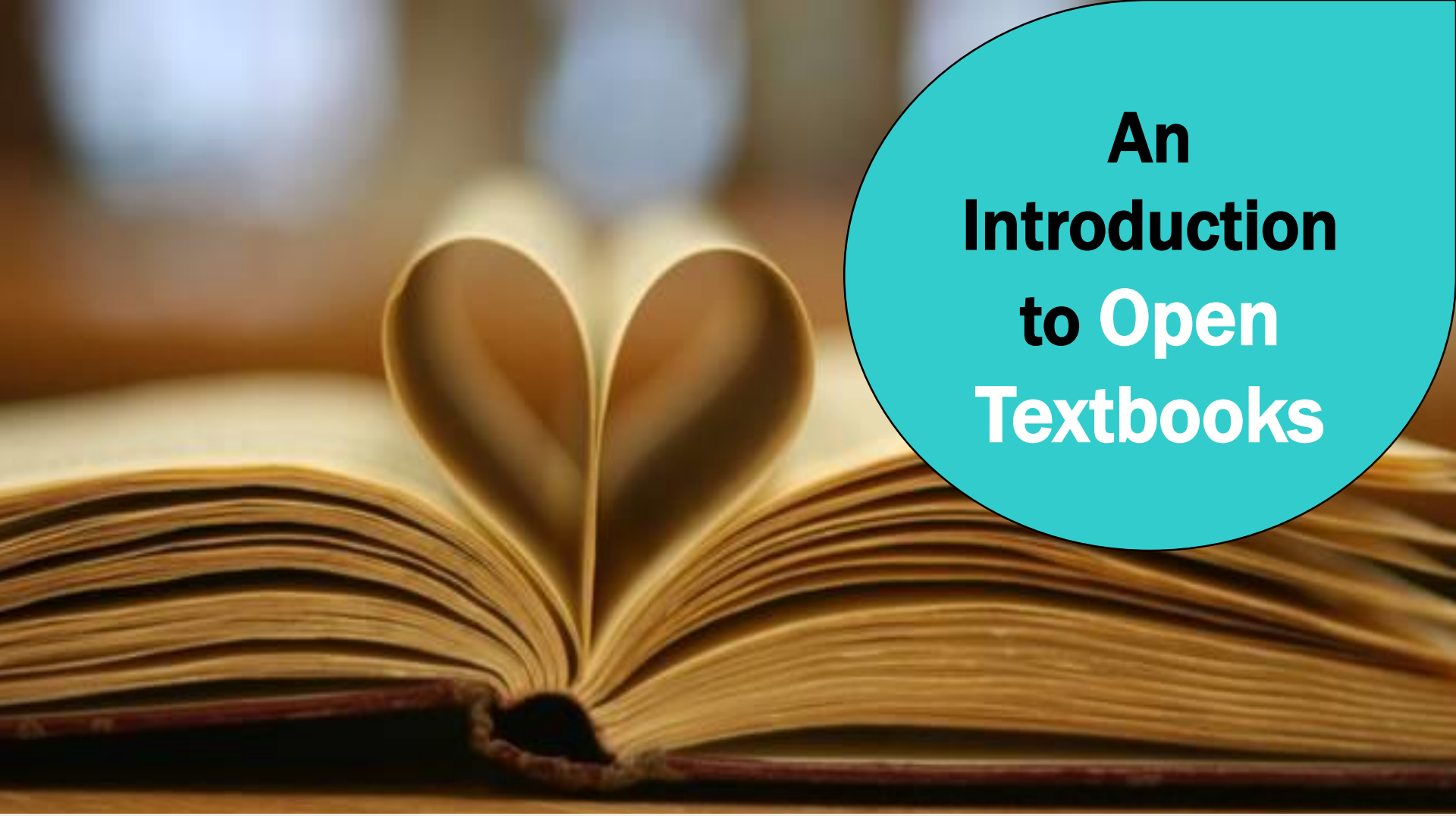

An Introduction to Open Textbooks

LIGHTENING STUDENTS' LOAD

Robyn Hall | Librarian | August 2015

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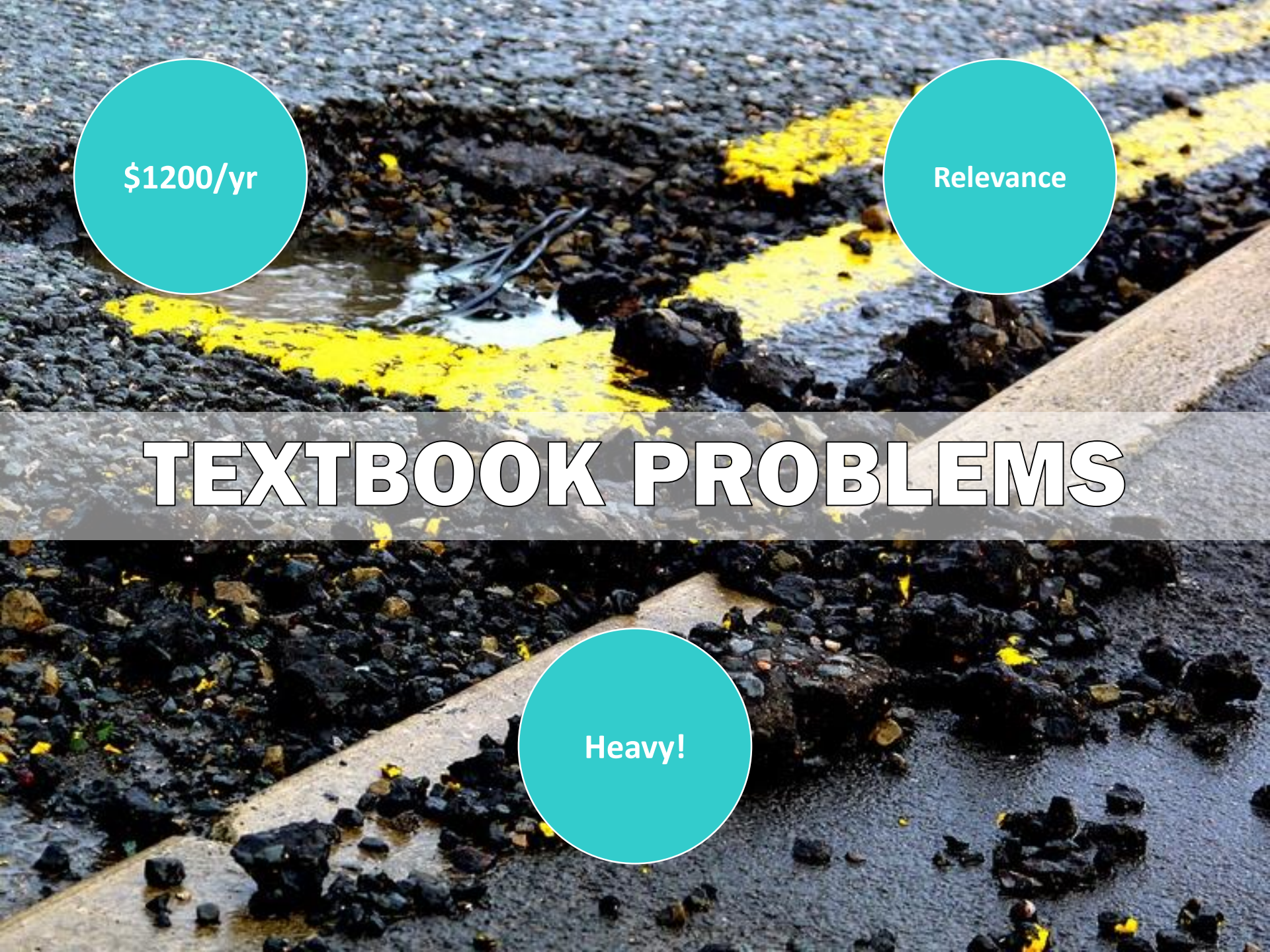
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U of A Textbook Initiative

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARIES NEWS

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UAL Launches New Course Textbook Initiative

Trish Rosseel | Monday, January 05, 2015 | slac , textbooks | No comments :

This term marks the launch of the University of Alberta Libraries [UAL] Course Textbook Initiative. The aim of this project, a UAL collaboration with the Students' Union and the Bookstore, is twofold: to increase student access to textbooks and offset student costs on them.

The first term of this initiative will see just over $100,000 allocated to the purchase of select course textbooks, funded by UAL and the Students' Union. After consultation with its new Student Library Advisory Committee, UAL has decided to prioritize the purchase of one copy of all undergraduate textbooks that cost $100 or more and that support courses with an enrolment of 50 or more students. A small portion of the budget will also be set aside to respond to individual requests for textbooks that fall outside of these two priority areas.

