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Open Homework Systems Project



Project Background

For the past several years, commercial publishers have been marketing online tools to faculty that provide curriculum to students, including textbooks, ancillary resources, and homework systems. These platforms can impose a significant financial burden on students who are required to use them.

In an effort to reduce the cost to students for access to learning platforms and materials, BCcampus has received funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training to explore open source software alternatives to proprietary commercial publishers' homework platforms.

Project Goals

The purpose of the Open Homework Systems (OHS) project is to reduce the cost of post-secondary education for students by lowering the cost of access to homework systems.

Our specific goals are to:

- Replace high-use, high-cost commercial homework systems used within the B.C. post-secondary system with open source alternatives.
- Develop discipline champions and communities who can further steward the open source options once the project ends.
- Inform and educate people in the B.C. post-secondary system about the costs of homework systems to students.

Benefits

Like open educational resources, open homework systems provide benefits to students, faculty, and the post-secondary system in British Columbia by reducing costs for students to access needed learning technologies; increasing collaboration among faculty and across institutions; and providing a framework for co-constructing open technologies and collaborative resources built on sound pedagogical foundations.

Get Involved

BCcampus will be looking for subject matter experts, instructors, and educational technologists to participate in content development sprints, as well as pilot institutions to test out potential open homework platforms. Watch the BCcampus website for upcoming opportunities to participate in the Open Homework Systems Project.

More Information

For more information on the BCcampus Open Homework Systems project, contact Project Manager Clint Lalonde, clalonde@bccampus.ca.



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