

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

11am - noon

Milner 614A Conference Room

**Agenda**

**Members Attending:** Lindsey Skaggs, Joe Hendricks, Ross Vancil, Sally Nadeau, Amanda DeVore, Maria Tudela & Carl Palmer

**Guests Attending:** N/A

**Members Absent:** Lisa Lawless, Tyvell Washington, Stephanie Duquette

**Call to Order:** Lindsey Skaggs

**Introductions:**

1. Welcome!
  - a. Since we didn't have the full group last time, please share your name, department/unit/major, and your connection to textbook affordability.

**Action Items:**

1. Elect Secretary/Determine Minute Taker – Amanda DeVore volunteered
2. Review and approve [May 9, 2024](#) and [September 16, 2024](#) draft minutes
  - a. Sally moved both
  - b. Carl Palmer seconded both
  - c. All approved both

**Information Items:**

1. Open Access Week is October 21-27, 2024! Lindsey to share program handout.
  - a. Handout received by all attendees

**Discussion Items:**

1. Goals for FY25 – prioritization, identifying tasks
  - a. Develop relationship with Redbird Spirit Shop
    - i. What has been done?
      - a. Meeting with Larry last year
      - b. Priority stated to develop a relationship
    - ii. What do we need to do?
      - a. More issues with textbooks not being ordered in time than usual
      - b. Issues with receipt of materials – being worked on by Spirit Shop
      - c. Larry has priority goal to fix before Spring
      - d. Turn over with ordering handler – now remote from IA
      - e. Six midwest institutions being served
      - f. Two separate groups running store front vs. ordering course materials
      - g. We need to be holding them accountable and working with them
    - iii. When should we invite Larry to a meeting?
      - a. Not yet – reassess after they have a chance to resolve the current issue – maybe early Spring semester

- b. Larry very willing whenever we're ready to discuss questions and work with us on accessibility and affordability – figure out how the Spirit Shop can be supporting
    - iv. Preview Session with presentation on textbook affordability
      - a. Library options presented along with Spirit Shop
      - b. Continue this work
      - c. Joe had a recent meeting on the higher-level discussion content on Preview Program – waiting for feedback on what this might look like moving forward and will keep us looped in
      - d. Not many people found us, so finding ways to increase presence would be very beneficial
      - e. Very positive response from those who did find us
      - f. Preview People are aware of our interest to continue
        - a. Their next meeting will be about budgeting and such
        - b. Our session a good model – other sessions going an hour and losing people
        - c. Making our session part of the regular schedule could be extra nice, instead of optional
    - v. Milner Library table at Expo handing out flyers with information to increase awareness?
    - vi. Inviting students to specific sessions for more details to get more time with them – demonstrate session being worthwhile in relation to competing sessions
  - b. Determine action items arising from [HB5494](#)
    - i. Updates
      - a. Connect Once
        - a. Already have.
        - b. Info transfer from ISU to Follett
      - b. Adopt tool – allow faculty to direct submit options as an add-on
        - a. Faculty facing site
      - c. Discover – last option, maybe not happen
        - a. Student facing site
        - b. Can buy directly from course finder
    - ii. What is needed from the committee?
      - a. Just keep on agenda for now so that updates can be shared
      - b. Tickets are in with IT for an option to integrate price information into campus solutions – free or low cost
      - c. Trying to figure out how to get pricing into course finder to meet the requirements
        - a. Probably should come from Spirit Shop
      - d. Get Larry and Todd together to work on
  - c. Analyze and share data from Spring 2024 Faculty survey
    - i. Status
      - a. Lindsey has the data but hasn't had a chance to look at yet
      - b. Needs to chat with Julie to figure out what's been done with it
      - c. Data can be shared in Teams
    - ii. Timeline
      - a. Awareness campaign?

- b. Student survey was Spring 2023
    - c. Faculty survey
    - d. Data hasn't been shared with campus community
  - iii. Update website?
    - a. About page hasn't been updated in a couple years
    - b. Lindsey can add update access if needed
    - c. Can provide a way to start discussions
  - d. Continue Textbook Affordability Session at Preview
    - i. Anything required during Fall 2024?
  - e. Other?
    - i. Library has received grants for e-textbooks in prior years
      - a. \$20,000 received last year, but materials are expensive
    - ii. Denied a budget line for e-textbooks
- 2. Announcements/Miscellaneous:
  - a. Regarding potential misalignment with Spirit Shop and our other initiatives – their frustrations come in more when students get directed to publishers instead of them
    - 1. Presentation to students: if something is not available at Milner, next step is to check the campus bookstore.
    - 2. They do want the opportunity to provide the materials but understand affordability is important
    - 3. Know that not every course can offer a free/Milner option
    - 4. When faculty give students a way to purchase materials through their dept. or some other way aside from the bookstore or Milner, that's where frustration can set in
  - b. Maybe set meetings for Spring semester at Nov. Meeting
  - c. Joe and Sally filled us in on the choice to go with Follett allowed for the connection between the two shops instead competing locations
    - 1. Reduced confusion for families too
  - d. ISU mobile app coming – one-stop-shop idea
    - 1. Goes live Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> - soft launch
    - 2. Big push will be for Spring
  - e. Team Excellence Award self-nomination – Sally Nadeau taking lead on
  - f. Ross in loop with SBP Cobi Blair - spoke with Carla B. on Leganto program connection to Canvas
    - 1. Discussing creating a small fee to guarantee money every year for that
    - 2. Lindsey on a team working on putting together info. for doing this
    - 3. Right now, Patron Services works with faculty to (sometimes) put materials in Canvas – not standardized
    - 4. No authority to mandate if faculty don't want to do it – worried about raising the student fee to cover something faculty won't adopt
  - g. Registrar's website has an affordability website page as well
    - 1. Sally keeping updated
    - 2. Verified active members

**Adjournment:**

Lindsey Skaggs

Joe H moved – motion generally approved