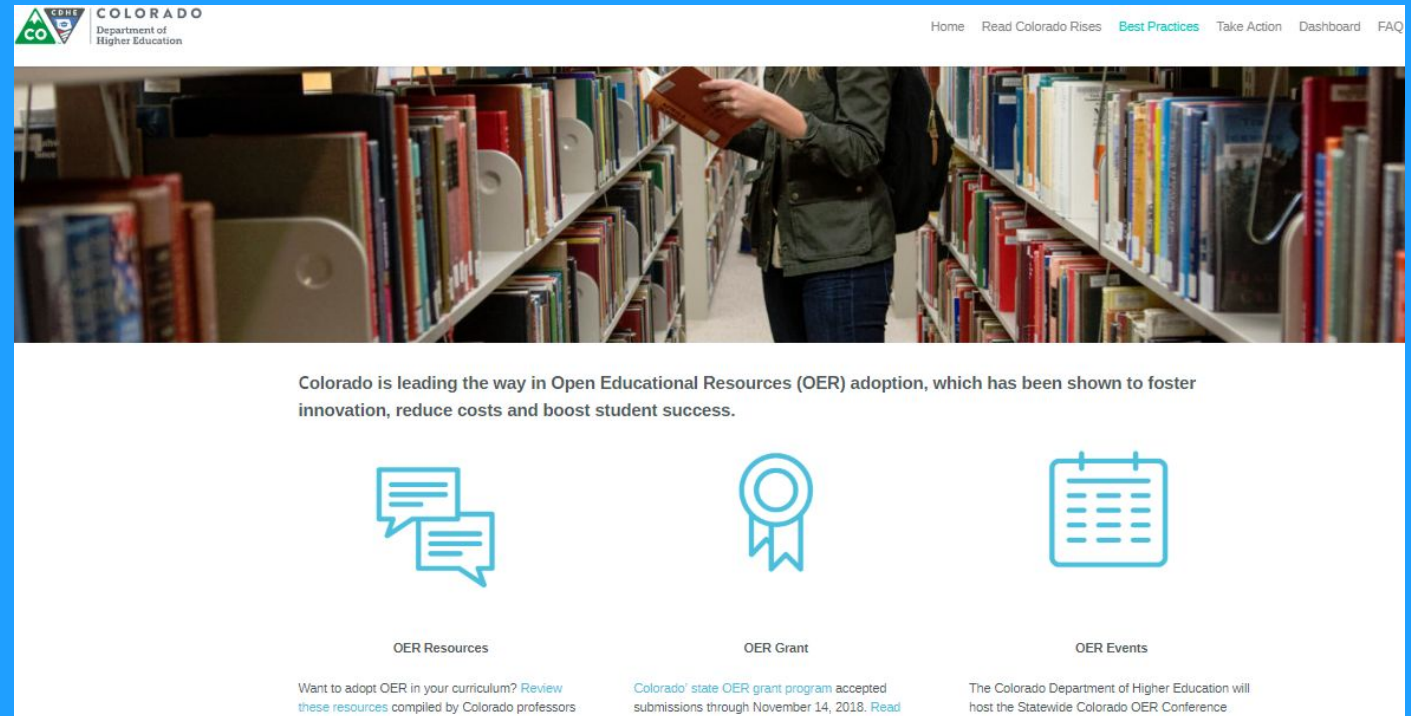
Individual or Small Group Grants ranging from \$250-\$4,999

- Minimization of indirect costs encouraged
- Partial funding and revisions to scope of work or project modification allowable
- Vary slightly for individual and institutional grants; refer to RFP
- Rubric directly reflects selection criteria & sections of proposal
- Emphasis on accessibility and Creative Commons license



