

VC Academic Senate Resolution: Support for Establishing a ZTC/OER Participatory Governance Committee

Resolution Authors: Czarina Gutierrez, Ame Maloney, and Maline Werness-Rude

Whereas, Individual faculty have both the academic freedom and choice to select instructional materials, combined with the responsibility to consider the cost burden in doing so, and it is widely recognized that the initial adoption of OER may be more complicated and time-consuming than the adoption of a commercial instructional material due to multiple factors that change according to specific class requirements including variable needs for the modification, curation, and/or creation of rigorous OER (California Code of Regulations Title 5 §59404; see also ASCCC Resolution 13.06); and

Whereas, California Education Code §78052 requires that districts “Develop degrees with consideration for sustainability after grant funding is exhausted in 2027, including how content is updated and presented” and the ASCCC has formally acknowledged OER adoption as a measure towards achieving student equity and success, recommending that faculty consider OER adoption, including customizable teaching materials (ASCCC Resolutions 09.05 and 13.01); and

Whereas, The ASCCC has urged local academic senates to identify a local OER point-person to act as a liaison to facilitate OER-related communication between the college and the ASCCC (ASCCC Resolution 17.02), and to work with their administrations and other appropriate college constituencies to establish a local faculty coordinator position, separate from the ASCCC OER Liaison, that leads the college’s OER and ZTC Program efforts (ASCCC Resolutions 17.03 and 19.01), and

Whereas, The ASCCC encourages local academic senates to develop mechanisms to encourage faculty to consider OER when developing or revising courses and to document the use of OER on the course outline of record (ASCCC Resolution 09.05); and the conveyance of such information to the student (ASCCC Resolution 13.06);

Therefore be it Resolved, That the VC Academic Senate collaborates with the College Planning Committee (or DEAG) (as needed), and the Dean of the Division of Learning, Equity, Achievement, and Persistence (LEAP) to support the establishment of a formal operational committee (or advisory group) for the ZTC/OER Program; and

Resolved, That the VC Academic Senate support the following action items as charges for the established ZTC/OER committee that may include, as its membership, the following (but not limited to) discipline faculty and librarians, an OER liaison, Curriculum Committee representative(s), ZTC/OER Committee co-chairs (including faculty and administrative leads), and other key stakeholders:

- Educate faculty regarding OER, including but not limited to Creative Commons licensed materials, permitting free use and citation of date of publication by date accessed
- Collaborate with the College Curriculum Committee, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, and the LEAP Division to identify, verify, track, report, and publish ZTC course and pathway data
- Collaborate with the LEAP Division and the Office of Instruction to provide stipends and/or reassigned time to adequately support faculty who are transitioning to OER for their courses
- Advocate to local administrators at the district-level for the establishment of an OER/ZTC faculty coordinator position at VC to lead and sustain college OER and ZTC course, certificate, and degree efforts
- Support activities to increase OER/ZTC adoption by 20% over the next three years at VC.

Adopted Thursday, October 1, 2026