

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

1:30 p.m.– 2:30 p.m.

Milner 311, Conference Room

Members Attending: Antonio Causarano, Joe Hendrix, Mallory Jallas, Tom Lucey, Julie Murphy, Sally Nadeau

Guests Attending: N/A

Members Absent: Stephanie Duquette, Lisa Lawless, & Student Representatives (Morgan & Taylor)

Call to Order: 1:32 p.m.

No formal agenda for this meeting.

- Introductions: Committee members provided name and department info
- Julie Murphy apologized for the delay in convening the group.
- Mallory Jallas offered to chair and convene the group for the remainder of the year. Mallory will follow up with scheduling the January meeting and providing access to the committee's Teams site for new members

Information Items:

- Julie provided update about etextbook program from Milner
 - Before Amelia Noel-Elkins left ISU she got us 35k to purchase etextbooks through GEER grant funding. Julie has been working with textbook lists – sending emails to faculty presently about spring access. The library provided almost all books that were available as ebooks for Milner to purchase. Julie will share quantity of books purchased.
 - Question from Joe Hendrix about how etextbooks work in terms of student use – can multiple students use them at the same time?
 - Julie clarified unlimited licensing vs. 1-3 user license vs. non-linear (325 uses/year) – email communication with professors is upfront with any limitations and context of each book and clarify if the book is sufficient to be a replacement for a textbook
 - Antonio Causarano shared challenges with etextbook – students couldn't view pages, and he had to work around with students
- Sally Nadeau shared there was an update from Alamo 2 in the spring- Sally will double-check if there is still something to explore. If we invite Alamo to a conversation, we might also want to invite Barnes and Noble
- Mallory shared that Carla Birckelbaw had mentioned a connection between SGA, textbooks, and Technology Solutions. We might consider asking Carla to attend a future meeting to share more
- Joe Hendrix shared that IFP is going on for the University bookstore. Barnes and Noble agreement ends in June, and this is a periodic process every 10 years. There are 3 proposals, and a committee is reviewing those proposals. The group is hopeful to make a recommendation to the University before the break. Early to mid-January, a recommendation will be made, and an announcement will be made. More to come in the spring semester.
- Joe also shared that he attended NACAS (National Association of College Auxiliary Services) conference. There were a lot of bookstore vendors and bookstore reps, Joe attended sessions related to bookstore trends. Textbooks were a hot topic, and affordability was a hot topic. Inclusive Access/Equitable Access – all bookstore vendors offer in some shape or form. Some

vendors are only doing online textbook offerings. The traditional textbook model is not viable – there are pros and cons.

- Relevant materials:
 - [Barnes and Noble First Day Complete Information](#)
 - [Textbook Affordability Committee's 2021-22 Memorandum](#) about Barnes and Noble First Day Complete Program – includes relevant links to additional resources
- Joe provided some context about the First Day Complete from BN past conversations at Illinois State.
- Joe and Julie shared some pro/cons and general needs
 - Getting textbook adoption done early is critical
 - Registration integration (AIP)
 - Challenges with health sciences/nursing
 - contractual challenges with opting out of the program
- Julie shared that last year the committee provided feedback on the Barnes and Noble pitch to the University (linked above)
- Joe offered that with this current IFP process, anyone coming to campus wouldn't deploy that textbook program within the next two years. Again the conference presentations were generally positive, but who knows, a few years down the line
- Mallory offered that last year we were focusing on communication – specifically reaching out to faculty to speak at department meetings about textbook options and information about the committee and Milner's efforts – there was general agreement that this is a direction we want to continue.
- Sally asked if there anything we do to educate academic advisors? Add that to our communication goal? Sally could offer shared communication about textbooks could get shared in the advisor working group
 - No one had a memory of the committee doing this outreach, but we all generally agreed it would be valuable
- Sally also asked about data from students about textbooks?
 - Mallory shared that a past survey from TAC in 2019 and shared that CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois) will be doing a student textbook survey this spring– will share for future meeting
 - Lacey followed up and asked if there was a plan to collect survey info regularly. We could do a longitudinal study
 - No one knew if there was a plan for additional surveys
- Mallory concluded that the group could continue efforts towards increased communication and explore survey options at the next meeting – she will send a follow-up message for scheduling.

Adjournment: 2:25 pm