MOOCS : an introduction

Fondren Library

Horizon Group presentation

April 2014

What is the Horizon Group?

- As libraries evolve to meet the challenges of the future, it is important for Fondren Library to stay informed of new developments and resources that might impact our users. This group will be **a "think tank"** that looks at trends in libraries and information resources, emerging technologies, and user experience. It will serve as a conduit between the Executive Committee and the library staff, facilitating a free flow of ideas and innovations.

What does the Horizon Group do?

- At the request of the Executive Committee, research, analyze, and make recommendations on specific issues.
- Hold quarterly or semi-annual sessions with the entire library staff to brainstorm and discuss ideas and issues for further research.

Past Horizon Group activities

- **2012:** what academic libraries will look like in the future

- **2013:** issues related to communication among Fondren staff.
  - Staff reported that they wanted to know more about what other departments are doing.
  - The Staff Relations Committee has developed a blog: Fondren Library Staff News: http://libstaff.blogs.rice.edu/

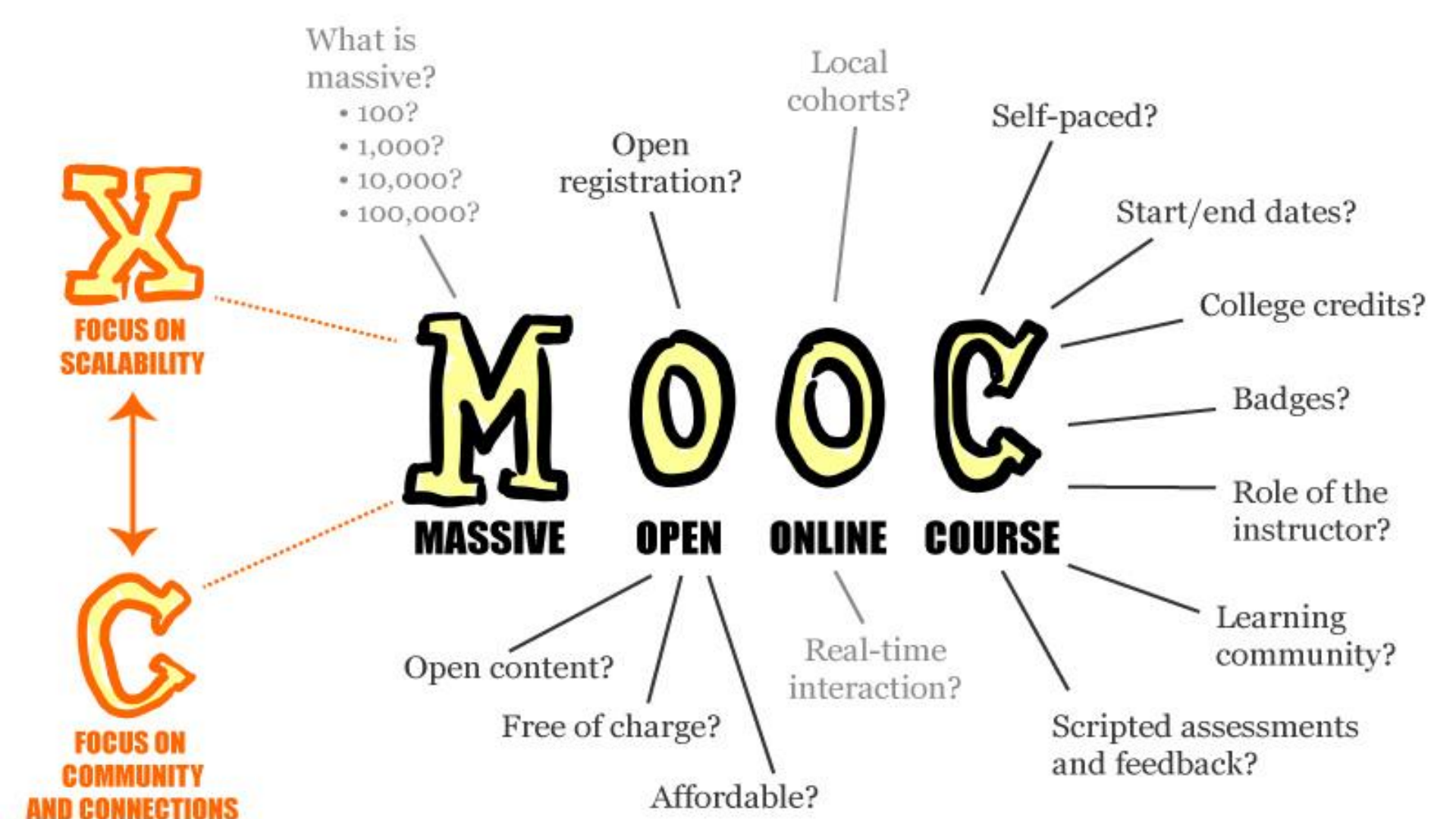
2014 Horizon Group activities: *MOOCs at Rice*

