



LOS RIOS
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ZTC/OER Progress and Goals

Los Rios Board of Trustees
March 12, 2025



Presentation Team

- Jamey Nye, Deputy Chancellor
- Aisha Lowe, AVC, Planning, Research, & Institutional Effectiveness
- Doug Herndon, AVP of Instruction, ARC
- Dana Wassmer, AVP of Instruction, CRC
- Carlos Lopez, Dean of Instruction, FLC
- Rose Giordano, Dean of Planning, Research, & Institutional Effectiveness, SCC



Presentation Agenda

- Introduction
- ZTC/OER Data Overview
- College Reports: ZTC/OER Progress and Goals
 - ARC
 - CRC
 - FLC
 - SCC



ZTC/OER is an essential equity tool

Zero Textbook Costs (ZTC)

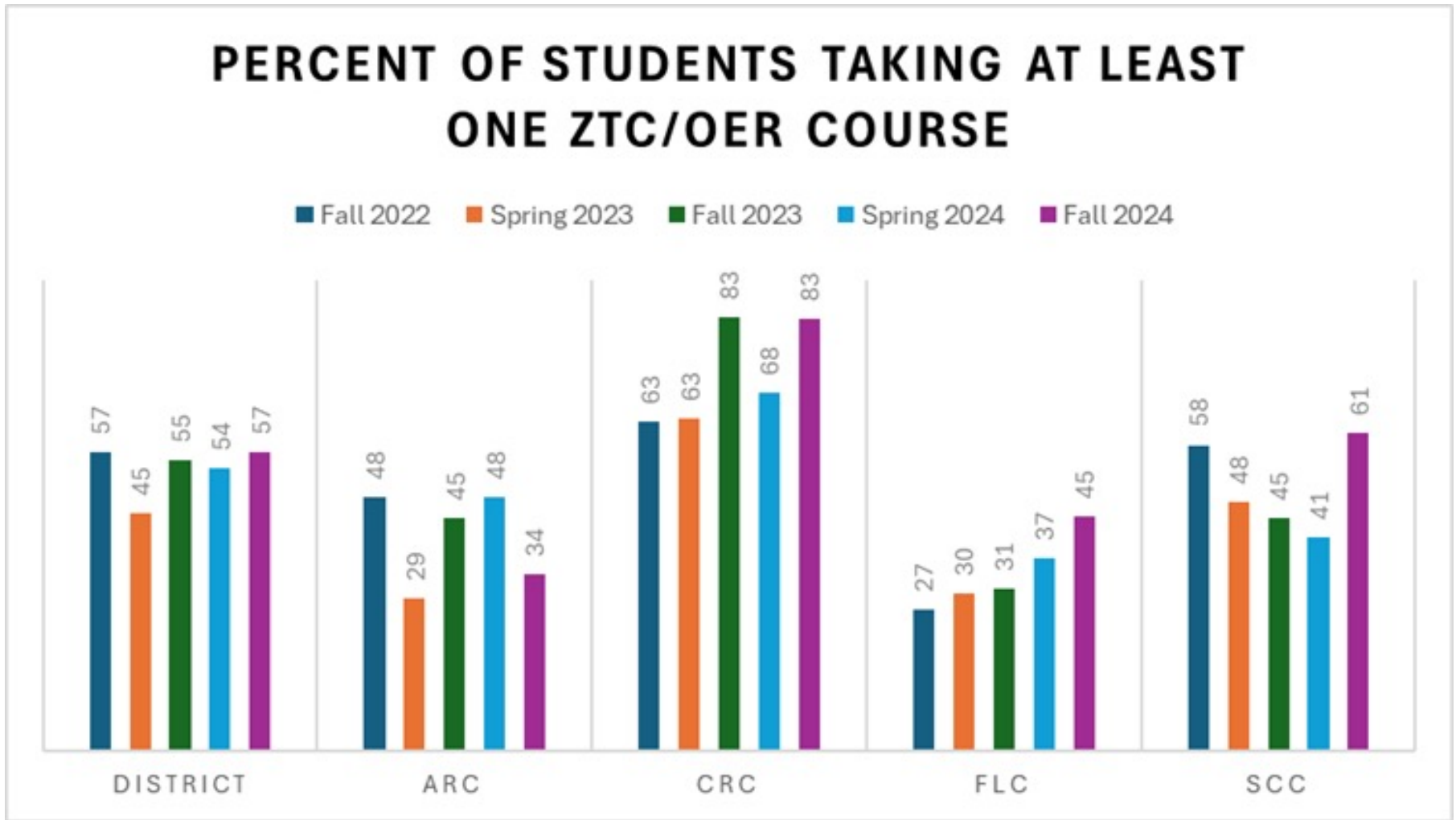
- Leverages OER, library resources, and faculty-created content to ensure that students can access required course materials without incurring additional costs
- Significantly reduces the total cost of education
- The majority of our ZTC is OER (56%)

