Scaling the Impact of the Affordable Learning Solutions Program: HBCU Leadership and Strategies for Faculty, Students, and Administrators

Robbie Melton, Tennessee State University,
Gerry Hanley, MERLOT & SkillsCommons
Scaling AL$ Programs

• Why Affordable Learning Solutions is so important
• To plan your AL$ program, we believe that you need to be
  • **Connected to a community** of people who have travelled the AL$ road and can advise you about your program.
  • **Supported with insights and creative strategies** that are working in HBCUs that might apply to your institution.
  • **Provided examples** of strategies and tactics so you can design an AL$ program that will fit your institution and community.

• During this workshop, we will provide your opportunities to develop your ideas about how you can design your AL$ program
Dr. Robbie K. Melton

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HBCU AL$ Program

- HBCU = Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- AL$ = Affordable Learning Solutions
- Goal: Design, Implement, and Sustain institutional strategies that significantly reduces the cost of course materials for students and improves student success.
students cannot learn from books they can’t afford
Every year, students spend more than $14 billion on college textbooks.

1. The College Board recommends that first-year students budget $1200 per year for books and supplies.

2. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reveals that textbook costs have increased at 4 times the rate of inflation in the past decade.

3. In response, large portions of the student population are forced to skip buying or renting their books, ultimately risking their grades and lowering the quality of their education.
Impact of Textbook Costs on Students

- Take fewer courses: 47.6%
- Don't register for a specific course: 45.5%
- Drop a course: 26.1%
- Withdraw from a course: 20.7%
- Earn a poor grade because I could not afford to buy the textbook: 37.6%
- Fail a course because I could not afford to buy the textbook: 19.8%
- Don't purchase the required textbook: 66.6%

Florida Virtual Campus
2016 Textbook and Course Materials Survey
FALL 2021

FACULTY & STUDENT OER SURVEY REPORT

HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions
Open Educational Resources
Professional Development
SMART Technology Innovation Center
Question 22. I found OER materials that are Culturally relevant?

FACULTY RESPONSES:

- Strongly Agree: 19.51%
- Somewhat Agree: 36.59%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 26.83%
- Somewhat disagree: 8.48%
- Strongly disagree: 2.44%
Activity...In the Chat...

• Does the affordability of course materials impact YOUR students?
• Do you think YOUR faculty are aware of and/or sensitive to the affordability of course materials?
• Could AL$ connect to a current strategic priority for your campus?
Analyzing Open Educational Resources at Historically Black Colleges and Universities
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- Funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Led by Tennessee State University
- Supported by California State University Long Beach, MERLOT
Demonstrate [www.hbcuials.org](http://www.hbcuials.org)

- Finding FREE CONTENT and Exploring the HBCU Cultural Collections
- Finding Open Educational Practices with Faculty Showcases
- Exploring AL$ Planning Tools and Resources
HBCU OER Cultural Curation Collections
http://www.hbcuals.org/cultural_collections.html

THE NEED
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION (DEI) CULTURALLY RELEVANT
OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCES

Tennessee State University
HBCU OER Cultural Curation Collections
http://www.hbcuuals.org/cultural_collections.html

THE GOALS

The HBCU Affordable Learning Community is building a collection of free and open educational resources to support faculty and students teaching and learning in Africana, African American, and Black Studies programs as well as bringing the Africana, African American, and Black Studies content and context into all disciplines. We know the topic areas within the collection will expand over time with the participation and leadership of the HBCU community.
HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions (AL$) Community Portal

In response to COVID-19, we have organized free resources to help teach and learn online.

HBCU Institutions Leading Affordable Learning Initiatives

Learn about HBCU histories

HBCU CULTURAL COLLECTIONS

HBCUs have been authoring and collecting educational resources that are inclusive of the African and African-American culture, priorities, people, events, accomplishments, and more. The HBCU Affordable Learning Solutions Community Portal will provide an easy-to-use collection of these free and open educational resources.

EXPLORE THE HBCU CULTURAL COLLECTIONS
Recognizing the Origins of Resources

Explore free and open educational resources across many disciplines that were AUTHORS by faculty affiliated with HBCUs and cataloged in the MERLOT collection

- Academic Support Services
- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Science and Technology
- Social Sciences
- Workforce Development

Explore free and open educational resources across many disciplines that were SELECTED AND SUBMITTED by faculty affiliated with HBCUs and cataloged in the MERLOT collection

- Academic Support Services
- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Science and Technology

More about this material

HBCU Submitter
Material Type: Collection
Date Added to MERLOT: February 14, 2011
Date Modified in MERLOT: October 10, 2021
Author: Richard Byrne
Submitter: Robin Blackman
HBCU CULTURAL COLLECTIONS

Explore the Africana, African American, and Black Studies collection in MERLOT.