April 2014: general presentation on MOOCs

August 2014: report on Open Educational Resources as they relate to MOOCs at Rice

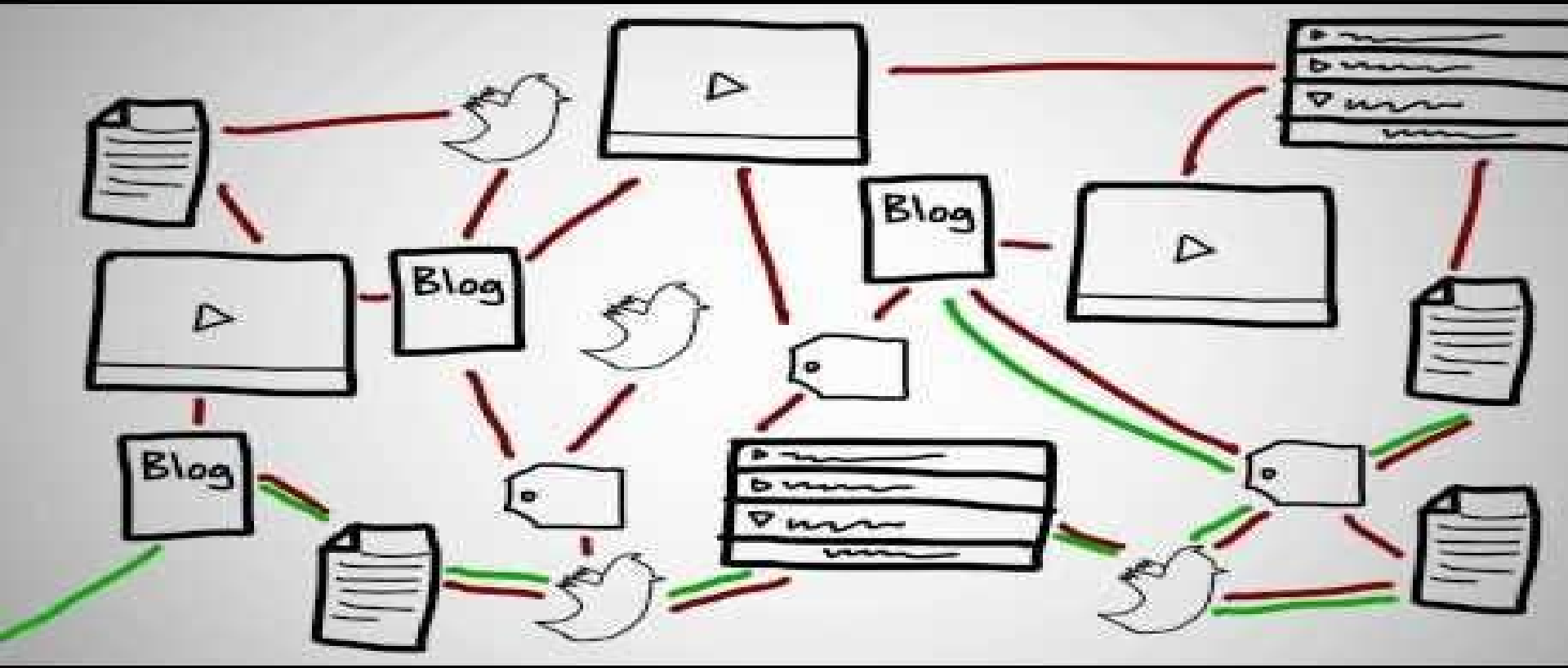
Today's presentation

- What are MOOCs (Angela)
- MOOCs offered at Rice (Nyssa)
- MOOCs relevant to librarian professional development (Lauren)
- Personal Experience with MOOCs (Mary)
- Open Educational Resources (Jean)
- Fondren's involvement with Rice MOOCs (Shannon and Amanda)


What is massive?
• 100?
• 1,000?
• 10,000?
• 100,000?
Open registration?
Local cohorts?
Self-paced?
Start/end dates?
College credits?
Badges?
Role of the instructor?
Learning community?
Scripted assessments and feedback?
Real-time interaction?
Affordable?
Free of charge?
Open content?
MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE
FOCUS ON SCALABILITY
FOCUS ON COMMUNITY AND CONNECTIONS

What are MOOCs?

