Encouraging Adoption, Adaptation, and Creation of OER at UNT

Kevin Hawkins
University of North Texas Libraries



To complement UNT's limited inclusive-access program, two programs were launched in 2019

OER Summer Grants

- For adoption or adaptation of an OER or for creation of supplemental material for UNT courses
- Currently funded by UNT Libraries by UNT's Center for Learning Experimentation, Application, and Research (CLEAR)
- Research funding from \$500 to \$2,500 depending on the scope of the work – awarded by committee of representatives of Libraries, CLEAR, and provost's office
- Recipients expected to present on their experiences during Open Access Week

UNT Open Texts

- For newly authored textbooks for UNT courses
- Libraries hosts online version, UNT Press publishes print version and downloadable ebook
- UNT Libraries screens applications, and UNT Press conducts their regular peer review.
- Authors receive \$2,500 in research funding from UNT Press in lieu of royalties on sales

Status and emerging issues

OER Summer Grants

- Four applications, four awards.
 One recipient declined due to workload.
- If copyrightable content is created after receiving a grant, it will likely be considered a work for hire, with UNT owning the copyright. Tech transfer office's IP committee decides, and tech transfer staff decide whether to use an open license.

UNT Open Texts

- No one has expressed interest yet!
- UNT Press will require a NonCommercial CC license, but specific one for this program is to be determined.
- Payment of research funding likely entails a work-for-hire situation, with same implications as for recipients of OER Summer Grants.

We're also working on setting up Pressbooks for hosting OER content. High barrier for meeting IT compliance requirements and to allow UNT users to use single sign-on but also allow non-UNT collaborators to log in.

Resolution supporting OER from Student Government Association

In the UNT Libraries, we found Texas A&M's Student Government Association's resolution on OER to be a good model. We had a student employee reach out to our SGA, offering A&M's OER resolution as a model. Our SGA passed their own in April 2019.