



# Supporting Student Success and Closing Equity Gaps with Affordable Learning Solutions

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California State University, Office of the Chancellor





Connecting the cost of course materials to student success strategies



Showcasing easy access to free and open educational resources



Overview of Affordable Learning Solutions- an institutional strategy



Examples of institutional outcomes

**Affordability is not about  
the price of textbooks.**

**Affordability is about what  
students can pay.**

- **About 1/3 of all CSU students get enough financial aid to cover tuition, books, and course supplies (but not enough to live on).**
- **About 50% of undergraduates are Pell-eligible, meaning that their families cannot afford to send their children to college.**



# What is affordable for students?

- About **11%** of students in the Cal State University system experience **homelessness**
- About another **41%** of the students experience some degree of food insecurity [CSU study](#) (2018).

<https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative>

# Let's explore some data about factors that impact student success....



CSU The California State University

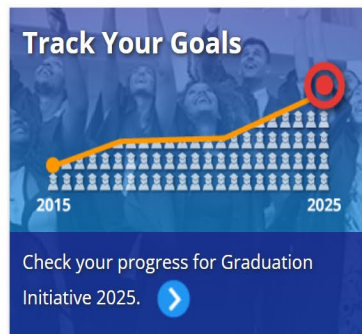
**CSU Student Success Dashboard**  
*Moving from Insights to Action*