MOOC - (Massive Open Online Course): MOOCs are short courses that are delivered online for free.They are a direct response to the digital, networked world where people have access to huge amounts of information online and form virtual communities with people who share their interests. All courses can be taken by anyone from anywhere and do not have any entry requirements. Most existing MOOCs have a specific start and finish date and students sign up online.The courses are offered two to three times a year and last for weeks rather than months. Courses are led by world-class academics and supported by teaching assistants. MOOCs attempt to encourage students to be independent and self-motivating.


Blog
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MOOCs at Rice University

- Rice started providing MOOCs coursework in Fall 2012, with Coursera.
- **Have reached more students with one course than have ever attended the university in more than 100 years (80,000 student enrollment for one course).**
- Majority of courses offered online are in the science and engineering fields. One of the most popular courses is *“An Introduction to Interactive Programming in Python”*.
- Rice University courses are currently offered through Coursera, or Edx.

A Snapshot of MOOC Course Offerings by Rice University

PAST COURSES	Provider
An Introduction to Interactive Programming in Python**	Coursera
Analytical Chemistry/ Instrumental Analysis	Coursera
Chemistry: Concept Development and Application	Coursera
Chemisty: Concept Development and Application Part II	Coursera
Nanotechnoloy: The Basics	Coursera
Inquiry Science Learning: Perspectives and Practices 1- Science Leadership	Coursera
Inquiry Science Learning: Perspectives and Practices 2- Techniques for Success	Coursera
Inquiry Science Learning: Perspectives and Practices 3- Content Survey	Coursera

CURRENT COURSES	Provider
Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering	Coursera
Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering Laboratory	Coursera
Inquiry Science Learning: Perspectives and Practices 4- Student Centered Inquiry	Coursera
Discrete Time Signals and Systems	EdX
Electricity and Magnetism	EdX

FUTURE COURSES	Provider
Using The Next Generation Science Standards for Students' Deeper Understanding	Coursera

Accessing Information about MOOCs Directly through Rice Online

Rice University Online

riceonline.tedenciapp.com

The above link takes you directly to information about courses offered by Rice, including information about course instructors, proposed work times, and detailed descriptions about the courses currently offered by Rice University.

The Rice Online Department is under the purview of the Office of the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives & Digital Education

MOOCs for Professional Development

- Metadata: Organizing and Discovering Information
- Library Advocacy: Unshushed: Values, evidence, action
- Teaching Library Research Strategies

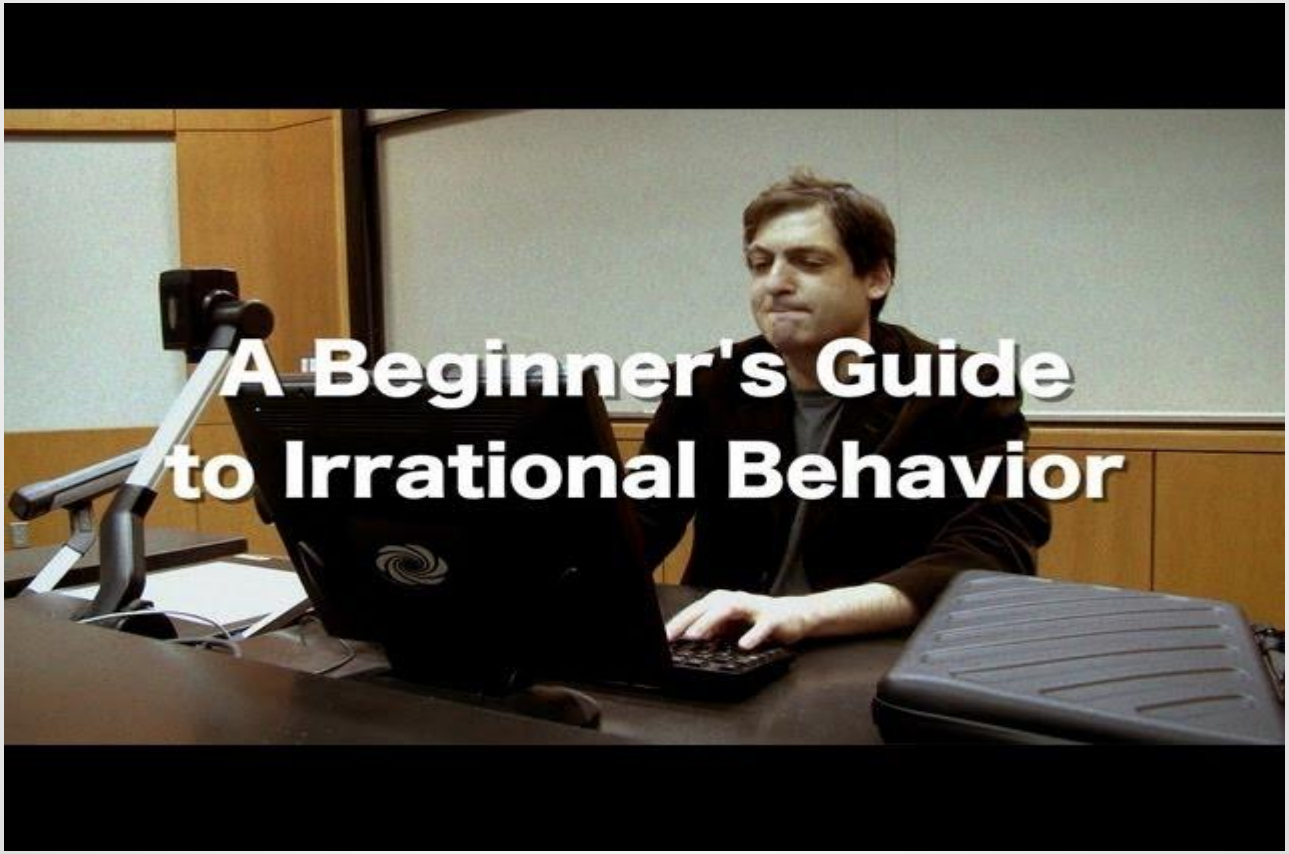
Interesting MOOC offerings:

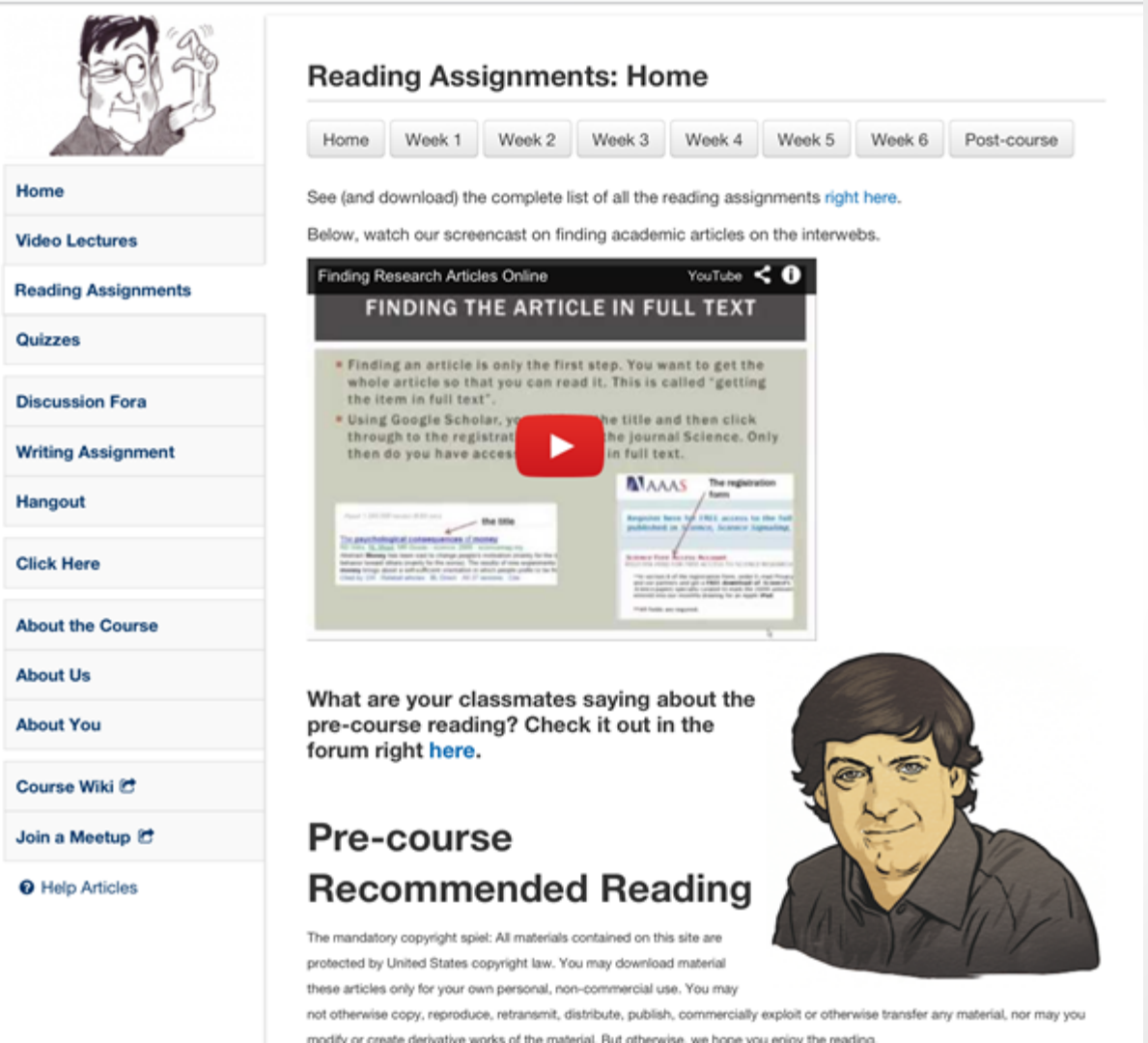
- Understanding Research Methods
- Introduction to Guitar
- Flight Vehicle Aerodynamics
- Introduction to Linux
- Managing People: Engaging your Workforce
- Archaeology of Portus

MOOCs I have loved - Coursera.org

1. Surviving Disruptive Technologies – U. of Md.
2. Pay Attention! ADHD Through the Lifespan – U. of PA
3. A Beginner's Guide to Irrational Behavior - Duke
4. Inspiring Leadership Thru Emotional Intelligence - CWRU
5. Latin American Culture – Tecnològico de Monterrey
6. The Camera Never Lies – U. of London
7. The Holocaust – UC-Santa Cruz

Beginner's Guide to Irrational Behavior
Dan Ariely, Duke University





Highlights:

Visuals, charts, cartoons..

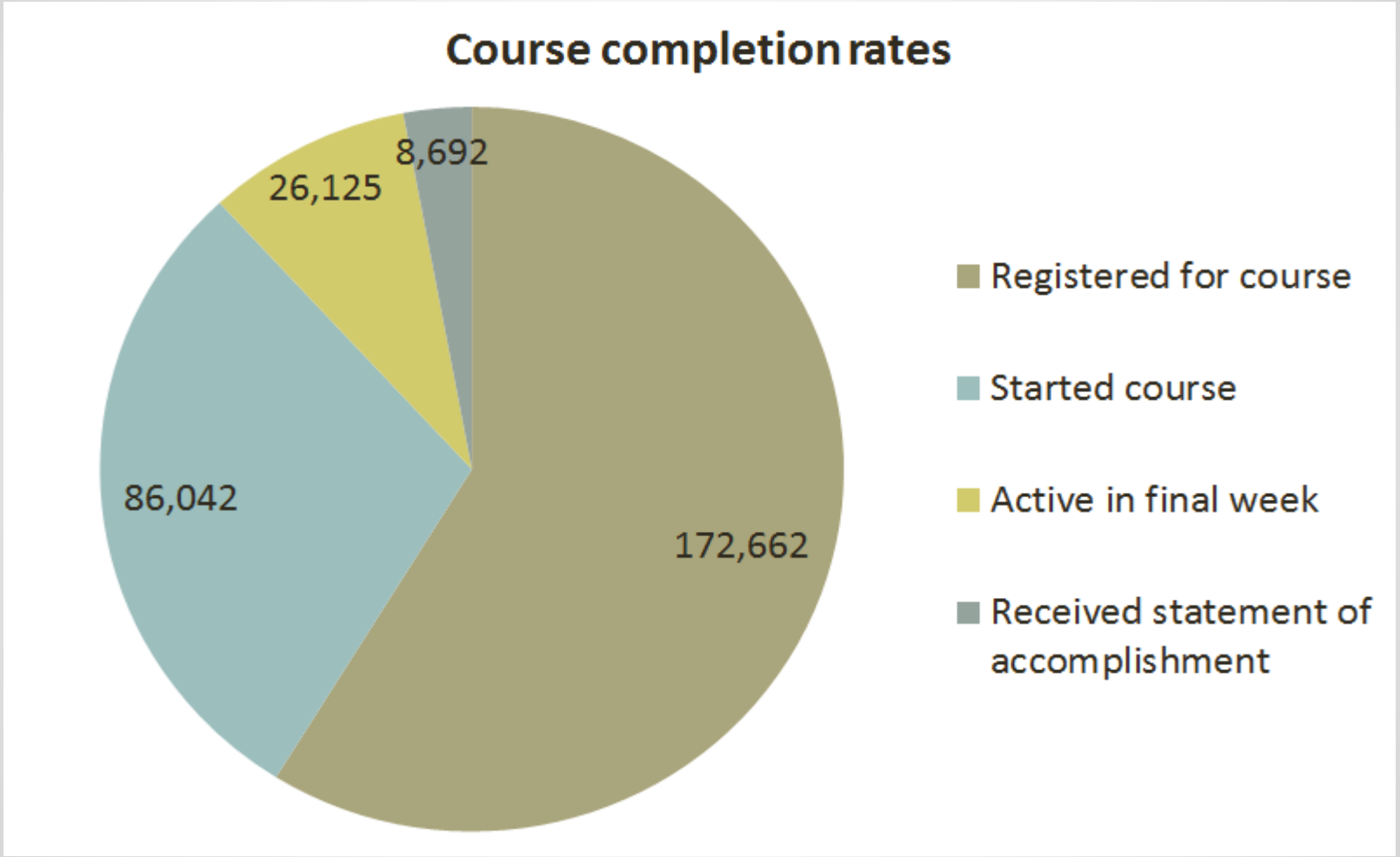
Live sessions with Dan and staff.

Guest lecturers.

Forum interaction.

Strengths

- Recognition for professor, university
- Courses can cover very specific topics
- Synchronous but self-paced
- Equal opportunity for all to participate
- Global perspective
- Social learning brings people together


Course completion rates
8,692
26,125
86,042
172,662
Registered for course
Started course
Active in final week
Received statement of accomplishment

“This course has been enlightening in too many ways to mention. I have been profoundly disturbed by the content as have my fellow students (judging by the comments on the fora). I sometimes listened to your lectures several times so that I wouldn't miss anything.”

“Feels every bit of a face to face class to me. I shall definitely miss the class, and can only wish that there will be another holocaust class offering...”

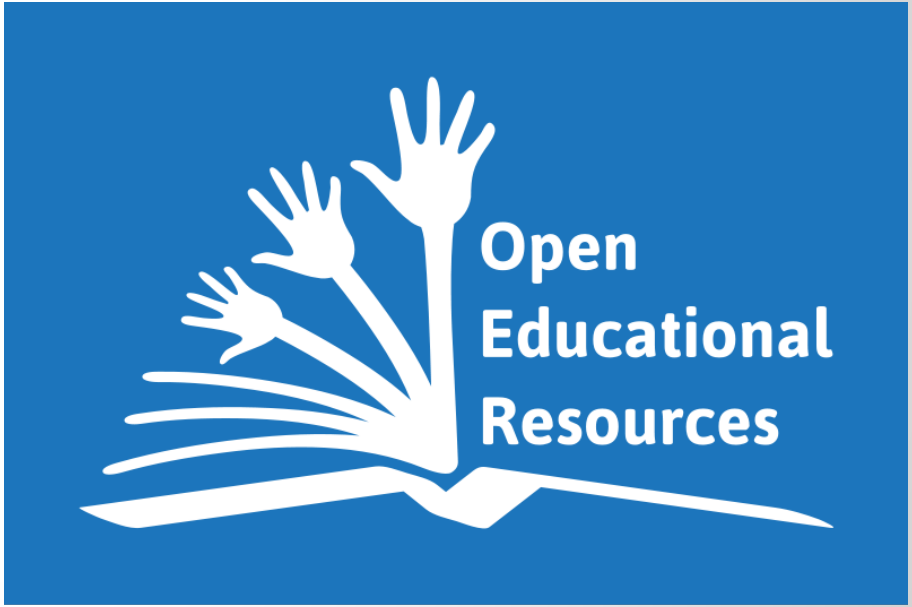
“I have felt that I am part of a community with this course.”

“I am a different person thanks to this course.”

“I escaped the gas chamber of the extermination camp of Sobibor where those who first raised me as a child were deported and gassed on arrival June 15, 1942.”