Open Educational Resources (OER)

- Freely available teaching, learning, and research materials that reside in the public domain or are released under an open license, such as Creative Commons
- Can be adapted, revised, and redistributed, providing great flexibility

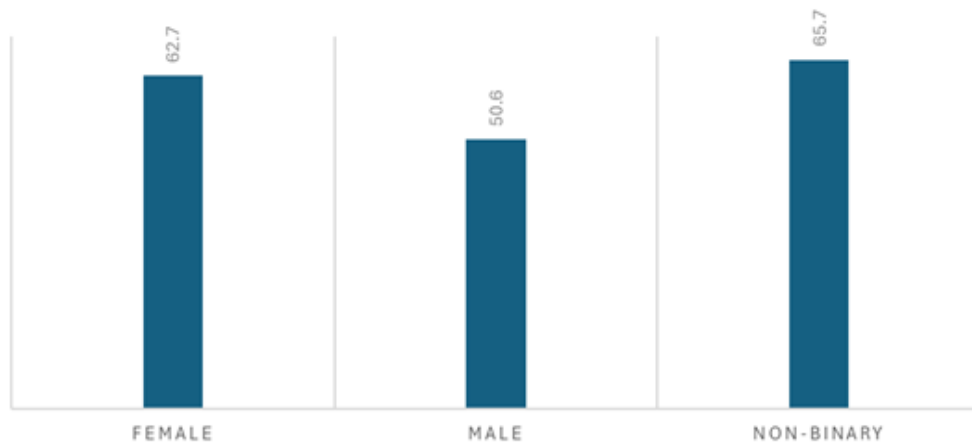


ZTC/OER is on the rise



ZTC/OER serves all students