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH**

## Welcome to the CSU Student Success Dashboards

Please select a dashboard below

Graduation Initiative 2025



**Track Your Goals**

2015 2025

Check your progress for Graduation Initiative 2025. >

Faculty Dashboard



**Faculty**

Find out how students in your major are doing. >

CSU by the Numbers



**Historical Insights**

Get insight into your historic graduation rate and equity gap trends. >

Equity Gaps Dashboard

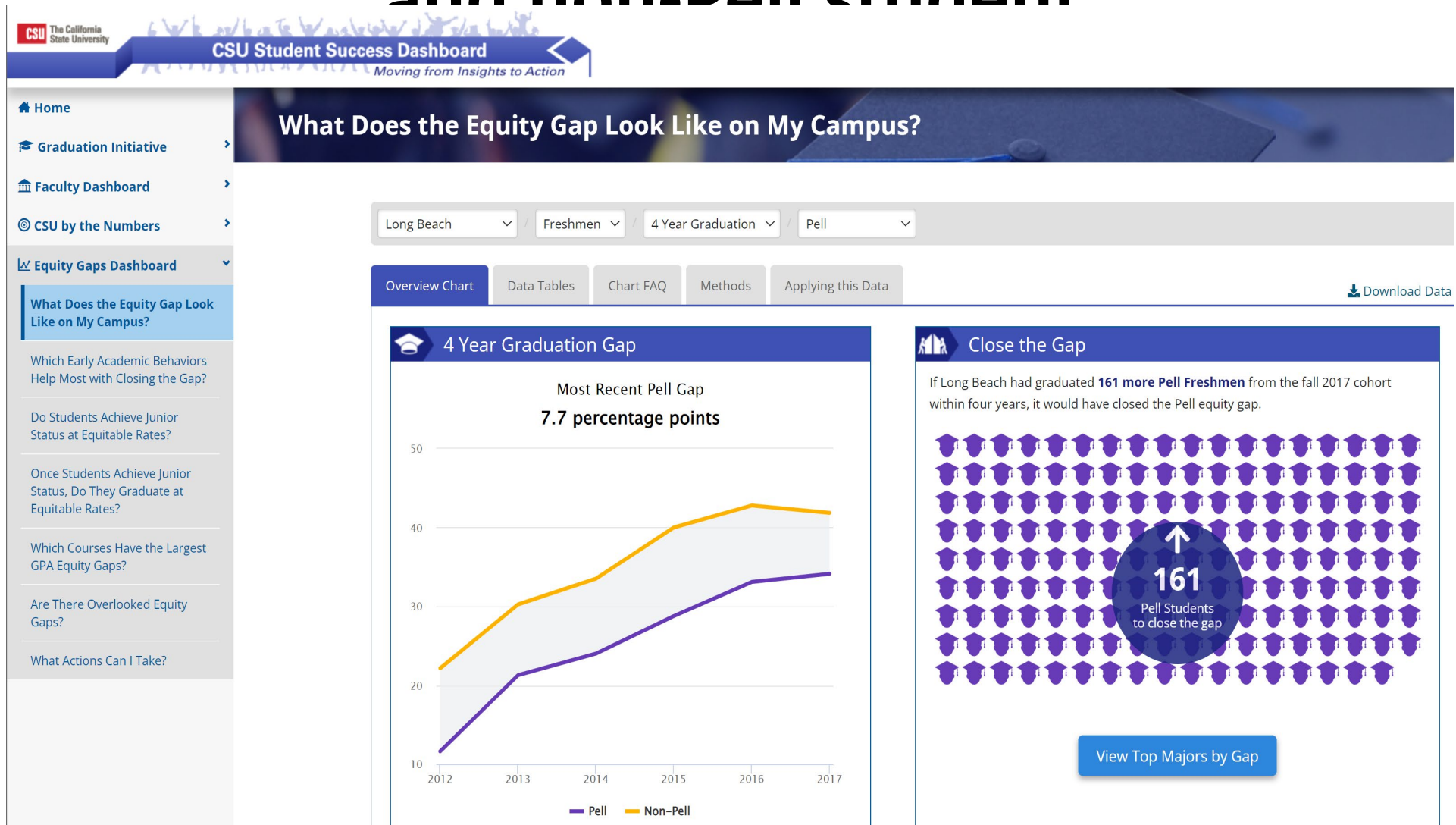


**Explore Your Equity Gaps**

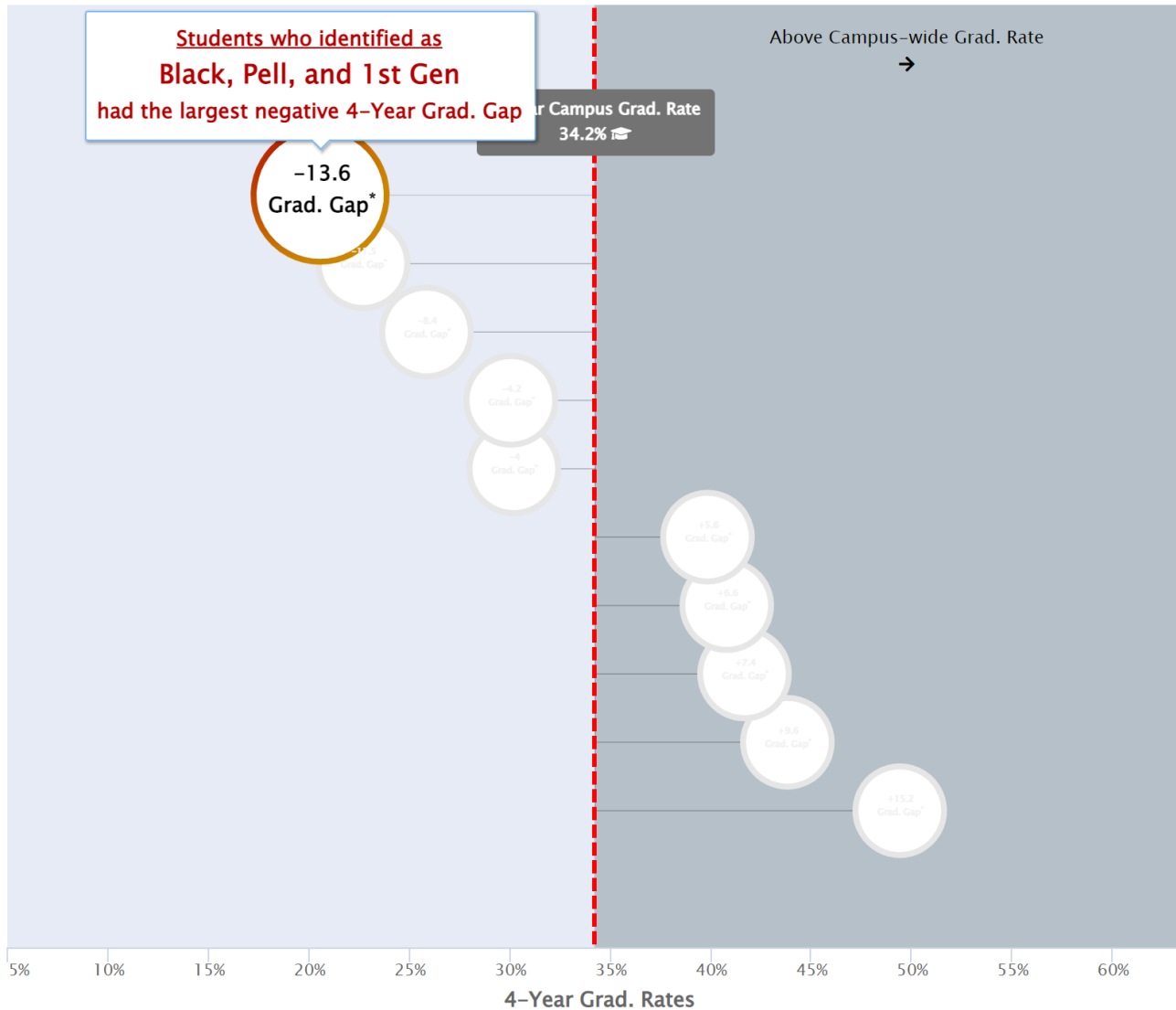
Find out what you can do to narrow equity gaps on your campus. >

<https://csusuccess.dashboards.calstate.edu>

# At CSULB, there is a 7.7% points gap in the 4-year graduation rates between Pell and non-Pell student



**Black, Pell, and 1st Gen. students had the largest negative 4-Year Grad. Gap in Long Beach's 2015 Freshmen cohort.**



**Black, Pell, 1st Gen**

**-13.6** 4-Year graduation Gap\*

<b>4-Year Grad. Rate:</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
Student Count:	14 (of 68)
<b>Campus 4-Year Rate:</b>	<b>34.2%</b>
Student Count:	1,506 (of 4,399)

Select Your Own Subgroups ⚙️



# Which Courses Have the Largest GPA Equity Gaps?

Long Beach ▾ Freshmen/Sophomores ▾ Pell ▾ 2020 - Academic Year ▾

Sort By Largest GPA Gap AND Highest Enrollment ▾ with at least 20 ▾ students, but less than (no upper limit) ▾ total students enrolled.

