

Resolution Regarding Textbook Reporting Measures

Approved by FSCOT February 21, 2012

Approved by Faculty Senate on March 13, 2012

Whereas the Higher Education Opportunity act of 2008 (Public Law 110-315) required institutions of higher education to list the prices and ISBN codes of the required and recommended textbooks for each course on their online course schedules used for preregistration and registration, and

Whereas the time frame for implementation of this requirement was too short for Kansas State University to implement an in-house solution for collecting textbook information, and

Whereas in 2009 an informal agreement with affiliated vendors (serving various colleges and campuses of Kansas State University), in which the vendors collect the information from faculty members, and maintain the ISBN and price information on their websites, was established in order to meet this new federal requirement, and

Whereas it is in the best interests of the faculty and students at Kansas State University, and in the spirit of the federal legislation, to publish, in a timely manner, textbook information that will allow students to compare prices and enable them to minimize their expenditures for textbooks, and

Whereas the current textbook reporting system, with a direct link from iSIS to the vendors website, may not create an adequate awareness of alternative product sources, and

Whereas the informal agreement currently in place does not delineate expectations or requirements for either the university or the textbook vendors, which could jeopardize the fulfillment of this federal obligation at the whim of either the vendor or the university,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of Kansas State University requests that the appropriate units in the KSU administration (including, but not limited to, the Provost, the Office of General Counsel, the Office of the Vice President for Student Life, Information Technology Services, and the Registrar's Office) be charged with evaluating current university textbook reporting practices and identifying improvements to ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, including, but not limited to, the following options.

- 1) development of a process for institutional collection, storage, and dissemination of textbook ISBN and price information in compliance with federal requirements or
- 2) development of a formal contract with a textbook vendor that delineates expectations and responsibilities for both the university and the vendor in regard to the timely collection and publication of textbook ISBN and price information.

Tom Vontz,
Faculty Senate President
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