



COMMUNITY

A catalyzing force for open access

Chemistry faculty member finds periodic use of these resources increases teaching quality – and seats at the table.

MARCH 6, 2018
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PHOTO BY: JULIE STRASHEIM



When Emily Ragan, Ph.D., began the process of redesigning one of her introductory courses, the assistant professor of chemistry stumbled upon an instructional element she hadn't considered.

And the result of it caused quite a reaction.

“My sessions with MSU Denver’s instructional designers really opened my eyes to the possibilities of using open educational resources (OERs),” she said.

Now an advocate, Ragan recently chaired the OER Council for the Colorado Department of Higher Education with the passage of state Senate Bill 258.

The council’s work paved the way for a newly proposed legislative effort which, if approved by all members of the Joint Budget Committee, will introduce a measure in the 2018 session’s long bill continuing to raise awareness of OERs and fund their implementation with the establishment of a grant program.

“For me, it was an energizing and

“The way we interact with educational content is continually changing – so our approach to delivering that could, too.”



So, what are OERs? Broadly speaking, they’re high-quality curated resources that are open and freely licensed, said Taylor

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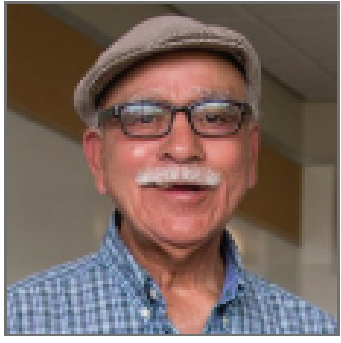
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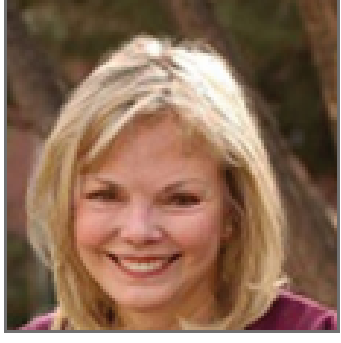
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