Proposal for ACHE/ACCS Open Educational Resources Grant

For Academic Year 2018-2019

Submitter Name	Dr. Jessica Temple
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Submitter Campus Role *(Faculty/Team Lead, Grants Office Representative, Academic Affairs Office Representative, etc.)*	Faculty/Team Lead
Applicant Name *(Faculty/Team Lead; must be an implementing faculty member)*	Dr. Jessica Temple Instructor Department of English & Foreign Languages Alabama A&M University
Applicant Email Address	jessica.temple@aamu.edu
Applicant Phone Number	256.372.7149 (office) 205.792.1035 (mobile)
Applicant Job Title and Department, Division, School, etc.	Instructor Department of English & Foreign Languages College of Education, Humanities, and Behavioral Sciences
Applicant Institution Name	Alabama A&M University, in collaboration with Jefferson State Community College
Other Team Members **(***Name, Title, Department, Institutions if different, and email address for each)*	Jody Jones, Instructor, English & Foreign Languages, Alabama A&M University jody.jones@aamu.edu Ashley Harlan Kitchens, Associate Dean - Clanton Campus, Jefferson State Community College akitchens@jeffersonstate.edu Dr. Jarrod Patterson, Assistant Professor, English & Foreign Languages, Alabama A&M University jarrod.patterson@aamu.edu Kiietti Walker-Parker, Instructor, English & Foreign Languages, Alabama A&M University kiietti.parker@aamu.edu
Sponsor Names, Title, Department, Institution *(for each letter of support)*	Dr. Pamela Arrington Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Studies Alabama A&M University

Proposal Title	OER Conversion for English 101/Composition I at Alabama A&M University		
Award Category *(Check only one):*	☐ **Small-Scale Alteration ($250 - $1,000**	☐ **Medium-Scale Conversion ($1,000 - $3,000)**	☒ **Large-Scale Transformation ($3,000 - $5,000)**
Amount of Funding Requested:	$	$	**$4,000**
Projected Impact	**Estimated Number of Students Impacted Annually** (From GRAND TOTAL "A", Page 2)	**Projected Total Annual Student Cost Savings** (From GRAND TOTAL "B", Page 2)	**Average Projected Cost Savings Per Student** (Divide GRAND TOTAL "B" by GRAND TOTAL "A"
	1725	$110.25	$190,181.25

Information on Courses Targeted for OER Implementation

Course Number and Name *(Example: ENG 101 English Composition I)* *(Insert additional rows as needed to accommodate all courses affected at all participating institutions, including sections offered by different delivery if they use different learning materials)*	Institution	Estimated Annual Enrollment	Cost Per Student for All Currently Required Learning Materials	Cost Per Student for All Proposed Required Learning Materials	Savings Per Student After Implementation of Proposed OER	Total Annual Projected Student Savings
ENG 101 English Composition I	Alabama A&M University	1725 (based on enrollment SU17, FA17, SP18)	$110.25	$0	$110.25	$190,181.25
A. GRAND TOTAL:		1725			**B. GRAND TOTAL:**	$190,181.25

Note: Each course targeted for OER implementation under this grant program must be taught during both fall and spring semester of the 2018-2019 academic year. The team lead must teach at least one section of each course during each semester.

NARRATIVE

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: *(1) In the space below, discuss the goals of the project. What do you hope to achieve?*

One of the most crucial financial barriers that often impedes student learning and course satisfaction at Alabama A&M University (AAMU) is the cost of textbooks: sixty percent of the students in Composition I do not purchase the text, resulting in a high failure rate. The goal of this project is to increase passing rates in Composition I by replacing the traditional textbook with Open Educational Resources (OER).

(2) Describe the student learning materials (textbooks, lab manuals, homework/test systems, supplementary reading material, etc.) that are currently required in each course, tell which of those are targeted for replacement with OER, and tell whether you plan to replace these by adopting existing OER, revising existing OER, or creating completely new OER.

Composition I courses currently require the textbook *St. Martin's Guide to Writing* that comes bundled with an access code to LaunchPad, Macmillan's intuitive interface online course management tool with an eBook, video and audio resources, adaptive quizzing, and online grammar and writing tutorials and practice opportunities. The bundle is available at AAMU's on-campus bookstore for $110.25. There are no rental or used textbook options available via the on-campus bookstore due to the inclusion of the unique access code. If students elect to rent the textbook or buy used off campus, they must purchase a LaunchPad code as well, at a cost of $50, adding to the total cost for course material beyond their initial rental or used book fees. Many individual instructors choose to supplement the standard text with additional readings and multimedia materials. This project seeks to replace the *St. Martin's Guide*/LaunchPad bundle with by revising existing OER and tailoring them to meet the needs of A&M students.