This new initiative will be reviewed at the end of each term to assess the use of purchased materials as well as purchasing priorities for future terms.

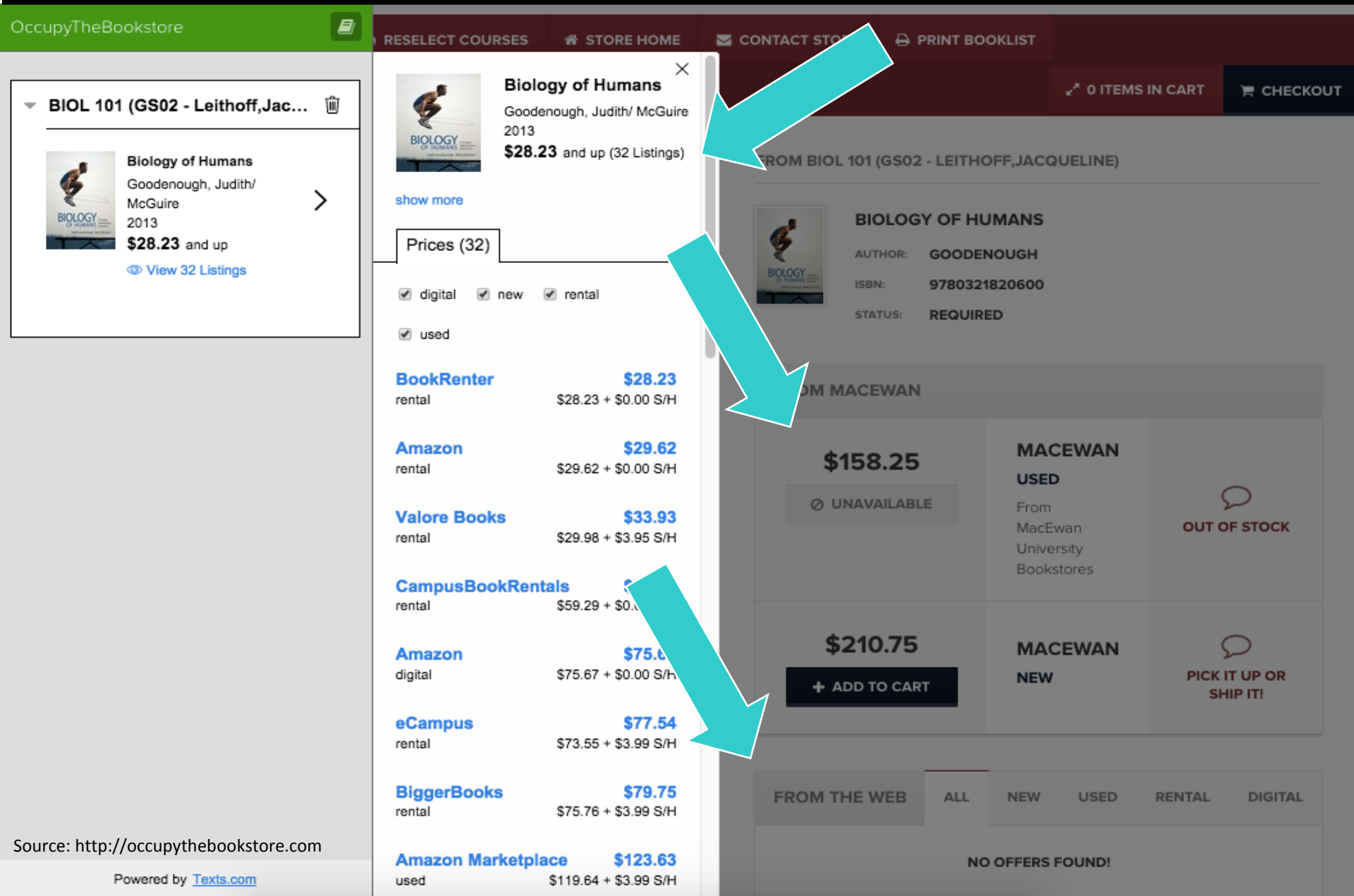
BLOG ARCHIVE

- ▼ 2015 (16)
  - ► July (2)
  - ► June (4)
  - ► May (4)
  - ► April (3)
  - ► March (1)
  - ▼ January (2)
    - UAL Engages Students to Enhance Library Services
    - UAL Launches New Course Textbook Initiative