*Equity gaps also exist within courses...*

Here are Long Beach's top ten GPA equity gap courses for Freshmen - Sophomores

Summary Gap Chart

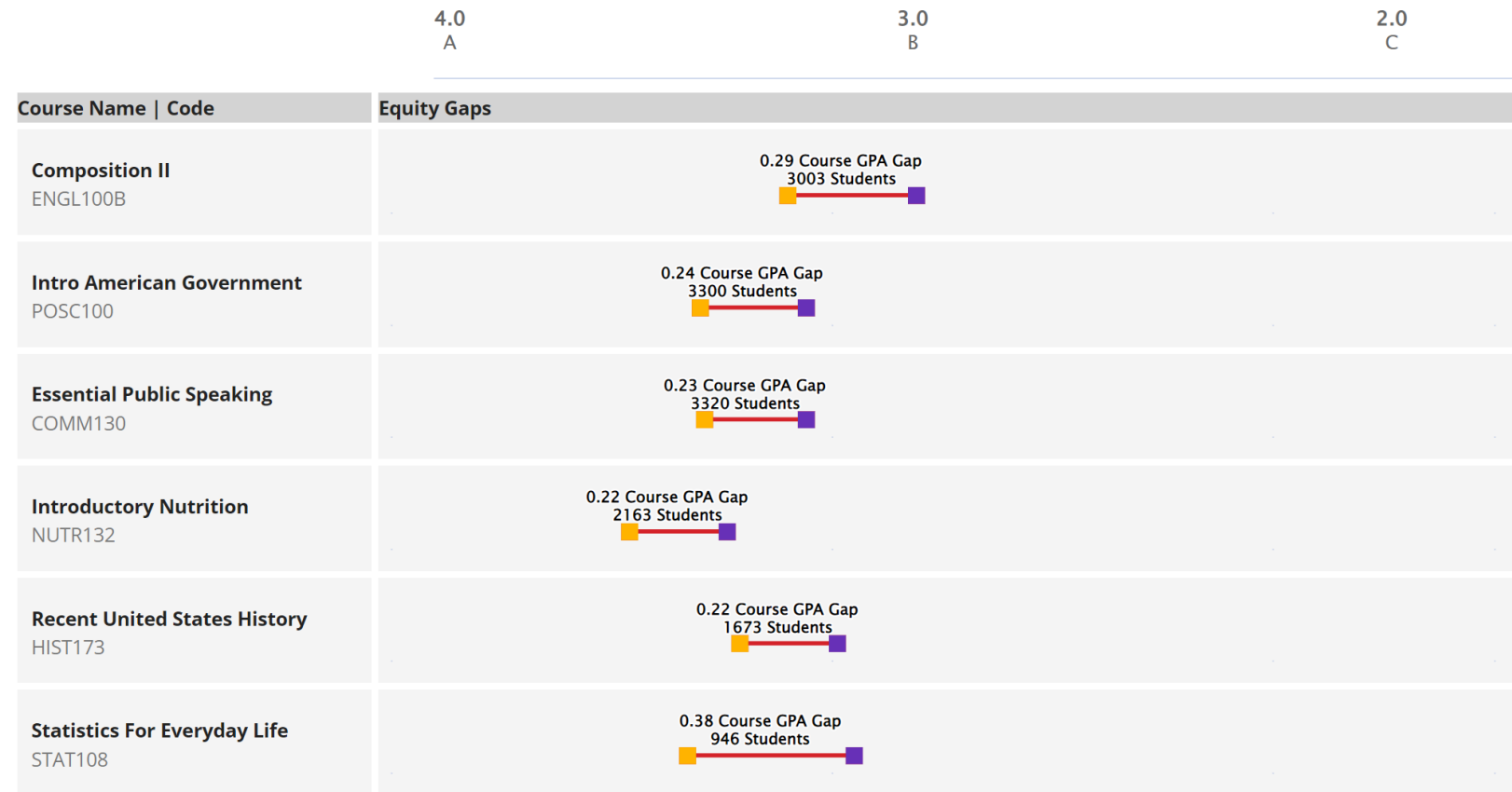
Data Table

Chart FAQ

Applying These Data

Methods

Resources



# Textbook Affordability Affects Access to Education and Graduation in a Timely Manner

2018 Florida students' responses to costs (survey)

- 64% Report they don't buy at least 1 textbook...
- 42.8% Report they take fewer courses ...
- 35.6% Report they earn a poor grade ...
- 22.9% Report they fail a course ...

**BECAUSE OF THE COST OF  
TEXTBOOKS**

**Are we trying to raise  
our Graduation Rates?**

**Are we trying to close  
Equity Gaps?**



**Imagine saving every student at CSULB**

**\$125 per semester – cost of 1 new textbook.**

**With 40,000 CSULB students,**

**We can save students...**

**\$10 Million EVERY YEAR**

**How to deliver the \$10M in  
“financial aid” to students?**

**Where do you find  
no and low-cost  
course materials  
that faculty can  
choose to adopt?**

# An Invitation to “OPEN” DOORS for ALL TO LEARN

- Open Educational Resources (OER)
- OpenCourseWare (OCW)
- Open Enrollment (MOOC's)
- Open TextBooks
- Open Access Journals

OPEN = Free of Cost

= Permissions to Use

= Free to Choose How to  
Learn In Your Context



# Blood Pressure

## Introduction

## Concepts

## Positioning

## Procedure

## Korotkoff Sounds

## Simulations

## Common Errors

## Quiz



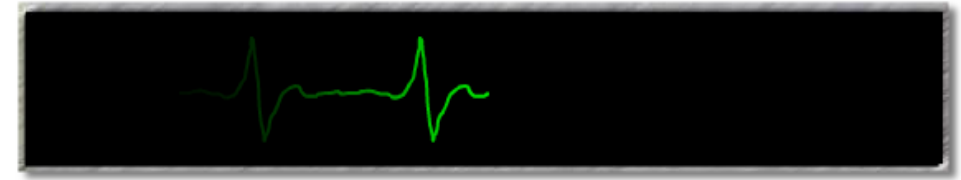
Updated 10/2005

### What is Blood Pressure?

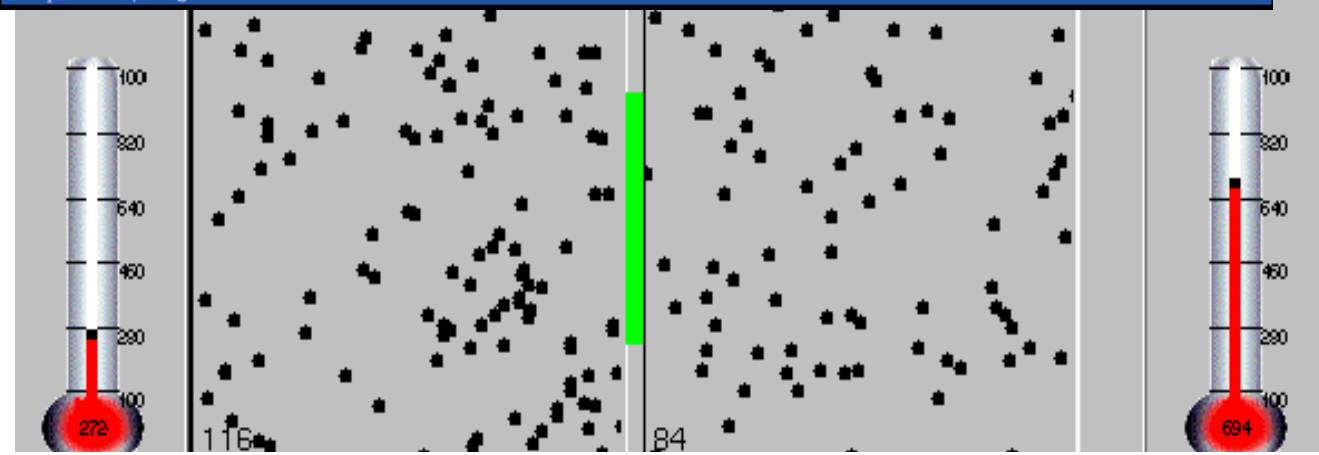
Your blood pressure (or BP) is measured in millimeters of Mercury (Hg) and represented by two individual measurements, the systolic pressure over the diastolic pressure.

