

Longwood University Faculty Senate
**PROPOSAL/POLICY COVER
SHEET**

This cover sheet is intended to provide information to members of the Faculty Senate about a new proposal/policy or about revisions to an existing proposal/policy. **If you are proposing a new policy, then attach the text of the policy to this form. If you are proposing a change to an existing policy, then attach the text of the current policy with any deleted language marked by a strikethrough and with new language marked by an underline. If you are deleting a policy, then attach the text of the policy to be deleted.**

COMMITTEE(S) that authored or sponsored this proposal:

OER Task Force: Julie Mersiowsky, Brent Roberts

Formed by PVPAA to draft policy in response to Virginia Code § 23.1-1308 (H454) requiring an Open Educational Resources (OER) policy.

TOPIC: Open Educational Resources (OER) Policy

BACKGROUND (Provide a brief statement describing the origins of this proposal, the nature of the problem it addresses, and the work completed to devise the proposal):

To address the ever-increasing costs of textbooks for college and university students, legislation was enacted to encourage faculty to adopt low-cost or no-cost resources as course materials. This policy defines OER, outlines Longwood University's support for use and creation of OER, and identifies Greenwood Library and Digital Education Collaborative (DEC) as playing a key role in increasing awareness of OER and encouraging OER implementation.

SUMMARY OF NEW POLICY OR PROPOSED CHANGES OR DELETIONS TO AN EXISTING POLICY (Provide a brief list or statement describing the content of the policy or the proposed changes or deletions):

The policy encourages the creation and use of open educational resources (OER), and outlines the roles of Greenwood Library and the Digital Education Collaborative (DEC) in encouraging OER implementation and creation.

RATIONALE FOR THE POLICY OR PROPOSED CHANGES (Provide a brief

statement as to why the new policy, the changes, or the deletion is needed):

In addition to being required by statute, this policy clearly states Longwood University’s support for creation, adoption, and implementation of OER.

Routing information and signature lines:

Date submitted to Senate Executive Committee for Consideration:

Action(s) Taken:

Date first read at Faculty Senate:

Action(s) Taken:

Date final action taken by Faculty Senate:

Action(s) Taken:

Senate Chair: _____

Date submitted to the PVPAA (within 5 working days of Senate approval):

Action(s) Taken:

PVPAA: _____

Date: _____

Date submitted to other administration:

Action(s) Taken:

Administrator: _____

Date (within 15 working days of PVPAA’s signature): _____

Date submitted to the Board of Visitors:

Policy Title: Open Educational Resources

Policy Number: #####

Definitions: Open Educational Resources (OER) are freely and publicly available teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.¹

Policy Owner: Academic Affairs oversees the policy and is responsible for compliance. As members of the Academic Affairs team, a Greenwood Library representative and a DEC representative shall be responsible for developing and maintaining procedures and providing training that are consistent with this policy and that comply with applicable regulations, policies, and procedures of the institution, and the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Administration and management efforts shall include advocating for the creation of OER to be recognized as a meaningful scholarly and professional endeavor.

Faculty, staff, and students using, adapting, and creating OER are responsible for obtaining permission for incorporating student created works into OER or an OER course.

Purpose: In pursuance of Virginia Code § 23.1-1308, Longwood University has developed this policy. The Code of Virginia states: *The governing board of each public institution of higher education shall implement guidelines for the adoption and use of low-cost and no-cost open educational resources in courses offered at such institution. Such guidelines may include provisions for low-cost commercially published materials.*

Longwood University encourages the creation, use, adaptation, sharing and ongoing maintenance of OER materials in accordance with established curriculum standards for educational purposes. The goals of this policy are to provide students with high quality learning materials that are openly licensed to augment and/or replace costly textbooks and course materials, to create sustainable academic resources for students, faculty, and staff, and to provide opportunities for professional growth of faculty and staff.

This policy provides guidance to faculty in achieving the following outcomes through the utilization of Open Educational Resources (OER) at Longwood University improve student success through increased access and affordability, and improve teaching efficiency and effectiveness through the ability to focus, analyze, augment, and evolve course materials

¹ Hewlett Foundation. Open Education Resources, Web. 28 January 2019.
<http://www.hewlett.org/programs/education/open-educational-resources>

directly aligned to course learning outcomes. Faculty will be supported in their participation with OER to achieve both of the stated outcomes.

Policy Statement: Longwood University will provide training, support, and encourage recognition of OER use, adaptation, and creation as a meaningful scholarly and professional endeavor.

Procedures: As subject matter experts, faculty are responsible for selecting, adapting or creating OER in alignment with course learning outcomes.

The institution's intellectual property (IP) and copyright policies, (FPPM) governs rights and requirements for works created during the course of employment, including ownership, open licensing, and public release.

Faculty or staff who create original content that is incorporated into an OER course or create OER of other types or formats are encouraged to use the least restrictive license possible, such as a Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY) (or equivalent for software.)

Date: