

# OSPOs in the academic world

Anne-Marie Scott  
Board Chair, Aperero Foundation  
20 October 2023



# Apereo Foundation

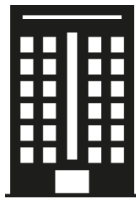
- Formed 2012 (date back to 1999)
- Non-Profit (New Jersey 501 c.3)
- Global Membership Organisation
- Elected Board of Directors
- Partnerships
  - ESUP-Portail (France)
  - LAMP (USA)
  - AXIES (Japan)

# Mission

“...**collaborate** to foster, develop, and sustain open technologies and innovation to support learning, teaching, and research.”



**Educational Institutions**



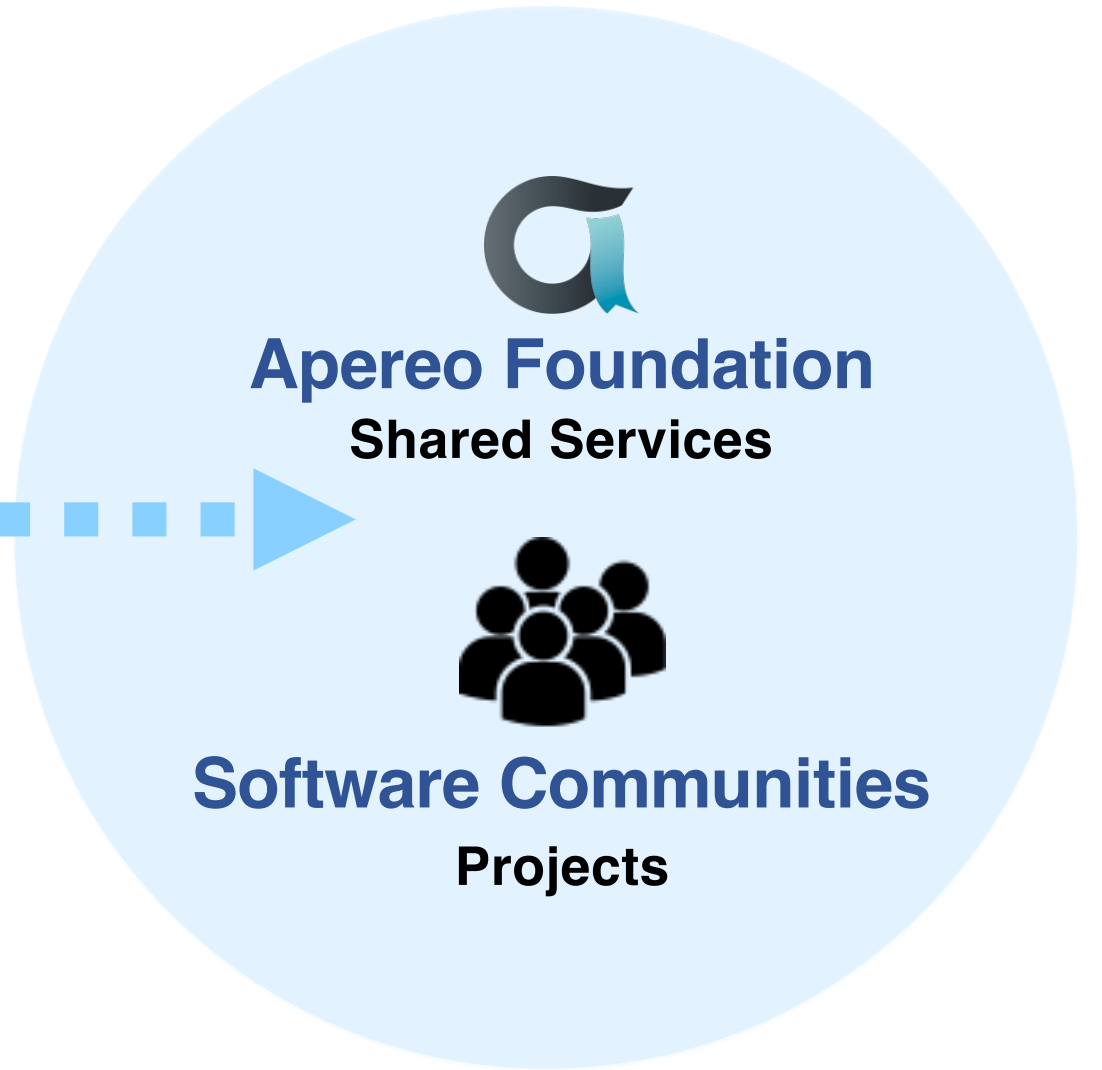
**Commercial Affiliates**



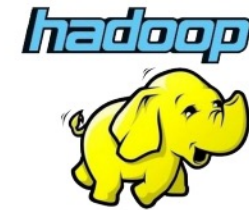
**Aperero Foundation**  
Shared Services



**Software Communities**  
Projects



A fun diversion – which of these come from higher ed?



Open source emerged from and remains prevalent throughout higher education.