PERCENT OF STUDENTS TAKING AT LEAST ONE ZTC/OER COURSE BY GENDER



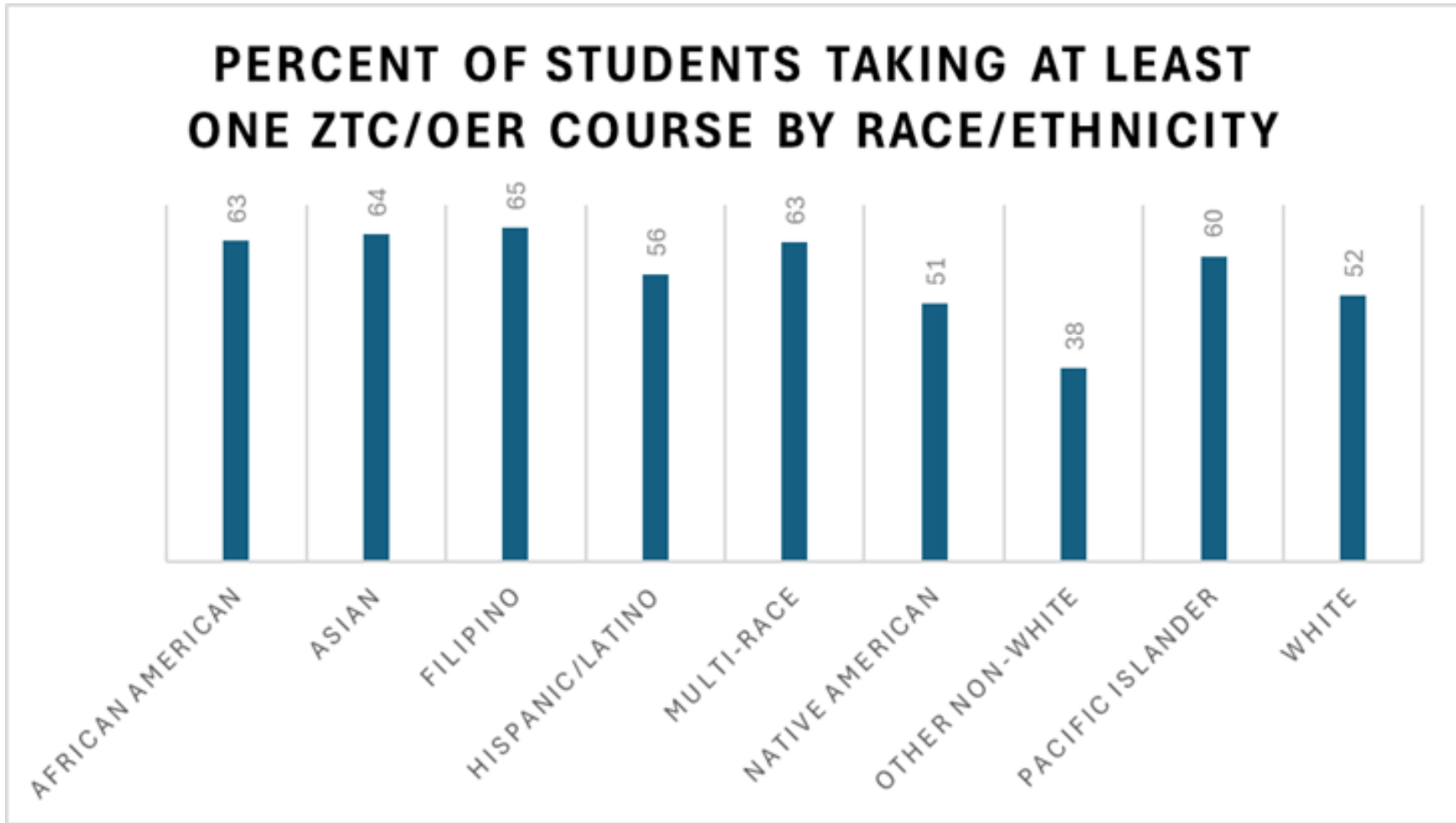
Female students and non-binary students are more heavily participating in ZTC/OER. Female students have greater average ZTC/OER enrollments.

Students across income levels are accessing ZTC/OER with strong participation among lower income students.