LABELS

Source: http://ualbertalibrarynews.blogspot.ca/2015/01/ual-launches-new-course-textbook.html

Occupy the Bookstore



Source: http://occupythebookstore.com

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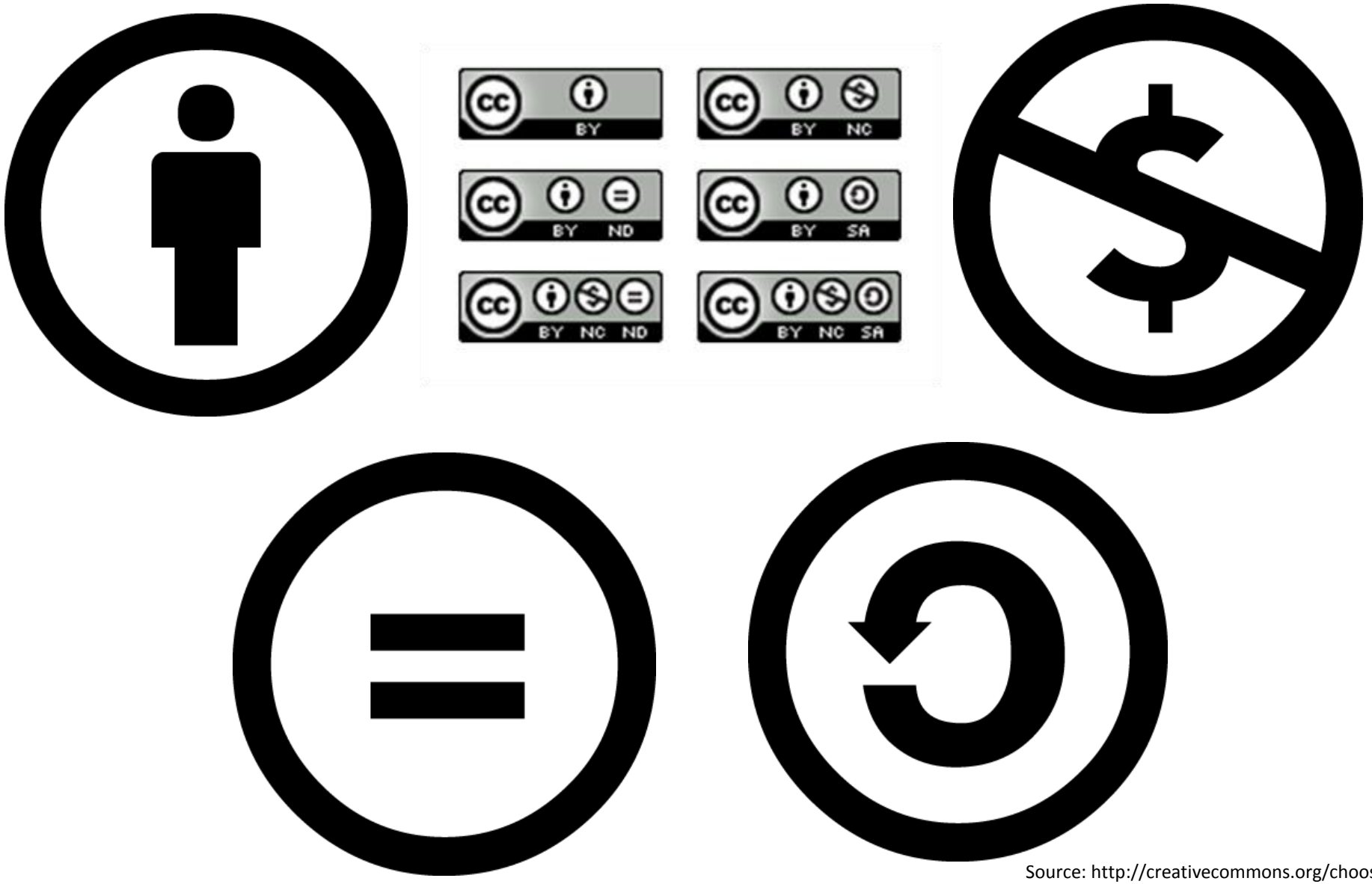