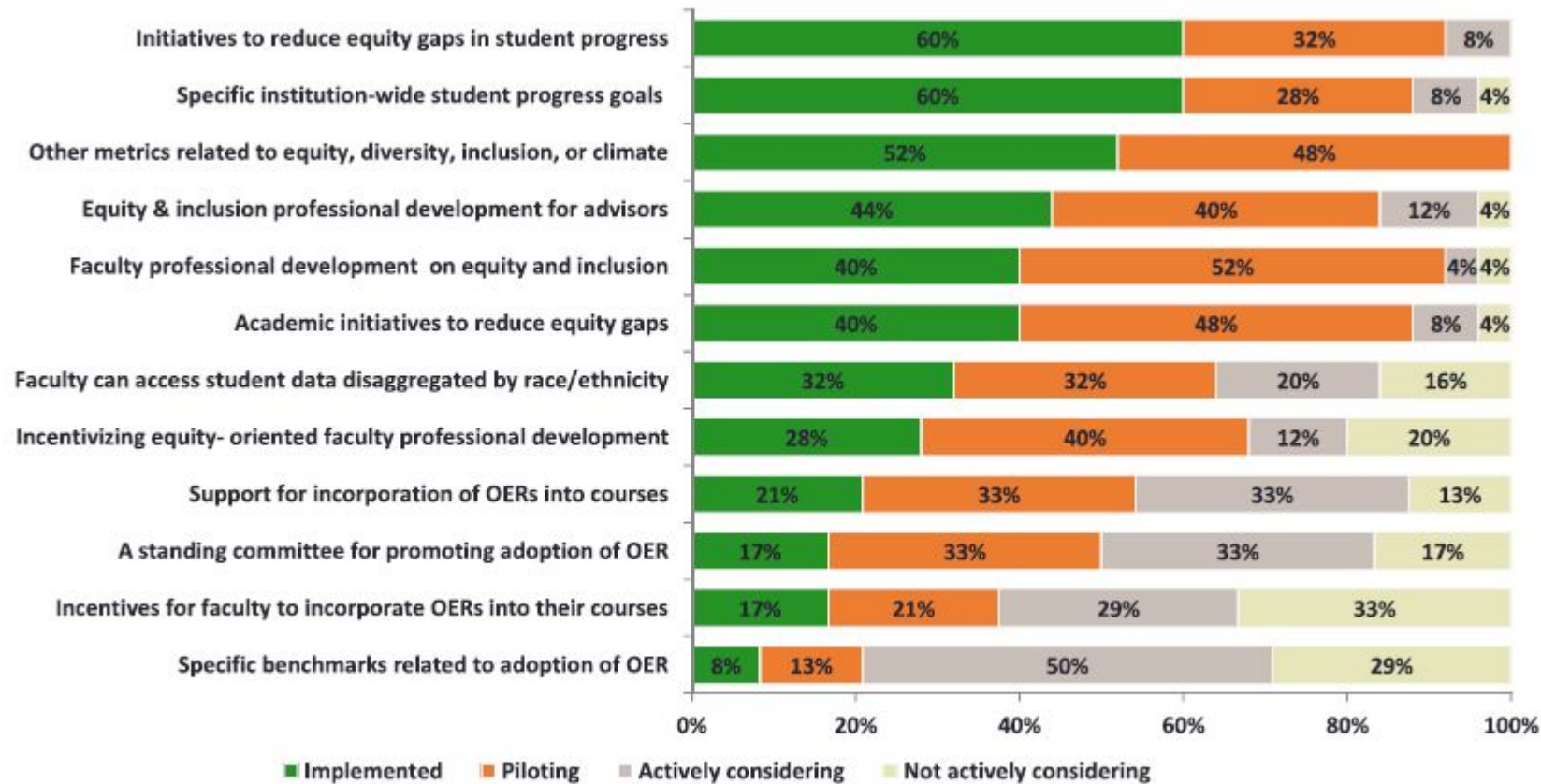
COLORADO OER WEBSITE

- Currently updated with information on Council, OER in Colorado and resources
- Resources include:
 - *Training and 'How To' Materials*
 - *Licensing and accessibility guidelines*
 - *References to existing repositories*
 - *Guides for Creating Content*



Where are we now?

Inclusion & OER

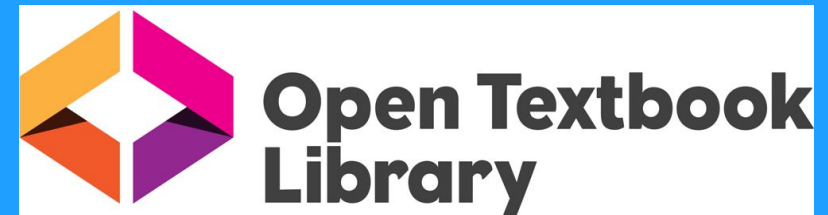


Richard N. Katz & Associates

Where are we going?