**Systolic pressure** is the higher of the two numbers and represents the pressure in the arterial system when the heart beats or contracts.

**Diastolic pressure** is the pressure between contractions, or when your heart is at rest between beats.



Progress bar and a 'next' button.



- Open Educational Resources:
- Simulations
- Animations
- Tutorials
- Presentations
- Drill and Practice
- ePortfolios
- Assessments
- Collections
- Virtual Labs
- etc.

# OpenCourseWare

## Aerodynamics

COURSE HOME <

SYLLABUS

CALENDAR

READINGS

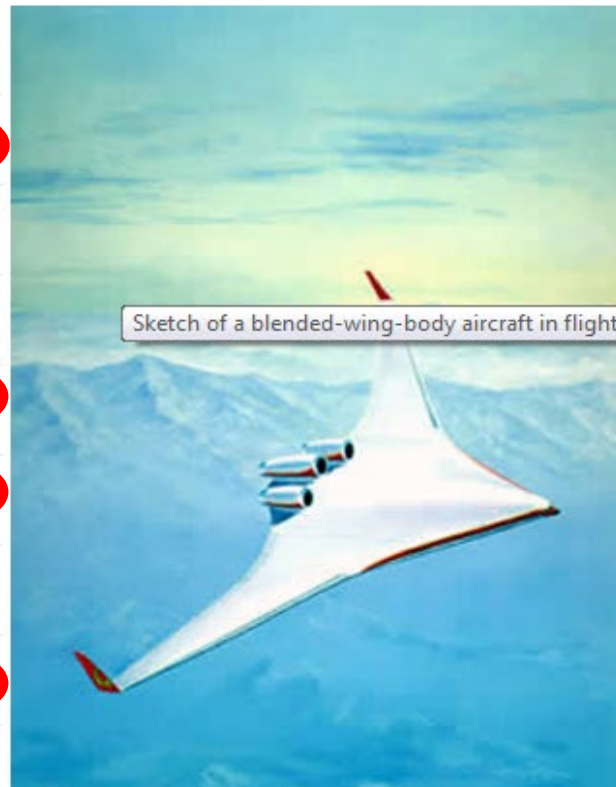
LECTURE NOTES

ASSIGNMENTS

EXAMS

PROJECTS

STUDY MATERIALS



### Instructor(s)

Prof. David Darmofal

### MIT Course Number

16.100

### As Taught In

Fall 2005

### Level

Undergraduate

CITE THIS COURSE

Donate Now >



### Why I Donate

"OCW gives me the opportunity to learn and discover present-day technology in a fascinating and exciting way."

- Alessandro, Independent Learner, Italy

READ MORE


### Exam Prep on OCW

STUDY PHYSICS, CALCULUS, BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY





# MOOCs – Open Enrollment

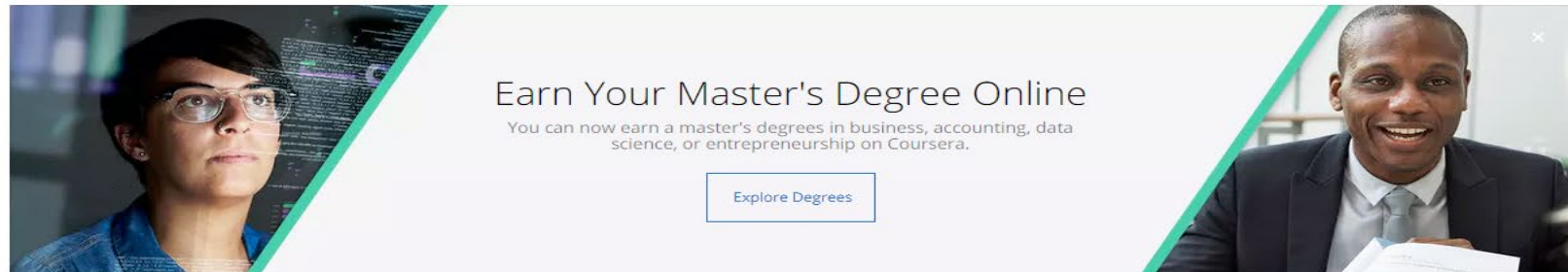


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You can now earn a master's degrees in business, accounting, data science, or entrepreneurship on Coursera.

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## Top Specializations

[See All](#)



# Open Textbooks



[SIGN IN](#) | [JOIN NOW](#) | [CONTACT US](#)



Access. The Future of Education.

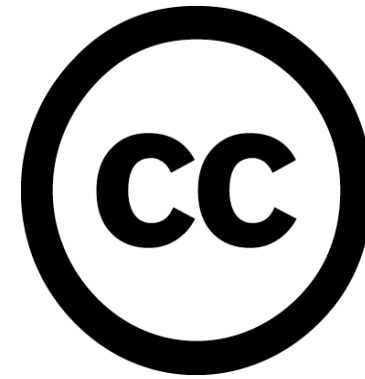
- [OUR BOOKS >](#)
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**FREE. OPEN-SOURCE. PEER-REVIEWED.**  
**HIGH-QUALITY TEXTBOOKS FOR YOUR COLLEGE COURSE.**

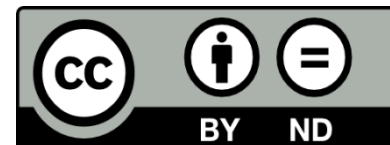
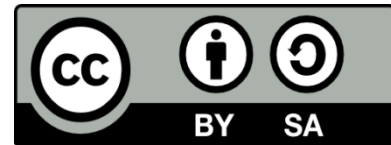


# Freedom/Permission to Use Content

- **Traditional Copyright - All Rights Reserved**
- **Fair Use**
- **Acceptable Use Policies**
  - **Locally defined rights of use**
- **Creative Commons License**
  - <http://creativecommons.org>
  - **Some Rights Reserved and Some Rights Given**



# Creative Commons Licenses



# MERLOT

Multimedia Educational Resource  
for Learning and Online Teaching

- Free and open library created & administered by the California State University since 1997
- Over 99,000 free and open online instructional materials in wide range of disciplines & levels
- Over 190,000 registered members in MERLOT - IT'S FREE!
- **EXPLORE** [www.merlot.org](http://www.merlot.org)

The MERLOT system provides access to curated online learning and support materials and content creation tools, led by an international community of educators, learners and researchers.

