



Career Exploration (ESTR): Author Interview

Transcript

00:00:00:08 - 00:00:09:25

Narrator: Career Exploration. ESTR author interview. Introduction.

00:00:09:25 - 00:00:17:26

Christina: My name is Christina Cederlof and I teach in the education and Skills training program, otherwise known as ESTR, here at TRU.

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Christina: The project that we worked on was the Career Exploration trubox OER. And, my background is in, preparing students for employment. And so that is what the OER is about.

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Christina: And I've always been interested in what motivates people and, helping them with their job search.

00:00:39:45 - 00:00:44:50

Jeisil: My name is Jeisil Aguilar Santos. I'm one of the author of, career exploration.

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Jeisil: My background is in educational research and I'm a learning technologist here in TRU

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Narrator: How did the idea for this open educational resource come about?

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Christina: Yeah, I knew about open education resources, and it seemed attractive because having taught in this area for several years, I know that there's never been, one source for, finding material.

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Christina: It's that type of an area where faculty have taken material from different areas and adjusted it to suit.

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Christina: This type of programing.

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Christina: So creating an open education resource that would contain all of those materials seemed really attractive.

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Narrator: What sources or inspirations shaped your work on this OER?

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Jeisil: Well, at the beginning with we, mostly Christina.

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Jeisil: Thought about, building this OER We thought that what type of public what type of person will use this in the future?

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Jeisil: And we thought about what type of students, and what type of instructors we have that teach this type of content or can use this, this type of content.

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Jeisil: And we thought about, for example, students with different necessities and capacities, and we thought about people that are back at the university after a long time, and maybe newcomers like me or I don't know, parents or family that are interested in some topics.

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Jeisil: and we thought at the beginning in UDL, of course, a design that is universal and A lot of people can access through different ways. For example, videos, H5Ps and text. I think the, inspiration was, students and instructors here at TRU

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Jeisil: But yeah, at the same time, older type of person that can access this OER

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Narrator: How has working with TRU open press supported or shaped this project?

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Christina: Well, it's been amazing and, the OER looks the way it does a large part because of this project was connected with the open press.

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Christina: Just right from the beginning, the support, how it could look and that it could be in, trubox using, WordPress, and just the coordination and the constant support and the feedback, has been amazing.

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Jeisil: It's amazing.

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Jeisil: I never had the experience of this type of platform, and team with a lot of experience in different fields that at the same time have some coherence to help us to go through this path of building something.

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Jeisil: you see the final project, you see or the final product you see, okay, is fine. But the process was complex.

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Jeisil: I think we had a lot of help in thinking the design, thinking the, the building of the technology part, was, very clear.

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Jeisil: I think all the team was very supporting with us. So we are very grateful about that.

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Narrator: What was it like collaborating with your research assistants or students on this project?

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Christina: Well, that's another amazing part of this project. So Jeisil came on to the project as a research assistant.

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Christina: One of two and, both, started the project and, the other research assistant, Yujin Mi did an amazing job, and helped so much in that context.

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Christina: I will say that very early on, it was clear that Jeisil's contribution to this and her, use of technology, educational technology.

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Christina: And when I realized that she could create videos, that could convey the curriculum through videos that just took this project to another level.

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Christina: and so it was with that, degree of, professionalism and, work that Jeisil could do on this project that I asked her to become a coauthor.

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Christina: So she started as a research assistant.

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Christina: But then very early on, it was evident that her role, could and should be far more and should be a research assistant.

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Jeisil: I think that as I was a student in the Master of Education when I had this opportunity to work with Christina and open press, and I think is important, if you are a student, an international student doing a postgraduate program, have the opportunity to build and create something is amazing because you don't have always the opportunity to say, in the future, okay, I was part of this.

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Jeisil: That is amazing. And you can enjoy it now. So for me as a student was a great opportunity.

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Jeisil: I hope that another research assistant have this opportunity in the future

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Narrator: What impact do you hope this OER will have on learners or educators?

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Jeisil: Well, we have a lot of students, in our classrooms. And all students came from different backgrounds and contexts. I think this OER is a place where students will learn in an easy way. I think we put in a simple way things that are complex. For example, rules or laws about how to work in BC or, safety in the place of, work. They are complex topics.

00:06:27:09 - 00:06:44:15

Jeisil: So I think the impact will be students having the possibility to access to information in an easy way in one place, not only reading, because the opportunity that we have is that we have students that have different needs and different ways to learn more.

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Jeisil: Easy way.

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Jeisil: Okay, so if you have this type of resource with videos, text, H5Ps that are interaction this is amazing for a student.

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Jeisil: I think as a student I think it's a good project. And I now it's a good product. So the impact is learning the easiest way possible. Complex topics. That's the thing for me. The impact for me.

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Christina: So I'd like to back that up for educators.

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Christina: I hope this becomes a resource where educators will go to see what's there, because this OER is quite big.

