Session Agenda

- What is CCCOnline?
- Setting the Stage - Panel Interview
- What is a Culturally Competent and Relevant Z-Degree?
What is CCCOnline?

We offer students an online alternative to their courses and programs generally offered in a traditional platform.

We support the diverse needs of students through a virtual educational option that provided greater access to college.

- 230 courses
- 452 instructors
- Over 2300 sections annually
- 15-, 10-, and 6-week terms
Who are our students?

CCCOnline’s students body is a diverse configuration across Colorado’s urban and rural communities.

33% of CCCOnline’s students represents underserved groups with over 80% being nontraditional adult learners.

Average Age: 29

66% White
16% Hispanic
8% Black
5% Asian
2% Native American

35% Male
66% Female
Ask Yourself …

Why is it important to understand “who your students are?”

We cannot see our students. Right?
Why should you know who your students are?

1. Teach students from different backgrounds.
2. Avoid offending other people.
3. Avoid lawsuits and adverse publicity.
4. Feel more secure with students with values, opinions, and priorities different from our own.
5. Learn to be mindful of students who have different needs.
6. Establish a classroom environment that uses the full potential of all its people.
7. Learn to motivate learners with different learning styles.
8. Combat prejudice and injustice.
9. Create effective teamwork for student projects.
10. Articulate lesson plans and knowledge transfer with international students.
11. Articulate lesson plans and knowledge transfer with students from different social economic groups.
12. Assuring that lessons and grade variance supports learning for all students.
Who Do “WE” Serve?

Dimensions of Diversity Can Be Fixed, Fluid, Visible, or Invisible
CCCOnline’s ECE Initiative

Area
- Early Childhood Education

Scope
- OER redesign aligned with Statewide ECE program requirements

Goal: Z-Degree

What is a Z-Degree?

A Z-Degree is a pathway to a degree or credential that has zero textbook costs by using course materials made up of open educational resources (OER).
Considerations for Adopting a Z-Degree

Opportunities
- Student Access
- Student Cost

Challenges
- Long-term maintenance
- Culturally Relevant materials
Our course development story … unfolds.
Centralized Course Development Process
What is OER?

○ Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and repurposing by others.

○ OER include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.

*Wiliam and Flora Hewlett Foundation (2017)*
What is OER at CCCOnline?

- No required textbook costs to student.
- May include lab kit, microscope, hardware, software, calculator, etc.
- Combination of learning objects, self developed, internet, videos, library.
Course Development Process

THE IDEAL TEAM
- LIBRARIAN
- SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT
- INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGNER
- PROGRAM CHAIR
Solutions for Different Learners

1. Google Translate
2. OER
3. Simulations
4. Gamification
5. Videos - YouTubeEdu Videos
6. Classroom Interactive Polling, Contests, etc.
7. Purchase Images to reflect community
Z-Degrees for Culturally Competent Learning

1. Expand your boundaries by considering full scope of student populations (backgrounds, styles, needs, abilities, limitations)

2. Be Creative - learn about the guidelines (boundaries) of the system, University Resources, and nature of student population

3. Communicate with flexibility - be open to the “oops”
CCCOnline Z-Degree Outcomes

Student Outcomes

• Access to all learning material for courses with no charge outside of their tuition.

• Culturally competent learning experiences facilitated through innovative technology applications.

• Associate’s degree with no textbook fees
Organizational Outcomes

• ECE Associate’s degree program to include major courses and electives using OER resources.

• Convert existing course offerings to the OER format.

• Offer all courses in the OER format.
CCCOnline Z-Degree Cost Benefit to Students

234 SP19 Sections SAVING STUDENTS $372,315

ECE Z-Degree SAVING STUDENTS $50,548
Thank you
Questions ... Discussion