

MHEC Webinar
Textbook Affordability: OER and Other Approaches
June 18, 2019
Summary of Presentation by Bob Butterfield

The content I will be sharing in this webinar will describe the University of Wisconsin-Stout's approach to affordability.

UW-Stout has provided a comprehensive course materials program for over one hundred years. This program, operated by the university and paid for by student fees, was specifically created to advocate for affordable course content for our students. Stout's strategy is not to provide a single approach to reducing cost but striving to "find affordability wherever it lives".

Stout has engaged many methods in their efforts to reduce cost. Some of these include a traditional textbook rental, a comprehensive digital resources program, and open educational resources. The program has also absorbed some lab kits, and alternate resources that are often excluded from affordability programs. Several services relating to content are also provided...all while saving students about \$1000 per year!

This portion of the webinar will also briefly discuss the network of stakeholders that are included in the operation of the program.

Finally, it will touch on some program detractors that can stall an affordability effort.

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