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Christina: And it has quite a number of different, activities, videos, links to websites, resources that are there.

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Christina: So I hope that educators, really dive into the OER And see what's there. It is.

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Christina: quite an impressive big OER And for students, this, universal design, for learning that was the basis of this.

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Christina: OER just makes that the material is accessible to all learners, regardless of, sort of where they're starting.

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Christina: And I've had this great opportunity to use the OER this fall.

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Christina: And I've already heard from, students say, oh, I didn't know that, you know, about active listening.

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Christina: Oh, I've never thought of it that way.

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Christina: And so the OER is also a good starting point for classes where, faculty member can show the video and then have an activity, and then the learners can go also and do the H5P activities to reinforce that learning.

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Christina: So I think my biggest hope is that it gets noticed and it gets used.

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Narrator: What challenges did you face during the development process and how did you overcome them?

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Jeisil: Well I think in the field of education we had a lot of information.

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Jeisil: And now that we have artificial intelligence, we have a lot of possibilities and platforms on the way to do a way to communicate things.

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Jeisil: So I think one important challenge was made this in a coherent way. Okay. Not like taking information of all places or sources.

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Jeisil: So we check that the source have authority, academic authority or institutional authority to use information.

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Jeisil: That is, used for students and educators.

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Jeisil: Other challenge, I think, for me was to condense all this information in videos that have maybe 3 or 4 minutes, not more than that.

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Jeisil: And then the transcription and then the activities.

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Jeisil: Again, think about the user, the final user of these, that will be different type of students or educators or other people outside of the university.

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Jeisil: So that I think may current may in using technology and using information, but in a good academic way or institutional way.

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Jeisil: So that was my I think our challenge.

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Narrator: Was there a moment during this project that really stood out to you? Something you will always remember.

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Christina: Well, there were several, as I said, one that really stood out for me was I, had hoped that we could do videos.

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Christina: But I was thinking of sort of the traditional way as we're doing now.

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Christina: And, when I realized that Jeisil with her talent, could put together, videos and they were scripted and, and that was something that we could manage or she could manage.

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Christina: that took this project to a whole other place.

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Christina: And then I also remember it was fairly early on, we had really started working on this, and I could see that the project was going out in this direction.

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Christina: you know, we were still in sort of the second month of working on this project, and it seemed clear to me that we had to see the boundaries of it.

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Christina: In order to finish it, because we wanted to finish it within last year's academic year.

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Christina: So I think that was a crucial point where it was sort of like this OER is taking off in a way that was, just more amazing than I could ever have imagined.

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Christina: And how are we going to, wrap it in this, way to make sure that we captured everything.

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Christina: And we finished it off strong. So those are my big memories.

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Narrator: How do you see the role of open education evolving in the next few years?

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Jeisil: That's a big question.

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Jeisil: I'm a professor in Latin America, so I have a lot of, students that are in programs, for example, masters or PhD, and they always are.

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Jeisil: They are worried because they are teachers. They are worried about. Okay.

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Jeisil: what will happen now that we have this access to artificial intelligence, and a lot of programs, and platforms.

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Jeisil: And I'm, thinking that the, role of the open education and the role of teachers in all fields, levels is to teach students to ask in a proper way, because you need to learn how to ask even if you are using artificial intelligence or you are using any type of program, you need to have, like critical thinking.

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Jeisil: And, this information is, real is true. Is it the information that I need?

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Jeisil: This source is, good source for my research, for example, like that is what I did, in the past.

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Jeisil: So I think is about think, in the process, even before the platform, because the problem is, okay, we will go all or we, we are going to Moodle or WordPress or artificial intelligence.

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Jeisil: Okay.

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Jeisil: But how so this thinking before the platform, before using the technology is, I think, a good, start point for the future.

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Jeisil: Okay.

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Jeisil: Because we have access now that's a thing that we cannot close yes or deny we have access.

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Jeisil: But how is the access and how my students will use this in the future?

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Jeisil: We have a big role teaching how to use in a critical way, and teaching how to ask, because what will happen with new generations to say something is that sometimes they don't know how to ask.

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Jeisil: So they are doing sometimes wrong questions or sometimes question that, won't have the result that they need to.

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Jeisil: For the purpose or for the process of learning in general. So that's what I think.

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Narrator: If someone is thinking about creating an OER what advice would you give them?

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Christina: Well, I hope they they go ahead and they, take the step forward and start creating their open education resource.

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Christina: I also hope that Open press, can continue to support projects like this.

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Christina: I think that, with the support of Open press, TRU is a leader in this area and can continue to be a leader in this area.

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Christina: And, really think that this is where we're moving, faculty.

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Christina: Embracing technology and using technology and making their knowledge and their resources available to all.

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Christina: I think, is, the future of education. So I hope we have the opportunity to see that through.

00:14:21:65 - 00:14:24:82

Narrator: Thank you for the interview. Christina and Jeisil