

# OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



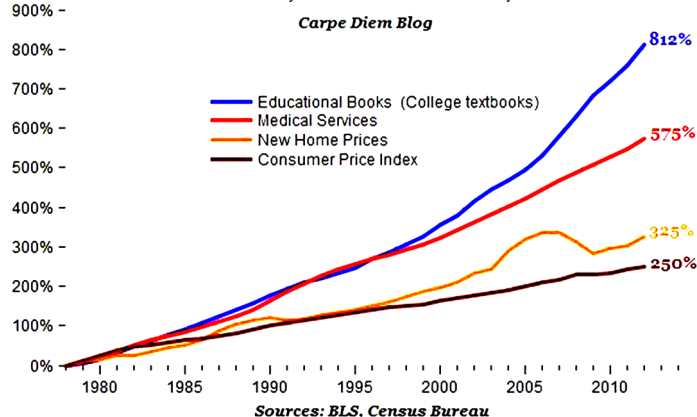
## What are Open Educational Resources?

- ⇒ Open Educational Resources are educational materials that are freely and legally available on the Internet for anyone to reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute.
- ⇒ OERs are the textbooks of the future, saving students millions of dollars and offering faculty opportunities to adapt, create, and share knowledge in a rapidly-expanding community of educators.
- ⇒ OERs can be complete electronic textbooks, full university courses, modules or learning activities, lesson plans, worksheets, readings, interactive games--any learning resource that is free to use.

## NMC's Open Educational Resources Pilot Project

The NMC Foundation Innovation Committee has provided funds to award ten faculty members an iPad or \$500 to adapt one of their courses to use all open resources to be taught in Fall 2015. The project team will then survey faculty and students, summarize what we learned, and make recommendations for the future of OER at NMC.

**Percent Change Since 1978 for Educational Books, Medical Services, New Home Prices, and CPI**



**\$1200**

What an average student spends on textbooks per year.

**\$1400**

What NMC recommends students budget for textbooks per year.

**\$494,430**

What NMC students would save per semester if the top five classes adopt Open Educational Resources.

## What's Next?

Making the leap from traditional publishers' textbooks to Open Educational Resources takes time and expertise from faculty, librarians, and educational technologists.

**Institutional support for this effort is crucial.**

In a recent study, faculty using OER in Washington identified nine types of support they need to incorporate free text materials into their teaching:

- **Endorsement** from the college and department,
- Clear **policies** on the use of OER
- **Training** on how to use OER
- Easy and organized pathways to **access** OER
- A local support system with **local experts**
- **Department** level initiatives
- **Funding** opportunities