Our initial priorities in building the collection are:

- General Collection
- Biographies
- Black History Month
- HBCU Histories

Explore free and open educational resources related to African topics across disciplines in the broader MERLOT collection

- Academic Support Services
- Arts
- Business
- Education
- Humanities
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Science and Technology

Explore the OER on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness

In Supporting Academic Programs

- Diversity, Equity, Inclusiveness
  - In Education
  - In Technology
  - In the Workplace
  - Policies
  - Research
  - Social/Cultural Aspects
  - Specific Populations

In Education

- Diversity
- Equity
- Inclusiveness

In Workforce Development

- Diversity
EXPLORE Resources from the National Museum of African American History and Culture

- Abolitionist movement
- Activism
- Actors and actresses
- Advertising
- African American - Latinx Solidarity
- African diaspora
- Agriculture
- American South
- American West
- Amusements
- Anti-apartheid movements
- Antislavery
- Architecture
- Art
- Associations and institutions
- Athletes
- BAM (Black Arts Movement 1965-1976)
- Band (Music)
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Beauty culture
- Beauty salons (Beauty shops)
- Free communities of color
- Freedmen’s Bureau
- Freedom
- Freemasons
- French colonialism
- Funeral rites and ceremonies
- Funk (Music)
- Gender issues
- Gesture
- Golf
- Gospel (Music)
- Government
- Graphic arts
- Great Migration (African American), 1910-1930
- Group identity
- Hair
- Harlem Renaissance (New Negro Movement)
- Hate crimes
- HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities)
- Health
- Hip hop (Music)
- Holidays and festivals
- Pullman Porters
- Race films
- Race relations
- Race riots
- Race
- Radio
- Ragtime (Music)
- Rappers (Musicians)
- Reconstruction, U.S. History, 1865-1877
- Reconstruction, U.S. history, 1865-1877
- Recreation
- Religion
- Religious groups
- Resistance
- Rhythm and blues (Music)
- Rock and roll (Music)
- Rural life
- Science
- Segregation
- Self-liberation
- Selma to Montgomery Marches
- Sexuality
Activity...In the Chat...

• How could your campus use the HBCU Cultural Collections?
• Would your faculty have free and open educational resources to contribute to MERLOT?
You need more than Affordable Content to create Affordable Learning Solutions
Affordable Learning Solutions

Institutional strategy to provide students no cost and low cost instructional materials that enable their successful learning and course completion.
Enabling Ecosystems with policies, leadership, business models

Developing Demand with communications, training, & professional development

Creating Capabilities with convenient & affordable access to content through technologies

Building Bridges between siloed groups that need to collaborate

Aggregating Assets Identify all the resources and organizations that can be part of the solution

AL$ Strategy for ROI
The HBCU Institutional Strategy
OER Campus Deployment – Best Practices

OER Campus Implementation

Provost/Chief Academic Officer

Full Time OER P.I. Data

College Discipline

Adoption Scholarship Support Planning Training

Department Discipline

**Pilot Faculty Department Chair **Pilot Faculty

OER Trainer Content Curator
Deployment Findings

Spring
Campus Awareness

Summer
Faculty Training
Curriculum Enhancements

FALL
PILOT I

SPRING
PILOT II

SUMMER
EVALUATION – UPDATE-TRAINING
TSU National Hub
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• Coordination of HBCU OER Training
• Coordination of HBCU OER Faculty and Student Survey
• Coordination of HBCU OER Webinars
• Coordination of HBCU OER Library Resources
• Coordination of HBCU OER Pilots
• Coordination of HBCU OER Cultural Collection in partnership with Merlot.org
DID YOU KNOW...

Tennessee State University
33 OER Pilot Faculty Members
14 Departments
2 faculty members per department
17 OER Campus Webinars for 2021
OUR IMPACT...

Tennessee State University
Student Savings of
$81,000.00

This Fall semester with just
33 faculty members using Free
OER materials
DR. EFFUA AMPADU
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Coordination of HBCU OER Webinars
Coordination of HBCU OER Surveys
Coordination of HBCU OER Academic Communities
Coordination of HBCU OER Faculty Out Reach
TSU ALS Portal
Overall Surveys: Recommendations

Faculty Recommendations:

- There is a need for training on the use of Creative Commons licenses.
- There is a need to increase the cultural collections.
- There is a need for updated discipline related OER Materials.
- There is a need for faculty training regarding the creation of OER materials.
OER WEBINARS
Every Tuesday 3:30 pm to 4:30 CST

TUES, APR 27
PLANNING YOUR ALS PROJECT
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJCKDUMOQZ0VHD3FGRWOH9F9KQBC1

TUES, MAY 4
SPECIAL SESSION: EMBEDDING OER INTO D2L
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJMLCUCTQZ8TETNP5WYN2Z0LUBKNG

TUES, MAY 11
EMBEDDING OER INTO COURSEWORK;
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJYOFGHRZIVGDGPS1DP2U_NC77667

