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Feedback: OER activities on campus and recommendations on the role the library could play

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OER definition ⭐ OER activities

Definition: "any educational resources … that have been designed for use in teaching and learning that are openly available for use by educators and students, without an accompanying need to pay royalties or licence fees" (Butcher 2015:5)

Activities:

- Existing OER's that were *used or adapted* for teaching and learning

- OER's *created* for teaching and learning

Our findings: Faculties

- Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and IT
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
- Faculty of Theology
- Faculty of Veterinary Science
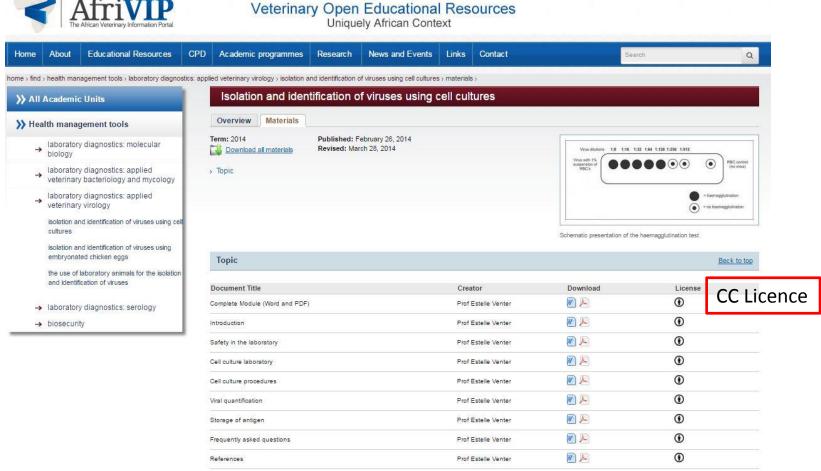- GIBS Business School
- Mamelodi Campus

Summarised as:

- Lecturers are not aware of what OER's are and are therefore not using it
- Lecturers are unsure where to find and how to create OER's
- Lecturers are unsure if self-compiled work guides or study material can be regarded as OER's
- Lecturers need advice on where to store or upload OER's
- Lecturers use or create YouTube videos and narrated PowerPoint presentations (Public, unlisted or private options)
- Lecturers want advice on copyright issues
- The allocation of Creative Commons licences to OER's is currently limited
- Lecturers need advice on taxonomies and metadata when implementing an open access information portal (AfriVIP)
- Lecturers agree that the use of OER's fit in well with the UP's strategic goal with regard to hybrid teaching and learning

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AfriVIP – Faculty of Veterinary Science

Our findings: Education Innovation

- They promote hybrid learning, a mix of face-to-face teaching and online learning tools and products, which may include OER's.

- The implementation of OER's is not high on the institutional agenda right now, but possible budget cuts may give impetus to a greater OER initiative.

- AfriVIP, initiated by the Veterinary Science faculty remains the main initiative that Education Innovation is aware of on campus.

- The current UP policy on intellectual property remains a stumbling block.

- At this stage, a search facility for MERLOT is integrated with ClickUP. Material can be searched from within a module and free material found in the MERLOT collection can be inserted. http://eduvation.up.ac.za/help/images/Hybrid_fair/Merlot_Fair_poster_electronic.PDF

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Our findings: Intellectual Property Office

- An intellectual property policy that includes the institution's position on matters of open education and the creation of open education resources under creative commons licensing, is of utmost importance to create an enabling environment for the implementation of OER's.

- The IP policy of the university is currently being revised.

Our findings: Enterprises UP

- The possibilities for using OER's in continuing education programmes are abundant.

- Enterprises seem to battle with getting the CPD/OER programme off the ground

- The "Professional Online Development" offering on the web links to Open Education Resources available on UPSpace and AfriVIP.
  http://www.up.ac.za/en/teaching-and-learning/article/2201271/professional-online-development-pods

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Professional Online Development

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Professional Online Development (PODs)

Professional Online Development

PODs
Professional
Online Development

Open Education Resources (OERs)

Freely accessible resources for teaching, learning and assessment purposes made available through collaborative research initiatives.