[Sign Up](#)

# SmartSearch

[Search](#)[What is SmartSearch?](#)Advanced Search by: [ISBN](#) | [Materials](#) | [Members](#)

99,023

Learning Resources

192,952

Registered Members

4,446

Member Institutions

736


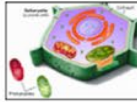



Recent Contributions

[www.merlot.org](http://www.merlot.org)

Show results for 1-24 of 763 results for: dna

Materials Members Learning Exercises Bookmark Collections Course ePortfolios Peer Reviews Communities

Filter by Discipline Academic Support Services (14) Arts (1) Business (4) Education (34) Humanities (15) Mathematics and Statistics (8) Science and Technology (721) Social Sciences (32) Workforce Development (10)

<p><b>DNA from the Beginning</b></p>  <p>DNA from the Beginning is an animated tutorial on DNA, genes and heredity. The science behind each concept is explained... see more</p> <p><b>Material Type:</b> Simulation  <b>Author:</b> Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory  <b>Date Created:</b> April 11, 2000  <b>Date Modified:</b> May 19, 2022  <b>Peer Review:</b> ★★★★★  <b>User Rating:</b> ★★★★★</p> <p>More info</p>	<p><b>Biological animations and tutorials</b></p>  <p>Key biological concepts animated as narrated and stepped tutorials, along with quizzes.</p> <p><b>Material Type:</b> Animation  <b>Author:</b> Sumanas, Inc.  <b>Date Created:</b> June 23, 2005  <b>Date Modified:</b> May 18, 2022  <b>Peer Review:</b> ★★★★★  <b>User Rating:</b> ★★★★★</p> <p>More info</p>	<p><b>Virtual Cell Animations</b></p>  <p>The Virtual Cell site contains 20 different animations of cellular and molecular processes aimed at the introductory... see more</p> <p><b>Material Type:</b> Animation  <b>Author:</b> Phillip McClean  <b>Date Created:</b> August 31, 2004  <b>Date Modified:</b> April 6, 2022  <b>Peer Review:</b> ★★★★★  <b>User Rating:</b> ★★★★★</p> <p>More info</p>	<p><b>Genetic Science Learning Center</b></p>  <p>An educational site focused on modern human genetics analysis. Has both on-line activities and instructions for labs and... see more</p> <p><b>Material Type:</b> Reference Material  <b>Author:</b> Eccles Institute of Human Genetics, Utah Museum of Natural History  <b>Date Created:</b> April 18, 2000  <b>Date Modified:</b> February 27, 2022  <b>Peer Review:</b> ★★★★★  <b>User Rating:</b> ★★★★★</p> <p>More info</p>	<p><b>The Virtual Transgenic Fly Lab</b></p>  <p>The lab will familiarize you with the science and techniques used to make transgenic flies. Transgenic organisms, which... see more</p> <p><b>Material Type:</b> Tutorial  <b>Author:</b> Donna Messersmith  <b>Date Created:</b> April 6, 2005  <b>Date Modified:</b> August 18, 2021  <b>Peer Review:</b> ★★★★★  <b>User Rating:</b> ★★★★★</p> <p>More info</p>
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MERLOT provides access to animations, simulations, presentations, tutorials, case studies, and over 10 other types of materials

MERLOT has 24 editorial boards of SME from around the world to assess the quality of the learning resources

MERLOT simultaneously searches over 70 other instructional libraries so you can always find what's "out there".

# Virtual Labs



Home

ePortfolios

Virtual Labs ▾

Accessibility

Case Studies

Providers

Authoring Tools

About

Welcome  
MERLOT

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Earth/Environmental Science
- Engineering
- Math
- Health Sciences

...s by  
...ns, and Partners!

Science faculty through  
Technological advances

...s to engage students in learning through active participation rather than passive observatio  
... and mobile access make virtual labs an increasingly viable part of the teaching and learning.

<https://virtuallabs.merlot.org>

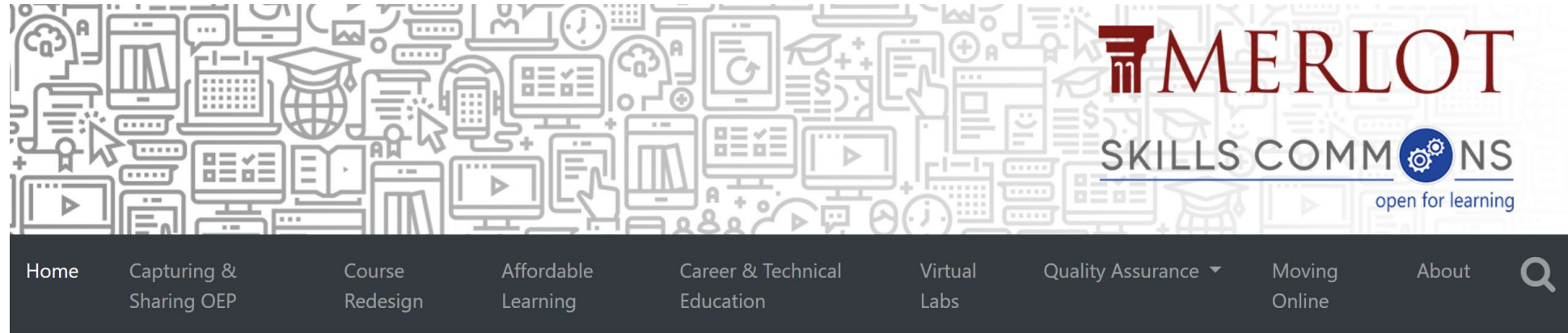


# **Content without Practices Goes Nowhere**

- **How do I adopt OER in my classes?**
- **How do I redesign my teaching & curriculum so more students succeed?**

**Explore our new free and open portal for  
Open Educational Practices**

# <http://oep.merlot.org>



The banner features a background of various educational icons like a laptop, graduation cap, and books. On the right, the MERLOT Skills Commons logo is displayed with the tagline 'open for learning'. Below the banner is a dark navigation bar with the following links: Home, Capturing & Sharing OEP, Course Redesign, Affordable Learning, Career & Technical Education, Virtual Labs, Quality Assurance (with a dropdown arrow), Moving Online, and About (with a search icon).