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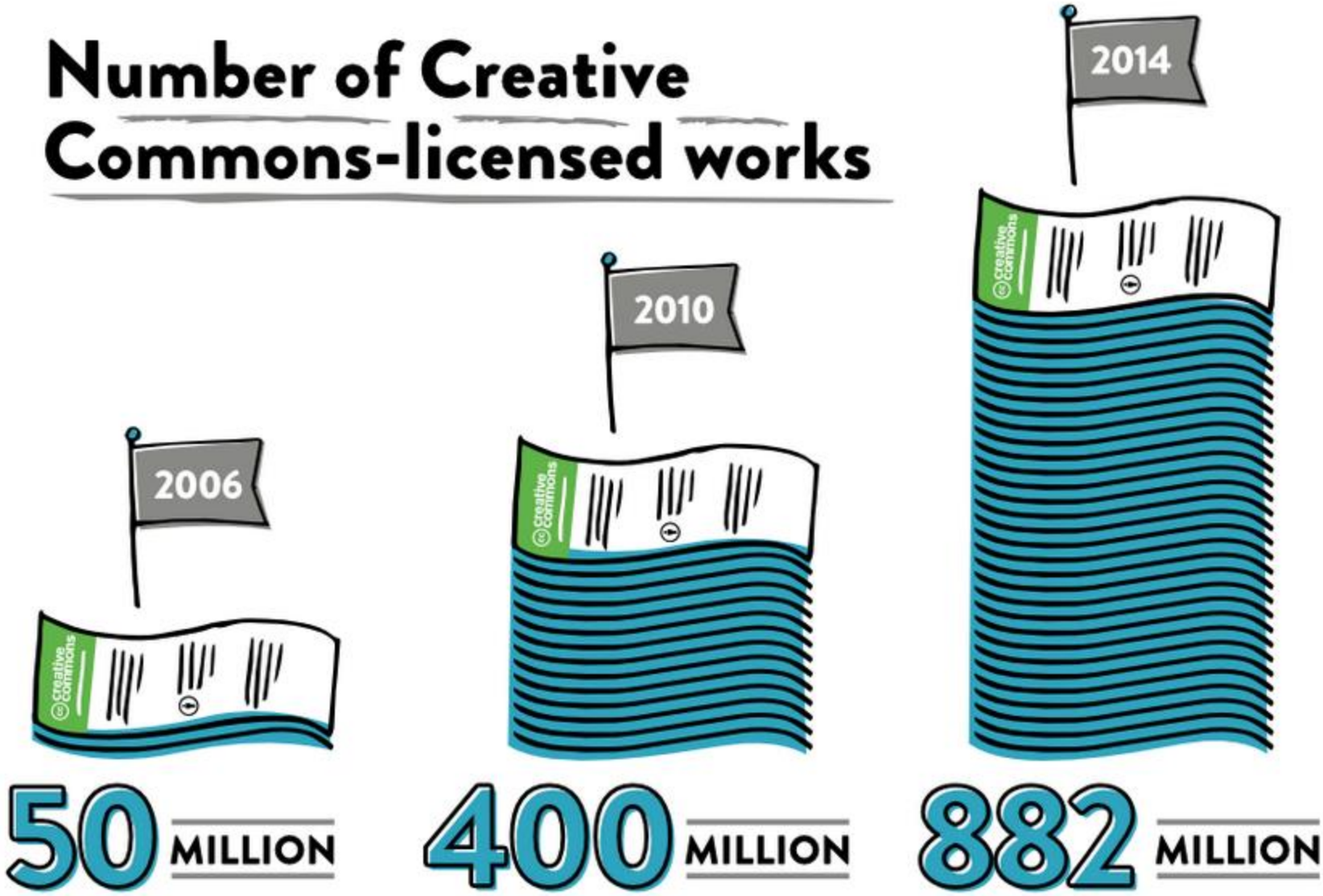

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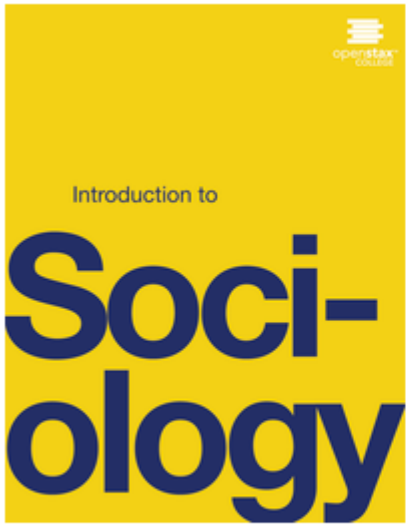