UPSpace

AfriVIP

Available anywhere, at any time

Underpinning the strength to encapsulate real-time engagement, develop h   meet an ever-growing demand for online learning – as key components of UP' hybrid   g – the POD offering includes Open education resources (OERs)   and various online short   where, at any time.
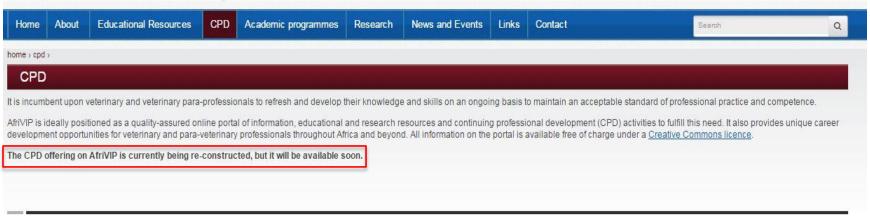
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AfriVIP: CPD offering

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South African Universities

WITS

- LibGuides page on the implementation of OER's at WITS - http://libguides.wits.ac.za/c.php?g=145371&p=953197
  - "An enabling strategy for free and open educational resources at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg", approved by Senate in June 2011.

- Joint open access seminar hosted by Wits Library, Research Office, Centre for Learning, Training and Development (CLTD), and the Wider Gauteng IR Forum, 1 December, 2016
  - Fiona MacAlister, OER specialist - WITS Centre for Learning, Training and Development, presented a paper on '*MOOCS and OER's on the go at WITS*.'
    - The library and the Centre for Learning, Training and Development are currently collaborating on the development of a joint OA/OER policy.
    - the OA/OER policy and the IP policy should inform each other (MacAlister 2016)

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UCT

- "Research on OER for Development" ROER4D http://roer4d.org/ hosted at the Centre for Innovation in Learning & Teaching

- Their Open Access Policy saw the light in 2014 and encourages all forms of works of scholarship which includes educational resources.

- Their open access repository OpenUCT http://open.uct.ac.za is used to house open educational resources

- Upon submission, a contributor chooses a creative commons licence to allocate to his work and library staff checks for copyright violation and that the material does not conflict with UCT's Intellectual Property Policy. (Cox & Claassen 2016)

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UNISA

- A vast amount of information about OER's is available on the UNISA webpage under UNISAOpen http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Unisa-Open

- Unisa has an approved OER strategy and an OER coordinator appointed in the Pro Vice-Chancellor's Office.

- Results of survey done in 2014 to determine the level of OER knowledge and participation and knowledge of IP rights and licensing.
  - sufficient knowledge and understanding about OER's existed
  - general lack of knowledge about copyright and open licences.
  - the *use* of OER's opposed to the *creation* of OER's was more frequent (De Hart, Chetty & Archer 2015)

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Essential elements for success

- Policies on Intellectual Property, Copyright, ICT and Open Access

- Legal expertise with regard to advising people on creative commons licensing, copyright and intellectual property rights

- Technical and material design expertise

- Appropriate technology infrastructure

- Storage space for OER products e.g. an open access online repository

Recommendations on the role the library could play

- Become part of the process of finalising policies on Intellectual Property, Copyright, ICT and Open Access
- Supply advice on locating available OER's (provide lists of OER search engines and repositories)
- Provide storage space for OER products in UPSpace and promote the current content
- Supply advice on copyright and creative commons licencing
- Make clients aware of what OER's are and what benefit lecturers/students can derive from its' use.
- Collaborate with Education Innovation and remind lecturers of the role Education Innovation can play in the creation of educational resources
- Supply advice on the importance of metadata and taxonomies to improve the discoverability of material
- Set an example by creating or making use of OER's for library training

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Thank you

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