Agenda

1. Who are we?
2. An alternative approach to publishing
3. Why “collaboration”? Why “community”?
4. The new platform (+ demo)
5. Future plans: Projects
6. Future plans: Communities
7. Get involved!
Mission

“We are building a global community (people, practices, tools) that works together to create, publish, adapt, and maintain open educational resources/open textbooks.”
Who are we?

- Non-profit based in Montréal, QC
- Funded by the Hewlett Foundation
- Working to develop a collaborative, community-driven model for open textbook publishing
- Part of the Rebus family (including the Foundation & Rebus Ink) - reimagining the publishing ecosystem on open principles
- Have worked hands on with ~30 open textbook projects with collaborators around the world to develop model
An alternative approach to publishing

- Working to facilitate creation & collaboration on OER globally - not a ‘publisher’ ourselves in the traditional sense
- Making the publishing process accessible, replicable, scalable and less of a mystery
- Power in the hands of creators who know best what they need
- No gatekeepers, lowering the barriers to participation
- All subjects, all languages, everywhere in the world
- Building accessibility, technical best practices, diversity & inclusion and open values directly into the publishing process
Why “collaboration”? Why “community”?

- Creation is always collaborative
- “Myth of the author”
- Be deliberate about it, open up possibilities, share the load
- Collaboration = working together towards a shared goal
- Community goes further = shared investment, shared vision, shared values, support of one another’s goals
- Community investment is critical to long term success & sustainability of OER (see: open source model)
- What’s the experience like for people? How can we make it better?
Tool & resources

- Extensive documentation of publishing process - videos, summaries, and...
- ... an open textbook on open textbook publishing! The Rebus Guide to Publishing Open Textbooks (So Far)
- A Guide to Making Open Textbooks with Students
- Office Hours with OTN (next session: Strategies for Invisible Labour in OER)
- Newly relaunched platform!
  - Support forum for open textbook publishing
  - Contributor marketplace
  - Your own project discussion space
Demo time!

Follow along:
www.rebus.community
Start a Project

This will be your project’s home. It allows you to host conversations with your team, and it makes your project easier to find.
Welcome to the Rebus Community!

We are a global community working together to create and share Open Educational Resources (OER). Here you’ll find people, processes, and tools to support your publishing efforts. You can use this platform to:

- give and receive guidance on publishing open textbooks
- post and respond to calls for contributors, and
- connect with global communities that are changing the world through Open Education.

We are making books to build communities, and building communities to make books. Join us!

We have a new look! Find out more about the changes and share any feedback or bugs you come across.

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GET STARTED
Introduce yourself, meet other members, read the community guidelines, and learn about the platform.

HELP & QUESTIONS
Give and receive advice about publishing open textbooks and OER in general. Post questions or feedback about the platform.

CONTRIBUTOR MARKETPLACE
Post or respond to calls for authoring, editing, reviewing, and more. Brainstorm about new open textbook projects.
Help & Questions

Give and receive advice about publishing open textbooks and OER in general. Post questions or feedback about the platform.

BUILDING A TEAM & PROJECT SCOPING
Identifying a core group of participants and laying down an organizational framework are the start of a successful project.

CREATING AND EDITING CONTENT
Whether writing text or making charts, structuring chapters or proofreading, content creation and editing go hand-in-hand.

PEER REVIEW & OTHER FEEDBACK
Ensure the quality, accuracy, and credibility with feedback from peer reviewers. It’s a key step for OER projects.

FORMATTING & RELEASE PREPARATION

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

ADOPTIONS, ADAPTATIONS & MAINTENANCE
# Contributor Marketplace

Post or respond to calls for authoring, editing, reviewing, and more. Brainstorm about new open textbook projects.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>REPLIES</th>
<th>VIEWS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>🗣 Spread the word in the Rebus Community newsletter</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>7d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🗣️ How to offer and find help</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>23d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>🗣️ Brainstorm about new projects</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>23d</td>
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<tr>
<td>🗣 About the Contributor Marketplace category</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23d</td>
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<tr>
<td>🗣 Resource: Recruitment Guide</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24d</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**News, Discussion, Events**

Share your announcements, news, and upcoming events. Start a discussion on the OER theme of your choice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>REPLIES</th>
<th>VIEWS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours: The Invisible Labour of OER (25 April 2019, 2pm EST/ 6pm UTC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who's your OER superstar?</td>
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<td>Beyond OER: What other kinds of openness are present in your life?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spotlight: Up and comers in OER!</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Open Textbooks In Development

Browse in-progress open textbooks, contribute your skills to one or more projects, and share new releases.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR PROJECT
Share all the details about your latest OER project: its content, scope, participants, subject, timeline, and more.

