



The OpenNJ Open Educational Resources Collection: Creating a Digital Space for Faculty Connections

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Presented by

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Session Goals

Explain how the state's OpenNJ is used to assist faculty in identifying open educational resources (OER) and open and affordable resources (OAR)

Describe how educational content is included in OpenNJ

Discuss OpenNJ features needed by state educators through user testing

Collect attendees' responses to OpenNJ for iterative design (**<https://OpenNJ.net/response>**)

Have fun and establish/get to know your OER community of practice



Session Agenda

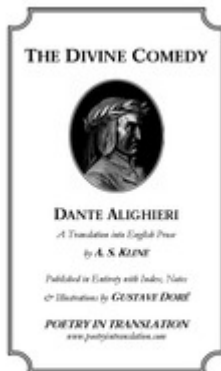
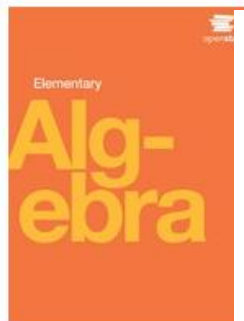
Part I What is OpenNJ? - 2 minutes

Part II Purpose and Development - 10 minutes

Part III Usability Testing - 25 minutes

Part IV Next Steps and Discussion - 10 minutes

What is it, really?



Faculty Recruitment Strategy for Open Textbook Materials

The goal of the Open Textbook Network (OTN) is to provide faculty with the resources and support needed to develop and adopt open textbooks. OTN is a national organization that provides a variety of resources, including:

- Open Textbook Network (OTN) website
- Open Textbook Network (OTN) newsletter
- Open Textbook Network (OTN) social media
- Open Textbook Network (OTN) events



- Identify a need for a textbook
- Search for an open textbook
- Evaluate the textbook
- Adopt the textbook
- Implement the textbook
- Evaluate the implementation
- Share the experience

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Faculty Recruitment
Open Textbook



Open Textbook Network

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OSHE Guidelines for Open Textbooks and Digital Learning Materials

ENGLISH CLASS READINGS LIBGUIDE

Dante: The Divine Comedy

This record links to an external resource

**O
P
E
N**



An Example



Astronomy

OpenStax textbook adopted by:

- Atlantic Cape Community College**
- Bergen Community College**
- Bloomfield College**
- Monmouth University**
- New Jersey City University**



OpenNJ Elements

- Main homepage
- Institutional homepages
- Accessibility adherence
- Full text searchable content
- Multiple formats for viewing and open download
- Relevant or related links from the item record
- Creative Commons, public domain, and other licensing options per item
- Statistics and sharing options
- Item record mappable to a MARC record
- 100+ metadata field options from multiple schema
- Submission form
- Personal account setup with bookshelf options



Part II : Purpose and Development

URL: <https://OpenNJ.net/>

Full name: Open-NJ Open Educational Resources (OpenNJ) repository

General description: a statewide digital repository or referatorium collection developed for New Jersey institutions of higher education so educators can find and access OER materials

Content:

- Open licensed or public domain OER adopted, adapted, and created for use in NJ
- Open and affordable materials adopted, adapted, and created for use in NJ/may be referred out
- Full text items with links to native sources as appropriate

Development Stage: first release



Part II : Purpose and Development

Evidence of need

- State policies exist regarding use of a platform, either through state development or collaboration with other states (e.g. (Louisiana, Michigan, Texas, #GoOpen states at the K12 level)
 - <https://tech.ed.gov/open/districts/>
- VALE Consortium (Open Textbook Network) offers access to original work but does not accept derivatives
- Independent repositories exist for some institutions (Rutgers University, Middlesex County College, Passaic County Community College through OER Commons), but may be too costly for smaller institutions

Part II : Purpose and Development

General history

- Sponsors: Middlesex County College (MCC) and VALE, NJ
- Software: SobekCM
- Based on MCC Digital Collections (includes MCCOER and NJOER Toolkit collections)

Development and Implementation considerations

- Reviewed: OER Commons, OpenStax, other state OER collections (e.g. OpenWashington)
- Customized: Information Architecture (collection and item organization), interface design, metadata, search and download features, and submission protocols
- Researched: NJ-wide higher education OER content
- Open licenses



Part II : Purpose and Development

Benefits of implementation

- Assist faculty and program implementers in identifying teaching materials that have been adopted or created in the state
- Develops a statewide community of practice for educators interested in OER adoption
- Enables representation of all VALE institutions if they have OER content without institutional overhead
- Allows familiarity with a repository system that may be useful for other digital library collections



Part II : Purpose and Development

Current content

- MCCDC subcollection Open Educational Resources Toolkit
- Adopted textbooks from OpenStax
- Known OER items solicited from faculty
- Items discovered through bookstore and institution website review
- Individual submissions by faculty and librarians

Future content and sustaining the Open NJ

- Active review by OER repository subcommittee (initial content review board)
- Establishment of an advisory review committee
- Collaboration with individual institutions
- Updating of harvesting relationships

Part II : Purpose and Development

What to submit:

- Any educational resource you want to share
- Open textbooks
- Public domain materials
- Syllabi, quizzes and other ancillaries
- Study guides, test reviews,





Part III: Usability Testing

Process

- Split into test groups based on color of your badge
 - Homepage and institutional homepage
 - Item record
 - Search functionality
 - The Kitchen Sink: whole website, name, submission options, other functions
- Using OpenNJ testing will include:
 - Participants submitting demographic survey to group facilitator/note taker
 - Facilitators/note takers asking small groups pre-planned questions
 - Focus group, task based scenarios, and card sorting as usability test methods
- Presenters will analyze collected data and report out later



Part III: Usability Testing

Test methods for user centered design

- Focus group
 - Purpose: identify user attitudes, reactions, and desires in a moderated discussion
 - Group: The Kitchen Sink: whole website, name, submission options, other functions
- Task based scenarios
 - Purpose: reveal what type of content and functionality are desired, and assess ease of use of site based on user behavior when completing tasks
 - Group: search functionality and institutional homepage
- Card sorting
 - Purpose: evaluate the information architecture, ensure organization of site makes sense, and discover preferences for placement, labels, and general navigation
 - Groups: homepage, item record

For more information, please see **Usability.gov**



Part IV: Next Steps and Discussion

Our work isn't done!

- Collect comments including recommendations, problem areas, etc.
 - Add comments to <https://OpenNJ.net/response> or email us
- Put recommendations into practice
 - modify interface development by lead OER implementers
 - create help resources
- Review new content to add to the OpenNJ (advisory review committee)
- Develop harvesting relationships
- Create promotional materials and outreach processes
- Recruit other committee members to help identify content
- Sustain and grow!



Questions? Comments?

General project development and volunteering questions

Marilyn N. Ochoa, mochoa@middlesexcc.edu, lead project manager and developer

Technical questions

Mark V. Sullivan, mark.v.sullivan@sobekdigital.com, programmer and collection and interface designer

Add comments at **<https://OpenNJ.net/response>**

Thank you!