

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

Monday, September 16, 2024

10am – 11am

Milner 614A Conference Room

Minutes

Members Attending: Sally Nadeau, Carl Palmer, Lindsey Skaggs, Maria Tudela

Guests Attending: N/A

Members Absent: Amanda DeVore, Joe Hendrix, Lisa Lawless, Stephanie Duquette, Ross Vancil, Tyvell Washington

Call to Order: 10:02 AM

Introductions:

1. Welcome new & returning members!
 - a. Please share your name, department/unit/major, and your connection to textbook affordability

Those present shared introductions and their interest in textbook affordability.

Action Items:

1. Determine today's minute taker
 - a. Lindsey volunteered to take minutes.
2. Review and approve [May 9, 2024](#) draft minutes
 - a. This was tabled, as Sally was the only returning member present.

Information Items:

1. Review [Committee Functions](#)
 - a. The group reviewed the functions listed on the Academic Senate's website. We have the flexibility to determine our short- and long-term goals, to be discussed momentarily.
2. [FY24 Committee Annual Report](#)
 - a. As a returning member, Sally shared some highlights from FY24. This included the textbook affordability sessions presented at Preview, the faculty survey distributed last year, and the meeting with Larry from the Spirit Shop.
 - i. Lindsey asked whether the survey results had been shared broadly; Sally did not believe they had. There is an "About" website that hasn't been updated in a while that we can use to share the results:
<https://about.illinoisstate.edu/textbookaffordability/textbook-affordability-at-isu/textbook-affordability-committee/>. Sally also shared the Registrar's page for the Committee:
<https://registrar.illinoisstate.edu/resources/textbooks/affordability-committee/>.
 - b. In addition to the Registrar's TAC page linked above, faculty resources are available here: <https://registrar.illinoisstate.edu/resources/>

Discussion Items:

1. Elect Committee Chairperson

- a. Lindsey volunteered to serve as Chair, following the precedent set in the past few years that the Milner Library Dean's Designee chair the committee.
2. Elect Secretary
 - a. This was tabled for next meeting, since so few were present. Sally shared that last year the committee rotated who took minutes, which is an option to discuss in October.
3. Determine monthly meeting time
 - a. This was also tabled; Lindsey will reach out to members via email to identify meeting times for the remainder of Fall 2024. Those present preferred Monday mornings, Wednesday mornings, or Friday afternoons. The question was raised as to whether meetings may be hybrid; Lindsey to check whether the Open Meetings Act allows it.
4. Set goals for FY25
 - a. Continuing from last year:
 - i. Preview textbook affordability session or alternative?
 - a. Sally reported that the textbook affordability session was well received by those who attended. It makes sense to continue this as a goal for FY25. We will want to connect with Preview after winter break. We may consider how to better assess the session this year.
 - ii. Analyze and share results from survey administered in FY23/FY24 (Spring 2023 student survey, Spring 2024 faculty survey)
 - a. Lindsey has been given access to the data by former committee member Julie Murphy. She will connect with Julie to see what has been done with the data so that we can begin analyzing it. As mentioned earlier, results can be shared on the "About" site and compared to the 2019/2020 surveys. Milner could also share any news articles we write.
 - iii. Develop ongoing relationship with Redbird Spirit Shop
 - a. Sally shared that Larry met with the group last year and would like to work more closely with us next year. When more of the group is present, we can determine when to invite him to a meeting.
 - b. There have been some changes in the bookstore: Bob retired after 30+ years of ordering textbooks and his replacement works remotely. Additionally, new software (Connect Once) was implemented. There were some issues this semester with everything getting ordered on time that they will work to resolve.
 - c. Sally shared that there is some interest in acquiring more of the "Connect" modules from Follett. Connect Adopt would change how textbooks are handled, with instructors doing their own adoptions (currently one individual does this for each department). Connect Adopt pulls in pricing information, which is a plus, but having each instructor responsible for adoptions could result in delays if folks forget/don't make selections. Connect Discover could be implemented for students to more

easily acquire their books from the Redbird Spirit shop through their MY ISU portal.

- iv. Determine any action items arising from [HB5494](#)
 - a. Legislation will go into effect in December 2025. All textbook and course material prices will need to be publicly available. (One reason Connect software could be useful.)
 - b. Sally has been working with Carla Brickelbaw and Crystal Nourie on an update to Campus Solutions that would show the price and flag courses with low- or no-cost materials. This would enable students to filter course options to select sections with the lowest materials cost.
- b. New items:
 - i. Website updates
 - a. As discussed earlier, Sally will update the Registrar's website and we can plan to update the "About" website. Lindsey can provide access as needed.
 - ii. Support SGA action requesting Leganto
 - a. Lindsey shared that SGA would like to pursue Leganto adoption. Ross Vancil (SGA Secretary of College Affordability, TAC member) and Cobi Blair (SGA President) met with Carla Brickelbaw, Julie Murphy, and Lindsey to discuss. [Leganto is a software that makes it easier to embed library course materials and OERs in Canvas.] Milner Library has an internal Team that will pull together materials to support them.
 - iii. OER support?
 - a. The group decided to table this for the moment.
 - c. Other?
- 5. Announcements/Miscellaneous: None were shared.

Adjournment: 10:51 AM