## Open Education Practices: Sharing Through ePortfolios

To advance [open educational practices \(OEP\)](#), [MERLOT](#) and [SkillsCommons](#) have designed this OEP portal to enable easy discovery and sharing of free, open, and exemplary collections of ePortfolios along with tools, templates, and guidelines that showcase open practices in higher education.



### Moving Online

The COVID-19 pandemic required higher education to quickly transform their instruction to online modalities. MERLOT and SkillsCommons created OEP portals to



### Course Redesign with Technology

Over 700 faculty have authored open teaching ePortfolios on how they redesigned their courses with technology to improve student success. They captured



### Affordable Learning

Over 100 faculty have authored open ePortfolios about how and why they've adopted and taught with free and open textbooks and resources to improve

# ePortfolios on Adopting OER



## Principles of Economics

### CSU Instructor Open Textbook Adoption Portrait

**Abstract:** This open textbook is being utilized in an economics course for high school students who seek college credit by Abbas P. Grammy, Ph.D. at California State University Bakersfield. The open textbook provides a large number of brief chapters covering both economic theory and applications. The application section covers many social issues such as poverty, inequality, discrimination, immigration, globalization, unemployment, and inflation. The main motivation to adopt an open textbook was to save money for students. Most students access the open textbook online.

COOLforED is a service of the California State University-MERLOT program.  
Partial funding provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation,  
and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.  
Questions? Email [cool4ed@cdl.edu](mailto:cool4ed@cdl.edu)

#### About the Textbook

##### Principles of Economics

###### Description:

*Principles of Economics* covers the scope and sequence for a two-semester principles of economics course. The text also includes many current examples, including; discussions on the great recession, the controversy among economists over the Affordable Care Act



#### About the Course

##### ECON 100: The Economic Way of Thinking

###### Description:

Introduction to economic analysis. Topics covered include microeconomic theory and application and macroeconomic theory and policy. Also, an in-depth study of into selected topics and current events.



#### Textbook Adoption

##### OER Adoption Process

Because most of my students come from low-income families, I wanted to help save them money on the textbook. My department chair recommended the textbook to me. The faculty at my institution are adopting a policy of using e-textbooks in introductory and principles of economics courses.

The textbook comes with an excellent test bank. I brought a selection of chapter questions to the class to have students practice and learn what to expect in

**AFFORDABLE  
LEARNING  
SOLUTIONS**

# Affordable Learning Solutions

Institutional strategy to provide students no cost and low-cost instructional materials that enable their successful learning and course completion.

# AL\$ Strategy



# AY 2022-2023: CSULB AL\$ Program Is Getting A Boost

- **The ATS Team and I** will be working together to design and deliver some professional development webinars/workshops for faculty to learn more about AL\$ and to support their choice of more affordable learning solutions.
- **Lesley Farmer (College of Education)** will be designing and delivering some professional development webinars/workshops for faculty to learn more about ICT (Information, Communication, and Technology) Literacy so students (and faculty) are better prepared to use free and open digital resources and technologies in successful instruction.
- **Elaine Bernal (Dept of Chemistry)** will be designing and delivering some professional development webinars/workshops for faculty to learn more about using free and open virtual labs so students and faculty are better prepared to use free and open digital resources and technologies in project-based/inquiry-based learning strategies.

**MORE INFO ABOUT THE CSULB AL\$ PROGRAM WILL BE FORTHCOMING**



# EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Open Library for Education

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EDUCATION](#)[CAREER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION](#)[VIRTUAL  
LABS](#)[FACULTY  
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US](#)

## Eastern Gateway Community College Open Library for Education



### FIND

Looking for **FREE** and **OPEN** online materials for your courses?

-  [FREE and OPEN eTextbooks](#)
-  [FREE and OPEN Course Materials](#)
-  [FREE and OPEN Online Courses](#)



### SHOWCASES

Looking for courses in academic disciplines that have recommended **FREE** and **OPEN** eTextbooks selected for them?

Looking for **FREE** and **OPEN** courseware and curriculum for career and technical education (CTE)



### ACCESSIBILITY TOOLS

Looking for guidelines, tools, and methodologies for evaluating accessibility of the wide range of materials produced by the TAACCCT program? Explore the resources and tools for accessibility evaluation applied for these resources.



With these tools, technologies, and technical assistance....

## **How did Eastern Gateway Community College save students \$22.6 Million?**

Spring 2020: Enrollment = 28,898

**Savings: \$7.8M**

Summer 2020: Enrollment = 11,386

**Savings = \$3.5M**

Fall 2020: Enrollment = 38,703

**Savings: \$11.3M**

# Overview of EGCC strategy

- Identify which courses to target
- Work with faculty to plan for the change
- Support faculty making the change
- Support from leadership
- Leverage existing OER for immediate benefit
- Assess the financial impact

# Bethune-Cookman University AL\$

Bethune Cookman  
Open Educational Resources

 **MERLOT**  
Multimedia Educational Resource  
for Learning and Online Teaching



HOME

FIND ▾

FACULTY  
SHOWCASE

COURSE  
SHOWCASE

VIRTUAL  
LABS

CAREER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

SHARE

EVENTS

ABOUT

In response to COVID-19, we have organized free resources to help teach and learn online.

