Making Open* Textbooks

I would encourage someone who's thinking of writing an open textbook to go for it.

Cailie Finlayson, Author

You can't beat the creative and editorial control that comes with self-production.

Ralph Morelli, Author
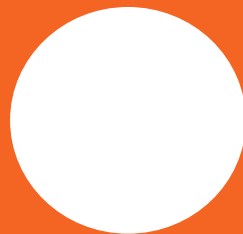
The process was a bit like remodeling a house.

Anita Walz, Librarian

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Finding the *Suite* Spot

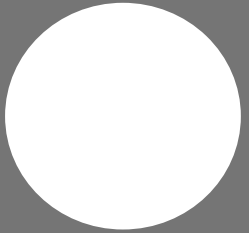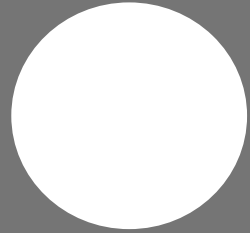Karen Lauritsen, Open Textbook Network

What do you need to make an open textbook?
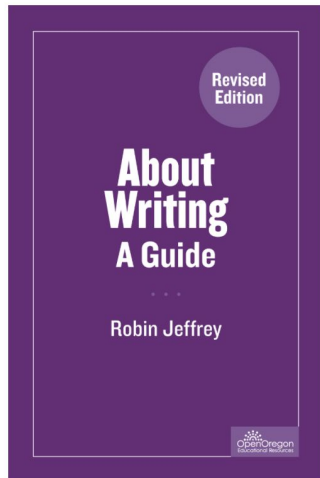
It depends!

Mandi Goodsett, Barbara Loomis & Marsha Miles (2016) **Leading campus OER initiatives through library–faculty collaboration**, College & Undergraduate Libraries, 23:3, 335-342, DOI: 10.1080/10691316.2016.1206328

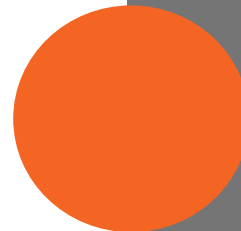# Open Textbook Library

Student Success

About Writing: A Guide

Robin Jeffrey, Klamath Community College

This writer's reference condenses and covers everything a beginning writing student should need to successfully compose college-level work.

Read more ›

(6 reviews)

Publishing Needs

Options! The Open Textbook Network supports a diverse community of educational institutions and the common good.

➔ **Flexible**
   Can work in various staffing and funding scenarios.

➔ **Scalable**
   Can grow with the open community.

➔ **Affordable**
   Won't break the bank.

3 Models

A suite of services can meet the diverse needs of our members **and** the open community. Mix and match.

➜ **1. Community (DIY) Support**
People helping people

➜ **2. Tools Development**
Technology to make it easier

➜ **3. Partner Press Pilot**
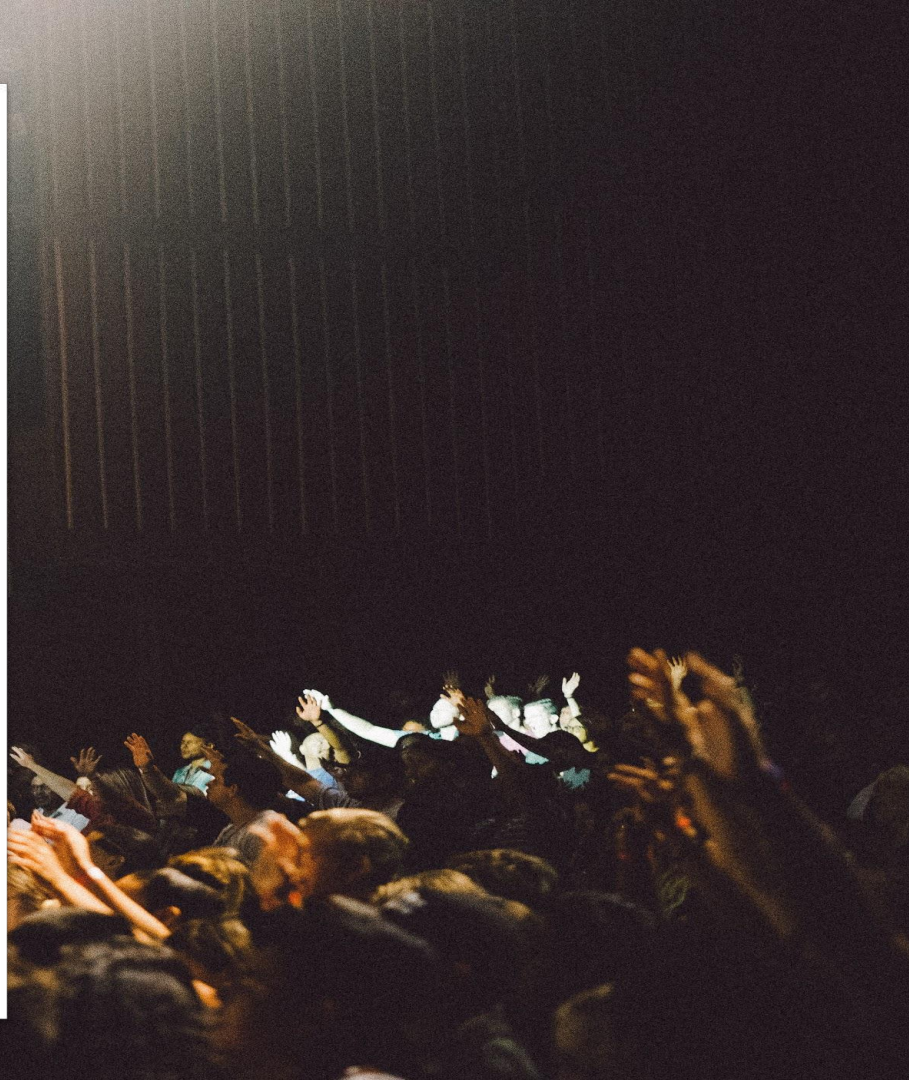Cooperative access to services

