Iowa State University is poised to build a more systematic approach to reducing the cost of course content for our students by utilizing affordable materials, such as Open Educational Resources (OER), library licensed materials, and Immediate Access content. Over the past year, this partnership between the ISU Book Store, University Library, Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT), Office of the Senior Vice President & Provost, and other campus partners has had a meaningful impact on the Iowa State campus community.

**KEY FINDINGS**

1. **The Use of Open & Affordable Course Content is on the rise**
   - **In Calendar Year 2018**: 14 courses reported the use of OER.
   - **In Calendar Year 2019**: 32 courses reported the use of OER.
   - **The use of OER in these courses saved students approximately $147,500 in 2019.**
   - **In Calendar Year 2018**: 64 courses reported the use of Immediate Access.
   - **In Calendar Year 2019**: 197 courses reported the use of Immediate Access.
   - **The use of Immediate Access saved students approximately $2.8 million in 2019.**

2. **Open & Affordable Course Content Supports Student Success**
   - Access to affordable course content leads to:
     - Higher enrollment numbers
     - Lower course drop rates
     - Better learning outcomes for students
     - Affordable course content initiatives are an investment in our students' success & persistence through college.

3. **Faculty Need Support to Find and Use Open & Affordable Course Content**
   - The foundation of the affordable course content initiatives at Iowa State University lies in outreach and support to the campus community. One of the biggest barriers we have found is that faculty do not understand all of the affordable course content options available to them, or the differences between these options.

**NEXT STEPS**

1. **SUSTAIN**
   - Continue to secure funding to support the Miller Open Education Mini-Grant Program.

2. **SUPPORT**
   - Develop an institutional resolution or recommendation in support of course materials affordability.

3. **GROW**
   - Develop additional outreach and education for faculty, including a 2021 Affordability Summit.

For more information, please visit OER.iastate.edu