



# COOK COUNTY COLLEGE TEACHERS UNION

1901 W Carroll Ave, Suite 200 • Chicago, IL 60612 • 312.755.9400

11 October, 2022

OER Committee  
Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI)  
100 Trade Centre Drive, Suite 303  
Champaign, IL 61820-7233

Dear Committee Members,

I write on behalf of the 5000 members of Cook County College Teachers union in support of CARLI's efforts to advance consideration and discussions around open educational resources in Illinois. Specifically, we echo CARLI's statement that "...statewide support for the creation and adoption of OER is a crucial component of affordability in Illinois..." It is important for the College Course Materials Affordability and Equitable Access Collaborative Study Task Force to include OER options within their work.

Our union represents faculty, staff, and professionals in community colleges across Cook County. We believe that access to affordable higher education is vital in increasing opportunities for the residents of the State of Illinois. Reducing the barriers to access, through efforts such as OER and other open-licensed materials is important to building a more equitable and inclusive economy.

We support the work of CARLI's OER Committee and pledge to support their efforts on the campuses we serve. Please let us know if we can be of assistance to your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Troy A. Swanson  
Legislative Chair  
Cook County College Teachers Union  
IFT, AFT, AFL-CIO