



**Open Education Resources Advisory Committee**  
**October 1, 2007 2:00 pm**  
**Virginia Information Technologies Agency**  
**11751 Meadowville Lane, Chester, VA 23836-6315**

**Meeting Summary**

- **Call to order, roll call:** Roll call, chairman's welcome.

Delegate Peace called the meeting to order.

- **Staff Update:** State OER legislation and the One Laptop Per Child Program.

Staff provided a brief update on state OER legislation and the One Laptop per Child Program. The presentation may be downloaded from the JCOTS website.

- **Open Discussion: Tom Barber, VP of Customization and Special Markets, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.**

Mr. Barber provided an overview of the progressing textbook market from a publisher's perspective. The advisory committee was particularly interested in Mr. Barber opinions on textbook purchasing policies in other states. Mr. Barber stated the California is one of the more regulated states but Florida and Texas have emerged as leaders in textbook purchasing/utilization policies. Mr. Barber noted that although a few states are leaders, individual localities in other states, such as Henrico, VA, can emerge as leaders. The advisory committee asked Mr. Barber if his company offered the option of printing select chapters, at a reduced cost. Mr. Barber responded that he could envision this type of option for the middle grade sciences at some point in the future, but it is not their current practice to offer that option.

Moving back to the state adoption process, Mr. Barber stated that Texas is a leader because the state adopts all textbooks for public education in one year. This large purchasing contract controls the market and publishers respond more quickly to what Texas demands. Another

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advantage for Texas is their decision to fund purchasing on a per textbook basis, as opposed to a per student basis.

- **Gavin Baker, Technology Consultant:** Presentation on open access journals as open education resources.

Gavin Baker provided an overview of open access journals and his presentation is available on the JCOTS website.

- **Open Discussion:** This is an opportunity for members of the advisory committee to engage in an open discussion.

Delegate Peace asked a representative from Pearson education if his company had made any efforts to offer more adaptive learning materials in Virginia. The representative stated that his company proposed offering six years worth of consumable lessons, but the Board of Education stated that the offer would not be allowed under state code because the materials would not last for six years, which is required for textbook contracts.

The advisory committee discussed the need for infrastructure improvements and equipment upgrades in many classrooms before the state could adopt many of the open resources discussed during the meeting.

One potential idea discussed at the meeting was the opportunity to create a state depository at a Virginia university consisting of teaching materials and lessons developed at K-12 public schools. This type of project could be tested with a pilot program.

One final suggestion from Delegate Peace was for staff to research the current textbook purchasing code sections and determine if the lack of a definition for "textbook" restricted a locality from adopting electronic materials that could substitute for traditional textbooks.

- **Public comment:** Members of the public be given the opportunity to express their views about the Commission and its work.

No public comment received.

- **Adjournment.**

