

BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE AND BOARD ACTION

COMMITTEE: Academic Affairs

NO.: AAC 20-03

COMMITTEE DATE: October 15, 2019

BOARD DATE: October 22, 2019

RECEIPT OF THE COMMISSIONER'S OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER) WORKING GROUP FINAL REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS

MOVED: The Board of Higher Education receives the final report and recommendations of the Commissioner's Open Educational Resources Working Group.

The Board thanks the members of the Working Group, including co-chairs Marilyn Billings of the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Susan Tashjian of Northern Essex Community College, and DHE lead staff Robert Awkward, Ph.D. for their work. The Working Group's findings and recommendations provide a wealth of information about open educational resources issues, challenges, and practices.

The Board directs the Commissioner to continue to work with key stakeholders, including faculty, staff, administration, students, legislators and the leadership at our institutions of public higher education, to implement the short-term recommendations in the report. Further, the Board asks the Commissioner to conduct additional research, coordination, and due diligence on the mid-term and long-term recommendations in the report and to develop a plan of actionable items for Board consideration, as he may deem appropriate. The Board further directs the Commissioner or his/her designee to periodically report back to the Board on the Department's progress in this regard.

Motion adopted by AAC 10/15/2019; adopted by BHE 10/22/2019.

VOTED:

Authority: M.G.L. c. 15A, §9(c) and (u)

Contact: Patricia A. Marshall, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs & Student Success

Robert J. Awkward, Ph.D., Director of Learning Outcomes Assessment