OER is just getting starting here in Colorado!



GETTING STARTED WITH OER



Getting Started for Faculty

- Find available materials in your subject area.
- Talk to anyone who works with OER on your campus, librarians, instructional designers, other faculty.
- Identify the courses in your department that have the highest enrollment, highest cost of course materials, and highest DFW rates.
- Discuss the issue at a departmental meeting.
- Invite a faculty member from your campus or another nearby campus who uses OER to discuss it with your department.
- Join the SPARC mailing list/forum to connect with others who use OER in your discipline.

Getting Started for Administrators

- Articulate that implementing OER where appropriate is a goal for the campus through strategic planning, student success initiatives, professional development for faculty, etc.
- Make OER support part of the responsibilities of several key positions in the library, faculty support, and student success.
- Make sure students can easily identify courses which utilize OER when registering.
- Prioritize long term benefits vs. quick fixes.
- Identify resources to support initiatives.

WHERE CAN WE FIND OER?

To reap the benefits of OER, institutions and faculty need either to create their own (under a CC license) or adapt or adopt an existing OER. They can be found on a lot of random individuals' web pages, e.g.,

<http://www.introtoie.com/>

or (thousands? of) others, in small disciplinary collections, e.g.,

<https://aimath.org/textbooks/>

in a few well-known OER **repositories** like

<https://openstax.org/> and

<https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/>

or in a few well-known indices/search tools, e.g.,

<https://www.oercommons.org/> or

<https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>

In short, OER are not hard to find [particularly if you ask for help from a librarian].

OER Organizations

- SPARC: A global coalition committed to making Open the default for research and education.
 - Focus/Benefits: Lists/Forums, Open Education, Open Access Publishing, Open Data, government policy/lobbying, leadership program.
 - Membership: Institutions can become members to support their work but information is freely available.
- OTN/Open Textbook Network/Center for Open Education: Support initiatives that advance open education.
 - Focus/Benefits: List/Forum, hosts and maintains the Open Textbook Library, provides training, publishing support, a yearly summit and active community for member institutions.
 - Membership: Institutions or groups of institutions can become members to support their work and benefit from community.



Others

- Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources
- Rebus Community
- Creative Commons
- United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- ACRL/CJCLS OER Task Force

OER IN ACTION



Colorado State University



CCCOnline

OER IN ACTION

CSU has a long history of developing and using freely available resources and OER.

- Early use of free and open materials:
 - Writing@CSU website (<https://writing.colostate.edu>)/WAC Clearinghouse (1996).
 - GIS materials developed in collaboration with NASA and NSF by Dr. Melinda Laituri in the early 2000s
 - The VCHILL system, developed by Dr. V. Chandrasekar in the late 1990s and early 2000s, which has been widely used at all levels of education to support understanding of radar systems and signal detection
 - Web-based textbooks, developed by Dr. Richard Bowen, used in courses across the biomedical sciences in high school and college
 - Early tutorials developed by Dr. David Fahrney and Dr. Jeffrey Hansen used at and beyond CSU in structural biochemistry courses
- Current Use:
 - CSU has had several key courses that have adopted existing Open Educational Resources for course materials:
 - LIFE 205 (Fall 2017/Spring 2018 enrollment: 135 students)
 - CHEM 111 (1,831 students)
 - CHEM 113 (1,359 students)
 - ECON 202 and 203 (Pilot this semester with potential to move to all sections with a total enrollment of 3,000 students per year.
- Work on campus:
 - Most recently, CSU has worked to increase awareness of OER among faculty, staff, and students by partnering with leading OER organizations, such as the Open Textbook Network and OpenStax, and offering workshops that support the adoption of OER. The OER working group and task force emerged from these efforts.