**Apache**

University of  
Illinois



Yale  
University



**Drupal™**

University of  
Antwerp



**git**

University of  
Helsinki



**GNU**

Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology

**hadoop**



University of  
California,  
Berkeley



**Linux**

University of  
Helsinki



**MySQL™**

Uppsala  
University



**OPENCAS**

University of  
California,  
Berkeley



**PostgreSQL**

University of  
California,  
Berkeley



**python™**

Centrum  
Wiskunde &  
Informatica



**redis**

Université  
Libre de  
Bruxelles



**Sakai**

University of  
Michigan



**WORDPRESS**

University of  
Houston

# Academic OSPO

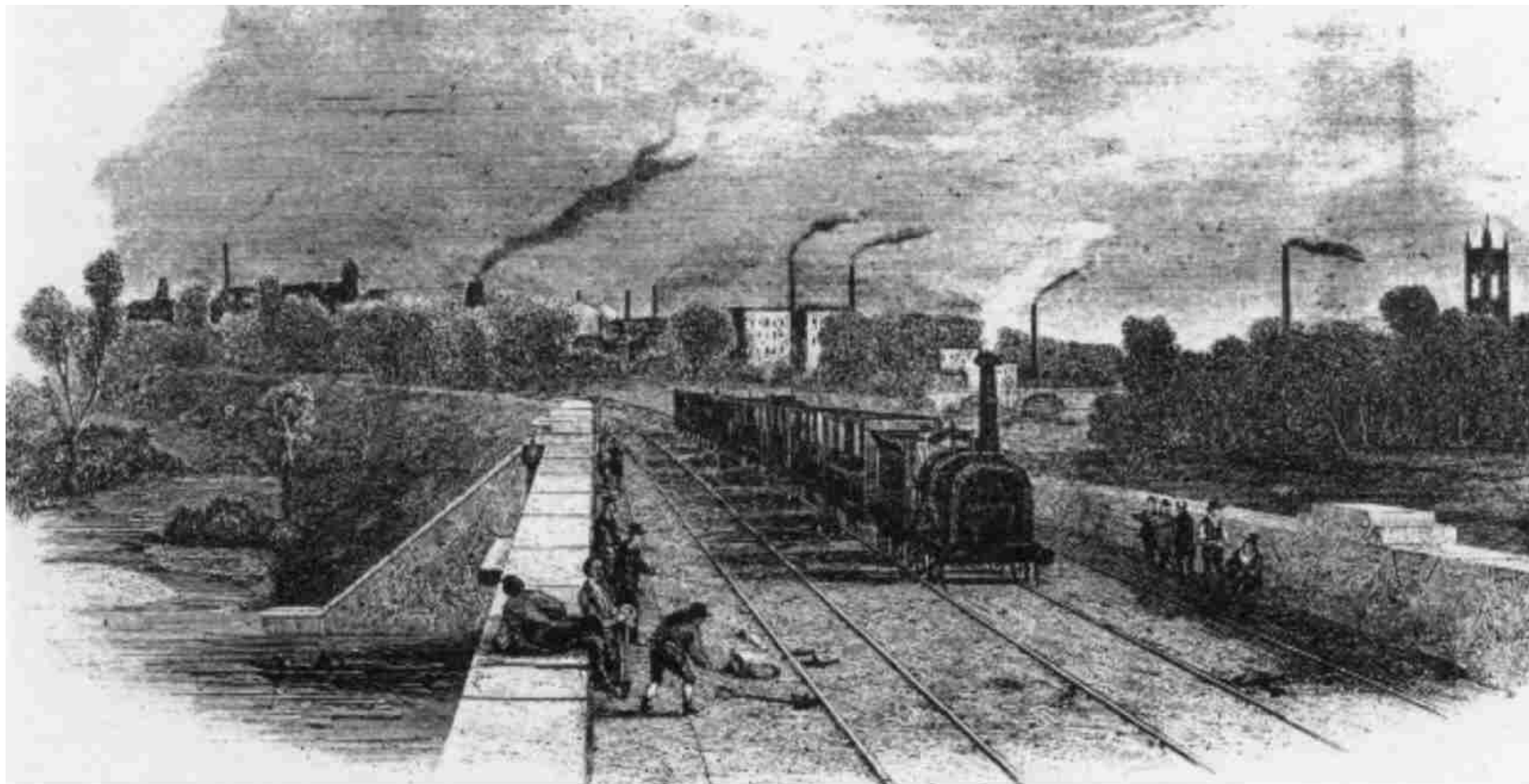
- First OSPOs in early 2000s (Google 2004?)
- Borrowing the concept of an OSPO from commercial sector
- Fitting it into higher education
  
