TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

**Friday, 26 January 2018**

Milner Library 311

**MINUTES**

**Members Attending:** Patrick Broderick, Michaelene Cox, Beau Grzanich, Heather Paterson, Jess Ray, Danielle Miller-Schuster, Anne Shelley, Do Yong-Park

**Absent:** Christopher Gjesfjeld, James Palmer

**Call to Order**: 12:05

**Approval of Minutes**: 12/08/17 meeting minutes were approved

**Discussion Items:**

1. Chairing and notetaking: Committee agreed to continue alternating tasks of the co-chairs every other meeting this Spring; one will take minutes and the other will coordinate the Agenda and communications.

2. Membership: Committee discussed issues raised by Senate regarding composition and/or voting of members. Preference of TAC is to maintain voting privileges of the three ex officio members (Dean of Milner Library or designee, VP of Student Affairs or designee, and University Registrar or designee). The committee prefers to leave student representation as is (three students total, at least one Senator and one non-Senator). Regarding faculty membership, the committee recommends to Senate that the Blue Book be amended to read:

Three (3) Faculty: One Senator *or Senate designee*, and two non-Senators.

The rationale for the latter change is to make it easier to fill committee seats should there not be a Senator available to serve on TAC.

3. Resources for open resources: Patrick presented a model from NDSU’s student government initiative regarding open educational resources and open access textbooks. The NDSU grant program was funded by mandatory student fees to compensate faculty for integration of open resources. Handouts provided by Patrick include advice from the NDSU student government president to other interested institutions.

Committee members subsequently discussed other ideas or programs to inform or incentivize faculty to consider cost-effective measures:

* Anne announced that she is conducting a daylong workshop about textbook affordability as part of the upcoming CTLT Summer Institute.
* Danielle noted a new program at FIU called Affordability Counts program which in part awards medallions to participating faculty.
* Beau reported that Jim Pancrazio, chair of Senate’s Academic Committee, adopted open educational resources for his courses and might be willing to speak to TAC about his experiences.
* Michaelene suggested the possibility that a link be incorporated on ReggieNet course sites to send students to textbook affordability information.
* Jess and Danielle noted that early career faculty be educated about affordability options.

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4. Outreach to Senate: TAC/Anne was invited to submit a proposal to Senate Executive Board for scheduling consideration to speak about Open Educational Resources. After some discussion, TAC agreed that a talk before Senate this semester would be premature, and it would be best to wait until the committee had a better handle on its strategic planning. Beau will convey the postponement to the Senate Executive Board.

5. Committee website: Jess distributed a tentative list of items and links to include on the site. He is making progress on designing the website structure. Once the committee site is up and running, he has volunteered his office to update as needed.

**Announcements/Miscellaneous**

1. Earlier by email, it was announced that Prof. Christopher Gjesfjeld from the School of Social Work had been appointed by Senate as a faculty member replacement this semester for Do-Yong Park who is on sabbatical.

2. Jess emailed members a link to an article from Inside Higher Ed, “Bundled Textbooks a Bad Deal for Students.” <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/01/26/report-asserts-bundled-textbooks-cost-students-too-much-publishers-dispute-findings?utm_source=Inside+Higher+Ed&utm_campaign=23f02bfe01-DNU20180111&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1fcbc04421-23f02bfe01-197440797&mc_cid=23f02bfe01&mc_eid=c172e68c24>

**Agenda for next meeting**

The Committee’s sole task in the February 23 meeting is to draw up a strategic planning document. Michaelene will email a rough worksheet for members to use if they wish. Members are asked to come to the meeting prepared with ideas about goals/objectives and activities for TAC.

**Adjourned:** 1:10

Respectfully submitted:

Michaelene Cox