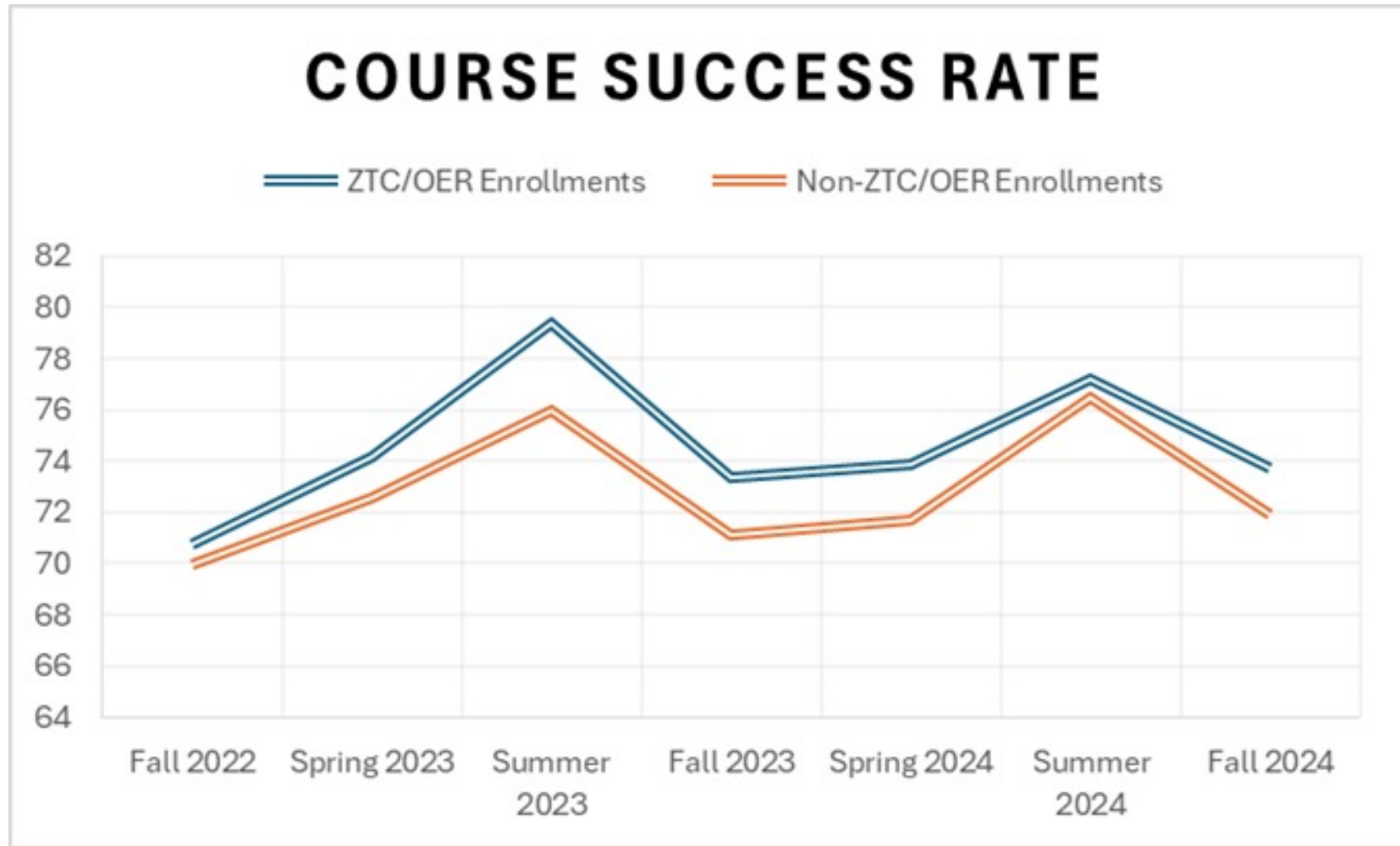
PERCENT OF STUDENTS TAKING AT LEAST ONE ZTC/OER COURSE BY INCOME LEVEL



ZTC/OER benefits BIPOC students



ZTC/OER promotes student success



American River College

Doug Herndon, AVP of Instruction



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Commitment to ZTC

- Over **100** ZTC-designated courses spanning essential General Education and transfer requirements.
- Faculty-led Affordable Learning Materials Committee to drive adoption and expansion.



Achievements & Progress

5 Fully Developed Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Pathways:

- Early Childhood Education A.A. & AS-T
- General Science A.S.
- Social Science A.A.
- Spanish AA-T
- Language Studies A.A.

Additional Pathways in Development

- Art History AA-T
- Economics AA-T
- English ADT
- Journalism AA-T
- Communication Studies AA-T
- Elementary Teacher Education AA-T
- ASL/English Interpreting A.A.
- Healthcare Interpreting



ZTC/OER Sections

Real-time updates to the data are underway, showing positive growth for spring 2025:

Spring 25 (with ZTC data is still rolling in): **31% of sections are ZTC/OER**

Term	Percent of ZTC/OER Sections
Spring 2025	31%
Fall 2024	15.27%
Spring 2024	26.42%
Fall 2023	25.85%
Spring 2023	14%



Identified Gaps & Challenges

Areas for Improvement

- Limited ZTC options in STEM, Business, CTE
- Need for increased faculty coordination
- Inconsistent use of ZTC designation in course schedules
- Challenges in data tracking and reporting on ZTC/OER adoption rates
- Need for stronger campus collaboration with bookstore vendors for accurate data collection

