Affordable Educational Resources

Academic Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

February 5th, 2018

1:30 - 2:30pm in LRC 120


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. Welcome to new committee members and introductions.

2. Discussion of issues related to no-cost logo and SB 1359 (Guest: Albert Garcia).

SB 1359 requires all courses with no associated textbook cost to have a “no-cost” symbol on the class schedule. California Colleges are required to be in compliance beginning January 1st, 2018. Los Rios began working on implementation in fall 2017. The district is currently working on adjusting the FAQ about the bill, and sharing information with faculty about which courses qualify for the symbol. They are aware that Los Rios is not currently in full compliance. The process is being streamlined.

Dan Crump at ARC checked all of the courses with the logo at ARC to ensure that they were no-cost. There is not currently a formal process in place to verify the logos are on no-cost courses.

Farhad will put the FAQ on the ARC website. The language will be changed to help faculty with questions.

* Can there be a low-cost logo? Who would work on that definition?
3. Report on meeting with VPI about Potential for Printing OER Texts On-Site. Meeting was postponed.

4. Update on SCC OER Mini-Conference (Flex) Planning for spring 2018. We have confirmed Delmar Larson, Leslie Kennedy, and David Harris as guest speakers. They will each have time for a 5 minute presentation and a short question and answer period.

Lillard Hall is available for the conference. There will be one more planning meeting. Lunch will be included, so registration is required. We would like to have a commercial.

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

Katie is going to ASCCC (Academic Senate of California Community Colleges) OER Task Force Regional Meeting at ARC on February 10th. She will learn about state and district policies. Rebecca and Katie will make a FAQ for faculty.

Rebecca went to OLC conference in LA. She is going to meet with Charell to work on the faculty and student surveys.

Should we start using social media for OER? Twitter, Instagram? #textbookbroke.

Charell and Farhad will be presenting to the Department Chairs Council and student body government groups.

Next meeting: March 5th from 1:30 – 2:30 pm in LRC 120

*Note, no meeting will be held on February 19th due to the holiday.

Future agenda items:

- Definition of “Low Cost”