V.3 DRAFT –
The Fort Hays State University Red Balloon OER – Program Proposal and Plan

The goal of Fort Hays State University's Red Balloon *Open Education Resources (OER)* program is to significantly reduce the cost of educational resources while maintaining or improving the quality of learning. The program is open to all FHSU courses, but gives preference to the university's General Education Program.

OER hold great promise to reduce cost, increase access, improve the quality of course materials, and improve student outcomes. Spending less money on textbooks and materials will foster greater access to materials for students, which will enable them to stay on track with completing their courses and degree. In addition, OER are often digital and will allow both immediate and lifelong access to course materials for students. FHSU aspires to be an "OER Center of Excellence" by making OER implementation a part of the FHSU teaching and learning culture and practice.

Open Educational Resources (OER) at FHSU

- OER are teaching, learning, and research materials in any medium that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others.
- OER produced at FHSU will be licensed under Creative Commons open licenses.
- OER produced at FHSU will be hosted on a public web site.

Project Performance Measures

- For students, OER-based courses will:
    - Decrease student costs for instructional materials
    - Decrease average amount of student debt after graduation
    - Increase student satisfaction with instructional materials
    - Increase student retention and completion rates
    - Decrease D-F-W rates

- For Faculty, OER-based courses will:
    - Increase faculty use of OER in "displacing adoptions" (adopting OER in place of a commercial textbook)
    - Increase faculty satisfaction with having the legal rights to modify their instructional materials to fit their students' needs.

Outcomes to Support the Vision

1. Create an OER Steering Committee to carry out the initiatives of the OER program.
2. Maintain an inventory of OER at FHSU.
3. Build awareness of OER among faculty and students
4. Create FHSU's OER Standards and Guidelines for development and reuse.
5. Conduct on-going assessment of effectiveness and impact of the OER program.
6. Provide faculty with ongoing support for integration and sustainability of OER across the curriculum.
7. Maintain current and establish new connections with regional and national OER programs.

Outcome 1: Create an OER Steering Committee to carry out the initiatives of the OER program.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Identify candidates for participation on the OER Steering Committee
- Identify and maintain an executive sponsor
- Recommend policy and projects to promote the effective use of OER

Outcome 2: Maintain an inventory of OER at FHSU.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Gather data on current use of OER at FHSU
- Publish and regularly update a publicly accessible, online, linked list of OER adopted for FHSU courses

Outcome 3: Build awareness of OER among faculty and students.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Conduct a pilot project(s) that stimulates the development and adoption of OER at FHSU.
- Provide professional development opportunities for faculty regarding OER.
- Organize an annual FHSU OER Day.
- Work with General Education Committee to include OER in highest enrolled courses where possible.
- Work with FHSU community to recognize development and use of OER as a part of tenure and promotion.

Outcome 4: Create FHSU's OER standards and guidelines for development and reuse.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Explore openly licensing educational resources owned by the University.
- Provide guidance on how to openly license educational resources.
- Update Virtual College Course Development Contracts to include OER licensing for new and/or redeveloped courses.

Outcome 5: Conduct on-going assessment of effectiveness and impact of the OER program.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Create an assessment plan that determines students' and faculty members' satisfaction with resources used. (REVIEW DAVID's Gates Grants)
- Collect faculty reporting on how OER changed pedagogy and course design.
- Track cost savings to students resulting from OER adoptions.

Outcome 6: Provide faculty with ongoing support for integration and sustainability of OER across the curriculum.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Document a process for building successful OER Projects.
- Identify people who can serve as OER leaders and ambassadors throughout the institution.
- Foster a community of openness through policy, conversation and practice
- Evaluate, review and revise this plan at regular intervals.

Outcome 7: Maintain current and establish new connections with regional and national OER programs.

Actions to meet this outcome:

- Organize regular meetings with Pittsburg State, Chadron State and other Colleges / Universities that share FHSU's commitment to building, sharing and reusing OER.
- Research and identify additional partnership opportunities for the purposes of support, data sharing, and research.
- Engage Kansas Board of Regents to garner support and resources for OER projects.
- Explore hosting a Regional OER Summit at FHSU.

…created by (faculty name) for Fort Hays State University