OER Collective Academic Authors Community of Practice Meeting No. 2

9 May 2023
11:00 am – 12:00 pm (AEST)

Acknowledgement of Country

Before we get started

- We will be recording this session and making it available after the event along with a summary of what we discussed and links to the documents mentioned.

- There will be time for questions at the end, however you are welcome to add questions to Slido throughout.

- We'll be using Slido throughout the presentation today to give you the opportunity to share thoughts, tips and resources.
  - Please use the Q&A function to pose questions in slido. Go to slido.com and type in the code #1383 950

- If you are tweeting, please use the hashtag #OERCollective

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COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS
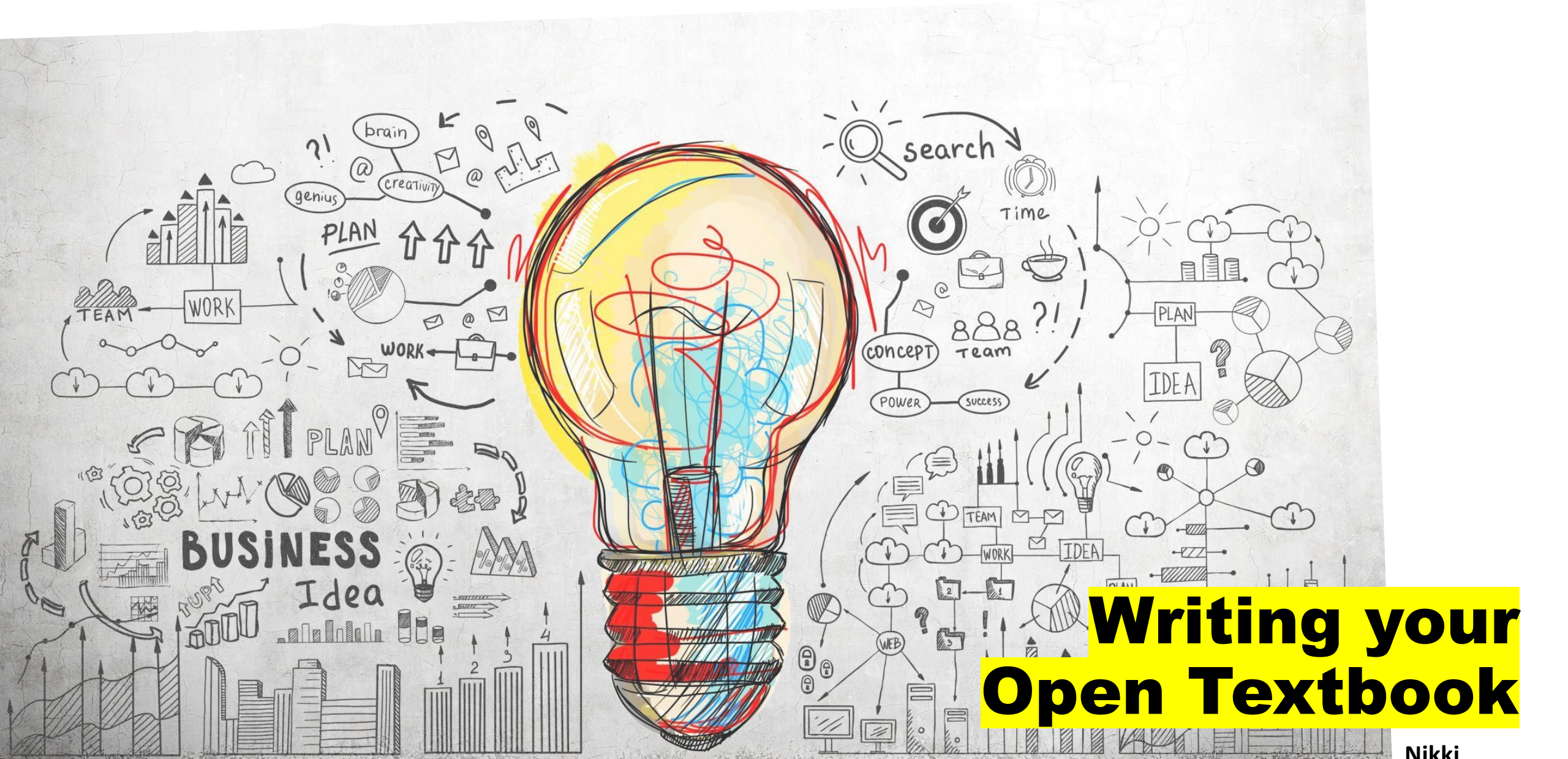
Writing your Open Textbook

Nikki Andersen

Today's session

✓ Copyright considerations

💡 Peer review tips

📚 Book structure considerations

✏️ Tips when writing your open textbook

❓ Questions and discussion

Copyright Considerations

You can use

- Content with open licensing such as Creative Commons (CC) licences (you will need to ensure the CC licences you use are compatible with one another)