- Promotes collaboration
- “institutional API”

Open









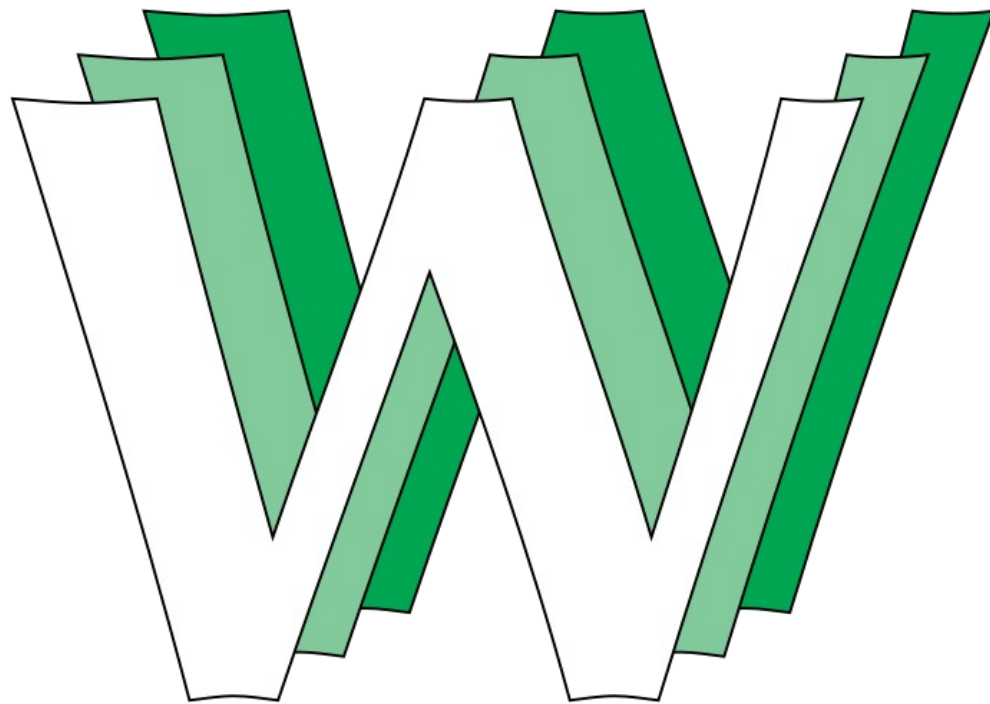
WARRINGTON.