HOW TO START A PROJECT
This platform is for you: connect with collaborators, create your open textbook, help build a community.

THE ReBUS GUIDE TO PUBLISHING
A repository of collective knowledge, written to help you create, publish, and promote your open textbooks.

NEW RELEASES

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY

BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS IN COLLEGE AND CAREER
# How To Start A New Project

To begin an open textbook project, create a new topic below. In 1-3 business days, your project will receive a dedicated project home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>REPRIES</th>
<th>VIEWS</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✪ Create a New Project</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>✪ About the How to Start a New Project category</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>27d</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to learn Cree or an indigenous language</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7d</td>
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<tr>
<td>How does one actually get a project going here?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>12d</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous (Inclusive Version) - 3pm EST</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>13d</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Replies</td>
<td>Views</td>
<td>Activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Summary</td>
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<td>3.1k</td>
<td>18d</td>
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<tr>
<td>About the Introduction to Philosophy category</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>28d</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Discussion: Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>321k</td>
<td>Feb 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Sign-up</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>9.9k</td>
<td>Feb 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Leads Discussion</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5.4k</td>
<td>Oct '17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future Plans: Projects

- Redesigning Project Homepage
- Refining project creation flow & opening up to anyone
- More project tools:
  - volunteer mechanisms
  - activities & tasks
  - templates & guides
  - Dashboards
- Searchable project directory
- Support offering:
  - Publishing capacity building
  - Ongoing project support
LGBTQ STUDIES: AN OPEN INTRODUCTION

Description

About this Project

*LGBTQ Studies: An Open Introduction* will be an introductory level LGBTQ Studies OER text. The few textbooks in this area tend to lack a social science perspective, focusing instead on the humanities and the arts. This project will address contemporary LGBTQ social issues from the perspective of the social sciences — sociology, anthropology, political science, psychology, and the human services. In addition to the main text, the goal of the project is to create OER video introductions to key theorists and their work in LGBTQ studies.

Recognition

Resources

Team

Allison Brown
Project Manager

Nadine Fernandez
Member

Deborah Amory
Lead Author

Rae-Anne Montague
Contributor

Andre Ford
Reviewer
Future Plans: Communities

- Community spaces in the platform
  - Discussion space for community members
  - Associated projects
  - Tools to support managing a set of projects
  - Dashboards!

- Provides space & support to coordinate OER creation efforts
  - Community-maintained environmental scans
  - Skills exchange between projects
  - Sharing news, collaborating on funding applications etc.

- Enables communities to take ownership of the creation process & develop content that meets their specific needs
Future Plans: Communities

● Subject/discipline communities:
  ○ Nursing
  ○ Psychology
  ○ Trades

● Institutional communities:
  ○ HBCUs
  ○ State/provincial systems
  ○ Individual institutions

● Regional Communities:
  ○ Tanzania
  ○ Francophone West Africa

● Language Communities:
  ○ Franco-Canadian
How can you get involved?

- **Create a project homepage!**
- **Ask & answer questions about OER publishing, program management, or anything else**
- **Find a project to contribute to**
- **Join us for our monthly Office Hours event** (co-hosted with the Open Textbook Network)
- **Use & review our open textbook on open textbook publishing**
Questions?

@zwhnz
@RebusCommunity

Join us at: www.rebus.community!
Thank you!

@zwhnz
@RebusCommunity

Join us at: www.rebus.community!
Resources

- Visit the Rebus Community
- Read *The Rebus Guide to Publishing Open Textbooks (So Far)*
- Read *A Guide to Making Open Textbooks with Students*
- Watch our video series on making open textbooks
- Watch our Office Hours webinars
- Join the next Office Hours live
- Sign up for our newsletter (end of page)