Affordable Educational Resources

Academic Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Nov. 20th, 2017

1:30 - 2:30pm in LRC 120

Attending: Katie Carbary, Charell Carr, Tara DuVernay, Kevin Flash, Rebecca Goodchild, Antonio López

Charge of the Committee:

The Affordable Educational Resources Committee works with Academic Senate, students, faculty, and staff in programs across campus to:

1. identify alternative strategies to reduce textbook and course material costs for students;
2. make recommendations that address textbook and course material affordability and accessibility, while respecting academic freedom;
3. educate students, faculty, and staff about alternative strategies to reduce textbook and course material costs;
4. develop objectives and timelines to accomplish actionable goals.

Agenda items:

1. Update on college, district, state policies regarding OER adoption:
   a. Status of “5-year rule” and transfer course textbooks.

   We will include our findings in the Frequently Asked Questions of the website. The “5-year rule” should not be a deterrent to OER adoption. Kevin and Rebecca will look into whether or not accreditation has a recency requirement.

   b. ASCCC recommendation to adopt low-cost materials logo in addition to no-cost logo.

   The AERC should establish a guideline or definition for low-cost. This will be added to the goals for next semester.

   c. Discussion of issues related to instructor/textbook changes and SB 1359 logo (see attached email from Troy Myers).

   If a course is designated no-cost and a new professor of record takes over the course, is the new professor required to use the no-cost textbook? Troy Myers has asked for people to join a committee to help design guidelines for this scenario. Antonio and Rebecca will join the committee. During the next meeting we will draft ideas for them to take to the meeting. Katie will email Troy to say that
Antoni and Rebecca have volunteered. Katie will also determine what the union contract specifies. Kevin will talk to JP to see if there are legal issues or requirements.

We asked Charell to see if she takes textbook prices into consideration when selecting classes. She said that she does look up prices of the textbooks on different websites to see what will be best.

2. Disseminating “Example” OpenStax books at SCC.

Discussed the best ways to share the OpenStax books. Katie will take the Sociology textbook to Belinda. Can we add the OpenStax books to the course outlines so they are easier for adjunct professors to select?

3. Convocation OER presentation.

Postponed since Bruce Zenner was not in attendance.


Tabled until next meeting.

5. Relevant announcements related to the work of the committee.

Antonio has started the hiring process for a student to edit the AERC website.

Next meeting: 12/4/2017, 1:30 - 2:30pm in LRC 120.