- Content in which copyright has expired

- Links to legal content

- Content that you have written permission to use

Tip 1

Check your University's Intellectual Property Policy
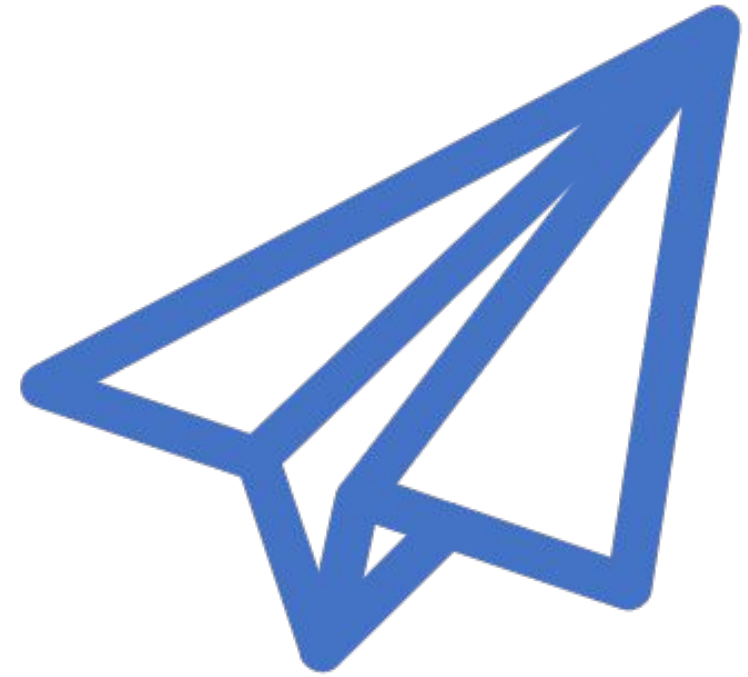
Tip 2

Keep track of all the content you are using

Use TASL

- **T**itle of the work

- **A**uthor (creator) of the work

- **S**ource (link) or where the work can be found

- **L**icence of the work.

Example: The Puppy by Klearchos Kapoutsis, licensed under a CC BY 2.0 licence.

Tip 3

Send chapters to your librarian, one by one & ask questions as you go.

Peer Review

Tip 1: Decide who will peer review your open textbook and contact them early and often in the publishing process.

Tip 2: Ask your peer reviewer to write the foreword of your open textbook

Tip 3: Get your internal colleagues to review too. Also, PhD students are great beta-readers (and project officers).

Book Structure Considerations

Write a summary of your open textbook

Outline who's on your team and who can support you

Identify primary and secondary audience

Think about structure and learning outcomes

Book Structure Considerations

Front Matter	Body	Back Matter
• Verso/copyright page • Acknowledgment of Country • Accessibility Information page • Version history page • Dedication • About this book • About the author/s page • Acknowledgments • Foreword • Preface • List of abbreviations • Introduction	• How will the main body be divided? Indicate if parts or units will be used. • Will each chapter include chapter sections? • How long should the book be? Estimate the word count for the entire book, and then break this number down into individual chapters. • Will you incorporate learning objectives, key takeaways, interactive or supplementary resources, multimedia, additional readings etc.?	• Appendices • Glossary • Reference list • Suggested readings or additional resources • Peer review statement

Tips when writing your open textbook

1

Tip 1: Use headings (and be logical)

2

Tip 2: Be consistent in design and language

3

Tip 3: Don't underestimate the power of white space

4

Tip 4: Apply Universal Design for Learning principles

Other tips

- **Tip 1:** Schedule time each week to focus on writing your open textbook.

- **Tip 2:** Have regular project meetings with your direct team and library staff.

- **Tip 3:** Gather a supportive team and ask for help.

- **Tip 4:** Be open and tell others about your upcoming open textbook - that way you will find peer reviewers and collaborators.

"I was always committed to my open text project but my excitement when my 'writing' day came around each week surprised even me. Any academic knows the competing demands we face and that finding time to write an open text isn't easy amongst the pressure to produce top quartile articles, teaching duties, and never-ending admin requests.

However, I found this project to be refreshingly different to my other academic (and admin) work! My open text was a space for me to express my passion for the topic in a manner that accurately represented my ideas and made them accessible for my target reader. And this was a novel luxury!

It was during the writing of my open text that I have felt most 'academic'. Not 'academic' in a theoretical, distant, clinical way – but in the way I had hoped academia would be; I was making accessible a topic that I continue to learn (research) about and was helping others to learn and grow interest and capability in that area too – not just in my classrooms, but hopefully beyond."

Dr Bronte van der Hoorn, author of _Visuals for Influence: In Project Management and Beyond._

Any questions?

- Tell me about your open textbooks

- What challenges do you think you'll face on your open publishing journey and who will support you?