Actionable Goals

- **Expand ZTC Offerings:** high-impact ZTC courses: STEM, Business, CTE fields
- **Increase Faculty Support** Create Canvas hub for training, best practices, tracking
- **Enhance ZTC Visibility:** Improve accuracy and consistency of ZTC designations in course schedules
- **Secure Additional Funding:** Identify new grants and institutional funding for sustained ZTC growth
- **Improve Data Collection:** Enhance reporting accuracy and tracking



Cosumnes River College

Dana Wassmer, AVP of Instruction



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Vision to Reality

- President Bush's vision – immediate relief and sustainable program to benefit students
- Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF)
- Collaboration with Academic Senate and College leadership to support faculty in adopting OER or CDL when OER is unavailable
- Stipend to all faculty who committed to transition to ZTC/OER

Outcomes Thus Far

	Total	No Textbook Required	OER	College Supplied
Count	1032	384	426	222
Percent	74%*	28%	31%	16%

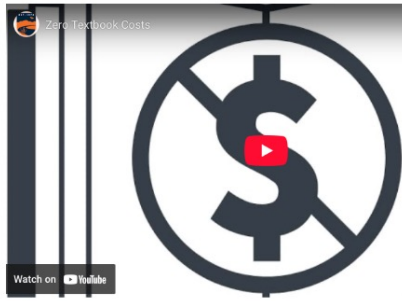
*CRC calculates lectures with lab as 1 ZTC class in the numerator and denominator, whereas DO counts lectures with lab as 1 ZTC section in the numerator and 2 sections in the denominator.



Data Integration & Visibility

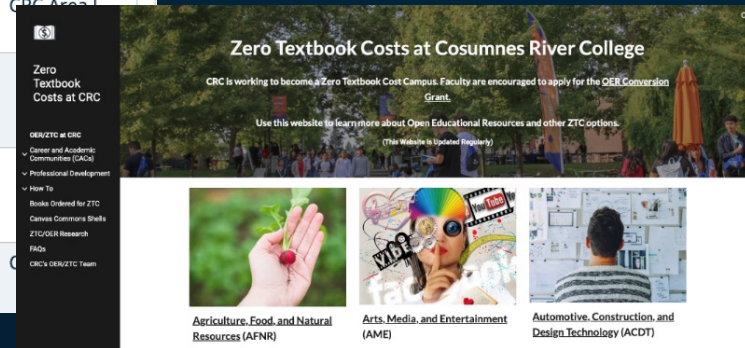
Zero Textbook Costs (ZTC) = Classes with Free Textbooks

Zero Textbook Costs (ZTC) means that there is no cost for required textbooks, manuals, readers, or specialized software like online homework systems. The [1359](#) that requires California Community Colleges to identify Zero Textbook sections.



ZTC at Cosumnes River College

First Year				
Semester 1				
17.5-18.5 Units				
COURSE	UNITS	PRE-REQS^	SEMESTERS OFFERED*	GE AREA
ARCH 300 ^Z Introduction to Design Professions	2		F, S	
ARCH 310 ^Z History of Architecture	3		F, S	CRC Area I
ARCH 320 ^Z Architectural Design and Communication I	3.5	Co-req: ARCH 325	F, S	
ARCH 325 ^Z Architectural Digital Design and Communication I	3	Co-req: ARCH 320	F, S	
CRC Area II(a)-Writing Competency ^Z	3	Recommend meeting	F, S, Su	CRC Area II



Funding and Support

- CCCCO Phase 1 and 2 (\$200,000)
- CCCCO ZTC 2025 Allocation (\$320,000)
- CCCCO Accelerated Grants (\$593,576)
- CCCCO Collaboration/Accelerated Grants (\$810,000)
- CCCCO Demonstration Grant (\$980,720)
- Strong Workforce (\$198,110)
- **TOTAL \$3.1M**

Estimated Impact for Students

- Spring 2022: \$1.15M
- Fall 2022: \$1.66M
- Spring 2023: \$2.00M
- Fall 2023: \$2.50M
- Spring 2024: \$2.9 M
- Fall 2024: \$3.1 M