## Welcome to B-CU BeCool4ed.org

Bethune-Cookman University's Open Education Resource Library

### What is B-CU BeCool4ed.org?

This eLearning portal is a partnership between Bethune-Cookman University and the MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) organization. It represents Bethune-Cookman's commitment to promoting student success by providing affordable educational alternatives to traditional textbooks and quality digital learning materials for learning and online teaching. Here you'll find a wealth of open educational resources (OER) for students, faculty, and staff in one convenient location.



Looking for FREE and OPEN online materials for your courses?

- 📖 FREE and OPEN eTextbooks
- 📁 FREE and OPEN Course Materials
- 🔗 FREE and OPEN Online Courses
- 📄 FREE and OPEN Access Journals & Articles



Looking to LEARN how your colleagues are using FREE and OPEN eTextbooks?

Looking for courses that have recommended FREE and OPEN eTextbooks selected for them?



Looking for faculty evaluation of FREE and OPEN eTextbooks?

Looking to share your evaluation in using free and open etextbooks?

## BCU- General Education Strategy

- Executive Leadership “invited” every department to participate, with a focus on General Education courses
- Be-COOL4ed website provided collection of free and open educational resources for GE courses
- Professional development workshops and connection to a large HBCU AL\$ initiative
- **In 2 years, ALL GE courses used free and open educational resources** for their courses except GE biology lab (which they working on).



<https://Affordablelearningsolutions.org>

AL\$ is lending a hand to empower students to continue their education through the use of low/no-cost learning resources to bridge some of the material that is not covered in their courses. Explore OERs, low-cost, and library resources below to learn about the immense collection available to you! #ALSLendsaHand



LIBRARY RESOURCES



OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



LOW-COST COURSE MATERIALS

CSU's Affordable Learning Solutions enables faculty to choose and provide more affordable, quality educational content for their students. By reducing CSU student course material expenses, more students acquire the course materials they need to succeed and benefit from their CSU learning experience. Now CSU faculty and students have greater access to quality free and lower cost learning materials through a variety of AL\$ programs and partnerships.



STUDENTS

Your guide for AL\$ advocacy on your campus and potential low/no cost textbook resources.



FACULTY

Your guide to your campus AL\$ initiative and faculty low/no cost materials' case studies.



COORDINATORS

Your guide and complete toolkit for implementing and leading your campus' AL\$ initiative.



