



# The Future of Open Educational Resources in California

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Presentation at CCC Library Directors/Deans  
Meeting, March 5, 2016



# Outcomes

At the conclusion of the presentation, participants will know what OER stands for, what OER materials look like, how OER materials can be used to save students money and potentially improve pedagogy, and where to find OER materials.

# What is OER?

- Open Education Resources  
Teaching and learning materials that are freely available online for everyone to use, whether you are an instructor, student, or self-learner. Examples of OER include: course modules, syllabi, lectures, homework assignments, lab and classroom activities, pedagogical materials, games, simulations, and many more resources contained in digital media collections from around the world. (as defined by [www.oercommons.org](http://www.oercommons.org))
- OER most often refers to open access textbooks and ancillary materials that are available at little or no cost to students

# Why should OER matter to students?

How much are your textbooks costing students per semester/quarter?

## Example

### Introduction to Child Development

Commercial publishers hold a monopoly on the 2 primary textbooks for this course, with revised editions published every 3 years:

- *Developing Person*, pub Worth, **\$197**
- *The Developing Child*, pub Bee & Boyd, **\$209**

**In the California Community Colleges alone, more than 1000 students enroll in this course EACH SEMESTER. A low cost OER alternative would save students \$100 or more.**



# SB 1052/1053, CA-OER Council, and Open Source Digital Library

- The California State Legislature passed and the Governor signed SB 1052 and SB 1053 (Steinberg, 2012) for the California public higher education systems to create an online library of open educational resources and open textbooks
- SB 1052 authorized creation of CA-OER Council with the goal of identifying OER materials for 50 high impact courses across UC, CSU, and CCCs.
- SB1053 authorized development of a CA Open Source Digital Library

# CA-OER Council

- Composition defined by SB 1052
- Representatives from UC, CSU, and CCC (3 each) plus a project leader (non-voting)
- Coordination by CSU, but administered by Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates (ICAS)
- \$500,000 budgeted by SB 1053 with requirement for matching grant funds – matched by William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation





## CCC members on CA-OER Council

- Cheryl Aschenbach, Lassen College
- Dan Crump, American River College
- Dolores Davison, Foothill College

# CA-OER Council Responsibilities



Responsibilities defined by legislation are as follows (§66409):

- Select up to 50 lower division courses in the public postsecondary segments to target for the development and acquisition of digital, open source textbooks and materials.
- Create and administer a standardized, rigorous review and approval process for open source textbooks and related materials.
- Promote strategies for production, access, and use of open source materials.
- Regularly solicit and consider input from each segment's respective statewide student associations.
- Establish a competitive request for a proposal process in which faculty members, publishers, and other interested parties may apply for funds to produce the high quality, affordable, digital open source textbooks and related materials in 2014.
- Explore methods for reviving classic or well regarded, out-of-print textbooks in digital, open source formats.



# CA-OER Council Responsibilities



The Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates further defined the responsibilities of the council:

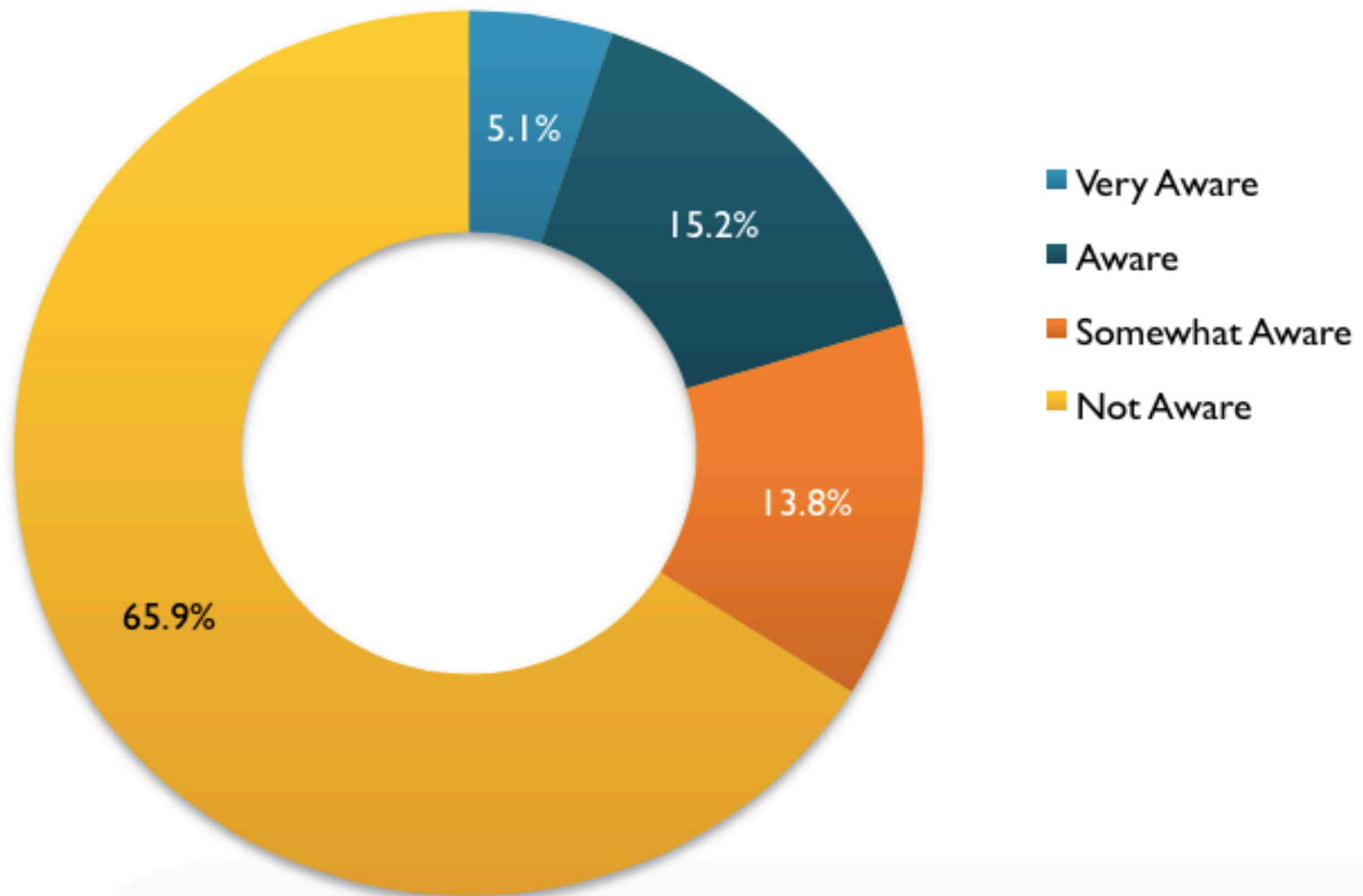
- Meet goals of SB 1052 legislation.
- Produce the deliverables specified in the Hewlett grant proposal timeline.
- Submit policies and processes to ICAS for review and approval; document and archive policies and processes approved by ICAS.
- Develop policies for building the collection of open textbooks in the California Digital Open Source Digital Library (CDOSL).
- Develop a process for review teams which will include: composition, timelines, rubrics for evaluating texts, minimum standard for text to be included in CDOSL, appeal process for authors, training necessary for review and normalizing, process for communicating names of texts approved for inclusion in CDOSL by discipline (or alternate way to categorize the texts).
- Send regular reports to ICAS about disciplines, texts, challenges, etc.
- Prepare content for the CDOSL website and ICAS webpage.
- Prepare and administer (or delegate) professional development opportunities by or across segments.