ACTION PLAN*: In the space below, describe the role of each project team member and the work or activities expected from them.*

There are four project team members from Alabama A&M and one team member from Jefferson State Community College who will be working to find OER materials that will specifically resonate with A&M's student population.

Ashley Kitchens, JSCC, will act as a mentor and support during the entire project timeline. Kitchens will initially meet with the team from Alabama A&M to discuss current class structure and intended class structure. After the initial meeting, Kitchens will provide resources currently used by JSCC faculty or produced by JSCC faculty, including diverse readings, lectures, lab materials, writing prompts and exercises, and video or social media supplemental materials. After Alabama A&M faculty have chosen and put together the complete ENG 101 class structure, Kitchens will assist in housing materials in an accessible location for all faculty at A&M. Kitchens will also assist in writing the final assessment for the project.

Dr. Jessica Temple, Jody Jones, Dr. Jarrod Patterson, and Kiietti Walker-Parker, Alabama A&M, will all participate in gathering current data for the English 101 classes and will all be integral in developing A&M's new OER ENG 101 program. Initially, all four team members will meet to develop the benchmark questionnaire for the instructors and students in the ENG 101 classes this fall. After Patterson, Temple, and Walker-Parker collect the surveys, Walker-Parker, with assistance Jones, will collect and compile all data at the end of the semester to create the initial data report.

All of the named team members from A&M will meet with Ashley Kitchens and the group will develop a "wish list" of readings, media, supplementary lab materials, and assignment databases/test banks for the OER ENG 101 class. Kitchens will supply the group with any materials needed in this discovery stage.

Jody Jones and Jessica Temple will evaluate textual materials suggested by Kitchens and found on their own during the discovery process. Textual materials will include diverse readings and instructional material, test banks, and homework, exercise, and assignment materials.

Jarrod Patterson and Kiietti Walker-Parker will evaluate supplemental digital material suggested by Kitchens and found on their own during the discovery process. Digital materials will include grammar and usage labs and films, documentaries, PSAs, interviews, blogs, social media, and other visual/written items found digitally that will be relevant to the operation of the course.

Once the teams have evaluated all materials, the group of five—both JSCC and A&M—will reconvene to assess each group's findings and work with A&M's Learning Resource Center to organize material and house it in a collective, accessible location. The group as a whole will create a structured ENG 101 class schedule for the OER course's pilot semester; the group will also develop the pilot class questionnaire to be given to students upon completion of the pilot OER class(es) in the spring of 2019. Dr. Temple will administer surveys at completion of the course and collect the surveys, then compile all data at the end of the semester to create the pilot report.

The team will then convene to talk about concerns or needed changes and write the final report. The group from A&M will plan and implement a professional development day prior to the start of Fall 2019 classes for English 101 instructors switching to this method of instruction.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT: (*1*) *In the space below, describe the institutional support that will be made available for the project, including any in-kind financial support, assistance from instructional or graphic designers, help with writing, editing, research, etc.*

The current University strategic plan outlines a commitment to provide institutional support for innovative instructional methods, course design, and curriculum development to faculty. This project will include support from the Office of Academic Affairs, College of Education, Humanities, and Behavioral Sciences, and the Department of English and Foreign Languages through in-kind support and release time. It will also include support from divisions campus-wide: The University library will provide access to the electronic subscriptions and serve as the OER repository; Information Technology Services (ITS) will provide assistance with Blackboard course shells,

website design, and technical support; and the Alabama A&M University Writing Center (AAMU WC) will provide workspace and computer access.

- (2) *Think about the individuals (other than students) and departments, divisions, or schools that have a stake in the success of this project. If the project is successful, what support from these stakeholders can you expect for continued use of the implemented OER? What evidence exists that this expectation is reasonable? Use the space below to answer these two questions.*

Upon the successful completion of the project, it is expected that key administrators at the University will recognize the need to further support faculty in their pursuit of innovative teaching methods. At this time, computer learning and study labs are accessible to students throughout campus. However, the success of this project will be a springboard for further university support in increasing the number of technology-rich classrooms. This directly affects the faculty pursuit of innovative teaching as outlined in the strategic plan.

The Department of English and Foreign Languages produces the most credit hours in the College of Education, Humanities and Behavioral Sciences (CEHBS) and is one of the largest departments on campus. Moreover, every student must pass English 101 before graduating from the University, making it an ideal course for testing OER with A&M students. The successful implementation of this project can be an example for implementing OER in General Education courses throughout the department, the CEHBS, and the University.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN: *What is your plan for offering the course in the future, including maintenance, enhancement, and updating of course materials?*

The long-term plan following successful implementation in the course targeted is OER adoption for all ENG 101 sections. If the course is successful, then the use of OER's will be expanded to Composition II ENG 102. Further, this course will provide a model for OER conversion in other courses within the department and beyond.

