

#### A Commitment to Excellence:

### **Supporting Open Educational Resources at Laredo College**

Be it resolved that, as stewards of higher education and advocates for the pursuit of knowledge, the Laredo College Board of Trustees is committed to fostering an environment that ensures access to high-quality education for all students. Recognizing the transformative potential of Open Educational Resources (OER), the Board hereby declares its dedication to the widespread adoption and expansion of OER at Laredo College.

### **Article I: Commitment to OER Expansion**

The Laredo College Board of Trustees solemnly commits to the continuous expansion of Open Educational Resources across our institution. We recognize that OER contributes to the democratization of education by providing cost-effective, easily accessible, and adaptable learning materials.

# **Article II: Support for Faculty and Staff**

The Board acknowledges the integral role of faculty and staff in the successful implementation of OER. Therefore, we pledge our support to continue providing the necessary resources, training, and professional development opportunities to empower our educators to create and utilize OER materials. This commitment extends to recognizing faculty and staff contributions to developing and enhancing OER content.

### **Article III: Removal of Barriers for Students**

Laredo College acknowledges the financial challenges faced by our diverse student body. In our pursuit of educational excellence and equity, the Board is dedicated to eliminating financial barriers to education. By prioritizing OER, we aim to reduce the financial burden on students associated with traditional textbooks and course materials, ensuring that every student has equal access to the tools they need to succeed.

# **Article IV: Ensuring Quality Education**

The Laredo College Board of Trustees emphasizes the importance of maintaining the highest standards of education. Our commitment to OER is not just about affordability; it is also about ensuring that our students receive the *highest quality* of educational resources. The college will work collaboratively with faculty to ensure that OER materials align with academic standards, promote critical thinking, and contribute to a dynamic and engaging learning experience.

## **Article V: Periodic Review and Evaluation**

The Board acknowledges that the landscape of education is dynamic, and technologies and pedagogical approaches evolve. Therefore, the college commits to review and evaluate our OER initiatives resources periodically and continues to seek opportunities for improvement, innovation, and staying abreast of emerging best practices in OER.

# **Conclusion: A Commitment to Excellence**

In adopting this Declaration of Support for Open Educational Resources, the Laredo College Board of Trustees declares its commitment to excellence by creating a learning environment that is inclusive, accessible, and of the highest quality. By embracing OER, we affirm our dedication to the principles of affordability, innovation, and educational excellence, ensuring that Laredo College remains a beacon of learning and opportunity for all.

Adopted this 14th day of December, 2023.

Lupita Zepeda

Board President, Laredo College

Dr. Minerya "Minita" Ramire

College President, Laredo College

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Filerina

Provost/Vice President of Academic of Affairs, Laredo College