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Introduction to Sociology

Multiple Authors, OpenStax College

Pub Date: 2012

(7 reviews)

ISBN: 1-9381680-1-1

ISBN 13: 978-1-9381680-1-7

At a Glance

- Table of Contents
- About the Author(s)
- Reviews

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About the Book

Introduction to Sociology is intended for a one-semester introductory sociology course. Conceived of and developed by active sociology instructors, this up-to-date title will be ready for review and pilot in March 2012. This online, fully editable and customizable title indudes sociology theory and research; real-world applications; simplify and debate features; and learning objectives for each chapter.

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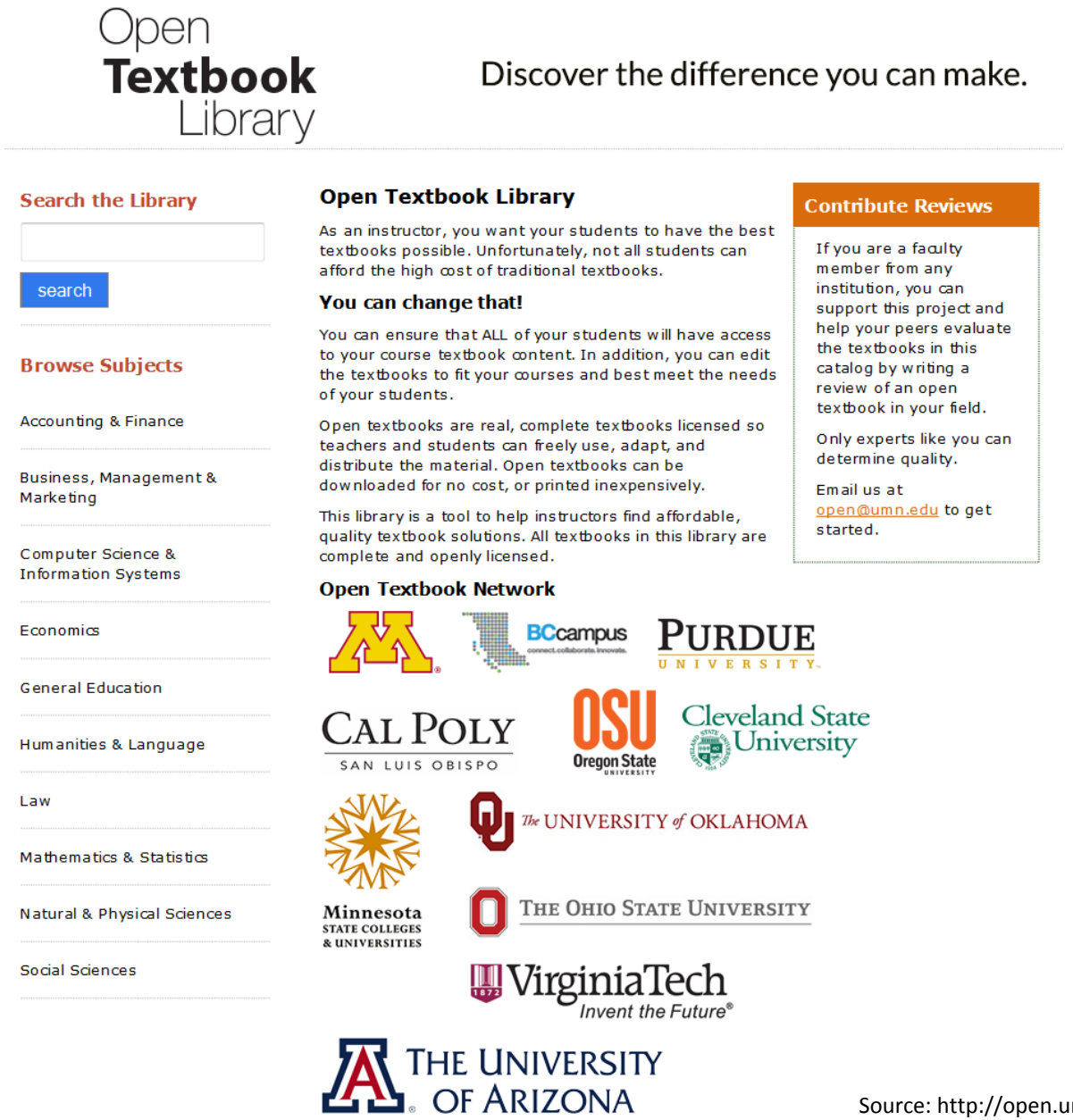