Because online resources are added and updated constantly, the shift to OER texts for any course requires frequent monitoring and regular faculty reviews. This can be accomplished with a check-in system each semester that asks ENG 101 instructors report any technical difficulties, factual errors, ease of use concerns, or information gaps in the OER materials. Furthermore, an annual review of the OER materials should be conducted each summer to address faculty concerns and make any necessary updates or additions by the committee.

BUDGET

In the table below, please list all anticipated expenses to complete the project. Include personnel (salaries, replacement costs for release time, overload pay, etc.) and other project expenses including software, supplies, equipment, travel, etc. Insert additional rows as needed.

EXPENSE CATEGORY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	VALUE OF INSTITUTIONAL IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	PROJECT TOTAL
AAMU - 2 Projectors (for use in non-equipped classrooms)		$1100	$1100
AAMU Printing and Misc. Office Supplies (paper, ink, etc.)		$200	$200
AAMU Personnel: -4 faculty members at $500 each overload pay each for work outside of the scope of regular duties, including research; locating, adapting, and/or creating course materials; and data collection, compiling, and reporting -support staff	$2000	$500	$2500
AAMU Travel Expenses	$1000	$500	$1500
JSCC Personnel	$500	$1560	$2060
JSCC Printing and Misc. Office Supplies	$100	$100	$200
JSCC Travel Expenses	$400		$400
GRAND TOTALS	$4000	$3960	$7960

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS: *A letter of support must be provided from the sponsoring area (unit, office, department, school, library, campus office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, etc.) that will be responsible for administration of funding. Letters must reference sustainability. In the case of multi-institutional affiliations, all participants' institutions/departments must provide a letter of support.*

ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY

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Mr. Ron Leonard, Director of the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries
Alabama Commission on Higher Education
100 South Union Street
P.O. Box 302000
Montgomery, AL 36130-2000

Dr. Vicky Ohlson
Alabama Community College System
135 South Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36104-4340

May 30, 2018

Dear Mr. Leonard and Dr. Ohlson:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of the Open Educational Resources (OER) grant application, OER Conversion for English 101/Composition I submitted by Dr. Jessica Temple, Instructor, Department of English & Foreign Languages. With the primary goal to replace the required textbook for ENG 101/Composition I at Alabama A&M University (AAMU), Dr. Temple and her team will use their time and expertise for research; locating, adapting, and/or creating course materials; and data collection, compiling, and reporting, all activities completed outside of the scope of their regular classroom teaching and advising duties.

The required textbook for ENG 101/Composition I is St. Martin's Guide, which comes bundled with an access code to LaunchPad, Macmillan's intuitive interface online course management tool. The cost of the required textbook at the AAMU bookstore is $110.25. The OER Conversion grant application asks for funds to pay faculty for their time and effort in developing a no cost OER alternative of similar quality to the current required textbook. The project is a large scale transformation project, affecting 1725 students annually and will result in OER adoption by multiple instructors at AAMU.

Already Dr. Temple and her team have been collaborating with Academic Advisors and Tutors within the Freshman Academy since summer 2017 to pilot and implement co-remediation

classes in ENG 101/Composition I. The opportunity to submit this large-scale transformation OER grant application for ENG 101/Composition I coincides with that ongoing collaborative work designed to increase passing rates in ENG 101/Composition I. Replacing the traditional textbook with OER will aid in achieving this goal.

For all of the above reasons, I am in total support of the OER grant application. It will enable us to replace an existing $110.25 textbook with a no-cost OER alternative of similar quality, reducing students' textbook costs for a high priority general education course. ENG 101/Composition I is one of the high priority general education courses approved by the Articulation and General Studies Committee for transfer among Alabama public institutions.

Best regards,

Pamela G. Arrington, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President,
Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Studies

June 11, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am happy to submit this letter of support for Ashley Kitchens and her grant application for the ACHE/ACCS Open Educational Resources (OER) Grant Program. I am excited about the possibility of Ashley being able to use her previous work with OER and expand it to help other institutions with their efforts.

Ashley is the perfect instructor for this grant and will be able to use the information gained from her own efforts with OER to impart her knowledge to other instructors. Ashley has an enormous amount of experience with using OER after creating an English composition textbook to use with her courses. She has worked with our Library Director to completely digitize her textbook. They have also helped other instructors from various subject areas with creating internet pages that house OER lessons and materials. I am very confident that Ashley can lead a group of instructors from other colleges toward successful OER management.

I fully support Ashley in these efforts and will allow her the time she needs to devote to this endeavor. I look forward to seeing the success of this project with other instructors and throughout the ACCS system. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Danielle Coburn
Dean of Instruction
Jefferson State Community College