

OEWG Fall 2024 Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2024, 11:00-12:00

Attendees: Brenda Smith, Hilary Schmidt, Marie Bartlett, Dani Collins, Jessica Obando Almache, Kaitlyn Meyers, Greg Vilac, Jon Fulton, Jamie Drozda, Melanie Latham, Natasha Ramroop Singh, Trent Tucker, Verena Roberts, Bala Nikku, Peter Tsigaris, Michelle Harrison, Sharon Brewer, Crystal Huscroft

Agenda and Notes

- Welcome (1 minute)

- TRUSU update (Introduce Bensly Pierre and Greg Vilac) (3 minutes)
 - Greg and Bensly are the student representatives selected to serve on the Open Education Working Group for a term of October 1st 2024 – September 30th 2025
 - Greg wanted to learn more about how the Open Press and OEWG are connected.
 - There used to be a grant, similar to what we have through the Open Press, but smaller to support the development of OERs at TRU
 - When the last provost changed place that funding was lost so there was a need to find other ways to fund development of OER at TRU
 - Around that time, OEWG put out a huge survey of what's happened at TRU to date which was very helpful to advocate for OER when our new Provost started
 - This led to the ISP grant application and the grant was awarded for 3 years. We are trying to get it into base funding.
 - OEWG preceded that grant. It was originally formed to be a place for people at TRU to come together, talk about OER, and spearhead initiatives. For example, the library and OEWG co-develop activities and there is involvement with the UN SDG fellowship.

- Round table check-in about open work (Introduce yourself and give an update on open work) (20 minutes)
 - Natasha Ramroop Singh: Two projects that are funded by Open Press. 1) with an undergrad student who is on contract to develop hand-drawn graphics for an existing open textbook. 2) Developing an open resource with an Indigenous band in Lillooet. Big project, currently in the information gathering phase and will work on this when on sabbatical.
 - Trent Tucker: Nothing on the go in terms of open. Teaching load cut back due to new Coordinator role. Planning on sabbatical in 2026. Plan to develop business analytics OER and supporting materials.
 - Verena Roberts: Working on a Multimedia Blog project. In the editing phase and being published on a website. Includes 3 pieces: annotated bibliography (worked

on with students), blog posts (based on annotated bibliography), and checklist to go along with it

- Bala Nikku: Going on sabbatical in 8 weeks. Will be working on an open education PressBook on International Social Work for a course he teaches and will reach out for support. Also will continue work on Resilient Futures site on TRUBOX with support of OpenPress.
- Michelle Harrison: Of the 29 new revision courses in Open learning, 26 of them are using OER. Wrapping up 2 major research projects analyzing student data on their experience with open pedagogy and using open tools. Dani asked for a list of courses using OER to add to the OER catalogue produced by TRU faculty.
- Sharon Brewer: Open Press funded version 2 of PASSchem textbook and working on it with research students. Revising books and textbooks that are developed in libre text. Working on publishing philosophy behind PASSchem project. Looking for support with research project about evaluating the impact of these open resources and undergoing data collection for the next year.
- Brenda Smith: Michelle and Brenda presented to Sustainability community of practice about UN SDG fellowship. Will be doing an inventory of ZTC (zero textbook cost) at TRU (does every semester). Meeting with Open Press about Library repository. Completed 3 projects with faculty finding OER for open learning classes with another 2 to start. Organizing Open Pedagogy talks that are co-organized with University of Calgary, Mount Royal University, University of Alberta. Will be held in March.
 - Natasha asked if there will be a 5th cohort of UN SDG. Yes, and more info will come in March. Planning on doing a TPC presentation.
- Hilary Schmidt: First working group meeting. All major course revisions working on, the developers are open to adopting and adapting open resources.
- Peter Tsigaris: Written 4 books together with his students- 2 with grad students and 1 on the value of parks in Kamloops, and 1 on the value of lakes around area (launched to public). Worked with undergraduate students in a capstone course where students each authored a chapter in a PressBook. Announced an open journal for students at TRU that spans across all fields and disciplines, launching mid-November.
- Marie Bartlett: Helping with Open Press. In role as Instructional Designer in Open Learning, advocates for adaptation or adoption of OER. Developing a brand new OER in International Business, secured funding through Open Learning.
- Kaitlyn: Working on copy editing projects that are coming to the Open Press. Biggest one right now is Plumber Apprenticeship for Skilled Trades BC.
- Jessica: Working on Open Press projects that have come in this year. Researching Search Engine Optimization to help others find their site more easily.
 - Dani mentioned that Jessica and Kaitlyn have been amazing with mentoring co-op students and training.

- Greg Vilac: Worked with Open Press last summer as a co-op student. Part of OEWG now through student caucus. Appreciates educational technology and sees value and potential of OERs for students.
 - Jon Fulton: Done a lot of work with Lightboard to support Open Press projects and videos.
 - Melanie Latham: OpenCourses server (open version of Moodle) has around 10 courses from a variety of disciplines and fields within TRU and the broader community (opencourses.tru.ca). Jamie and I built an inclusive poster design resource (poster.trubox.ca), originally developed for M.Ed students but is an open resource.
 - Jamie Drozda: Chairing this committee, on the Open Press advisory board, and chairing the Open Press selection committee.
- Open Press (OP) Report (15 minutes)
 - Dani presented the [Open Press ISP Initiative October 2024 Report](#)
 - OP and OEWG, looking forward (20 minutes)
 - Between now and April, think about what the OEWG can do
 - Maybe put out an asynchronous means of gathering ideas?
 - Open Education Week coming up and maybe OEWG and the Open Press can pair up to do another event