

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

Friday, March 24, 2023

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Milner Library 311G

Agenda

Members Attending: Taylor Daker, Lisa Lawless, Julie Murphy, Mallory Jallas, Tom Lucey, Antonio Causarano, Joe Hendrix

Guests Attending: n/a

Members Absent: Sally Nadeau, Stephanie Duquette

Call to Order: 1:00

Action Items:

1. Introduce Lisa Lawless – University College, role on Persistence Committee
2. Review and approve draft minutes from [February 2023 meeting](#) - Minutes approved
 - a. Update on Bookstore process from Joe Hendrix
 - i. Bookstore selection in process
 - ii. Feedback from committee was provided on experience with various vendors

Information Items:

1. Update on Milner eTextbook funding: Milner secured 40k from GEER funds for fall 2023, PIE grant with Technology Solutions in process for spring 2024 (determined in May 2023)
 - a. Lawless asked - How do you determine which books to buy?
 - b. Julie Murphy – Provided overview of process to get course material from the Registrar and look at selections compared with what is available for Milner to license. Class size and student savings are factors in selection.
 - c. Hendrix – What is the percentage of courses with textbook?
 - d. Murphy – 33%
 - e. Lawless- Is interested in how access codes impact the ability of the library to purchase – There is potential for data from the Persistence Committee about what they are purchasing that could add context.
 - f. Mallory Jallas – Shared Milner hosted a Textbook Broke wall (passive program that asks students to share how much they spent on textbooks this semester – information about free services from Milner is included in the display)–anecdotal responses from students are that they are paying up to 1400 a semester (primarily in Nursing)
 - g. Antonio Causarano- shared issues with edition are sometimes a factor – some disciplines need more up-to-date information, and editions matter more. From their experience with the eTextbook program, students seem willing to use the eTextbooks
 - h. Murphy – In the first semester of our eTextbook program – got good feedback from students
 - i. Lawless – I've been in the situation of securing a hard copy for accessibility needs for students
 - j. Causarano- I've got students using the voice from text and they find it very valuable

- k. Murphy- ProQuest is preferred for the implementation. Milner plans to use the LMS moving forward for links – learning about the Canvas implementation is ongoing as training is available.

Discussion Items:

- 1) Student Textbook Survey Update
 - a) Finalized questions and posted those in TAC Teams on 2/27
 - b) IRB needs one minor modification for approval
 - c) Carla Birklebow is aiding in mass email process for students
 - d) Other ways to promote the survey to students?
 - i) Send link out to have folks promote – via TAC Teams
 - ii) Social media with SGA – Taylor Daker can help get the word out on with sorority
 - iii) Class of 26 snapchat – Daker might consider it as a distribution source
 - iv) NSSE survey is happening currently, might impact our response rate
- 2) SGA and TAC Textbook Swap
 - a) Secretary of College Affordability working with us
 - b) Exploring potential partnership with the Share Shop
 - c) Date identified for event: Thursday, August 17th 2023 – 3-5pm in the library
 - d) Ideas for additional promotion:
 - i) Preview guides promote this resource
 - (1) Considering broader ways to promote in Preview EXPO & signage in Milner
 - ii) Student Activities – getting this on their Welcome Week schedule online
 - e) Jallas will pull group together for another meeting - Lawless will join
 - f) Is there a way to incentivize students to give/share their textbook?
 - i) Grant funds? Possible funding for textbooks – possible GEER fund request for Amy Hurd

Announcements/Miscellaneous:

Adjournment: 1:49