• **TOTAL: \$13M
SAVED**

What Worked

Dedicating 1.0 FTE Reassigned Time ZTC/OER Faculty Coordinator

Incentivizing Faculty

Offering Workshops, Office Hours, Outreach

Prioritized and Supported by CRC Leadership

Ongoing Case making

Next Steps

100% ZTC/OER College by Fall 2027

Engage Adjuncts

Incentive Program

Professional Development

Creation of more OER

Folsom Lake College

Carlos Lopez, Dean of Instruction



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FLC's ZTC/OER Progress

- Steady Increase in ZTC/OER offerings
 - 2018-19 – 41 sections, 1179 students
 - 2023-24 – 244 sections, 4282 students
 - Spring 2025 – 24% of course offerings are ZTC/OER
- FLC Students can complete General Education patterns as ZTC/OER
- Grew from FLC volunteers to Affordable Learning Materials Committee



Highlights and Wins

Student **Success** Rate

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023
ZTC Course Rate	75.2%	86.4%*	83.8%	82.3%	77.8%
College-Wide Rate	75.3%	79.8%*	74.2%	72.7%	74.6%

** Spring 2020 Excused Withdrawals likely inflated success and retention rates*



Highlights and Wins

Student Retention Rate

<i>Student Outcomes</i>	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023
ZTC Course Rate	84.5%	89.4%*	83.3%	80.5%	86.8%
College-Wide Rate	86.3%	88.9%*	84.5%	83.6%	85.4%

** Spring 2020 Excused Withdrawals likely inflated success and retention rates*



Highlights and Wins

Funding = **\$770,000**

- CCCCCO Phase 1 and 3 - \$200,000
- CCCCCO ZTC 2025 Allocation - \$320,000
- CCCCCO Collaboration Grants
 - Business Administration - \$110,000
- CCCCCO Accelerated Grants
 - Native American Studies - \$140,000



Highlights and Wins

Funding will enable completion of ZTC Pathways for the most awarded degrees at FLC by Fall 2025

- Communication Studies 2.0
- Business Administration 2.0
- Economics
- Psychology



Highlights and Wins

Funding will enable completion of these ZTC Pathways by Fall 2027

- Dance
- Ethnic Studies
 - Native American Studies
 - Chicano/a/x Studies
- Anthropology



Challenges

- OER materials become outdated
 - Curating is time-consuming
- Commercial textbooks provide ancillary materials that faculty appreciate and cannot recreate the personalized scaffolded homework.
- Ensuring disproportionately impacted students are enrolling in ZTC/OER courses



ALMC Recommended Goals

- Courses, degrees and certificates that have been converted to OER/ZTC will be sustained
- Increase ZTC sections by 10% each year
- Within 5 years:
 - 50% of courses have at least one ZTC section
 - 50% of degrees and certificates are ZTC



Strategies to Meet Goals

- Full time OER Coordinator
- Reliable means to compensate faculty for creating and updating materials
- Resources to purchase class sets for Low Textbook Cost (LTC) classes to become ZTC
- Ongoing campaign for faculty and student awareness of ZTC



Sacramento City College

Rose Giordano, Dean of Planning, Research, &
Institutional Effectiveness



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Overview of ZTC/OER Efforts

- Focus on ensuring equitable access to ZTC/OER pathways.
- SCC has made significant progress in expanding ZTC/OER offerings.
- Challenges in data collection have led to underreporting. Improvements on the way.

Goal: Ensure that students can complete their education without purchasing textbooks, supporting those who plan to transfer.

ZTC Pathways & Degrees

Administration of Justice (AS-T)

Art (AA)

Business (AS-T)

Cognitive Science (AA)

Communication (AA)

Sociology (AA and AA-T)