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Making Connections: Sociology in the Real World

Obama and Socialism: A Few Definitions

In the 2008 presidential election, the Republican Party latched onto what is often considered a dirty word to describe then-Senator Barack Obama's politics: socialist. It may have been because the president was campaigning by telling workers it's good for everybody when wealth gets spread around. But whatever the reason, the label became a weapon of choice for Republicans during and after the campaign. In 2012, Republican presidential contender Rick Perry continued this battle cry. A *New York Times* article quotes him as telling a group of Republicans in Texas that President Obama is "hell bent on taking America towards a socialist country" (Wheaton 2011). Meanwhile, during the first few years of his presidency, Obama worked to create universal health care coverage and pushed forth a partial takeover of the nation's failing automotive industry. So does this make him a socialist? What does that really mean, anyway?

There is more than one definition of socialism, but it generally refers to an economic or political theory that advocates for shared or governmental ownership and administration of production and distribution of goods. Often held up in counterpoint to capitalism, which encourages private ownership and production, socialism is not typically an all-or-nothing plan. For example, both the United Kingdom and France, as well as other European countries, have socialized medicine, meaning that medical services are run nationally to reach as many people as possible. These nations are, of course, still essentially capitalist countries with free-market economies.

So is Obama a socialist because he wants universal health care? Or is the word a lightning rod for conservatives who associate it with a lack of personal freedom? By almost any measure, the answer is more the latter. A look at the politics of President Obama and Democrats in general

Source: http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks

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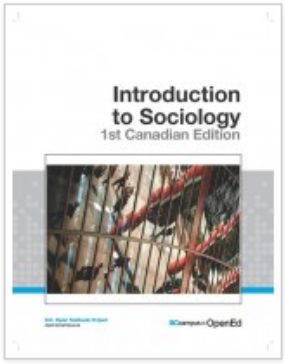
Introduction to Sociology - 1st Canadian Edition

Description: Introduction to Sociology adheres to the scope and sequence of a typical introductory sociology course. In addition to comprehensive coverage of core concepts, foundational scholars, and emerging theories, we have incorporated section reviews with engaging questions, discussions that help students apply the sociological imagination, and features that draw learners into the discipline in meaningful ways. Although this text can be modified and reorganized to suit your needs, the standard version is organized so that topics are introduced conceptually, with relevant, everyday experiences.

Author: William Little, University of Victoria, Ron McGivern, Thompson Rivers University, Nathan Keirns, Zane State College, Eric Strayer, Hartnell College, Heather Griffiths, Fayetteville State University, Susan Cody-Rydzewski, Georgia Perimeter College, Gail Scaramuzzo, Lackawanna College, Tommy Sadler, Union University, Sally Vyain, Ivy Tech Community College



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BCcampus OPEN TEXTBOOK PROJECT

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News / Calgary

Alberta post-secondary students push for 'open textbooks'

