Portal Manager Slide Text for 2014 TAACCCT Grant presentation

What are Learning Objects? What is OER?

Learning Objects are materials created for the purposes of education. They may be complete classes or lessons assembled in units such as SCORM(Sharable Content Object Reference Model), a set of technical standards for flexible e-learning software which ensures that content and learning management systems can work together. Other file types could include video (traditional film and 3D digital objects), presentations, audio, images, maps, and more.

Open Educational Content (OER) is content that can be shared, reused and licensed under creative commons. These materials will be housed in a repository, a digital library of educational content, which can be accessed through multiple venues, including the LMS.

What is the role of the Portal Manager?

The Portal Manager is responsible for investigating, developing, implementing and maintaining a Repository and Portal (website) for educational content. As the website moves from implementation to maintenance, the work of the Portal Manager will focus more on maintenance of software, content evaluation and curation, and training for faculty in OER and the use of the Repository. The LOR will contain Engineering Technology curriculum content as well as general education content addressing writing and math skills developed by ATCx3 and supplemented by external content.

What is the role of the Repository in the TAACCCT grant?

This LOR will contain content developed by ATCx3 faculty and instructional designers and supplemented by external content such as that found in MERLOT and NTER. Although the focus of the grant is Engineering Technology, foundational general education content addressing writing and math skills will also be included. This technology will support the key components of the grant: flexibility, scalability, and availability; content will be licensed under creative commons developed as Open Education Resources, with a focus on accessible resources.

Progress to date: The server has been setup and software has been identified, with a RFP in progress. Content is being developed and identified for the Repository.