TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE

**Friday, November 30, 2018**

1:30 p.m.

Milner Library, 311

**Agenda**

**Members Attending**: Anne Shelley, Danielle Miller-Schuster, Crystal Nourie, James Palmer, Morgan Anderson, Do-Yong Park, Laurence Bender

**Members Absent:** Michaelene Cox, Michael Rubio

**Call to Order: November 30, 2018 at 1:32 pm**

**Action Items**:

* Review and approve minutes from 10/17/2018 TAC meeting

**Information Items**:

1. All TAC minutes, agendas, and other documentation I could find are now in OneDrive. I have shared the folder with you and you should have full edit rights. Let me know if you have trouble accessing the folder.
2. I will be adding more information, hopefully this week, about affordable course materials on an online library guide - <https://guides.library.illinoisstate.edu/affordability>
3. I have asked Crystal and Jess about updating this page - <http://registrar.illinoisstate.edu/faculty_staff/textbook_affordability_committee/>
   1. Possibility of putting TAC on the A-Z list on ISU’s website
   2. We will decide where it should be placed once we know the content that is going to be present on it

**Discussion Items:**

Schedule spring 2019 TAC meetings –

* January 24th at 1-2 pm in Milner 311
* February 28th at 1-2 pm in Milner 311
* March 21st at 1-2 pm in Milner 311
* May 2nd at 1-2 pm in Milner 311

Academic Senate Report

* 1. I’m attending the Senate meeting on 12/5, have been asked to address the following things in **bold**. What do you think about these bullet points? Anything missing? What input do we want from the Senate?

**“comment on the progress the TAC has made overall since the committee was created”**

* + Discussed and submitted revisions re: the committee’s membership composition and charge
  + Developed strategic plan for textbook affordability on campus – action plan for the next year
    - This should be focused on, it is what we have been discussing at most of our meetings and we have put a lot of work into it
    - Not sure if the academic senate will be aware of what’s on it or if they have read it
  + Library designee gave workshop on affordable course materials in summer 2018, 10 faculty attended
  + SGA explored possibility of offering faculty incentive grants to adopt/create OER

**“what the committee has discovered or helped improve”**

* + Affordability initiatives at other universities vary in approach and success
  + Guest speaker from bookstore – relevant information and they want to be a partner
  + Open educational resources are an option
  + Not all faculty are aware of affordable options (e-books licensed by the library)
  + Members circulate news items among committee related to textbook affordability, including OERs and inclusive access deals from publishers
  + Their big push is that the faculty isn’t aware of the resources available

**“where they think they need to go”**

* + Use strategic plan as a guide
  + Another effort to help define affordability problem on campus (surveys)
  + Create web presence with information about affordable course materials
  + Identify and reach out to campus units who can assist

**“It might also be a great time for you to ask for input from the Senators”**

* Present the strategic plan
* Here’s what TAC can work on, asking for strategies on moving forward with other points
* The points on the strategic plan are suggestions for the senate – the asterisks are what we are focusing on
* The library will be a main focus for making these goals happen

Surveys

* Local data can help us define the affordability problem at ISU
* Examples from DePaul (attached) –
  + Would be effective to get information from students and faculty about textbook affordability
  + It could be beneficial to have questions in the course evaluations about textbook use and costs for the class
  + The textbook costs and uses vary between disciplines – need a random sample with a 60-70% response rate for beneficial information
    - This would be hard, but by implementing it into a course it could work
    - Only at undergraduate level
    - Could potentially implement it into course evaluation times – keep it short and sweet and do it at the end of Spring
    - Faculty may be concerned about it taking up their class time
    - We need to figure out what we really want to know – did they use the book, how much was it, was it necessary to buy it, etc.
    - If a course doesn’t use a textbook it would still be data
    - Ask the faculty the reason behind choosing their textbooks or why they don’t use a textbook at all
* Distributed by library’s OER working group
* News story about student survey - <https://news.library.depaul.press/full-text/2018/05/02/tell-us-about-textbooks-student-edition/>
* Library guide about OERs - <https://libguides.depaul.edu/c.php?g=598894&p=4146218>
* Notes from Sue, my contact there: “We distributed through email to all faculty and students. I think the subject line of our email to students caught their eye and perhaps contributed to such a good return rate. **Let's fight high textbook costs together.** I think we also marketed the student survey through Twitter and Facebook if I remember correctly.”
* Committee is generally in favor in doing two surveys – one for staff and one for faculty

Models for textbook affordability?

* Identify 3-5 models that universities use, publishers offer, and students act on

Web presence

* Purpose/audience(s)
* Where it should live
* Main content

Programming/Educational Event

* Have event where survey data is revealed – during Open Education Week?
* Panel about affordable course materials – library, student, faculty

Other?

**Announcements/Miscellaneous:**

**Adjournment: November 30th, 2018 at 2:30 pm**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Morgan Anderson**