

# Example: Overview of Publishing Services Available

When working with OER authors, particularly on open textbook publishing, it may be useful to talk through an outline of the book production process and editorial services on offer through your program. This will clarify your role in the production process. Here is some thinking out loud, as an example from Virginia Tech Libraries Publishing, with thanks to Anita Walz.

## Workflows Currently Supported

To reach our goals of having accessible and print-on-demand versions, and in an attempt to accommodate different authoring preferences, we support the following author workflows:

- Workflow 1: Write in MS Word. Import into Pressbooks.
- Workflow 2: Write in LaTeX (do your own layout and embed Alt-Text), compile into PDF and manually tag figures with Alt-Text after PDF is compiled. (too much labor!)
- Workflow 3: Write in LaTeX. Use Pandoc to convert to MathML. Import into Pressbooks (which supports MathML for screen readers. Add alt text for figures.
- Workflow 4: MSWord. We tag for Scribe and use the WFDW to generate beautiful PDFs (requires post-production tagging of figures, etc.)
- Workflow 5: We have not tried this yet as it has not been an option until now. Have authors write directly in Pressbooks.

We'd like to try Markdown, RBookDown, Overleaf, Editoria, Quire, PubPub and conversion from DITA (a kind of XML markup), but the timing and type of project will have to be right to do this.

We are also experimenting with interactivity features and gradebook integration for some books, particularly with H5P in Pressbooks.

## Services Available

- We set up peer review processes, contract out for copy editing, and handle cover design in-house.
- Grant funds are for authors to pay for things they cannot / don't know how / don't have time / don't want to do, etc. (e.g, graphic design, writing AltText, etc.)
- We can obtain assistance in training students with the right subject expertise to create Alt-Text. We require that all books have at least read-order defined and AltText for images. We are still figuring out how to handle math in an accessible way as there are very few things one can do to make math accessible in PDF other than having a screen reader read the characters string used to create the equation.