Open Education Resources (OER)

- Open content
  - Freely accessible
  - Use and remixing permitted
- Educational uses
  - Teaching
  - Learning
  - Research
- Resources
  - Course materials and modules
  - Textbooks, videos, tests
  - Software, tools, techniques



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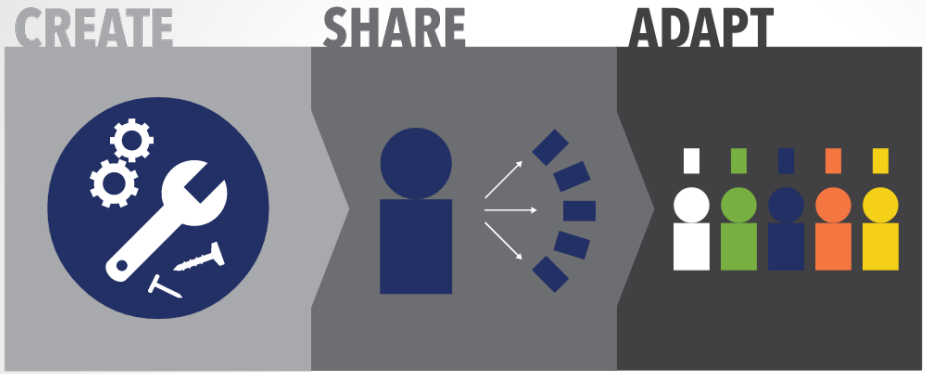

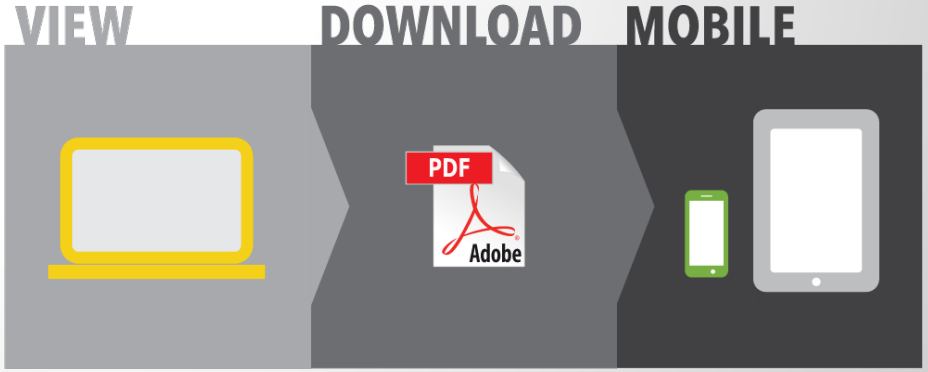

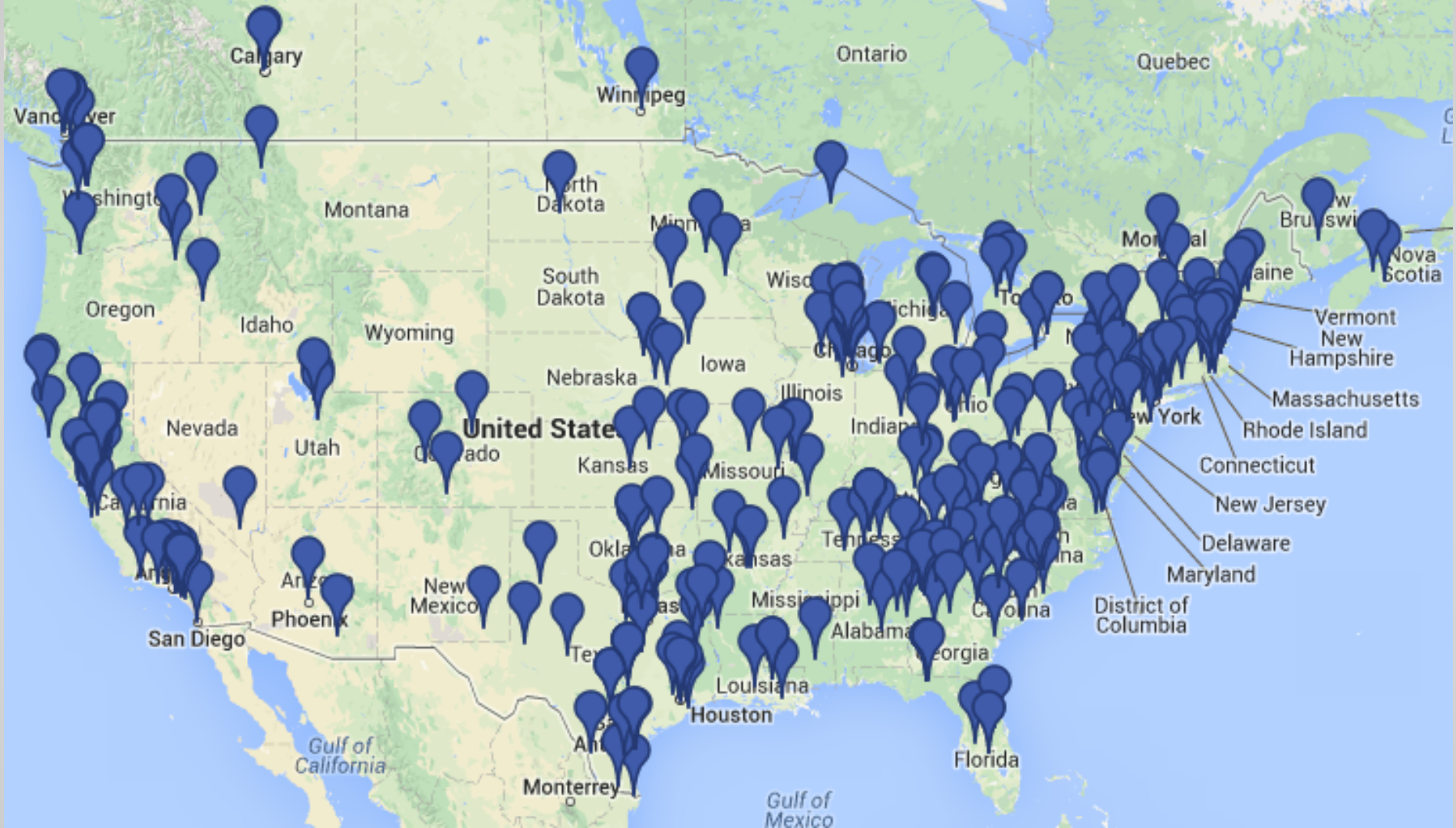
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Missouri
Indiana
New York
Vermont
New Hampshire
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Connecticut
New Jersey
Delaware
Maryland
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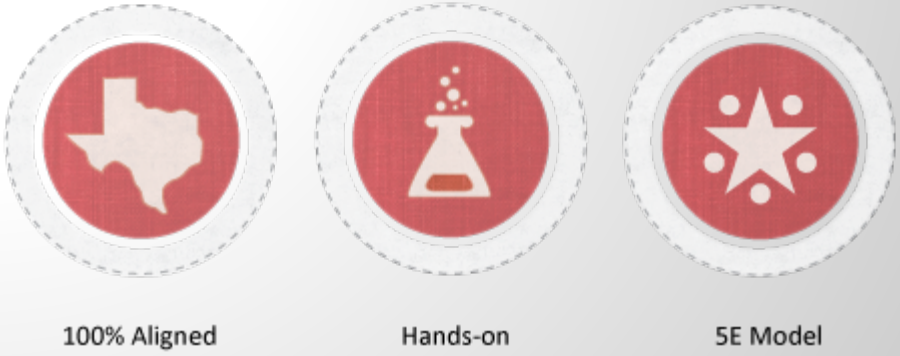
- K-12 comprehensive science curriculum
- Hands-on activities, assessments, and problem-based-learning
- Online with supplemental print and hands-on material kits
- 100% TEKS aligned



MOOCs and Fondren

- **Fondren was asked to provide guidance on copyright clearance in material** featured in MOOCs being developed by Rice faculty
  a. **Kerry Keck** has worked with the **MOOC folks at the office of the Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Initiatives and Digital Education** (Caroline Levander's office)
  b. **Kerry spoke with colleagues at other universities** to better understand what sorts of resources are needed.
  c. She **developed a collection of resources for faculty** on OwlSpace, including tracking tools (what needs to be collected for copyright clearance): collecting permissions, documenting fair use.
  d. **Worked one-on-one with several faculty** to resolve © issues - learned it was not a scalable process

MOOCs and Fondren

© ?

- **Challenge:** perception of MOOCs as *extended informal classroom* vs MOOCs as a *formal publication by Rice*

  - ***uncited illustrations and other materials*** in a classroom presentation vs. those in a MOOC
    - where did this uncited item come from?
    - is it copyrighted? is this Fair Use?
    - can it be replaced by something in the public domain?
    - can you create original content instead?
  - ***time & interest in resolving © issues***
    - who can help with © research? who can approve clearance?

MOOCs need dedicated development time, faculty participation, *a formal approval process*.

MOOCs and Fondren

- **Unsure what future role Fondren will play, as the © clearance work has passed back to the Rice MOOCs staff.**
- The workflow / formal processes for developing and distributing MOOCs at Rice are still being developed.
- Not all resources needed for robust MOOC creation/support have been identified yet.

Thank you!

Horizon Group Report on OER / MOOCs coming out in August 2014

Questions? Comments?

Horizon Group members:

Shannon Kipphut-Smith, Amanda Focke (co-chairs)
Jean Aroom, Angela Brown, Mary Brower, Nyssa Juneau-Kimbrell, Lauren Mueller