

# Rhode Island College Open Textbook Initiative Report

## March, 2017

### Courses currently using Open Textbooks at Rhode Island College

**BIOL 108: Basic Principles of Biology**, this is the biology course taken by nursing majors

4 sections, 274 students - \$27,400 in savings

**HIST 107-04: Multiple Voices: The United States in the World**

**HIST 107-05: Multiple Voices: The United States in the World**

**HIST 107-11: Multiple Voices: The United States in the World**

3 section, 85 students - \$8,500 in savings

**Physics 102: General Physics II**, this is the physics course taken by non-majors

2 sections, 27 students - \$2,700 in savings

**CSCI 212: Data Structures**

1 section, 21 students - \$2,100 in savings

Spring '17 students impacted: 407

Spring '17 savings: \$40,700

### Fall 2016 Pilot

**BIOL 108: Basic Principles of Biology**

Student savings: \$100,000

### Faculty Resources

Guides on OER and Open Textbooks: [library.ric.edu/oer](http://library.ric.edu/oer), [library.ric.edu/open-textbooks](http://library.ric.edu/open-textbooks)

Using Open Textbooks at Rhode Island College: [library.ric.edu/open-textbooks/at-ric](http://library.ric.edu/open-textbooks/at-ric)

### Timeline of Progress

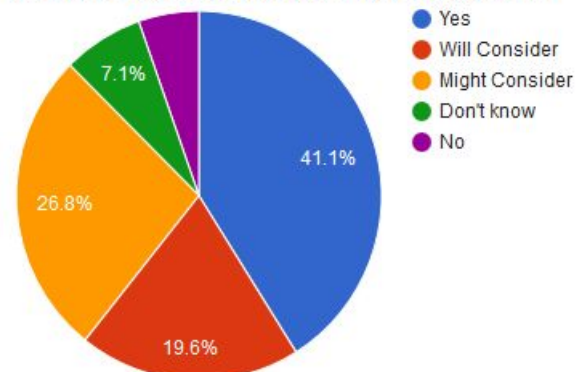
**October:** Ron Pitt, VPAA sent an email to all faculty in support of Open Access Week and the initiative, outlining steps faculty could take to adopt a textbook and learn more by connecting with their librarians.

**November:** Initial Statewide Steering Committee meeting, 10 of 11 colleges represented by librarians, the Open Textbook Network and SPARC presented on their support of the initiative.

**January:** Faculty were surveyed about their knowledge and understanding of open textbooks and Open Educational Resources (OER). 57 Rhode Island College faculty responded with enthusiasm for open educational resources and open textbooks.

Dragan Gill presented on the initiative to the Academic Technology Advisory Committee.

**Are you interested or would you consider using Open Educational Resources or Open Textbooks in your courses within the next three years?**



**February:** Faculty and staff were trained by the Open Textbook Network (OTN).

- 29 faculty members from across disciplines attended the faculty training workshop and are now in the process of reviewing a textbook from the Open Textbook Library. OTN finds that over 40% of faculty who attend their workshop and review a textbook adopt an open textbook.
- The OTN also provided a “support workshop” which was attended by a further 10 faculty and staff members from: Adams Library, User Support Services, Learning for Life, and the director of the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning.
- Faculty who both attended the workshop and complete their textbook review will receive a \$200 stipend. Half the funding for these stipends were provided by the RI Office of Innovation and half the funding was provided by Rhode Island College.

**March:** Reporting structure determined.

- Textbook adoption rates will have a two phases of data collection:
  1. Faculty self-reporting of adoption during textbook ordering request period.
  2. Number of students impacted and savings calculated after add/drop period ends.A full report of adoption and savings will be put together each semester.
- Librarian training and on-campus workshops and outreach will be continuously reported with monthly reminders to report and a listing of up-coming training options sent to librarians in all participating libraries.

### **Upcoming**

- Outreach to faculty before textbook selection deadline.
- Continued support for the 40-50 faculty who have shown interest in adopting open textbooks and engaged with the library to select materials for their courses.
- Creating a stipend program for faculty who adopt open textbooks, \$200 per adoption. Up to two open textbook initiative stipends per participating faculty member. Funded by Rhode Island College.
- First faculty self-reporting data for Fall 2017 in May.
- Dragan to receive OTN training in August to be able to provide workshop and review opportunities for faculty, with stipends if funded.
- OTN is streamlining their data collection process later this spring, which will inform and improve on our data collection systems.
- Anticipated: Dragan and librarians from the initiative will present at the Rhode Island Library Association Annual Conference about OER and the initiative.

### **Needs**

- Continued funding: Workshop and Review Stipends and Open Textbook Adoption faculty stipends.
- Administrative support of faculty publishing/creating OER/open textbooks as part of tenure, promotion or review.
- Campus collaboration, and resource and information sharing, on student savings programs and projects.