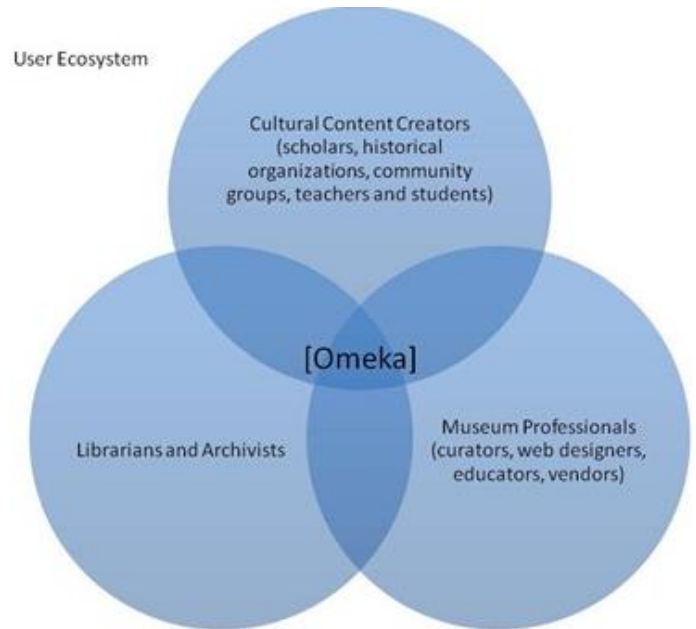


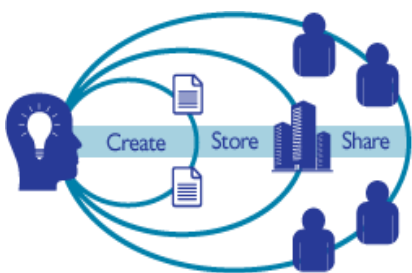
ATC Times Three (ATCx3) Consortium, a collaborative effort involving Albany Technical College, Athens Technical College, and Atlanta Technical College, is working to increase access to and completion of associate degree programs in engineering technology.

To meet the needs of the TAACCCT Grant, consortium members are developing an

integrated strategy that incorporates stacked and latticed credentials, transforms instructional delivery, and provides students with “wrap around” support services, including a Learning Objects Repository (LOR) and Portal website.



This repository will house a variety of educational content such as videos, lesson plans, multimedia,



ebooks, and other class material developed by ATCx3 faculty and instructional designers, in addition to vetted external content harvested (imported) from other educational repositories such as NTER (<https://www.nterlearning.org/>). Resources can be shared

amongst faculty and institutions, the larger TCSG system, and globally. Although the focus of the grant is engineering technology, foundational general education content addressing writing and math skills will also be included. This technology will support the key components of the grant: flexibility, scalability, and availability; content will be developed as Open Education Resources, licensed under creative commons with a focus on accessible resources.

The Portal will be the public website, the “front door” to the LOR; anyone can visit, browse, search, and download content via the Portal, thus benefitting the global scholarly research and teaching community, as well as providing an archive of teaching materials, accessible to everyone.

Instructors will be able to access content to support technology-enabled instruction in their teaching environment: links can be shared and embedded in online classes and content can be shared in face-to-face classes.

To meet the needs of this part of the initiative, a needs assessment was conducted and 18 opensource and proprietary software were reviewed and evaluated. Given the grant mandate of “open”, looking at opensource solutions was a priority.

Of the 3 major opensource software solutions considered (Fedora, Dspace, and Omeka), Omeka provided an ease of use while supporting national metadata standards (DCMI/LCSH), extended functionality through plugins, and strong support for multimedia. Omeka is a well-established digital repository software designed with multimedia and digital objects in mind. It has a strong academic and museum community; it meets the fundamental TAACCCT grant criteria for the Repository and Portal.

Omeka

GRANT CRITERIA

- ✓ Meets accessibility standards
- ✓ Supports licensing (Creative Commons)
- ✓ Supports sharing/Open Educational Resources (OER) across many platforms (including Social Media)
- ✓ Public portal (public interface)

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- ✓ Upload workflow with the ability to provide private/public spaces
- ✓ Mobile friendly (HTML5 players, etc.)
- ✓ ANGEL/Blackboard integration
- ✓ Measurable Statistics/Analytics/Reports
- ✓ Secure, sustainable and scalable with an active community
- ✓ Technical support: The Omeka User groups work together to build new features, provide technical support for each other and upgrades

Staffing:

With Omeka’s backend support, this project will need a local administrator for managing and curating content, creating workflows, organizing upgrades, in addition to some server work, which matches our current staffing.