**BCOEL Meeting via WebEx**

February 10, 2020 2:30-3:30pm

**Attendance:** Ali de Haan, Debra Flewelling, Donna Langille, Lin Brander (Chair), Lindsay Tripp (Minutes), Mia Clarkson, Reba Ouimet, Sabrina Wong, Selina McGinnis (Guest, BCcampus), Rosario Passos

**Regrets**: Caroline Daniels, Brenda Smith, Darcye Lovsin, Erin Fields, Hope Power, Karen Meijer-Klein, Martin Warkentin, Michel Castagné

1. **Welcome** 
   * Lin called the meeting to order at 2:34pm
2. **Agenda: Changes and Additions**
   * None.
3. **January Minutes Approval**
   * The January meeting minutes were approved.
4. **Guest speaker: Selina McGinnis**Selina current serves as lead for BCcampus’ Open Textbook Findability Project. The project title initially included the term ‘searchability’, but this suggested a focus on the Open Textbook Collection search box. The project’s scope has since expanded to encompass findability more broadly. Selina posed the following questions for the group (also included in the meeting agenda):

* What was **your** last experience adopting (or assisting someone with adopting) an Open textbook like for you?
  + Why did you do it?
  + Where did you go?
  + What was difficult or annoying in the process?
  + What was easier/harder than if you had not bothered to consider an Open textbook?
* What do you wish you had or what service/tool do you wish existed to make Open textbooks less of a pain for you (or for your colleagues)?

BCOEL members acknowledged the following barriers:

* Finding open textbooks with a Canadian focus or with the desired disciplinary lens (for example, the current pre-Confederation History textbook is not strong for social history)
* Finding open textbooks with ancillary resources (i.e. test question banks, powerpoint slide decks)
* Encouraging instructors to learn new platforms (i.e. Pressbooks) in order to modify an open textbook

BCOEL members suggested the following services/tools to facilitate use of open textbooks:

* A centralized repository for OERs (not just open textbooks). Existing repositories are often clunky to use. Their tagging systems are not intuitive and they retrieve too many results. It takes time to sift through the results and identify relevant content. Value-added features such as ‘preview before download’ and peer-review/ratings from educators would be an asset. Debra noted that BCcampus’ OER by Discipline guide is headed in the right direction in terms of careful curation, but we require something more comprehensive.
* Mapping quality OER to highly enrolled classes in British Columbia. This could also encourage further adoptions in terms of articulation/transfer between institutions.

Selina explained that the project uses agile design and aims to test ideas with people. As such, BCcampus is already seeking participants to assist with testing.   
**Action:** Selina invited those who are interested in participating in the project to reach out to her directly at [smcginnis@bccampus.ca](mailto:smcginnis@bccampus.ca). She will also reach out via the BCOEL listserv.

1. **Open Education Week Events**

* **Joint event - *Open Education: Transforming Practice through Innovative Classroom Projects.*** Sabrina reported that the room we have booked at Capilano U’s new Shipyards campus accommodates 45-47 people. Those who are interested in participating are encouraged to register early. The event will be livestreamed and recorded for those unable to attend in person (see the event description for the livestream link). Rosario has submitted the event for the Open Education Week Events Calendar, as BCOEL has done in past. The planning team is seeking two additional speakers for the afternoon.

**Action:** Reach out to the planning team if you havesuggestions for additional speakers.

* **BCIT (Rosario).** BCIT is kicking off Open Ed Week with a lunch event on Monday from 11am to 2pm. It will feature stations with open tools for open education (e.g. H5P, Pressbooks).
* **Douglas (Debra).** Jennifer Kirkey will be offering a Pressbooks session. Douglas is celebrating its 50th anniversary on the Friday of Open Education Week with a ‘Douglas Authors’ event. Open textbook authors are included.
* **Langara (Mia).** Langara will engage students this Open Education Week with a contest that encourages them to ‘open’ their work by uploading it to the College’s institutional repository, LaIR. Mia is also planning a panel discussion comprised of Langara instructors who have adopted, modified, or created an open textbook as their required course text. The session will facilitate information sharing with other instructors who might be considering open textbooks.

1. **Questions from Melanie Meyers (BCcampus)**Lin relayeda number of questions from Melanie Meyers from BCcampus regarding print copies of open textbooks.Specifically,she is wondering if print copies of open textbooks provided by BCcampus would encourage faculty to serve as open textbook reviewers. And, if BC post-secondaries would incorporate print copies of open textbooks (or guides such as the *Pulling Together* series) into their Course Reserve collections. A few BCOEL members felt like this would be a welcome initiative at their institution, where budgetary constraints are the only barrier to including print copies of open textbooks in the collection. Melanie acknowledged that some college and university libraries do not collect textbooks, so participation would be dependent on institutions’ collection policies.

**Action:** Lin will circulate a note with questions from Melanie on the wider BCOEL listserv.

1. **Working Group Leads and Reports (Standing Item)**

**Engagement**

* Nothing to report since the last meeting.

**PD (Lindsay)**

* The working group has invested most of its time and energy in plans for the joint Open Education Week event and CapU.
* Jessie Loyer, the keynote speaker from BCOEL’s Open Access Week event, was announced as the opening keynote for the 2020 BC Library Conference. Many thanks to BCLA for inviting Jessie to speak with the wider BC Library community at BCOEL’s encouragement.

**Publishing (Lin)**

* Nothing to report since the last meeting.

1. **[CARL Open Education Working G](http://www.carl-abrc.ca/advancing-research/scholarly-communication/open-education/)roup Update**

* Donna commented that CARL’s Open Education Leadership Essentials (OeLE) was a great chance for her to meet people from the open education community who are at various stages in their open education journeys.
* Lin pointed out that we are fortunate to have BCcampus, which continues to be well-supported by the provincial government. This is not the case in other provinces such as Alberta and Ontario, where funding for open education initiatives has been eroded.
* Mia appreciated that all of the OeLE sessions provided practical ideas for promoting and supporting open education initiatives and encouraged participants to consider scalability/how they might tailor these to their own institution.
* Lin believes that those who attended OeLE will be encouraged to organize a similar event in BC. More to come on this in future.

1. **Round Table**

* Postponed to next meeting due to time constraints.

1. **Lin adjourned the meeting at 3:29pm.**