**The Open  
University**

**Let's Share What We Know**



**World Wide Web**



*Simple. Powerful. Open.*



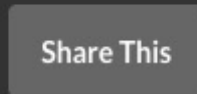
# Bodington (tm)

Brought to you by: [colin\\_tatham](#), [jonmaber](#), [seanskye](#)

[Add a Review](#)

Downloads: **0 This Week**

Last Update: **2013-04-11**



<a href="#">Summary</a>	<a href="#">Files</a>	<a href="#">Reviews</a>	<a href="#">Support</a>	<a href="#">Mailing Lists</a>	<a href="#">Tickets ▾</a>	<a href="#">News</a>	<a href="#">Code</a>
-------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Bodington is a free VLE. Users can upload content, host discussions, publish/manage external links, make interactive resources, eg customised logbooks, peer-reviewed reflective diaries/e-portfolios, multiple choice tests, short answer papers (QTI) ...

## Project Activity



Released [/OldFiles/bodington\\_installer-2.4.0.jar](#)

9 years ago

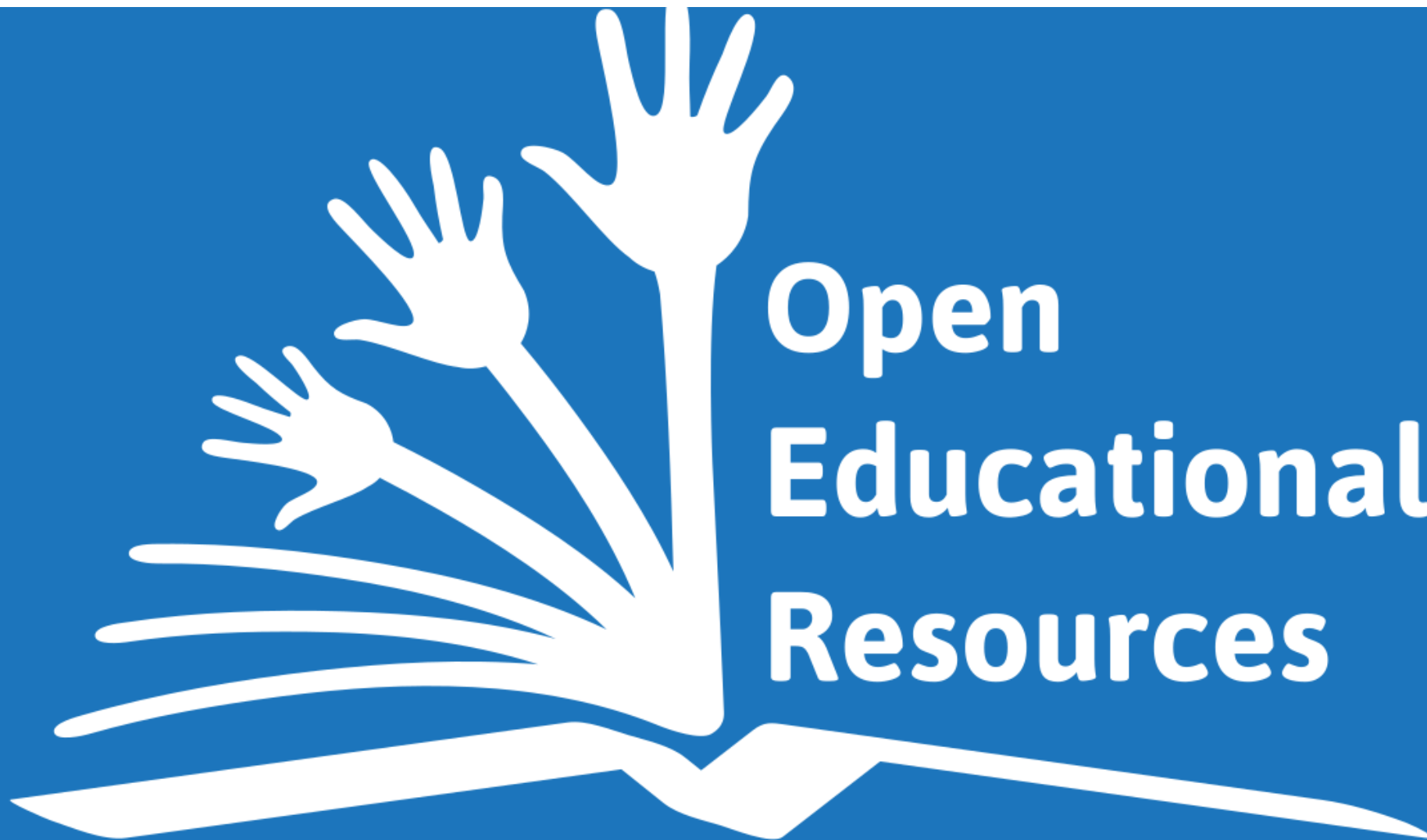
Released [/OldFiles/bodington\\_installer-2.4.1.jar](#)