# Why aren't we using OER already?

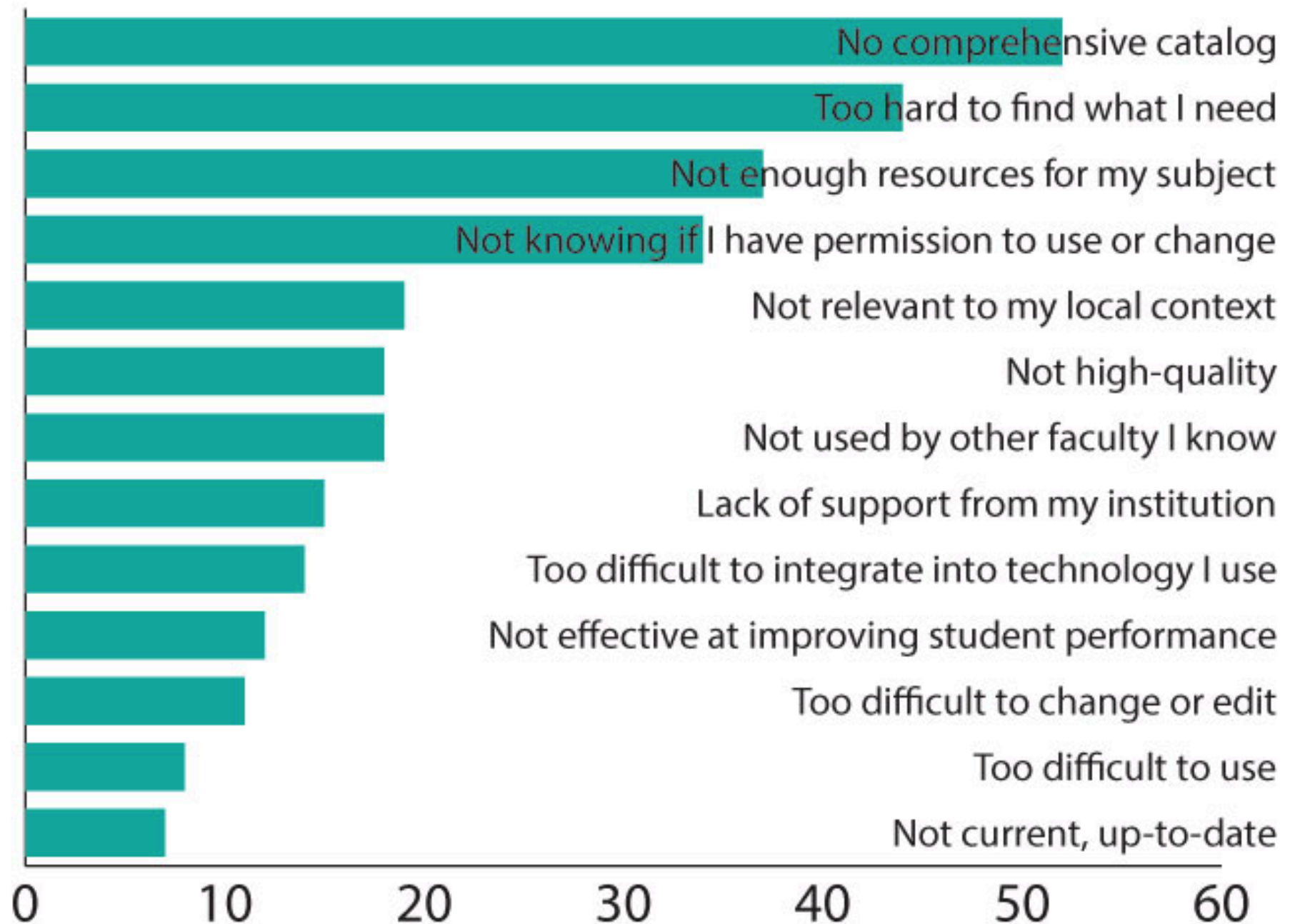
- Babson Study 2014 – nationwide survey of teaching faculty on awareness and adoption of OER:  
*Teaching faculty at institutions of higher education remain largely unaware of open educational resources (OER), but the potential exists for much wider adoption, according to a new report from Babson Survey Research Group and Pearson. The project, funded by a grant from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, surveyed a national sample of over 2,000 faculty members and found that OER status is not yet a driving force in adoption decisions for educational material.*

According to Babson Study, 66% of faculty are unaware of OER in general, while 75% are unaware when including a stricter definition of understanding the licensing issues

