Open to the inevitable: Librarians as open content professionals

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At Cal Poly State University in San Luis Obispo, we have created a new professional position to lead the library in integrating open education into our programs and environment.

Our open education librarian will also serve as a liaison to our school of education, helping to prepare today's credential candidates to find, use and develop open content effectively in tomorrow’s K-12 learning environments.

The position will play roles that cut across content discovery, outreach, advocacy, research, and instruction. These roles will bring them into collaborative work with both library and campus professionals, including:

- Digital scholarship librarian
- Academic technologists
- Course reserves specialists
- Instructional librarians
- Teacher education specialists

The position will also participate in the emerging community of practice in open education, developing expertise in issues such as how to provide incentives and standards that support quality open education practices.

Examples of project opportunities include:

- Sponsoring OER training and facilitation events
- Working with campus faculty to collaborate with the Open Textbook Initiative
- Developing open content creation workshops for faculty, students, or staff

**A NEW ROLE FOR LIBRARIANS IN OPEN EDUCATION**

K-12 Teaching with Technology: Preparing Future Teachers

Academic Technology: Supporting Today’s Teachers

**OPEN EDUCATION LIBRARIAN**

Course Materials and Reserves

Information Literacy and Library Instruction

Open Textbooks

Open Publishing

Open Access

Online & Hybrid Education

Open Educational Resources

MOOCs

**AN EMERGING COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE:**

- Open Education Conference: openedconference.org
- ISKME: iskme.org
- Digital Media & Learning Conference: dml2013.dmlhub.net
- Open Textbook Initiative: open.umn.edu/opentextbooks
- Merlot: merlot.org
- MITE: montereyinstitute.org
- KHAN ACADEMY: khanacademy.org

**AN EMERGING POLICY AND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT:**

- California Senate Bills 1052 and 1053 (open source digital textbooks)
- EdX: edx.org
- Udacity: udacity.com
- Coursera: coursera.org
- Open Learning Initiative (Carnegie Mellon): oli.web.cmu.edu
- OpenCourseWare Consortium: ocwconsortium.org
- Connexions: cnx.org

**LITERATURE CITED**

- Kortemeyer (2013) "Ten Years Later: Why Open Educational Resources have not noticeably Affected higher Education, and Why We Should Care" (Educause Review Online, 2/26/13)
- Lewis (2012), "The Inevitability of Open Access" (C&RL, September 2012)
- Shamel, citing Weinberger (2012), "Internet Librarians: The Power to Transform Libraries" (Information Today, 11/5/2012)

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

- UNESCO (2009) "Open Educational Resources: Conversations in Cyberspace"
- David Wiley: davidwiley.org, learn.canvas.net/courses/4

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