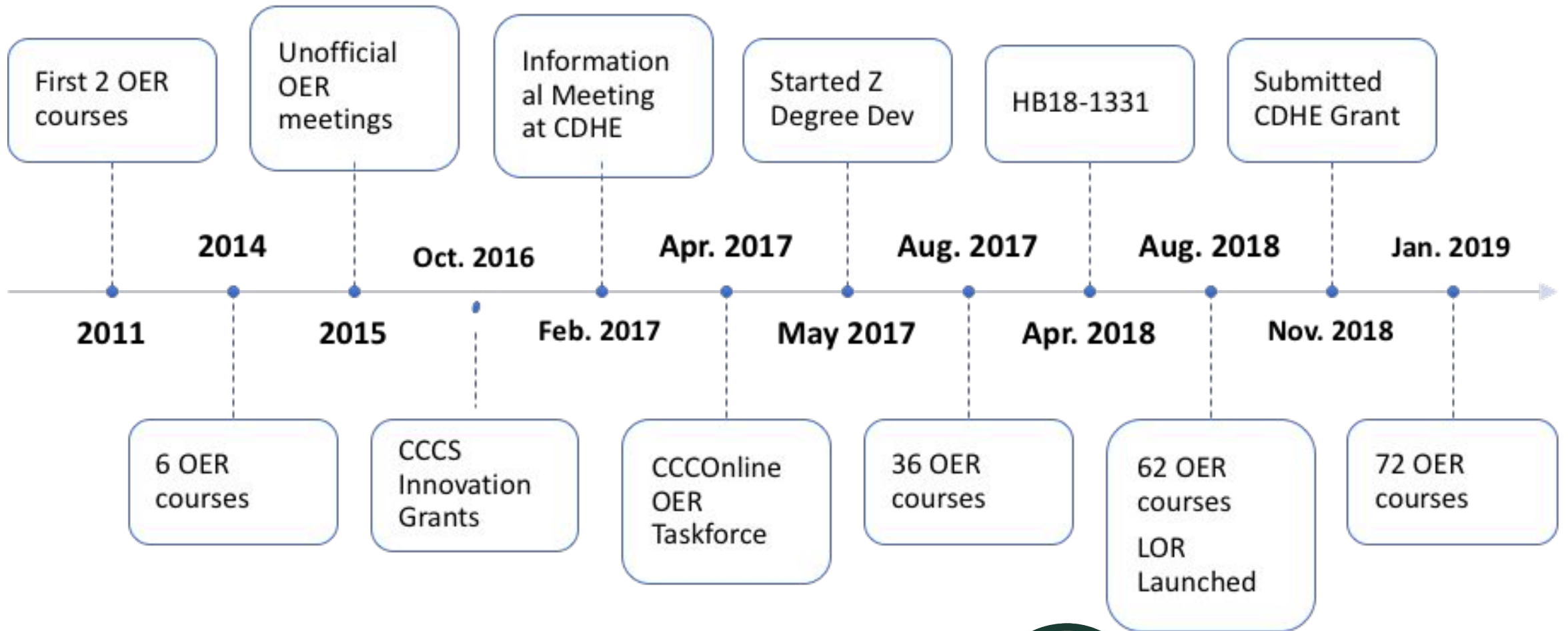


Colorado State University

OER IN ACTION



OER IN ACTION



OER IN ACTION

Results

AY18 (FA17, SP18, SU18) OER Enrollment: 14,740 students
(30% of total enrollments)

AY18 (FA17, SP18, SU18) Student Savings: \$777,203

Fall 18 OER Enrollments: 7,160
(37% of enrollments)

Fall 18 Student Savings: \$372,315

Upcoming

Summer 2019: Launch Associates of Arts - History Zero-Textbook Cost Degree

Fall 2019: Launch Associates of Arts - Early Childhood Education Zero-Textbook Cost Degree



HOW TO GET INVOLVED!

OER: 2019 & BEYOND

- Statewide conference on OER
- Statewide trainings and outreach to faculty and staff
- Grants

Questions?

THANK YOU

Meg Brown-Sica	meg.brown-sica@coloradostate.edu , @brownsica
Spencer Ellis	spencer.ellis@dhe.state.co.us
Tina Parscal	tina.parscal@cccs.edu , @tjp303
Jonathan Poritz	jonathan.poritz@csupueblo.edu , https://poritz.net/jonathan , @poritzj



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