### AWARENESS OF OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

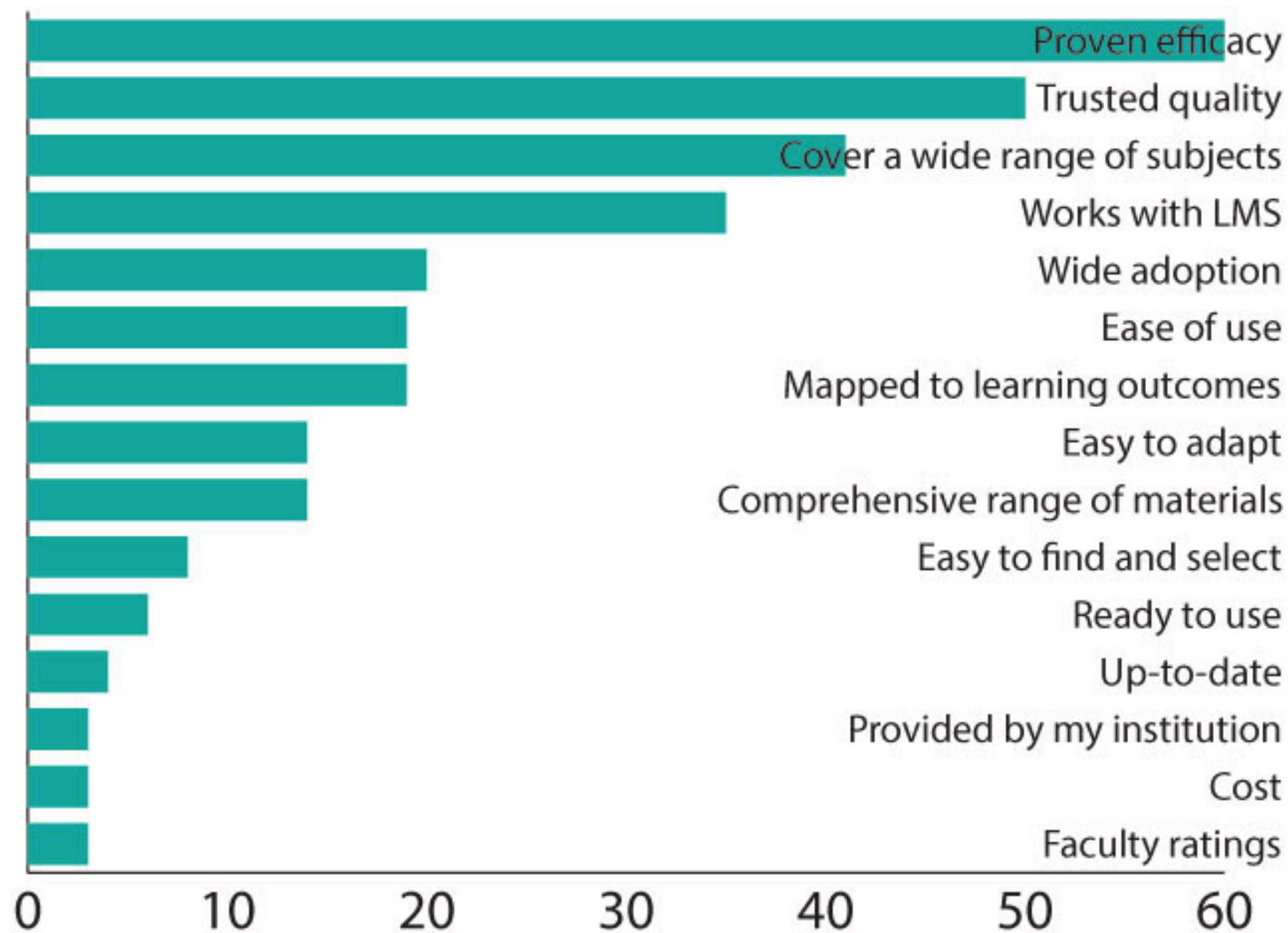


# Deterrents to Adopting OER



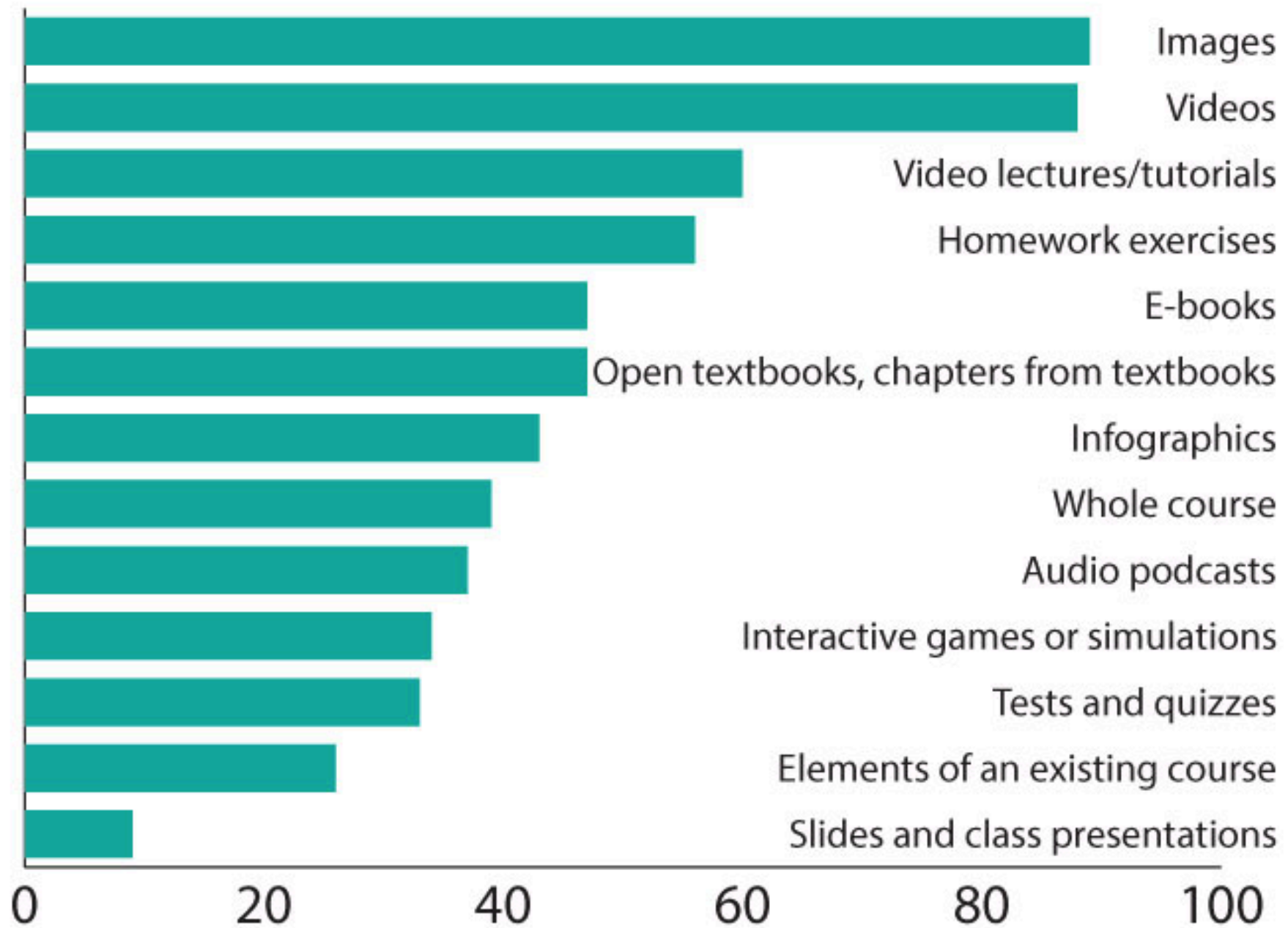
Source: Babson Survey Research Group, "Opening the Curriculum: Open Educational Resources in Higher Education, 2014"

# Most Important Criteria for Selecting Teaching Resources



Source: Babson Survey Research Group, "Opening the Curriculum: Open Educational Resources in Higher Education, 2014"

