

**Illinois SCOERs: Support for the Creation of Open Educational Resources**  
**US Department of Education, Open Textbooks Pilot Grant**  
*October 2021 Update*

CARLI welcomed Michele Leigh to the position of Project Director on October 4, 2021.

The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) in the U.S. Department of Education has awarded a \$1.08 million grant to the University of Illinois System/CARLI for Illinois SCOERs (Support for Creation of Open Educational Resources). Illinois SCOERs activities begin September 1, 2021, and extend to August 31, 2024.

The U.S. Department of Education's Open Textbooks Pilot Program is a competitive grant program based on U.S. Senate Majority Whip and Illinois Senator Richard Durbin's Affordable College Textbook Act. Through this grant funding, Illinois SCOERs will provide access to open textbooks and personalized learning tools for entry-level courses in high-demand health care and human development career paths.

Illinois SCOERs is a true statewide enterprise that will fundamentally change the open educational resources landscape in Illinois by providing a new holistic support model that will promote student success through OER awareness, implementation, growth, and adoption.

### **About Illinois SCOERs**

Illinois SCOERs will develop, improve, and expand open educational resources by focusing on "The Human Condition: Care, Development, and Lifespan." Project participants will create a minimum of eight open textbooks paired with ancillary materials for teachers and students.

These OER will be created by work teams funded through competitive sub-grants in the focus subjects including health, health information management, nutrition, microbiology, immunobiology, genetics, laboratory skills, audiology, radiology, dental, child development, developmental psychology (and disorders), personality, nursing, sport, therapy (massage, physical, occupational), occupational safety, social work, counseling, speech/communication development and pathology, EMT, human sexuality, social psychology, and biochemistry.

Illinois SCOERs will provision the creation of a new holistic support model for OER creation and use in Illinois. The value of Illinois SCOERs can best be articulated by its motto: "Student success through OER awareness, implementation, growth, and adoption.

### **High-level outcomes of Illinois SCOERs**

Provide Illinois higher education students with open course materials and increase their knowledge and awareness of new OER, encouraging their widespread use, adoption, and demand.

Increase CARLI member IHE faculty, staff, and students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes about OER creation, adoption, and advocacy.

### **Goals and Objectives**

- Goal 1: Eliminate textbook costs for high-enrollment courses in the focus area in CARLI member institutions
  - Objective: Create accessible Creative Commons-licensed OER textbooks and associated learning objects for students, faculty, and staff. All material produced under Illinois SCOERs will be available through a Creative Commons license; the "No Derivatives" licenses will not be used since a work that cannot be altered or remixed is not an OER.
- Goal 2: Improve student learning outcomes by increasing the use of open-source materials by including personal learning experiences

- Objective: Collect and publish rich data about OER use for the purpose of advocacy, analysis, and planning
- Goal 3: Develop local expertise about OER and ancillaries creation, publishing, dissemination, adoption, and use
  - Objective: Engage at least 8 CARLI member institutions in writing OER
- Goal 4: Create a scalable OER model that can be replicated across multiple disciplines and institutions
  - Objective: Engage at least 60 CARLI member institutions in Illinois SCOERs through participation in professional development

### **Timeline**

CARLI staff is working with grant partners to initiate planning for the project and finalize the sub-grant application form, with a tentative plan to accept applications beginning in late 2021.

### **Project Partners**

- Illinois Community College Board
- Illinois Board of Higher Education
- Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
- Illinois Heartland Library System
- Reaching Across Illinois Library System
- Illinois State Library
- Illinois Library Association
- Health Sciences Librarians of Illinois
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services

### **Project Staff**

The Open Illinois Project Director will work closely with the CARLI Senior Director and CARLI member library staff to identify, create, adapt, and adopt open and affordable course content at the course and program level to accommodate the evolving learning, teaching, and research needs of the diverse CARLI community. The director will coordinate the sub-grant program to member libraries. In collaboration with the CARLI membership and CARLI staff, the Open Illinois Senior Coordinator will contribute actively to the consortium's efforts around open educational resources, author rights, scholarly publishing, data management, and repositories.

- Anne Craig, Principal Investigator, CARLI Senior Director
- Michele Leigh, CARLI Open Illinois Project Director
- Sara Benson, Copyright Training Coordinator, Assistant Professor, Copyright Librarian, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Emily Boles, Instructional Design Coordinator and Trainer, eLearning Specialist, University of Illinois Springfield
- Elisandro (Alex) Cabada, 3D Printing Coordinator Trainer, Assistant Professor and Bioengineering Librarian, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Ann Fredricksen, DRES Disability Specialist and Coordinator of Accessible Media Services, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Kathleen Ricker, Proofreader, ProofreadingPal.com Editing Services

### **CARLI STAFF**

- Margaret Chambers, Director, Membership and Communications
- Michelle Haake, Senior Coordinator Membership and Communications
- Diane Day, Fiscal Officer
- Elizabeth Clarage, Director, Collections Services and OER Committee Liaison
- Nicole Swanson, Senior Coordinator, Library Services and Outreach and OER Committee Liaison

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE INDUSTRY-SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

- Laurie Brown, Executive Director, Hickory Point Christian Village (assisted living) and Illinois Workforce Investment Board Local 1949 Chair
- Lisa Jones, DCEO, Manager, Office of Employment & Training (state workforce agency)
- Danna Williamson, Nursing Education Specialist, Carle Foundation Hospital Clinical Education
- Cindy Worsley, Executive Director, Fox Valley Community Services, (in-home service agency) in DeKalb, LaSalle, Kendall, and Kane Counties

## OER TASK FORCE

- Amber Burtis, Southern Illinois University Carbondale
- Denise Cote, College of DuPage
- Catherine Galarza-Espino, Morton College
- Kim Hale, Columbia College Chicago
- Daniel Matthews, Moraine Valley Community College
- Christina Norton, Bradley University
- Tineka Scalzo, City Colleges of Chicago
- Janet Swatscheno, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Chris Sweet, Illinois Wesleyan University
- Tamara Townsend, City Colleges of Chicago

Project website: <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/collections-management/illinoiscoers>

Email list: <https://lists.carli.illinois.edu/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/il-scoers>