1. Community Support

People helping people. Support leverages community experience and is (mostly) available to everyone, everywhere.

➔ **Access to Resources**
   Guides, tips, templates, people, training

➔ **Open to All**
   Guides, tips, templates are openly available for authors and those who support authors

Meet Anita.

She's a librarian at Virginia Tech. Recently, she supported a faculty author in writing and publishing *Fundamentals of Business*.

"Many tasks were more complex and required more time and effort than we had anticipated."

Community

Anita wants to share what she learned. She's just that type of person.

Examples

Authoring Open Textbooks
(Today!)

Modifying an Open Textbook:
What You Need to Know
(Nov. 2016)

Published (CC BY)
Open Textbook Network

Community Support

➔ Open Textbook Network
➔ Rebus Community
➔ Templates and forms
➔ Author management
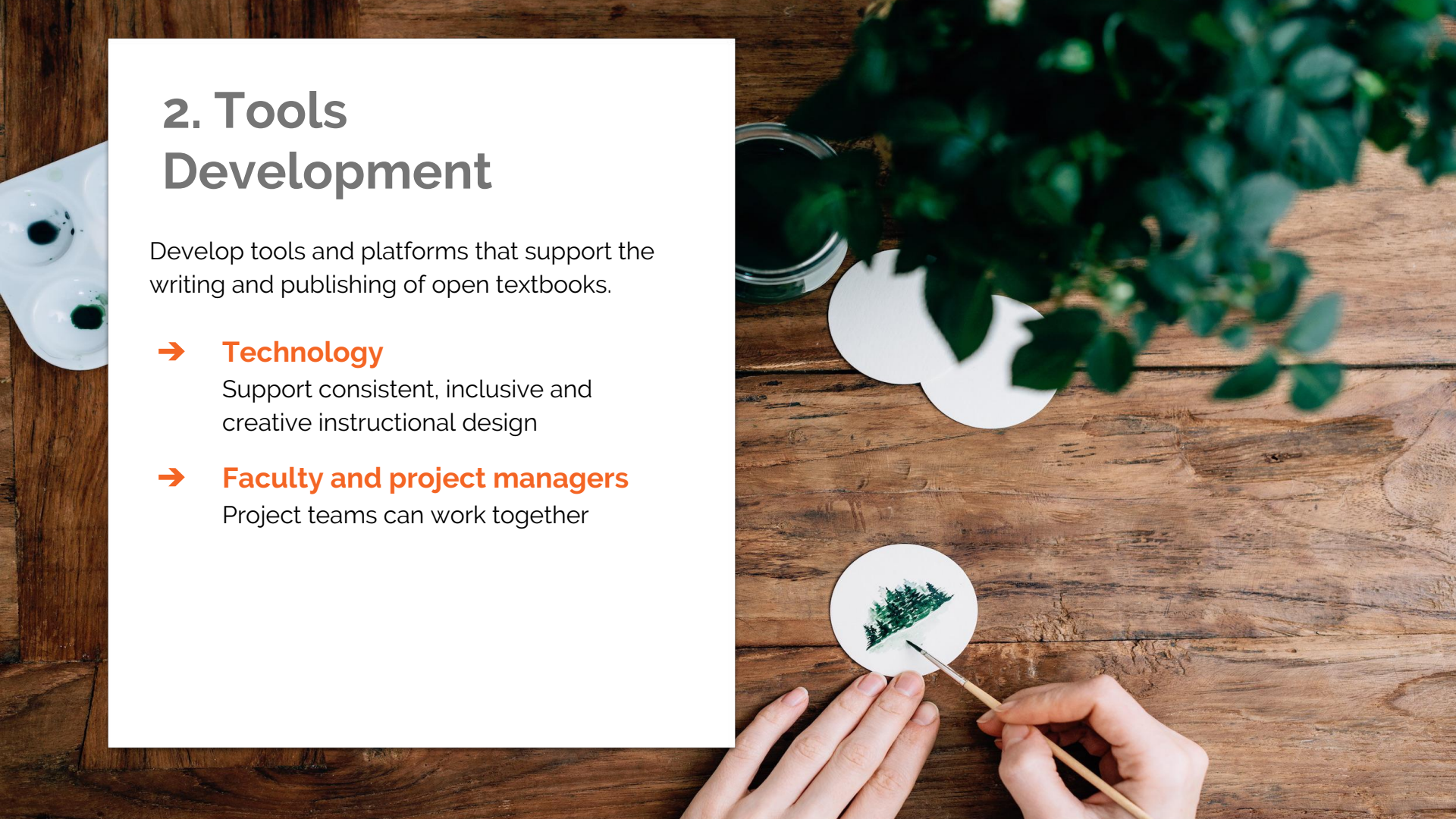➔ Freelancers

