OER Impact in Community Colleges

Dr. Rob Farrow
The Open University
Una Daly
CCCOER

Full version of this presentation: http://goo.gl/CSfKtU

OER Research Hub

- Research project at The Open University (UK)

- Funded by William & Flora Hewlett Foundation for two years

- Two professors lead four researchers among a team of ten

- Tasked with building the most comprehensive picture of OER impact

- Organised by eleven research hypotheses

- Collaboration model across different educational sectors

- Global reach but with a USA focus

oerresearchhub.org

CCCOER/OERRH Research Collaboration

Focus on impact of OER adoption on teaching practice, institutional policies and factors of cost and access

Feb-May 2013

Faculty Survey Development

IRB Process

May-Dec 2013

Survey Deployment

Jan-Apr 2014

Analysis & Dissemination

Ongoing

Interviews and focus groups with faculty; policymakers; students

Incorporation of institutional evidence into *oermap.org*

- Most respondents were experienced teachers (84% at least 7 years) with postgraduate degrees (96%)
- Most teach full-time (65%) and are involved in online instruction (57%)

Summary of Results

- Most of the respondents have used some sort of OER, though only around a quarter create OER

- Most report positive effects on their teaching practice as a result of OER use, particularly around peer collaboration and improved subject knowledge

- A smaller proportion (but still in excess of 40%) feel that OER use directly leads to improved reflection on pedagogical practice

- Positive effects were also identified for learners, especially around increased self-reliance, subject interest and experimentation

Full version of this presentation: http://goo.gl/CSfKtU

Summary of Results

- There were mixed views about whether OER was saving institutions money, but approximately 2/3 felt that students had saved money

- Around 1/3 believe that OER is improving student attrition while around 1/2 believe it is not having an effect

- Only around half of OER creators have used open licensing

- There is a core of advocates who understand and actively promote OER; they adopt open educational practices and believe it leads to benefits

- There were similar numbers who thought OER wasn't making much of a difference and a core of what might be termed 'anti-OER' responses. Sometimes this seems to result from misunderstanding OER

Full version of this presentation: http://goo.gl/CSfKtU

Thanks for listening!
oerresearchhub.org
oerconsortium.org
oermap.org