9 years ago

Released [/OldFiles/bodington\\_all-2.4.3.zip](#)

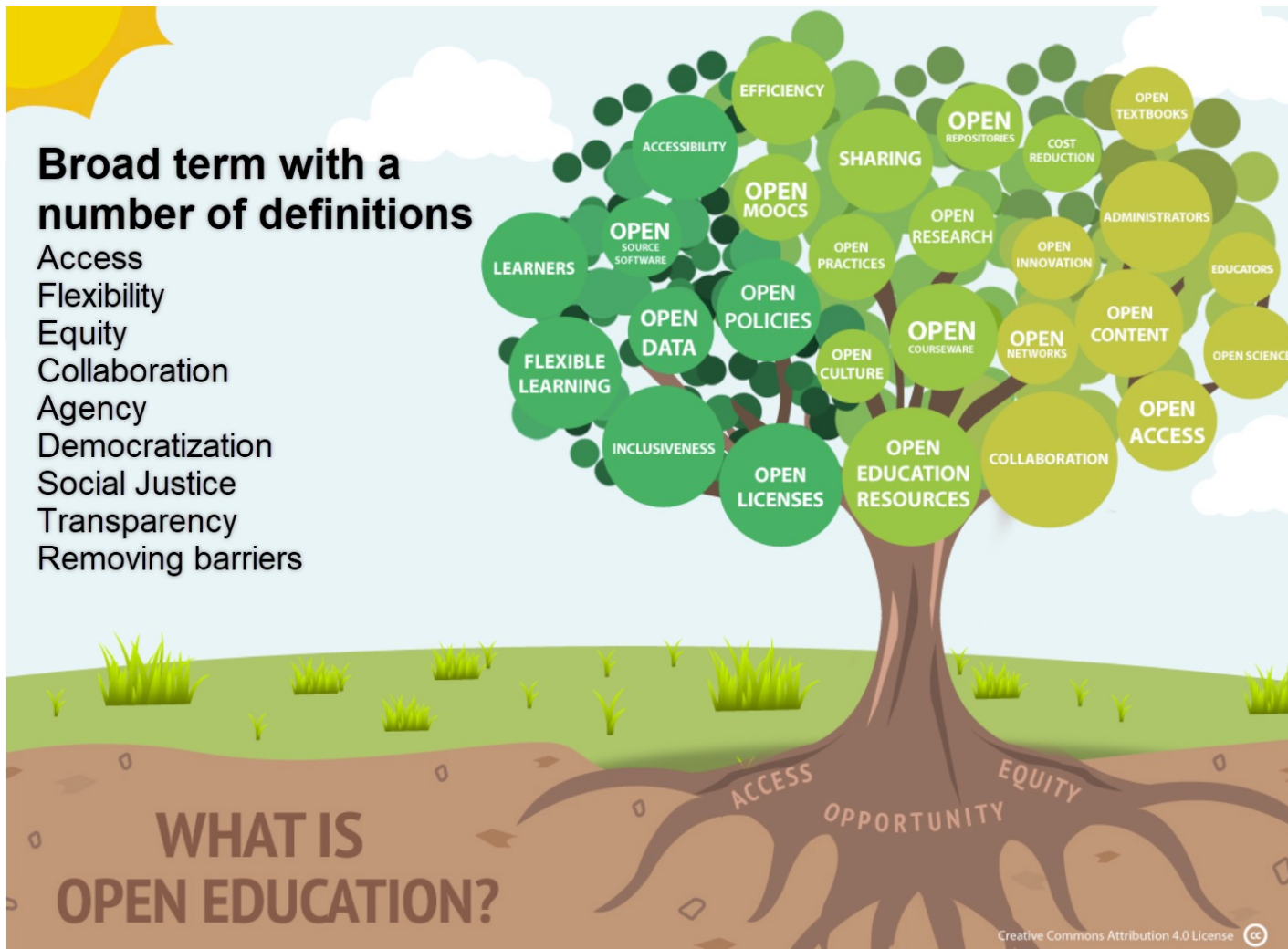
9 years ago





**Open  
Educational  
Resources**





*[What is Open Education](#) CC-BY Open Education Consortium (now known as [Open Education Global](#)). This image was adapted to remove the old Open Education Consortium logo and add text in black font to the left of the tree.*



## Definition of Open Work

An Open Work delineates the meaning of “Open” with respect to work products and projects that are released into the public domain or under a license recognized by an entity such as, but not limited to, the Open Source Initiative (OSI), the Free Software Foundation GNU, the Creative Commons (CC) or the Open Knowledge Foundation (OKF) with the intent of promoting a robust community of collaboration around the work itself and other work that it may interoperate with.



## Sloan Funded

- Carnegie Mellon University
- George Washington University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- **John Hopkins University**
- Madison College & UW–Madison
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Saint Louis University
- Stanford University
- Syracuse University
- The University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC)
- The University of Texas, Austin
- The University of Vermont

## Other

- Trinity College Dublin
- University of Groningen
- SURF

# The first academic OSPO?



**2003 – 2013** - Funded by JISC

Based at the University of Oxford Computing Services

SCOSS

**SUSTAINING  
THE OPEN**

**HELPING SECURE THE VITAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE ON WHICH  
OPEN SCIENCE DEPENDS**

Everything you need to know about SCOSS

**esup**  
 **portail**

Communauté  
d'établissements français  
d'enseignement supérieur  