2. Tools Development

Develop tools and platforms that support the writing and publishing of open textbooks.
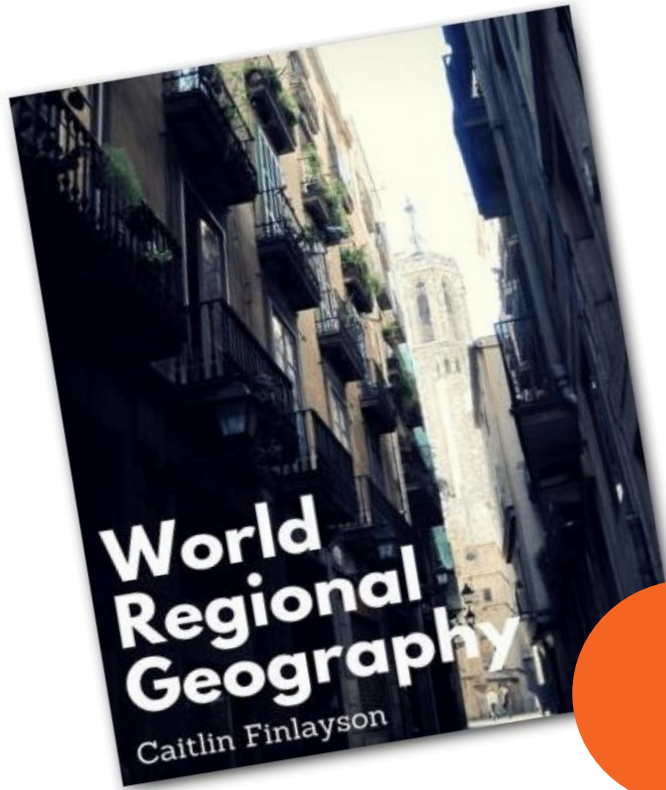
➜ **Technology**
   Support consistent, inclusive and creative instructional design

