**Open Educational Resources**

It has been referred to as the future of education, a revolution, and a movement. OER is fast becoming a familiar term and practice as more and more faculty begin to adopt open access resources. The benefits to students include saving money, no copyright restrictions, and having access to the textbook from the first day of class. It also gives faculty members the freedom to customize the content of their textbook and not have to work with a publisher or bookstore. The college also benefits as studies show students who have access to their course materials are more successful academically which results in higher completion rates.

What exactly is OER? Here’s a definition from the *Achieving the Dream* website:

Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

To support this initiative, former Director Dr. Clara Ogbaa, applied for and received a grant from the Gateway Foundation which provides a stipend for six faculty members to create and adopt OER for their courses and report on the process and results. The Center for Teaching will also be hosting an OER workshop on Oct. 30th at 1:45pm in S209 and all are welcome. The presenters will be Kevin Corcoran, Director of Digital Learning for CSCU, and Alice Emery, a Gateway instructor who has published an OER textbook for her course. In October, faculty will be receiving a short survey on OER via email from Martha Lipowski, Interim Library Director. Please take a few minutes to answer the questions which will help us move forward. For more information on OER please visit the library’s OER libguide at [http://gwcc.libguides.com/oernew](http://gwcc.libguides.com/oernew)

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**Celebrated Author and Scholar Visits Gateway**

Claudia Rankine, renowned author of *Citizen: An American Lyric*, visited the college to read passages of her book and lead a discussion with Gateway and community members. Dr. Rankine’s book was chosen for the 2018 Big Read and has received high accolades for its thought-provoking and insightful content. A panel of Gateway students asked questions and reflected on their own experiences that resonated with them as they read the book. Members of the audience also participated in the very personal and sometimes difficult conversation. It was a very important and timely dialogue to have and one that needs to be continued. Dr. Rankine voiced her desire to return to the college again sometime in the near future.
CSCU Librarians Meet at Gateway

CSCU librarians and library directors from around the state gathered at Gateway Library in June to share new initiatives and best practices in instruction and assessment. The group also formed a task force charged with creating an information literacy introductory video for CSCU students. The video is scheduled to be out sometime in the Fall. Librarians will continue to meet and collaborate on ways to improve student learning outcomes across the CSCU system.

The library is pleased to announce that Miguel Garcia was selected for the position of Library Associate. Miguel brings his vast experience in higher education with him, having worked at Yale University, Fairfield University and SCSU. He received his M.L.S. in 2013 and Ed.D in 2011 and worked at Gateway library as an EA for 5 semesters. He has also taught as an adjunct professor at the college since 2013. Miguel will be in charge of Access Services as well as performing other essential library duties. Welcome!!!

Interim Library Director Appointed

Longtime Gateway librarian, Martha Lipowski, was recently appointed Interim Director of the library as former director, Dr. Clara Ogbaa, has accepted a position as Director of SCSU’s Buley Library. Martha began her career at the North Haven campus library 25 years ago as a library clerk. She credits former Gateway directors, Michele Cone and Dr. Ogbaa for their inspiration, vision and dedication and hopes to live up to their legacy. “Gateway has become my second family and the students have given me a real sense of purpose, for which I am truly grateful.” Martha also praises the library staff for their commitment to the students and the positivity and professionalism they bring to work everyday.

New Library Staff Member

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Sound Suppression System Installed in the Library

In order to improve the acoustic environment in the library, we have installed a sound masking system which includes white noise emitters throughout the library. These emitters cancel out the sonic peaks and valleys of library conversation and are much more comfortable than traditional white noise systems. We will continue to monitor the library environment and add additional acoustic improvements at a later date if deemed necessary.

HeinOnline Database Trial

This database features more than 100 million pages of content covering political science, criminal justice, women’s studies, religious studies, and more than 80 other subject areas. It also provides access to 300+ years of information on political development and the complete history of the creation of governmental and legal systems around the world. You can find it on the library’s homepage under Databases.

OWL at Purdue Website Revised

The popular online Writing Lab from Purdue University has revised their website and can now be found at https://owl.purdue.edu/. If you have a direct link to the old site, it will automatically redirect. This resource is extremely useful to anyone looking for help with MLA, APA or Chicago citation styles.

Research Help Available

Having trouble finding or citing sources for your paper? Schedule a Research Appointment with a librarian for one-on-one uninterrupted assistance. Call or stop by the library for more information. We’re here to help!

Book Club and Great American Read

This semester’s book club selection is Ernest Hemingway’s The Sun Also Rises. It was chosen from NPR’s Great American Read list, which was compiled from a survey of Americans’ most-loved novels. You can stop by the library for a copy of the book and join us for a discussion in the library on Oct. 24 at 12:30pm. For more information on the Great American Read or to see the complete list of the 100 titles, go to https://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/books/#/
Top Ten Reasons to Love Your GCC Library!

1. State of the Art Library & Learning Commons
2. Professional & Friendly Librarians
3. Self-Checkout System
4. C-Pods (Collaborative Workstations)
5. Group Study Rooms with Advanced Registration Online & In Person
6. Student-Centered Learning Spaces
7. Quiet Study Area
8. Ask/Chat/Text a Question
9. Laptops
10. Research Databases & eBooks Available 24/7

Library Drink Policy Amended

Beginning this Fall, library users can now bring water and other beverages in closed containers into the library. This change in policy was put in place to better serve our students who often spend many hours working and studying in the library. We hope this change will encourage even more students to come into the library and take advantage of all it has to offer.

Librarian Reads to LEAPers

Librarian Martha Lipowski joined a host of other volunteers on the New Haven Green July 13th for LEAP’s Annual READ-IN. Many dignitaries, including Mayor Harp and Senator Blumenthal, were also on hand to read to the children from LEAP summer camp. LEAP trains New Haven college and inner city public high school students each year to be counselors, mentors, tutors, and role models for younger children from high poverty neighborhoods. A very worthy cause and inspiring event for all those involved.

Gateway Library Staff

Fall & Spring Semester Library Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8am-9pm
Friday: 8am-6pm
Saturday: 8am-1pm
Sunday: Closed

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