

Open Peer Review

Tan, X. (2022, October). [Review of the article OER state discourse: Adding equity to the cost savings conversation, by C. McCoy-Simmons]. Journal of Open Educational Resources in Higher Education, 1(1), 141-144. doi:10.13001/joerhe.v1i1.7183

Reviewer: Xiaoqing Tan

Recommendation: Revisions Required

Scope, Objectives, Content

Is the article in scope for Journal of Open Educational Resources in Higher Education? Does the topic discuss an element related to open education, open data, open access, or other open topics? Is the topic an important one, or is it trivial or of low priority?

The article is in scope for the Journal of Open Educational Resources in Higher Education. The topic discusses the significance of adding equity to the cost savings conversation in the OER state policy discourse, which is of great importance and highly related to open education, open data, open access, etc.

Organization

Does the article proceed logically? As applicable, does the article adhere to a recommended structure and the section guideline?

The article has a clear structure and is easy to read, although it does not strictly adhere to the recommended structure. The article does not seem to have formal introduction and literature review sections. Instead, it copy-pastes the abstract as the introduction followed by a section called “Guiding Perspectives”. However, this issue can be addressed by expanding the abstract to include more details and incorporating the current “Guiding Perspectives” section.

Methodology, Approach, Conclusions

The methodology for data gathering and analysis should be appropriate for the problem addressed. Inferences from data should be sound--the author should not reach unsupported conclusions. Not all papers will use a scientific research methodology, but all should employ sound reasoning and an adequate balance between description and critical analysis. Consider: Is the article factually accurate? Is it clear the author knows, or has investigated, previous work on the subject of the article? Has the author failed to reference recent or seminal work on the subject?

The article intends to examine existing state policies and includes reasonable exclusion criteria citing papers in current open educational practices to narrow the analysis to the most relevant state policies.

The article employs policy discourse analysis (PDA) to analyze enacted legislation concerning OER in public postsecondary institutions and provides a clear data analysis flow. However, it would be better if the author mentions or compares PDA with other previously established methods of policy analysis, e.g. [1] and [2].

[1] Bertrand, M., Perez, W., & Rogers, J. (2015). Unmasking policy insiders' discourses and discursive in upholding and challenging racism and classism in education. *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, 23(93), 1–30. <https://doi.org/10.14507/epaa.v23.2068>

[2] Suspitsyna, T. (2012). Higher education for economic advancement and engaged citizenship: An analysis of the U.S. Department of Education discourse. *Journal of Higher Education*, 83(1), 49–72. <https://doi.org/10.1353/jhe.2012.0003>

Writing Style, References

Please indicate whether there are problems with expression or flow, but do not comment about grammar or basic edits. Do NOT take the time to do copy editing - that will be handled later in the process. However, general comments pointing out problems with style or format are useful.

The article has a clear structure with a proper format of reference.

Application:

Does the article contribute knowledge or practical examples that will inform/improve others' practice or education?

The article provides policy recommendations based on their findings and discusses in deep with multiple up-to-date references, which includes but is not limited to diversifying stakeholders by reaching outside of public HEIs, standardizing the definition of OER, and broadening metrics to track outcomes and

success of OER implementation. It is clear that the article contributes knowledge or practical examples that will inform/improve others' practice or education.

What are the stronger points/qualities of the article?

The article analyzes the equity issue in the current practice of OER state policy discourse, which is no doubt an important and urgent topic that needs to be emphasized and enhanced.

The article has a clear structure and is easy to read with multiple practical recommendations, which helps improve the current practice in OER

What are the weaker points/qualities of the article? How could they be strengthened?

As mentioned above, it would be better if the author could discuss more previous related methodology.

There is no figure or table presentations in the article. The quality of the article would be much improved if the author could find a way to visualize the findings.

It would be better if the author could discuss the data access of the data used for analysis. Given that the Journal of Open Educational Resources in Higher Education is a journal emphasizing open data, providing links or information about data from SPARC OER State Policy Tracker may help encourage more future studies.

The introduction and related work parts could be addressed by expanding the abstract to include more details and incorporating the current "Guiding Perspectives" section.

Peer Review Ranking: Scope

Does the topic discuss an element related to open education, open data, open access, or other open topics?

Highly Relevant

Peer Review Ranking: Clarity

Clarity of expression and flow? Does the article proceed logically?

Very Clear

Peer Review Ranking: Contribution

Contribution to Higher Education research and/or practice

Highly Contributes

Peer Review Ranking: Research Assessment

If this is a research paper, is the methodology appropriate?

Appropriate

Peer Review Ranking: Research Assessment

If this is a research paper, is the methodology appropriate? Does the article contribute knowledge or practical examples that will inform/improve others' practice or education?

Sound

Overall Evaluation

2-Accept
