

Texas A&M Universities Libraries' Open Access Textbook Initiative

The costs associated with commercial textbooks represent a significant barrier to college access for many students. Open access (OA) textbooks provide a low- to no-cost alternative for college students. OA textbooks also allow instructors to customize the textbook, supporting their efforts to design innovative, effective instructional materials and align these materials to their course goals and objectives.

The Office of Scholarly Communications is organizing a tiered program for interested faculty.

Workshop: We are organizing two-hour workshops (including lunch) that introduce faculty to available OA textbooks, explore implications of the creative commons copyright, and discuss implementation strategies in your courses.

Textbook Reviews: The library provides a \$200 gift to faculty who complete textbook reviews that can be submitted to the OpenStax (<http://openstax.org>) and Open Textbook Network (<http://open.umn.edu>). Your reviews help advance open access textbook adoption nationally because of Texas A&M's reputation.

Broader Impacts Program: For those faculty who submit NSF Programs, we will partnering with you on the development of

- An OA chapter that is aligned with an existing OA textbook and your funded research.
- A digital collection that enhances the text.
- The broader impacts section of the proposal and provide a letter of support.

National Dissemination: We are developing a program that will share these chapters nationally and allow instructors to incorporate the chapters in existing OA textbooks.



PROGRAM

- Faculty-Library partnership
- OA textbook workshop
- \$200 gift for faculty reviews of OA textbooks
- Authoring OA Textbook chapters linked to broader impact programs

POSSIBLE BENEFITS

- Enrollment increases
- Improve course quality
- Improved student access to Texas A&M
- Increased research funding

GET INVOLVED

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SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS @ TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

This project is part of a wider library focus on promoting open access to advance TAMU's educational and scholarly initiatives (<http://scholarlycommunication.library.tamu.edu/>).