pour l'innovation  
numérique

## **2(d) Openly Licensed Online Course Materials**

The post-secondary system and BCcampus collaborate to explore models for developing openly licensed online course materials, particularly for high-transfer courses commonly offered across multiple post-secondary institutions.

## **2(e) Open-Source Programs Office**

The Ministry and the post-secondary system develop and implement collaborative software and application development models as an integral component of post-secondary research and innovation, including through exploring a pilot related to:

- i. Establishing an Open-Source Programs Office to provide governance, advice, and support for the development of Open Source (OS) applications, to:
  - i.1) Enable innovative learning experiences and/or OS tools and methods,
  - i.2) Enable development, maintenance, and hosting of open licensed software, where appropriate, and
  - i.3) Support developing, licensing, adopting, and managing intellectual property for open-source technologies when appropriate.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/institution-resources-administration/digital-learning-strategy>



# Where might OSPOs fit?

- Inside institutions?
- Regional?
- Sector level? (N-RENs?)
- Within domains of expertise?
- Overlap with existing consortia (ESUP-Portail etc.)?
- How to network and connect?

# OSPPOs in Higher Ed

- Open Science / Open Research is a no-brainer
  - Intersection with the rise of the Research Software Engineer?
- Supporting OSS operational infrastructures
  - Libraries
  - Educational technology
  - Web
- Paths to sustainability / scale for OSS projects
- Future challenges to sharing
  - AR/VR
  - AI
  - Remote labs
- Teaching OSS in the curriculum
- Intersection with other “opens” e.g. OER?