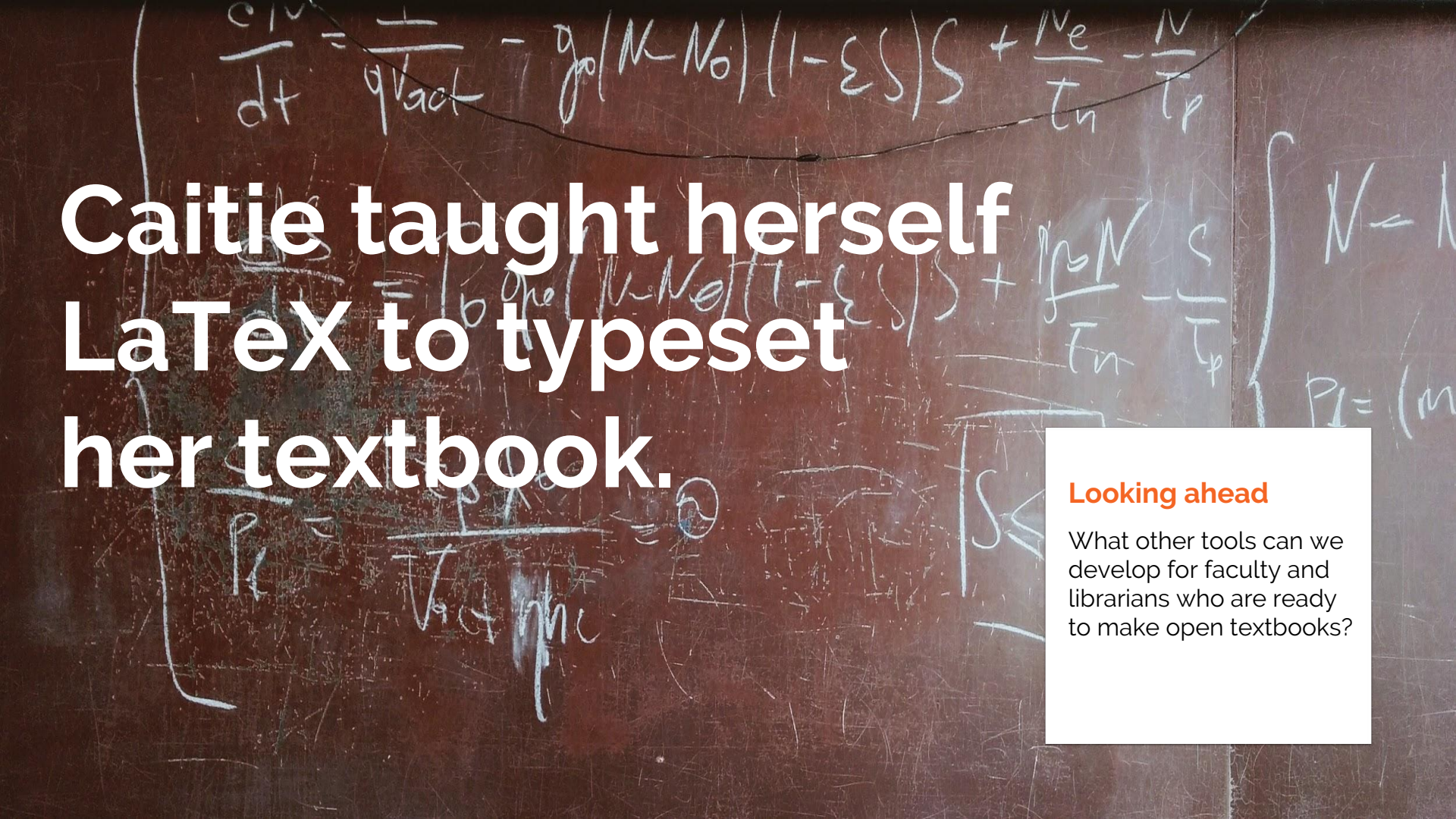➜ **Faculty and project managers**
   Project teams can work together

Meet Caitie.

She's an assistant professor at University of Mary Washington who received a grant to revise her course.

She set a weekly writing goal and wrote her textbook in a summer.

"This is the first textbook I've written and frankly I'm surprised sometimes that I wrote it at all!"

World Regional Geography

Caitlin Finlayson

Caitie taught herself LaTeX to typeset her textbook.

Looking ahead

What other tools can we develop for faculty and librarians who are ready to make open textbooks?

Tools Development

➜ Authoring tool
➜ Pressbooks
➜ OERPUB
➜ File type standardization
➜ Markdown

3. Partner Press

Provide cooperative access to complete publishing services. Share an imprint with the Open Textbook Network.

➜ **Funding and Access**
Systematic support includes author funding and system training.

➜ **Libraries and Organizations**
Members who want to offer high touch production services (and experiment).

➜ **Pilot**
Stay tuned!

Meet Bruce

Momentum is building for making open textbooks on his campus.

Bruce wants a one-stop publishing solution and has funding to support production services.

Partner Press

➜ Author funding
➜ Discounted access
➜ Cooperative training
➜ Customizable services
➜ Multiple file outputs

Partner Press Pilot

June

ID partners

September

RFP

July/August

Drafts delivered
Service training

2017

2018

August

Author management
workshops

December

Preparing for publication
(and peer review)

Mix and Match

What is right for your faculty and library?

➜ **Community Support**
   Guides, tips and templates + people

➜ **Tools Development**
   Provide access to existing tools + develop more

➜ **Partner Press**
   Cooperative publishing through funding + access to services

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There are **350+ institutions** in the Open Textbook Network.

What if each institution made one open textbook?

Open Authoring Guide

➜ **Checklists**
What to consider as you get started

➜ **Defining Your Role**
What you do (and don't) want to do

➜ **Case Studies**
How your colleagues run publishing programs that work

➜ **Textbook Structure**
Organizing content and elements

Open Authoring Guide

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pr

ess.rebus.community/authoropen

You are the community.

Support

Find links to the guides
and other resources:

z.umn.edu/openguides

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