AL\$ REPORTING

Research on the expanding



FEATURED FACULTY SHOWCASE

Nerea Marteache, California State



RECENT NEWS ARTICLES

News related to Affordable Learning

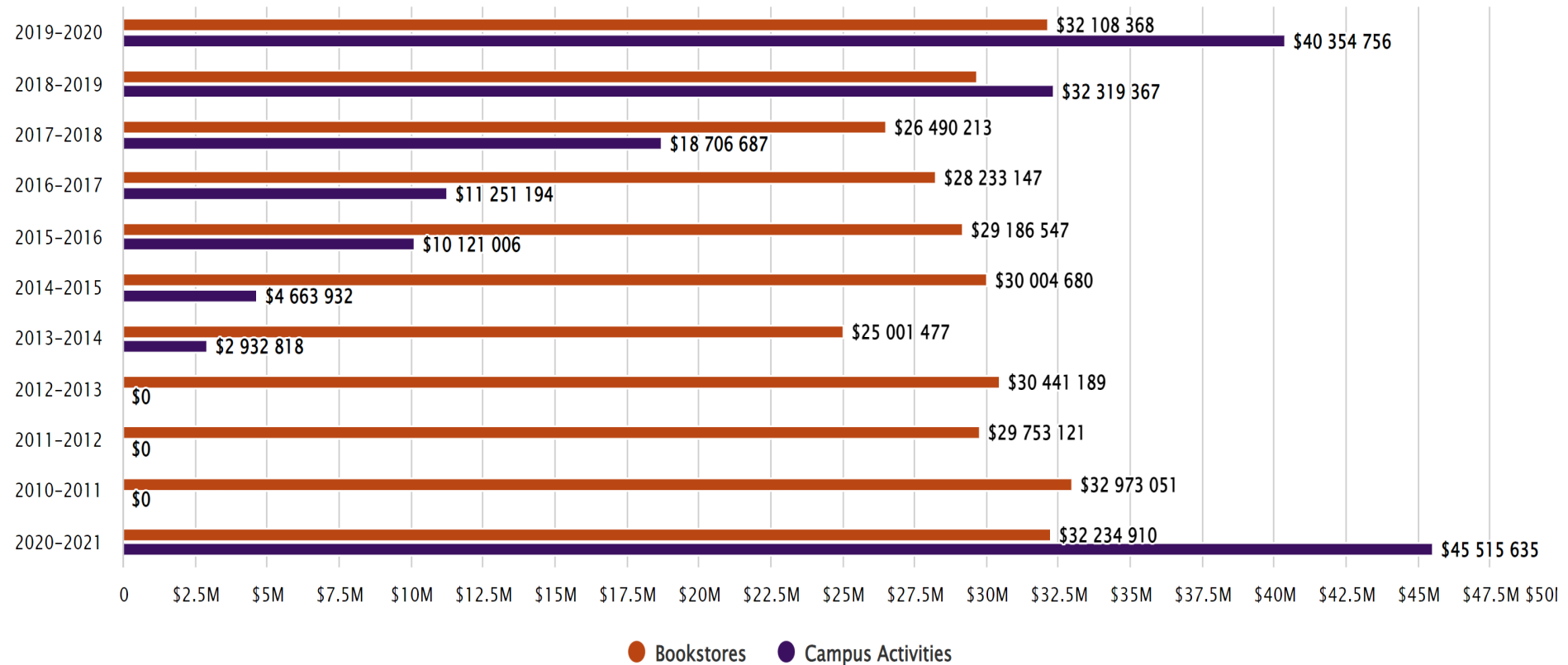
Cal State  
University  
System

-12 yrs. of AL\$

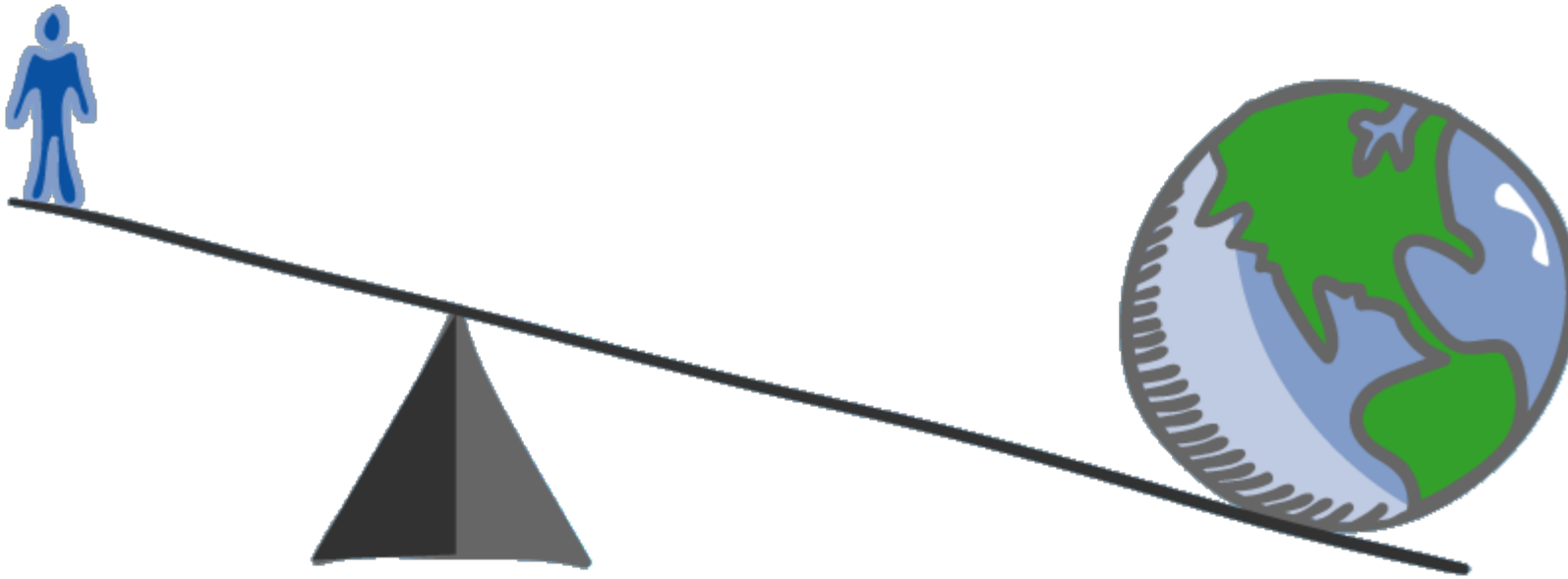
-State & Grant \$

-State Legislation

# \$77+M in savings in 2020-2021 in CSU



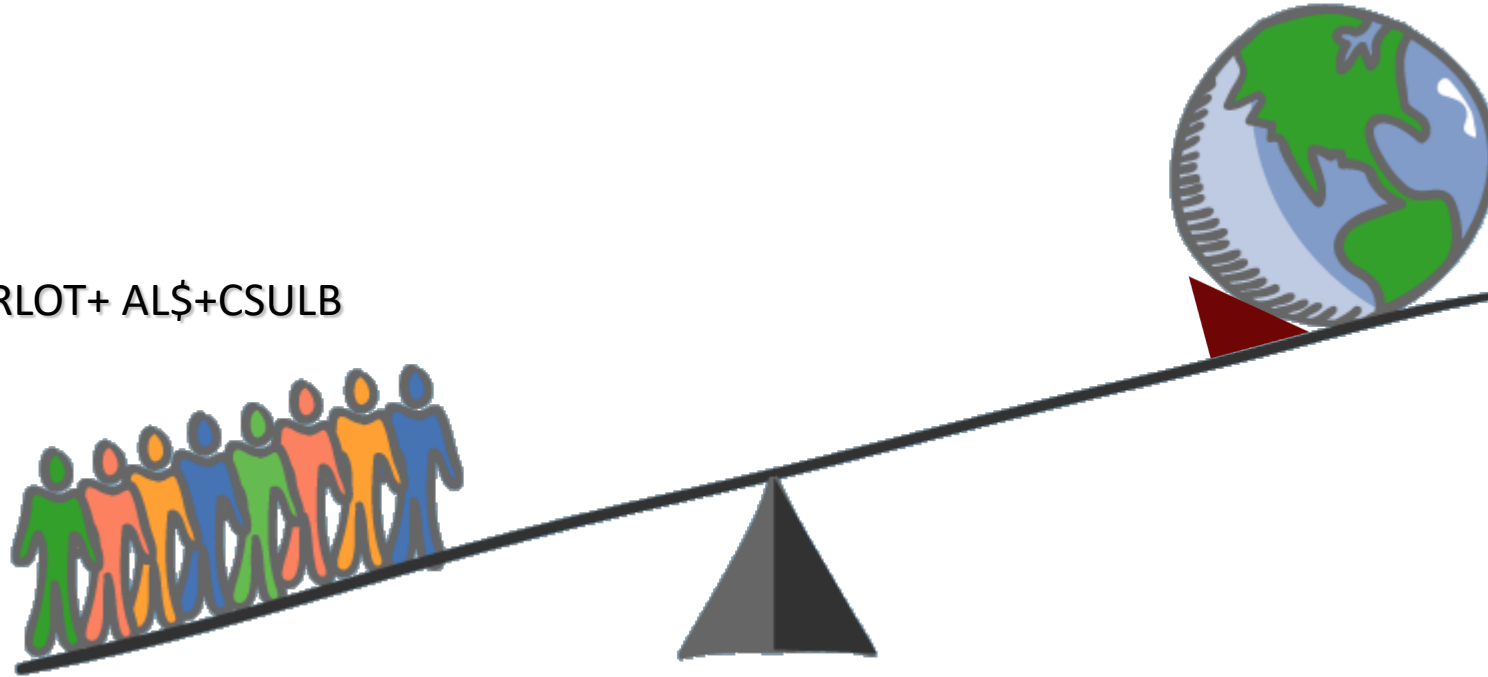
# Shall We Be Open For Our Students Success?



# And Move the World With Innovations?

Educational Innovations & Student Success

MERLOT+ AL\$+CSULB





# QUESTIONS?

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