TUES, MAY 25
MAKING MAGIC: TECH TOOLS TO IMPROVE AND USE OER
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJMPC-UHRJMRGNAFMLSAPLSV5K8HM2

TUES, JUN 8
MERLOT EDITORIAL BOARDS: GETTING INVOLVED IN WAYS THAT COUNT
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/95768413439?PWD=TLPPNRZU253MUX8ENIKEKXHCB

TUES, JUN 15
CUSTOMIZING YOUR MERLOT COLLECTION BY DISCIPLINE
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJMV6--UQDSQH92YXMJS82DM1LO16HP

TUES, JUN 22
BUILDING YOUR OER COLLECTION FROM MERLOT AND SKILLSCOMMONS
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJ0LFCUDPQDST1A1EDADG455U--BP55D

TUES, JUN 29
BUILDING YOUR OER COLLECTION FROM MERLOT AND SKILLSCOMMONS
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJ0LFCUDPQDST1A1EDADG455U--BP55D

TUES, JULY 6
BUILDING YOUR OWN WEBSITE/PORTAL
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJIKUC2TRDG9E9T5XSF4TDJONLX

TUES, JULY 7
BUILDING CONTENT SPECIFIC WEBSITES/PORTALS
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJVUD-1SRJGH9S4EF5V92JYF4P

TUES, AUG 10
MAKING MAGIC WITH SOFTCHALK: TECH TOOLS TO IMPROVE AND USE OER
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJ0VFUGORDIQHNEYJR4PNMT6GMI

TUES, AUG 24
MAKING MAGIC: TECH TOOLS TO IMPROVE AND USE OER
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJ0VCUMVPJ4OHTKYEJITZ3DPNKQC5

TUES, SEP 7
MAKING MAGIC: TECH TOOLS TO IMPROVE AND USE OER
HTTPS://ZOOM.US/METING/REGISTER/TJMVCUMUPJJ1ETBJARXVILQASRSRM
DR. O'KEEFE HASSELL
Learning Support Staff - Writing
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Overall Surveys: Recommendations

STUDENT RESPONSE: The feedback from the surveys indicate the following recommendations:

Students Recommendations:

- There is a need for OER awareness and benefits.
- There is a need for hands on workshops.
- There is a need for culturally related materials.
- There is a need for more information about OER in their discipline.
We established an Open Educational Resource Student Success Coach at TSU.

We established our OER bibliography library of TSU Current Students, Staff, and Alumni.
• Glover is the author of more than one hundred articles and papers, and is regarded as one of the nation's experts on corporate governance.

• She is a member of several professional, civic, and non-profit organizations, and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors.

• She is also the first black Female President of Tennessee State University and Alumnus of the school.
Edward Stanley Temple was a women's track and field pioneer and coach. Temple was Head Women's Track and Field Coach at Nashville's Tennessee State University for 44 years.

- Head Coach of the U.S. Olympic Women's Track and Field Team twice, in 1960 and 1964, and Assistant Coach in 1980.
- He has sent 43 TSU Olympians.
• Oprah Gail Winfrey (born Orpah Gail Winfrey; January 29, 1954) is an American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and philanthropist.

• She is best known for her talk show, The Oprah Winfrey Show, broadcast from Chicago, which was the highest-rated television program of its kind in history and ran in national syndication for 25 years, from 1986 to 2011.

• Dubbed the "Queen of All Media, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century, was once the world's only black billionaire, and the greatest black philanthropist in U.S. history.

• By 2007, she was sometimes ranked as the most influential woman in the world.

• Moreover she is a graduate of Tennessee State University.
Inventor, electrical engineer, and business executive Jesse E. Russell, Sr. was born on April 26, 1948 in Nolensville, Tennessee to Mary Louise Russell and Charles Albert Russell.

He was raised in inner-city Nashville along with his ten siblings. In 1972, Russell received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee State University.

As a top honor student, Russell became the first African American to be hired directly from a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) by AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Activity...In the Chat...

- What did TSU do that aligns with your campus priorities and culture?
- What might be one action you could take in the next 3 months that would be similar to TSU's actions?
What Resources Are Available for You and Your Campus?

Let's take a tour of the HBCU Affordable Learning Portal

www.hbcuals.org
Activity...In the Chat...

• Does the affordability of course materials impact YOUR students?
• Do you think YOUR faculty are aware of and/or sensitive to the affordability of course materials?
• Could AL$ connect to a current strategic priority for your campus?
Activity...In the Chat...

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• Do you think YOUR faculty are aware of and/or sensitive to the affordability of course materials?
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Summary Activity... In the Chat...

• What are the key take-aways or lessons you have learned from the workshop?

• Would you like to start an AL$ program at your institution in the next 3 months?
Discussion and Closing
THANK YOU!
Contact Us!

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