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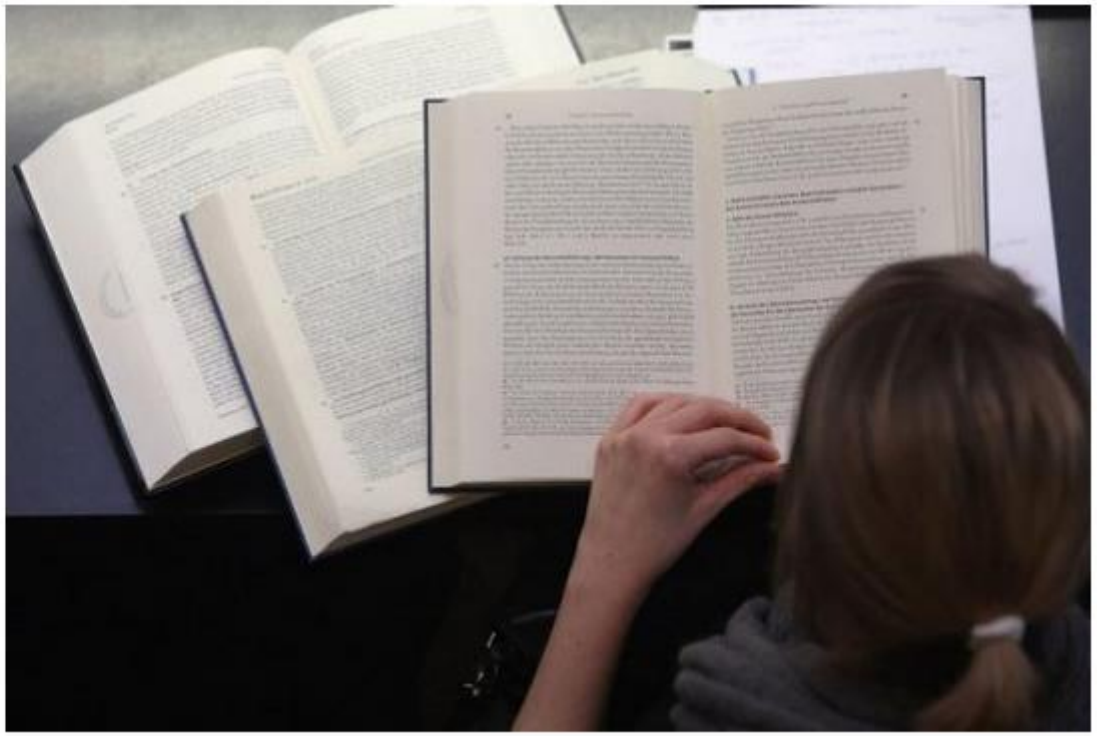

Source: http://www.metronews.ca/news/calgary/2014/01/30/alberta-post-secondary-students-push-for-open-textbooks.html

CAMPUS ALBERTA OER INITIATIVE

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Campus AB OER Projects

The Campus Alberta Open Educational Resources Initaitive is happy to announce 15 successful grant projects! We look forward to providing feature stories and updates on these projects throughout the duration (April 2015 - Dec 2015).

Institution	Project Title	Project Description
Athabasca University	Beginner Spanish OER Initiative	Create an Alberta based digital beginner Spanish grammar and culture textbook built on existing OERs aimed at first year post-secondary students beginning their studies of the Spanish language.
Athabasca University	Course Redesign: Health and Community Development	Full revision of Health and Community Development course; replace the textbooks and required readings with OERs; and develop a new study guide, reading file, assignments and exams.
Athabasca University	Creative Clinical Teaching in Health Professions: Open Access Textbook	Create an e-textbook: Creative Clinical Teaching in the Health Professions. It will replace costly print textbooks currently being used in one Athabasca University course.
Athabasca University	OER Textbook on Occupational Health and Safety	Create an OER occupational health and safety (OHS) textbook suitable for use at all Alberta PSEs.
Athabasca University	Physical Geography Course; open/mobile/self-guided field course	Create an online field course will provide convenient access to mobile technology-guided field trips covering fundamental aspects of physical geography and distributed across Alberta.
Athabasca University	Intermediate FinancialAccounting I and II OER Tutorial Project	Develop e-tutorials with audio for each of Intermediate I and II that parallel the OER content/questions/solutions which are in development already within AU.
Athabasca University	Improving Reading Skills for Success in	Develop an OER course to improve reading efficency - remedial instruction for

Source: http://www.albertaoer.com/

SUSTAINABILITY?

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OER SUPPORT?

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Learn More

Open textbooks and access to higher education? David Ernst at TEDxUMN https://youtu.be/DqHImIi8v5o

Open Textbooks FAQ - BCcampus http://bccampus.ca/open-textbooks-101/open-textbook-faq

Open Textbooks in Canadian Universities http://www.cbc.ca/player/Radio/Local+Shows/Alberta/ID/2442379615

Open Textbooks: The Current State of Play http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Documents/Quick-Hits-Open-Textbooks.pdf

On Quality and OER http://opencontent.org/blog/archives/2947

Why Are textbooks So Expensive? https://campusstore.mcmaster.ca/information/faq/cost.html

Open Pedagogy: The Importance of Getting In the Air http://opencontent.org/blog/archives/3761

slides: roam.macewan.ca

Open Access Mandates & the Future of Research Funding

TOMORROW! 1PM Rm. 7-269

Panel on Undergrad Publishing

Friday, October 23, 12:30PM Rm. 7-278

Recent Developments in the World of Open Access, Open Data, and Open Education

Thursday, December 3, 12PM 7-266A