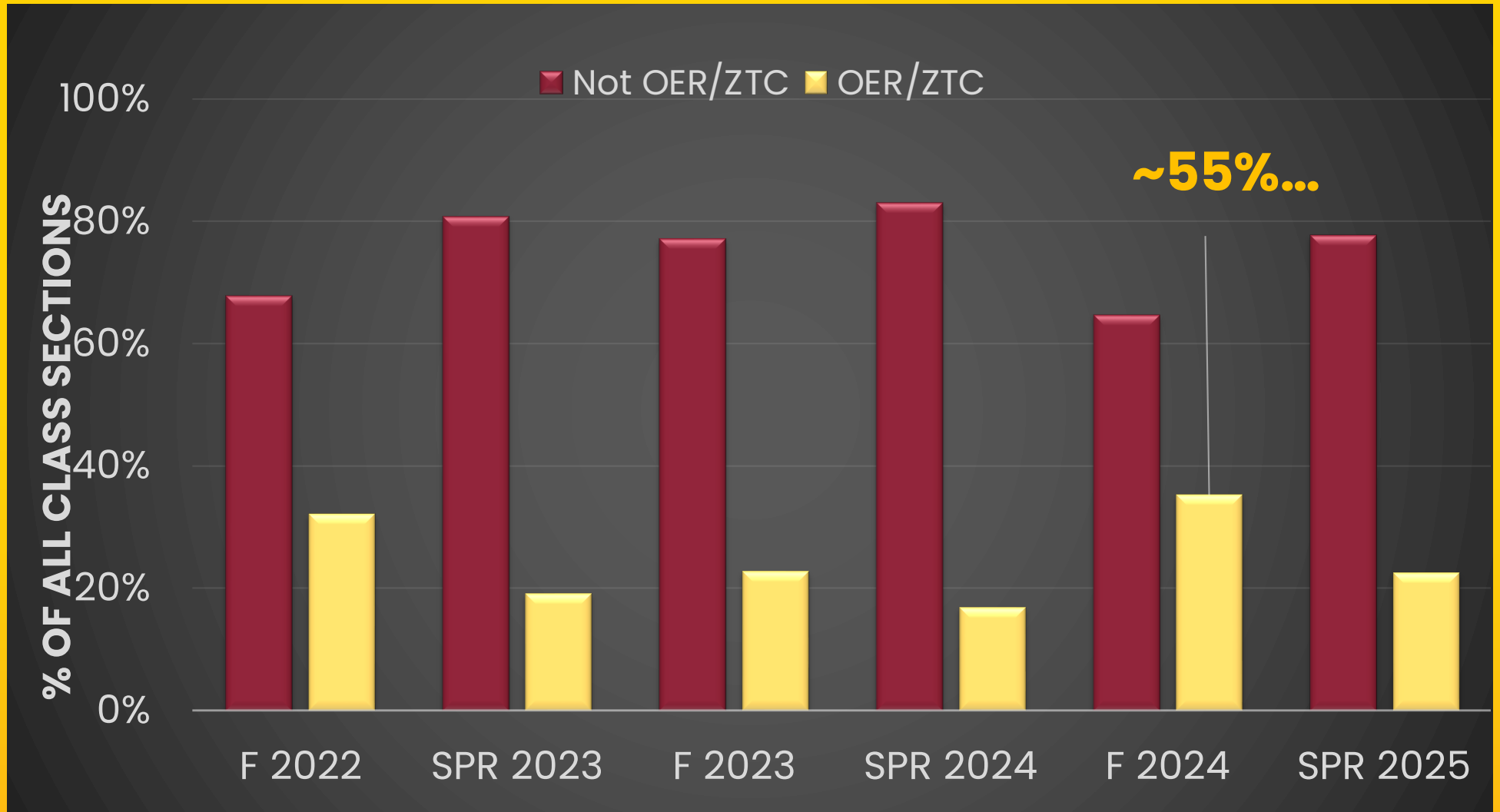
Near Completion ZTC Pathways

English (AA)

Geography (AS-T)

Journalism (AA)

OER/ZTC adoption: increase F 2023 to F 2024 of ~55%



Data retrieved from LRCCD Office of Institutional Research Data Dashboards.



SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE
EST. 1916

Expansion Strategies

Establish a ZTC/OER Infrastructure

Expand ZTC Pathways

Increase ZTC/OER Course Offerings

Improve Data Collection

Encourage Faculty Collaboration





Next Steps

Affordability

Inclusive Learning

Student Impact

Data Accuracy





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Thank you!

