



December 12, 2019

Walter C. Koerner Library
1958 Main Mall
Vancouver BC
V6T 1Z2

Dear Erin Fields,

We would like to congratulate you for being recognized by the UBC Vancouver Alma Mater Society, the VP Academic and Provost, and the UBC Library as an open education champion who has made a significant contribution to the use of open educational resources (OER) at UBC Vancouver.

Research has shown that OER have positive benefits on the student experience by lowering access barriers and reducing student costs for learning materials. They also enable instructors to modify, edit, or adapt high quality resources to fit their individual teaching goals in order to provide meaningful, contextualized materials for their students.

We acknowledge that the “open” in open educational resources does not mean the same thing as “free”; instructor, staff and student time and effort are significant costs that go into the development and adoption of OER. Your efforts are making a difference: at UBC, a significant number of students are impacted by the use OER and, in the 2018-2019 academic year, an estimated 15,450 students took 39 courses or course sections that were using open or freely available resources in place of paid textbooks.

Thank you for helping to support affordable and inclusive access to learning at UBC, and we congratulate you again for your recognition.

Sincerely,

Santa J. Ono
President and Vice-Chancellor

Chris Hakim
President, UBC Alma Mater Society