# Type of Open Educational Resource Used



Source: Babson Survey Research Group, "Opening the Curriculum: Open Educational Resources in Higher Education, 2014"

# What did SB1052 and 1053 do to change faculty awareness of OER in California?

- Selected 50 high impact courses
- Identified available free and open etextbooks
- Created and administered a rigorous review process
- Established COOL4Ed.org as a repository for free and open etextbooks and the reviews



# California Digital Open Source Library

- [www.coolforesd.org](http://www.coolforesd.org) or [www.cool4ed.org](http://www.cool4ed.org)
- COOLforEd = California Open Online Library for Education
- See courses listed by C-ID number
- Textbooks reviewed by faculty from all 3 systems
- Some textbooks noted as highly recommended based on faculty reviews
- Recommend additional OER etextbooks



# How can I find the reviews?

<http://coolfoed.org/courseshowcase.html>

	CID Number	Course	Course Description	More Info / Resources
	CHEM 101	Introduction to Chemistry	<a href="#">General Course Description</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Go to Additional Course Information</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to COERC Selected Open Textbooks</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to Open Textbook Peer Reviews</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to Open Textbook Faculty Showcase</a></li> </ul>
	COMM 110	Public Speaking	<a href="#">General Course Description</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Go to Additional Course Information</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to COERC Selected Open Textbooks</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to Open Textbook Peer Reviews</a></li> <li><a href="#">Go to Open Textbook Faculty Showcase</a></li> </ul>

# Where else can you find OER?

- Campus libraries – you may find material in the etextbook selections as well as through database subscriptions
- MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) - a curated collection of free and open online teaching, learning, and faculty development services contributed and used by an international education community. A program of the CSU: [merlot.org](http://merlot.org)
- OER Commons – Dynamic digital library and network [oercommons.org](http://oercommons.org)

# Where else can you find OER info?

- Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources
  - Established 2007 by Foothill-DeAnza CCD
  - Mission: expand access to education by promoting awareness and adoption of OER
  - <http://oerconsortium.org/>

# What is next for OER in CA?

- AB 798 (2015) – grants to implement OER in CSUs and CCCs.
- OER funding for CCCs in Governor's January budget  
\$5 million dollars proposed  
Z-degrees
- ASCCC Task Force on OER

# AB798 (Bonilla, 2015)

- College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015
- Established to reduce costs to by encouraging faculty to accelerate the adoption of lower cost, high quality, open educational resources
- Establishes the Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program
- Section 67423 of California Education Code, as amended by SB 798 (Bonilla, 2015) defines open education resources as “high-quality teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license, such as a Creative Commons license, that permits their free use and repurposing by others, and may include other resources that are legally available and free of cost to students. ‘Open educational resources’ include, but are not limited to, full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, faculty-created content, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.”

# AB798 (Bonilla, 2015)

Up to \$2 million may be used in CSU and CCCs for the following:

- Professional development for faculty; faculty may be compensated for PD
- Professional development for staff whose work supports providing students with OER
- OER curation activities
- Curriculum modification
- Technology support for OER adoption efforts

# AB798 (Bonilla, 2015)

## Requirements

- Local senates must (1) Approve a local resolution to increase student access to high-quality OER and reduce cost of textbooks and supplies for students in course sections for which OER are to be adopted and (2) Approve a plan
- Plan must evidence of faculty's commitment, detail technological or staff support to increase adoption of OER, how the faculty will learn about COOLforEd.org and other OE resources, and shall include the number of academic departments involved, the number of sections involved, and percentage of cost savings anticipated for students, the ways faculty PD will be enhanced, and mechanisms that will be used to distribute adopted OER

# AB798 (Bonilla, 2015)

## Requirements

- Plans shall commit to at least 30% cost savings in at least 10 course sections
- The grant request shall be equal to, or less than, the number of course sections in which EOR will be adopted and cost savings will be more than 30%, multiplied by \$1,000 (max \$50,000).
- RFP expected to be released in February with a June application deadline
- Toolkits will be made available by COERC, as will webinars and other outreach and assistance efforts



# Questions?

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• [COOL4ed.org](http://COOL4ed.org)